



Singleton pinned for Promise Campaign

MONTGOMERY — On March 15, District II superintendents of education met with legislators to discuss educational funding issues.

Among the issues discussed was the split of 75-25% for K-12 with the Capitol Bond Issue, funding for more nurses, fully funding extended contracts, and additional funding in the OCE ("other current expense" category) funds from the state. The superintendents were recognized and introduced in the legislative gallery.

Choctaw Co. Supt. of Ed. Sue Moore, asked Sen. Bobby Singleton to promise to protect the Education Trust Fund, and Singleton gladly accepted the "I Promise" pin from Ms. Moore.

Submitted photo

Pictured are: Dr. Walter Davis (Linden City Schools), Don Willingham (Asst. Supt., Dallas County), Sen. Singleton, Ms. Moore, Rep. Ralph Howard, John Heard (Perry County Schools), and Freeman Walker (Asst. Supt., Dallas County).



Submitted photo

Ashton Lewis wins first in Alabama COG Talent Show

GILBERTTOWN -- On Saturday March 24, Ashton Lewis of Heritage Church of God attended the Alabama Church of God State Talent Show at Oasis of Praise in Bessemer, AL. Ashton competed in the female Vocal Solo Category bringing home the Winner Trophy and a Superior Score Medallion. Ashton advanced to the state level after winning the regional on March 3 in Mobile, AL. Congratulations Ashton Thanks for representing Heritage and Choctaw County so well.



Submitted photo

Committee adopts textbooks for 2007-08

BUTLER — The Choctaw County School System Textbook Committee met recently to adopt Art and Foreign Language textbooks for 2007-08. The textbook committee is composed of Supt. of Ed. Sue Moore; Lee Edwards and B.K. Smith, textbook coordinators; Rhonda Johnson, accountability specialist; Cyndi Merritt, Spanish teacher; Patti Kirk and Lee Singley, SCHS teachers; Verna Nicholson, CCHS librarian; Dawn Taylor, CCES teacher; and Teresa Clark, SCES teacher.

Edwards selected as Miss Ala. Teen finalist



Ashley Letitia Edwards

BUTLER — Ashley Letitia Edwards, a 17-year old junior at Choctaw Co. High School has been selected as a state finalist for the 2007 Miss Alabama Teen Pageant.

The program is a preliminary to the National American Miss Pageant which will be held in Birmingham the week of May 26-28.

"This is a great honor and I am looking forward to participating in this pageant," Ashley said.

She is a member of the JROTC Color Guard, Flag Corps, Beta Club, and Upward Bound.

Persons who would like to help sponsor her may contact Miss Edwards at P.O. Box 287, Lisman, AL 36912, or by phone at 205-398-3398.



Choctaw Sun photo by Tommy Cambell

Mayor Jackson visits CCHS

BUTLER -- Lisman Mayor Thomas Jackson visited CCHS last week to speak to students in Mrs. Elaine Chapman's Career Tech classes. The mayor talked to the students about setting goals for their future, working toward those goals, and having a plan to get reach them. Jackson was one of several local businessmen and individuals who have spoken to the classes recently as part of Chapman's efforts to connect the students with the world around them.

Coming next week ... SCHS Tiny Tot Pageant

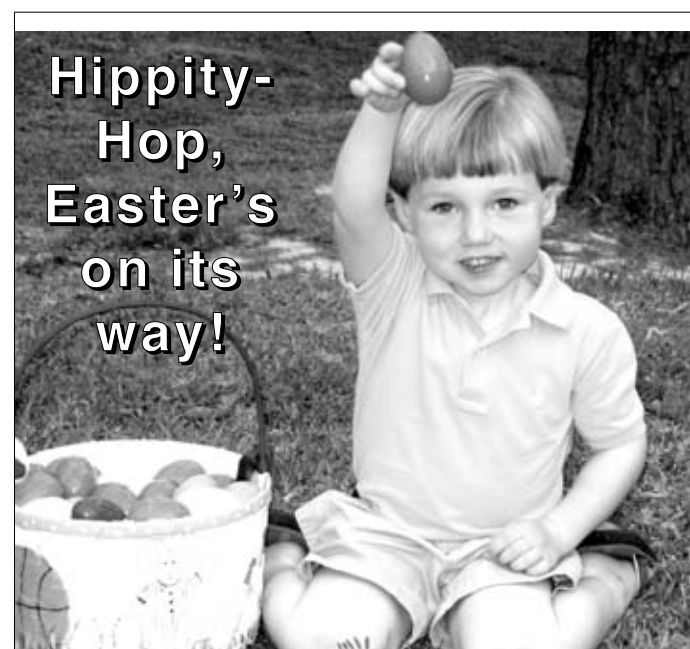
Tips for Easter egg safety

By Jennifer Miller
Choc. Co. Ext. System

BUTLER -- With Easter rapidly approaching, many families will find themselves in the kitchen dyeing and decorating Easter eggs together. Using real eggs requires more work and has some food safety issues, but I enjoy dyeing eggs with my son. It is so much fun and we're making memories as much as dyeing eggs. Dr. Jean Weese with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System says to "always handle eggs properly to prevent foodborne illness." So, if you're planning on dyeing Easter eggs this year, here are some safety tips to remember.

The first tip to remember is cleanliness. Always wash your hands with hot, soapy water before handling the eggs and again after placing the eggs in boiling water. This is important because bacteria may have gotten on your hands from the shells of the eggs and if you don't wash your hands, you will contaminate clean eggs when you touch them again. Kitchen surfaces and cooking equipment should also be cleaned thoroughly.

Secondly, always throw raw eggs with cracked shells away. Even eggs with uncracked shells can sometimes be contaminated with bacteria, but proper cooking will destroy the harmful bacteria. To reduce the risk of cracked shells in hard-boiled eggs, place a



Submitted photos
It's time to dye 'em again! But first, check out these safety tips from the Choctaw County Extension System.

single layer of eggs in a saucepan and add water to at least an inch above the eggs. Cover and bring the water to a boil. Boil the eggs at least 2 to 3 minutes and remove the pan from heat. Allow the eggs to stand in hot water for approximately 15 minutes for large eggs and 12 minutes for medium eggs. Place them in an uncovered container in the refrigerator and allow them to dry. After the eggs are dry, they will be ready to color for Easter.

However, when dyeing eggs, be careful not to crack them because bacteria can enter the eggs through the cracks. Hard-cooked eggs should not sit out for more than 2 hours. Keep the eggs refrigerated

until you are ready to place them into Easter baskets. Store eggs on a shelf in the refrigerator rather than in the refrigerator door so they will stay fully chilled.

A final tip is do not use hard cooked eggs for Easter Egg Hunts. Always use plastic eggs and then you can replace them with real eggs after the hunt is over. If real eggs are used during the hunt, there is a great possibility that they will get cracked or broken. Then, you will have to throw them away and there will be some disappointed little children.

So, have fun dyeing and decorating your Easter eggs, play it safe, and everyone have a Happy Easter!

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