

# Business



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Page 7A

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## Sundae Blessing restaurant now open in Butler

By Tommy Campbell  
The Choctaw Sun

**BUTLER** — The name of Butler's newest restaurant sounds like an ice cream dish, but it was really chosen to reflect the owner's desire for her customers.

Sundae Blessing, located next door to Pinebelt Wireless/Radio Shack on the north side of the Courthouse Square, offers sandwiches of all types and, on certain days of the week, home-cooked "soul food" buffets sure to please any taste.

"This is cooking like your mama used to do," owner Callie Tillman said, adding that she wants the restaurant to be to diners just what its name implies — a blessing.

"God has been so good to me, and I want this to be an outreach to people, to give them good food at good prices," she said. "We have a variety of sandwich combos, and buffets three



Choctaw Sun photo by Tommy Campbell  
Owner Callie Tillman invites readers of the Sun to come in and enjoy a Sundae Blessing at her new restaurant.

days a week."

With seating for 86 people, the restaurant is one of the largest in the area, and takes bookings for parties and receptions.

"All churches are welcome and if a member of the congregation points out their pastor to us, the pastor's meal is free," she said.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, Chicago Polish, BLT's and clubs are just a few of the sandwiches on the menu, while chicken livers and gizzards are also specialties of the house.

"Ain't nobody can cook livers and gizzards like we can!" she laughed.

Sundae Blessing is open Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. until 8 p.m., and on Sunday from noon until 5 p.m.

Buffets are served on Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon until 3 p.m., and from noon until 5 p.m. on Sundays. The restaurant

is closed on Saturdays.

"We want people to come and try us. Our restaurant is clean, neat, we give service with smiles, and we serve up some of the best soul food you'll ever put in your mouth, so come on and see for yourself! You won't leave hungry and you won't leave without a smile!" she said.

Call-in orders — (205) 459-4356 — are also welcome.

And, as an added plus, Sundae Blessing is also the newest location in Butler where readers can pick up the latest copy of *The Choctaw Sun*.

*(ED. NOTE: The Sun welcomes this new restaurant to our community. When you visit Callie and the staff, be sure and tell them you read about them in The Sun -- Choctaw County's Business Connection! --*

## TREDP hosts summit

**THOMASVILLE** — Twin Rivers Economic Development Partnership hosted an Economic Summit on May 1st at Alabama Southern Community College's Thomasville Campus.

The keynote speaker was Neal Wade, Director of the Ala. Development Office. Wade was joined by Greg Barker of Alabama Power, and Wiley Blankenship of Coastal Gateway Economic Development Authority.

Approximately 100 elected officials, business and community leaders attended the summit. The topic was on regional approaches to economic and community development, the focus of the TREDP.

The Partnership was formed last year to recruit and market Clarke and Choctaw counties, to support existing business growth and to develop an aggressive legislative agenda.

All three men encouraged the audience to get involved and continue supporting Twin Rivers to help the region improve. Twin Rivers is still in its funding stage, seeking public and private commitments to raise at least \$1.5 million over the next five years for its activities. To date, the group has raised slightly more than \$1 million.

Chip Harrigan, chairman of the board, made a presentation explaining the goals of the organization and stating how the group hopes to hire a full time director/economic developer in the near future and what Twin Rivers' role will be in the regional effort.

Choctaw County board members are Nancy Gibson of Butler, Kelvin Hill of Pennington, and Earlae Nealey of Gilbertown. There is also a Leadership Team composed of citizens from both counties.



Submitted photo  
ADO Director Neal Wade is shown with Nancy Gibson, Director of the Choctaw Co. Chamber of Commerce and other area leaders at the recent summit.

### Millry Communications holds Customer Appreciation Day

**MILLRY** — Millry Communications recently held its annual Customer Appreciation Day.

Customers were treated to a free lunch of grilled hotdogs and hamburgers, with soft-serve ice cream for desert. A Grand Prize drawing for \$250 cash, a free Caller ID/Call-waiting telephone set, and two children's prizes was also held.

The winners are:  
Grand Prize Winner — Kenneth Knight of Millry — \$250.00 cash.

Free Caller ID/Call-waiting Telephone Set — Edward Beech of Chatom.

Girl's Prize — Amber Grayson of Silas — Tinkerbell® Doll and Peter Pan® DVDs.

Boy's Prize — Hayden Floyd of Millry — Pirate Play Set and Pirates of the Caribbean® DVDs.

## City Salvage celebrating 25th anniversary

**LAUREL, Miss.** — In 1982, with only a handful of employees, City Salvage opened its doors on South 4th Avenue in Laurel. Starting out as a business specializing in salvage products, it didn't take long for owner Larry Loftin to see a market for building supply materials in this area.

As City Salvage continued to grow, there became a need for additional space. At that point, the business relocated to its current location on Limbert Street. City Salvage soon became known as "The Handyman's Headquarters."

Twenty-five years later, City Salvage continues to expand and specialize in all aspects of home building and do-it-yourself projects, including their most recent addition, a second location — City Flooring & Rental

— on U.S. 84 East specializing in flooring and rental needs.

Homebuilders can continue to count on City Building Supply for local delivery of large orders, as well as various types of commercial work.

CBS's kitchen and bath center features "all plywood" kitchen and bathroom cabinets in a variety of designs along with showers, tubs, whirlpools, toilets and bath accessories. They also carry designer faucets for kitchen and bath areas.

"We stock several different cabinet designs with the ability to special order depending on a customer's needs," notes kitchen and bath team member Amanda Yingling. "There is a vast inventory of pre-formed countertops, now including granite, with the availability of an in-house top shop that can custom cut counter-

tops to any specification."

CBS also offers a full line of hardware and building supplies, name brand lumber, roofing products, insulation, paint, plumbing and electrical supplies.

The new Mohawk Color Center at the City Flooring and Rental location has the area's largest in-stock selection of vinyl, laminate wood, carpet and ceramic tile.

The Rental Department, also now on 84 East, assists with rental needs for items from chainsaws to scaffolding to welding tools, as well as equipment from backhoes and track hoes to tillers and trimmers.

*(ED. NOTE: We appreciate The Laurel Leader-Call for providing the information in this article. City Building Supply is also one of the newest advertisers in The Sun. —*

## Rocky, Roderick Bumpers attend conference in Boston

**BOSTON, Mass.** — Rocky and Roderick Bumpers, of Bumpers Funeral Home, recently attended a professional development conference sponsored by the International Order of the Golden Rule, an association of local family-owned Golden Rule funeral homes.

The meeting was held April 18-21 at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Boston with more than 200 funeral professionals from across North America and overseas attending.

"By participating in this conference, Rocky and Roderick have demonstrated their continued commitment to securing the very best service options for grieving families in their community," said Robin L. Williams, association president. "Families can be assured knowing that this funeral home adheres to our high standards of service excellence and ethics. We are proud to count Bumpers Funeral Homes of Butler and York, Alabama as a member."

"We take seriously our pledge to adhere to the Golden Rule," noted Bumpers. "We owe families our best possible service and compassionate care. This conference proved a great source of new ideas that, ultimately, will aid our efforts to help families through this difficult time."

The educational program provided continuing education credit for attendees. Sessions focused on members of the baby boom generation, expectations and effects on the funeral profession; financial realities of running a funeral home; advancements in technology; lessons from Arlington National Cemetery; a pre-need panel discussion; topic-specific round table discussion; and supplier exhibit.

Bumpers Funeral Home has been a Golden Rule firm since 1998.

Headquartered in St. Louis, the IOGR is one of the world's oldest associations of locally owned funeral homes. Members' long-standing credo has been, "Service measured not by gold, but by the Golden Rule." To ensure these standards, funeral homes that wish to join must pass a rigorous application process and must demonstrate and maintain only the highest standards of service, integrity, care, and compassion

## New bids sought on solid waste service

By Tommy Campbell  
The Choctaw Sun

**BUTLER** — Waste Management has been picking up the county's residential solid waste for more than 10 years now, but at the end of the current contract on Sept. 30th, that could change.

The Choctaw Co. Commission learned Monday that the Meridian, Miss.-based company told attorney Lee McPhearson that it was not interested in renewing the existing contract with the county at the current rates.

McPhearson said, however, that the company indicated it would be glad to submit a new bid for providing the service.

Probate Judge D'Wayne May said the county probably needs to get an updated count of the number of households in the county, since the Commission pays WM a certain amount each month per household, even if that household doesn't pay the mandatory \$45 fee which is billed quarterly.

Currently, the contract with WM is based on 5,150 households, but at recent meetings statements have been made that indicate the actual number is prob-

ably far below that figure.

"I think we need a new count," May said. "I don't want to pay for 500 extra households. I don't want to pay for three extra households that we don't have to."

Commissioners said that it would be a simple matter to determine the number of households by getting a list of current addresses from the Choctaw E-911 Dispatch Center.

The board agreed to send out invitations to bid, with those bids to be opened at a June meeting.

It was also stated at previous meetings that other waste disposal companies have expressed a renewed interest in bidding on providing the service.

In other matters:

■ Commissioner Henry Lovette, who last week asked for a list of all county agencies for which appropriations were made in the county's current FY 2007 budget, agreed to table the item until a response has been received from the state Attorney General's Office in regard to funding for the Choctaw Co. Chamber of Commerce.

Lovette's request for the list came after an

agenda item which sought to give the Chamber of Commerce \$6,666.66, or approximately one-third of the \$20,000 which was budgeted for the agency.

Probate Judge D'Wayne May questioned whether the county can legally contribute directly to agencies like the Chamber, and asked that the matter be tabled until the county can get an answer to that question from the AG's office.

At Monday's meeting, he said that no response has yet been received.

"Whenever we get a response back, we will take that back up at that time," he said.

■ At the request of the Alabama Sports Festival, the board unanimously approved and signed a resolution honoring all military personnel who have served in the war on terror since 9/11/2001 in Iraq or Afghanistan.

All military personnel who served in those areas are eligible to receive a bronze Liberty Bell medal at special ceremonies at the Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center on Friday, June 29th.

■ Three sixth graders from Choctaw County will get a free week at Space

Camp at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville this fall, courtesy of the State of Alabama.

Commissioner C.D. "Budd" Ruffin said he asked if four local children could go, since there are four public and private elementary schools.

"They said if some other county doesn't take the entire number of slots allotted to them, it's possible we could have four," Ruffin said.

Commissioner Clyde Dixon said that every school, including church-based schools and home school groups, should be able to submit for consideration the name of a child who will be going into the sixth grade this fall.

The board gave Judge May the authority to contact all local schools for the names of students who may be interested. The deadline for submitting those names is June 1st.

■ The board voted to decline an agreement with Bonnie Mosley for sand from a pit on her property based on the fact that a creek runs through the site and fears that hauling material through the creek bed would be a violation of state and federal laws.