

# Heritage Fest is next week!



**Keith Williams and Second Nature**  
... will play street dance in Gilberttown on Thursday, May 31



**Crimson City**  
... will be in concert at SCHS Football Field on Friday, June 1

## Get your tickets now for Clay Walker, Rhett Akins show

GILBERTTOWN – Two of the hottest stars in country music today are coming to perform at the 2007 Heritage Festival in Gilberttown next week.

Clay Walker and Rhett Akins will headline the Saturday night finale on June 2nd which will cap off four full days of concerts and other events.

Curb Records star Walker, whose string of eleven #1 hits include "If I Could Make a Living (Out of Loving You)", "Live Until I Die", "Chain of Love", "I Can't Sleep", "Dreaming With My Eyes Open", "This Woman and This Man", and "Rumor Has It", will be the "headline" artist and will close out the June 2nd show at the Southern Choctaw High School football field on Ala. 17 just south of Gilberttown.

Walker's newest CD – "Fall" – includes his latest hit single, "Fore She Was Mama".

Opening the show at 6 p.m. will be several local acts, including the winner of the Colgate Country Showdown talent search, which will be held that morning in downtown Gilberttown. Taking the stage at 7 p.m. will be BNA Records star Rhett Akins, whose chart-topping hits include "Where Angels Live", "She Said Yes", "Don't Get Me Started", "That Ain't My Truck", "If Heaven Wasn't So Far Away", and "I Love Women My Mama Can't Stand".

Advance tickets for the Walker/Akins concert are \$25 each (all ages) and are on sale at Regions Bank (Butler and Gilberttown), First United Security Bank (Butler, Gilberttown, Coffeeville and Thomasville locations), Gilberttown Town Hall, Bonita Lakes Mall (Meridian), First Community Bank (Millry and Chatom), The Village Shoppe, West Alabama Bank and Trust (Butler), Merchants Bank (Jackson), and online at [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com).

Remember to bring lawn chairs for all shows at the SCHS football field unless you wish to sit on the stadium bleachers.

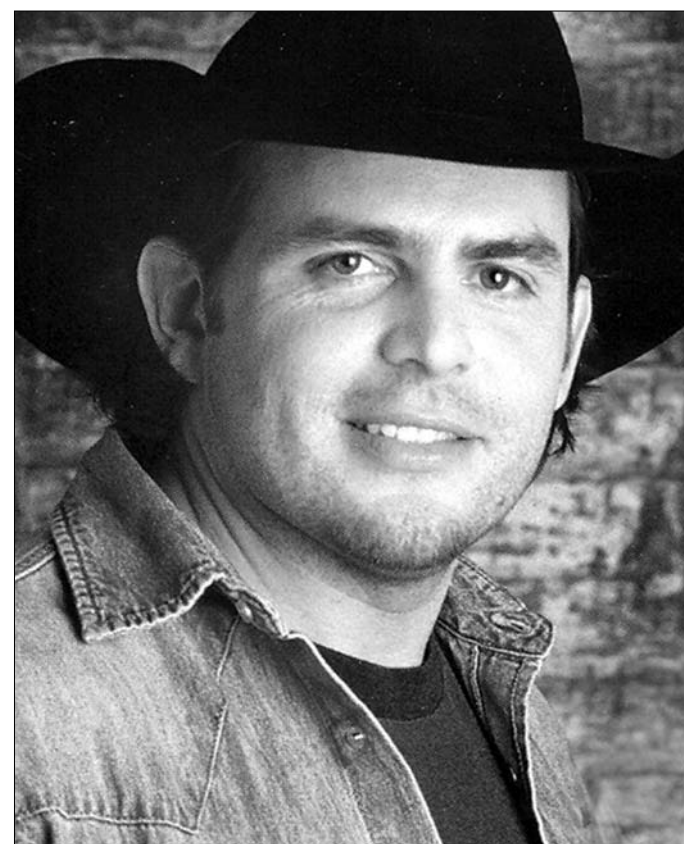
On Friday night at the SCHS Football Field, a big Southern Gospel and Bluegrass Gospel show will take place, featuring Crimson City, Jimmy D. Mosley and Southern Praise, The Lindsey Family, and the Cullom-burg Quartet.

Tickets are \$10 at the gate and the show begins at 7 p.m.

On Thursday evening from 7 – 10 p.m., a street dance featuring Keith Williams and Second Nature will be held in front of Town Hall in Gilberttown. There is no admission charge but freewill donations are requested to help pay the band's expenses.

The band's appearance is being sponsored in part by Weatherly-Studdard Memorial Chapel in Butler.

For more information on any of the Heritage Festival events, persons may call Gilberttown Town Hall at (251) 843-2766.



**Country superstars Clay Walker (left) and Rhett Akins (right)**  
... will headline the Sat., June 2nd show at the SCHS Football Field, 6 p.m.



**Jimmy D. Mosley and Southern Praise**  
... will perform at the Friday night, June 1st gospel/bluegrass concert at the SCHS Football Stadium

## A Memorial Day tribute to a hero

We mourn the loss of a true hero today (May 2, 2007), SSG John McGee. Words will never express the magnitude John influence had on my life as a friend as well as the effect that he had on the 2101st Transportation, Butler. I will never forget him and what he meant to all of us.

We all have a lot to be thankful for today. It was God's will that we endure great hardship and danger to return home from Iraq to our families. Let us not forget to honor the sacrifice of an amazing soldier. Let us not forget to honor the sacrifice of an amazing family. All of us have different memories of John. He touched each of us in different ways. I would like to share just a few of my thoughts of what John meant to me.

I remember him as my soldier; It was a great privilege to serve as his platoon leader. You could not have asked for a more professional soldier. He exemplified the meaning of 'WARRIOR'. He had an amazing influence on his peers and was respected by all. Often we would discuss our day to day operations. He would give me his honest opinion on what I was doing well, or what I needed to improve on. I respected his honesty and valued opinion. He truly



File photo

SSG McGee is shown here in a photo taken while he was driving a truck in Iraq not long before he was killed.

did make me a better leader.

I remember him as a friend; Despite our friendship I cannot remember a time when John ever tried to compromise my effectiveness as a leader. In fact, he would often comment on how proud he was of the job that I was doing. He knew more than anyone the road that had been traveled during our

OCS days and respected the responsibility that had been placed on me. The road got rough sometimes and I could always depend on him to offer words of encouragement at just the right moment. It was a true test of a real friendship and John supported me 100%. He truly did make me a better man.

"You will be remembered, SSG. John McGee."

**ILT Eric Pouncy**  
Commander, 2101st Transportation Company  
Alabama Army National Guard

*(ED. NOTE: McGee, 36, of Columbus, GA, was killed May 2, 2005 along a supply route in Iraq when the tanker truck he was driving was hit by a blast from an improvised explosive device which detonated near the vehicle. The soldier died a hero, using the last ounce of his strength to help free a passenger, SPC Tiwan Jones, from the burning vehicle. A native of Cary, Miss., a small town in the Mississippi Delta, McGee – in 1986 – at the age of 17 – enlisted in the regular Army in Jackson MS where he served for eight years. He joined the Ala. Army National Guard in 1996 and was assigned to the 1128th Transportation Company in Eufaula before transferring to the 2101st in May of 2004, just one month before the company deployed for active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Since returning from Iraq, several members of the 2101st have visited his family and his grave in Mississippi. – Tommy.)*

## Grand Opening this Friday at Factory Connection

BUTLER – Grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremonies for Factory Connection, in Butler, will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, May 25th.

The new family fashions outlet, located at 134 W. Church Street (formerly Lindsey's Café), is also the newest member of the Choctaw Co. Chamber of Commerce.

Readers of the *Sun* are invited to come by and meet Store Manager Gail Goff and Brooke Doggette and enjoy the festivities.



## Jail Log

Public intoxication – James Crosby, 56, 334 Heather Lane, Butler, arrested on 5/15/07 by Pinkerton. Released on bond.

Domestic violence (assault, 3rd degree) – Robert Lee Fullbright, 28, 22 Choctaw Street, Pennington, arrested on 5/22/07 by K. Thomas.

DUI, driving on wrong side of road – Kelvin Kirksey, 37, 2487 Blue Dirt Road, Silas, arrested on 5/19/07 by Skinner. Released on bond.

Failure to pay child support (Marengo County) – Cedric L. Mosley, 33, 45 Thursday Drive, Butler, arrested on 5/14/07 by Skinner. Released to Marengo County authorities.

Failure to participate – Demark Mosley, age not listed, 478 Brown Landing Road, Butler, arrested on 5/21/07 by Huckeba. Released on bond.

Domestic violence (assault, 3rd degree) – Tami Sue Zettlemoyer, 30, 22 Choctaw Street, Pennington, arrested on 5/22/07 by K. Thomas.