

## ALFA customers warned of scam

By Tommy Campbell  
The Choctaw Sun

MONTGOMERY – Persons who have insurance coverage or other accounts with ALFA Insurance are warned of a scam that has surfaced in several areas of the state.

An ALFA spokesman told the Sun that several people in Birmingham, Dothan, Opp and Jackson have received calls from persons who say they are ALFA representatives.

The callers tell policy holders that their policies have been canceled and ask for the person's date of birth and Social Security number so that they can "re-instate" their

coverage.

All of the people called so far have quickly caught on to the fact that the call was a "scam" and did not give out their personal information, the spokesman said.

There have also been calls asking ALFA customers for credit card numbers so that "delinquent membership fees" can be settled.

Most of the customers who received the bogus calls hung up and immediately called their local ALFA agents to report the calls.

Powers Weeks, the local ALFA agent in Gilbertown, told the Sun that persons whose policies are canceled for any reason always receive official notification by mail – never by phone.

If you are an ALFA customer and receive such a call, hang up and call Weeks – or any other local agent – to report it.

**(ED. NOTE: Readers are warned that there are literally tens of thousands of telephone- and email-based "scams" going around, and that legitimate businesses and governmental entities as a rule do not call or email to solicit personal information, bank account numbers, credit card information, or Social Security information from you by phone or email. The best course of action if you receive such a call/email is to ignore it, delete it, or just hang up. – Tommy.)**



## Sidewalk renovation underway

BUTLER – Work is underway to renovate the sidewalks on the west side of the Courthouse, on Hamburg Street, as part of a state grant obtained by the Town of Butler. Sidewalks on the north, south, and east sides of the "square" were updated a couple of years ago with paver-brick insets, planters, flowering trees, and decorative lighting. Street work is also planned south along Mulberry Street to First United Security Bank, and east on Pushmataha toward Hardees.

Choctaw Sun photo by Tommy Campbell

## Shewmake is campaign coordinator for TREDP

BUTLER – Twin Rivers Economic Development Partnership is proud to announce that Bridgett Shewmake has been hired as its campaign coordinator. Shewmake is a native of Thomasville and currently resides in Grove Hill. In her position as campaign coordinator, she will act as a clearinghouse of information for the partnership's contacts, handles scheduling duties and coordinates activities associated with the partnership's initial capital campaign. In the future, she will also be coordinating the establishment of the organization's main office in Grove Hill.

Currently she is working from Twin Rivers' temporary office which is located inside Merchants Bank in Thomasville, as well as the Butler office. She can be contacted at (888) 256-3537, (251) 275-3902 (Grove Hill), or (205) 459-3459 (Butler). "I'm very happy to be back to this region and to be working with so many good people from Clarke and Choctaw counties," Shewmake said. "I'm also pleased to be selected to help play a role in the Twin Rivers Economic Development Partnership. It's an initiative that holds great promise for this area."



Shewmake



## Jail Log

Grand larceny (Miss.) – Christopher D. Brewer, 26, Ala. 10 East, Butler, arrested on 9/9/07 by Lovette and Gates.

Probation revocation – Benny Lee Chaney, 21, 43 West 3rd Avenue, Lisman, arrested on 3/7/07 by Gates.

DUI – Nathan Curtis, 45, 1849 Cyril Road, Lisman, arrested on 3/17/07 by Garrick. Released on bond.

Theft of property (3rd degree) – Hunter Diamond, 18, 3207 Riderwood Drive, Butler, arrested on 3/11/07 by Pinkerton. Released on bond.

DUI, speeding – Anthony Giles, 20, 115

Anderson Road, Toxey, arrested on 3/9/07 by Gilliland. Released on bond.

Public intoxication – Willie B. Heidelberg, 58, Box 20, 3rd Avenue, Toxey, arrested on 3/11/07 by Gates. Released on bond.

Domestic violence (assault, 3rd degree) – Danielle L. Johnson, 22, 611 Vanity Fair Drive, Apt. 5-A, Butler, arrested on 3/14/07 by Pinkerton and Adams. Released on bond.

Public intoxication – Chris Mangrum, 38, 808 South Natchez Street, Koscusko, MS, arrested on 3/9/07. Arresting officer not listed. Released to security.

Domestic violence,

harassment – Claude Earl Mathers, 26, 242 Haguewood Drive, Pennington, arrested on 3/13/07 by Gates. Transferred to Marengo County.

Burglary (3rd degree), theft of property (3rd degree) – Joseph Dillon Mazingo, 20, 83 Seminole Street, Pennington, arrested on 3/16/07, arresting officer not listed.

Burglary (3rd degree) – Joseph Adam McIlwain, 20, 106 Lake Lane, Pennington, arrested on 3/16/07 by Huckeba and Adams.

Armed robbery – Jason Palmer, 36, 112 Stokes Robison Road, Jackson, MS, arrested on 3/8/07 by Adams and Lafferty.

Domestic violence (assault, 3rd degree) – John M. Robinson, 61, 1805 Barrytown Road, Gilbertown, arrested on 3/14/07 by Lovette. Released to Mt.

Vernon.

Unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia, unlawful possession of controlled substance, disorderly conduct – Daniel Rouse, 48, 1578 South Fleahop Road, Eclectic, Ala. Arrested on 3/14/07 by Gates.

Rape (1st degree, three counts), sexual abuse (three counts) – Tommy Sturdivant, 44, 793 Needham Road, Needham, arrested on 3/9/07 by Lovette. Hold for possible probation violation/revocation.

Theft of property – Rodney Wilson, 50, 815 Big Rock Road, Waynesboro, MS, arrested on 3/12/07 by McGee.

Assault (2nd degree) – George Ward, 59, 260 2nd Avenue, Lisman, arrested on 3/15/07 by Cottrell. Released on bond.

## 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 Gilbertown, or left in our drop box at The Country Corner in Butler.

Fri., March 23rd - Sun., March 25th  
TWO-NIGHT REVIVAL, 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, culminating at 11 a.m. Sunday. W.A.V.E. Ministries/Vision Church, Butler Civic Center. For more information contact Mia (Grice) Wilkes, Pastor and Overseer at 251-406-2499.

Sat., March 24th - Sun., March 25th  
CHOIR ANNIVERSARY, Salem Baptist Church, 2 p.m., both days. Choirs and groups are invited to perform two selections. Guest speaker for Sunday – Minister Chris Holcombe, pastor New Beginning Holiness Church in Meridian, MS.

Saturday, March 24th  
BENEFIT, Pleasant Hill Vol. Fire Dept., fish and chicken plates served from 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Boston Butts also available. To place an order see any fireman or call 205-459-3228.

RUMMAGE SALE, FISH FRY, St. Mark C.M.E. Church, Hwy. 10, Lisman, 10 a.m. Marjorie Bonds, Pastor.

ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF, Mosley Bridge Congregational Methodist Church, 6 p.m. Sponsored by the Men of Action, with all donations going to the building fund. Various styles of chili will be served.

WILD GAME SUPPER, Isney Baptist Church, 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Tim Miller will be the guest speaker. Admission is FREE.

Sunday, March 25th  
APPRECIATION PROGRAM for The Silver-tones of Silas, 5 p.m., Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Silas, Rev. T.L. Ware, Pastor.

STEWARDS AND DEACONS PROGRAM, Shiloh C.M.E. Church, Cromwell, 2 p.m. Guest speaker Rev. Charles Paul of Troy, NY. Rev. Larry Williams, Pastor.

STEWARDESS PROGRAM, Fairfield C.M.E. Church, Halsell, 2 p.m. Guest minister, Rev. Oscar Massey, Presiding Elder-Tuscaloosa District.

EVENING TEA WORSHIP, Wesley United Methodist Church, 4 p.m. Guest speaker will be Min. Shirley Williams.

YOUTH DAY, John The Baptist Church, CR 9, Halsell, 2:30 p.m. Rev. Antwon Plott of New Prospect Baptist Church, Livingston, will be the guest speaker. Sis. Floretta Williams, Youth Director, Rev. Lavon Gathright, Pastor.

MEN'S DAY, Gilfield Missionary Baptist Church, 2:30 p.m. Guest Speaker, Dr. Robert Webb, Sr., pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Yantley, along with his choir and church family.

OPEN HOUSE, Coffeetown Town Hall, 160 River Street East, 2-4 p.m.

Sun., March 25 - Wed., March 28th  
WASHINGTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION CHURCHES will celebrate various types of missions. Each church that participates can hear five different missionaries speak, some foreign, some national, some state, and some local. Check with your local Baptist church for its schedule.

Friday, March 30th  
SOUTHERN CHOCTAW ELEMENTARY will hold registration for Kindergarten and students in other grades who are transferring from other schools in the fall.

CHOCTAW CO. DHR RELAY FOR LIFE fundraiser, Boston Butts and turkey breasts, \$20 each. Place your order by March 30th. Will deliver on April 7th. Call 205-459-9710. Leave message if no answer.

Saturday, March 31st  
COUNTYWIDE "CLEAN SWEEP" DAY! All churches, fire departments, schools, civic groups, businesses and individuals are encouraged to organize a "clean up" effort in your own neighborhood, 8 a.m. til noon (or whatever time you or your group can work). Call The Choctaw Sun to "register" your group's involvement so that "before and after" photos can be made of your area. If you cannot clean up on this day, any day during the week before or the week after will be fine. Dumpsters or trucks will be provided free of charge at select locations around the county for collecting and disposing bags of trash on Saturday. For more information, call Tommy Campbell at 251-843-6397.

CRITTER DINNER, meal and live entertainment, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Butler Senior Citizens Center, Riderwood Drive.

DEDICATION OF SILAS VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK, 2 p.m. downtown "Old Town" Silas.

Sunday, April 1st  
50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY reception for Tommie and Patricia Conner, 2 to 4 p.m. Shady Grove Pentecostal Holiness Church, 503 CR 632 Quitman, MS.

MEN AND WOMEN DAY, Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church, 3 p.m. Guest speaker Rev. Kelvin Boykin, the choir and congregation of New St. Matthew's Baptist Church in Jackson.

HOMECOMING and DEDICATION SERVICE for the new addition to Pleasant Hill Baptist Church on CR 25. Lunch will be served and singing in the afternoon. Bro. Jimmy D. Singleton is the Pastor.

MEN AND WOMEN DAY PROGRAM, Morning Star Baptist Church, Butler, 11 a.m. Guest speakers will be Rev. Tonjanita Walker Johnson and husband Tony Johnson of Greenwood, MS.

Friday, April 6 and Sat., April 7th  
BUTLER SPRING FLING AND TRADE DAYS, music, food, vendors, carnival and fun for the whole See CALENDAR, page 3A