



The Choctaw Sun
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Lifestyles

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Support Relay through "C-note" program

By Jeanette Kearley
Publicity Chairperson
Choctaw Co. Relay for Life

BUTLER — More than three million people in the United States have done it. They have joined the fight against cancer by participating in Relay For Life, the signature event of the American Cancer Society.

Last year, more than 4,580 communities nationwide participated in Relay For Life and raised more than \$375 million, making the event the largest fund raiser in the United States.

Relay For Life is an overnight fundraising event filled with activities, fun and community spirit. All funds raised at Relay For Life support American Cancer Society programs designed to reduce cancer incidence and mortality through research, education, advocacy and patient services. However, many activities are already on-going now. Many teams are formed and are at work with various activities such as yard sales, bake sales, and much more.

A current fundraiser among several teams is the "C-Note" program. For a one hundred dollar donation you can send an unlimited number of memorials and honor cards during a one year period. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays or other special occasions, or to just simply remember someone special. This year Choctaw County has its own "Memorial" chairperson who will be in charge of sending out memorial and honor acknowledgements for the American Cancer Society with the "C-Note" program. The one hundred dollar donation is fully tax deductible.

Food, fun, hot meals at Gilbertown Senior Center

GILBERTOWN — If you are in need of a good meal and some good fellowship, we have just the place for you!

Come to the Gilbertown Senior Center, Monday thru Friday, and on Wednesday you can even play Bingo. We have specials each month for birthdays and a good hot meal every day.

If the weather permits we will be going to the park for a picnic and Egg Hunt for Easter.

We have puzzles, checkers, and dominos for entertainment and every once in awhile we have special singings.

We would like to welcome our new van driver, Mrs. Audrey James. We gave Mrs. Helena a farewell party on Thursday and we will miss her.

We for Mr. Lindsey Jenkins a speedy recovery.

We have enjoyed our visitor, Mrs. Mosley (Mr. Tobie Mosley's Mother). She is spending time in Silas and is visiting us as well and we love having her.

The weather is beautiful, so there is no excuse for staying inside, so give me a call (843-2885) and I can get you a hot lunch and you can enjoy the good fellowship. We would love to have you come and visit with us.



Choctaw Sun photo by Marcus Gates

Old Buddies' doing their part to beautify Butler

BUTLER — Margaret Bradford and Richard Lee, of Old Buddies Restaurant, are shown planting azaleas in front of the restaurant on East Pushmataha Street. Old Buddies is one of a number of Butler-area businesses that are planting, landscaping, painting, cleaning up and fixing up as part of the town's ongoing beautification and revitalization program. (ED. NOTE: The Choctaw Sun encourages all stores and professional offices that are doing something to spruce up their place of business to contact us so that we can recognize those efforts in the newspaper. There is no cost or obligation ... all you have to do is call! — Tommy.)

Shorty's quilting tips

Try using a fabric you don't like at all. It will help your ideas and imagination grow. Sometimes that ugly stuff is just what the quilt needs.

When choosing fabrics for your borders and sashing, make sure the pattern is very close or right on grain. Otherwise your quilt will look crooked, no matter what you do.

When you go fabric shopping, take

someone with different tastes than your own. It will open your mind up to more possibilities.

Never press your fabric until you need it. Too much ironing causes the fabric to lose body and crispness.

You can contact me by phone at 251-843-5734 or by email at jamsbonr@millry.net.

USS Boxer served with distinction, honor

USS Boxer (CV-21)
Displacement: 27,100 tons

Length: 888'
Beam: 147' 6"
Draft: 9' 2"
Complement: 3448
Armament: 12 5"

Guns, Over 80 Aircraft
Class: Ticonderoga

The fifth Boxer CV-21 was launched Dec. 14, 1944 by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., Newport News, VA. It was sponsored by Ruth D. Overton, daughter of the Senator from Louisiana; and Commissioned April 16, 1945, with Capt. D. F. Smith in Command.

It was completed too late to take part in World War II, but joined the Pacific Fleet at San Diego in August 1945. From Sept. 1945 to Aug. 23, 1946, she operated out of Guam as Flagship of Task Force 77 in the Western Pacific. During this tour she visited Japan, Okinawa, the Philippines, and China. The Boxer returned to San Francisco



Our Veterans

By SFC Richard M. 'Pete' Allen (Ret.)



Sept. 10, 1946 and operated off the West Coast in normal peacetime duty until departing for the Far East during the first half of 1950. She returned to San Diego, arriving June 25, 1950.

With the outbreak of the Korean (War) Conflict, she was pressed into service to carry planes to the war zone. During July 14-22, 1950 she made a record crossing of the Pacific, 8 1/2 days with 150 Air Force and Navy planes and a thousands troops. On her return trip July 27 to August 4, she cut the record to 7 days, 10 hours, and 36 minutes.

After fast repairs she departed for the Far East Aug. 24, this time to join Task Force 77 in giving air support to the troops. Her planes supported the landing at Inchon Sept. 15, 1950 and other ground action until November, when she departed for the West Coast and overhaul.

Boxer departed San Diego for her second Korean Tour March 2, 1951. Again she operated with Task Force 77 supporting the ground troops. She returned to San Francisco October 24, 1951. Sailing February 8, 1952 for her Third Tour

Let's all pitch in this weekend's Operation Clean Sweep

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

GILBERTOWN — Residents from all across Choctaw County will be out this Saturday picking up litter as part of Operation Clean Sweep.

The Choctaw Co. Commission, which has endorsed the clean-up effort by proclaiming March 31st as "Operation Clean Sweep Day" in the county, will provide plastic bags for collecting the trash, and commissioners in all four districts will be placing dump trucks at various locations for persons to use as "drop off" points for bags of trash. In addition, Terry Kelley, of the Choctaw Regional Landfill and Arrow Waste Disposal, has volunteered to place large commercial dumpsters at several sites throughout the county.

Later this weekend, when all bags of trash have been collected, the trucks and dumpsters will be taken to the landfill where the litter will be disposed of.

This is a voluntary, grassroots effort started by a group of concerned citizens who began meeting to talk about ways to clean up our littered county, and it is expected that hundreds of volunteers will turn out on Saturday to help give Choctaw County a clean new "face" in time for Easter.

Volunteers may choose a section of highway in their own community or they may choose to go and help their neighbors in another area of the county.

Collection bags may be picked up from any Commissioner (Dandy Brown, C.D. "Budd" Ruffin, Clyde Dixon or Henry Lovette). Billy and Pam May have donated 100 bright "hunter orange" safety vests for use during the day, and MidStar Timber has donated 60 brightly colored T-shirts for volunteers, along with 2,500 small litter bags for use in cars and pickups.

Several others have indicated that they may also be donating vests, T-shirts, bags, and refreshments for volunteers.

Groups who plan to be out working are advised to take all safety precautions and persons who are driving on Saturday are asked to slow down and be especially mindful of volunteers who will be out working on the rights-of-way.

in Korea, Boxer again served with Task Force 77. During June 23-24 her planes took part in the heavy strikes against the North Korean Hydro-Electric Complex and on August 5 she had nine men killed and two seriously injured in the fire which swept the hanger deck. After emergency repairs at San Francisco September 25 and repairs at Yokosuka, Japan August 11-23, Boxer returned to duty off Korea.

The Carrier departed for the Far East March 30, 1953 and went into action a month later. She took part in the final actions of the Korean Conflict and remained in Asiatic Waters until November. Since the end of the Korean fighting Boxer has cruised off the West Coast and made three cruises to the Far East. Boxer was reclassified CVA-21, in October 1952 and CVS-21 November 15, 1955.

Today all of the small

carriers have been reclassified as Amphibious adapted to land and sea, helicopters, with more Army and Marines on board. A force that can strike anywhere in the world. Equipment and supplies to hold them at sea for a very long time. Supplies can be brought in by sea and air.

Man, you should see these Navy ships now! State rooms, TV, you would think you were home. And yes, there are women onboard now.

Task Force 77, and the 7th Fleet operated in the Far East, many of our men and women served in the Fleet. Many of these ships were in ports together, not many of us knew who was on what ship. When we knew of someone we knew, we would visit them. My job in ports took me to all of them. I ran a LCM, in rough weather and I had to take them home.

(ED. NOTE: Pete may be contacted by email at Allwis64@yahoo.com)



Submitted photos

Anderson sisters win titles

MILLRY — Mariah Anderson, the six-year old daughter of Jamie and Kim Anderson of Millry, recently won the title of Little Miss Washington County Petite Miss. Her sister, Olivia, who is seven months old, also won Baby Miss and captured the Most Photogenic Award. The sisters look forward to representing Washington County and working with their director Crimson Cotton this upcoming year. Proud grandparents are Roy and Carolyn Chapman, Jeanette Dalnodar, Deborah Ramon and Bob Anderson.

Butler Senior Center Critter Dinner

Saturday, March 31,
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Entertainment begins at 10 a.m., cake walk \$1 per person, dinner \$10 donation, and there will be door prizes.

Please come and support our Senior Center.