



# CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

"Celebrating the Past, Enjoying the Present, and Planning for the Future" January 2019

## Contact Numbers

City Hall	405-390-8198
Public Works	405-390-8276
Code Enforcement	405-281-6869
Court Clerk	405-390-3333
Police (non-emergency)	405-769-3821
Fire (non-emergency)	405-390-8300
Police/Fire Emergency	911
Choctaw Creek Golf	405-769-7166
Waste Connections	405-745-2942



## Recycling Pickup Schedule

Please remember that Waste Connections picks up recycling every other week. Recycling will occur in the weeks of: **January 7th and 21st.**

**OFFICES CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY**

## City Hall Closed for Holidays

City Hall will be closed on **Tuesday, January 1st**, to celebrate the New Year Holiday, trash service will run one day behind for the remainder of the week.



## Shrek the Musical

The Choctaw-Nicoma Park Fine Arts Programs presents *Shrek the Musical*, based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture and the book by William Steig. Performances will be on **Feb. 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23rd** at 7:30 PM. Dinner Theatre: Performances on the **16th and 23rd** will be preceded by dinner, served at 6:00 PM. There

are more performances on **Feb. 17th and 24th** at 2:30 PM. General Admission seating is \$12, Reserved seating is \$15-\$18, and Dinner Theatre tickets are \$19-\$25. For more information, contact Maryjane Burton at 405-390-6143. All performances will be at the Choctaw High School Performing Arts Center, located at 14300 NE 10th Street, in Choctaw.



## Choctaw Senior Center

What's happening in January? We have a Blood Pressure Clinic on **Jan. 7th**, at 10:15 AM. Then on **Jan. 11th** we'll learn about Bankruptcy, Reverse Mortgages, and Elder Abuse, at 10:45 AM. On **Jan. 14th** we'll learn more about "Scams," a very important topic these days, at 10:45 AM. **Jan. 28th** we will have Referral Resources at 11:00 AM. SALT/TRIAD is here every **2nd Monday** at 9:30 AM. With Bingo on Tuesdays, Devotion on Wednesdays, and Games on Fridays, you are sure to find something here.

We are open weekdays, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Meals are served at 11:30am each day. Please call for a meal reservation no later than 12:00 noon the day before you plan to attend. For daily lunch menu and event calendars, go to <https://mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center>.

The senior center will be closed **Tues., Jan. 1st** for New Year's Day and **Mon., Jan. 21st** for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

For transportation to the Senior Center or to Wal-Mart, call **390-8040**. We are located at **14653 Dean Street**. For more information or to sign-up for any of these events, please call Lorna at **(405) 390-8040**. *We can't wait to see you!!*



## Events at the Choctaw Library

The Choctaw branch of the Metropolitan Library System, located at **2525 Muzzy St.**, offers many excellent programs for patrons of all ages. You may register at the library or by calling **390-8418 ext 3**. For more information visit [www.metrolibrary.org](http://www.metrolibrary.org).

Crochet Club, **Jan. 5th - 1:00-3:00 PM**, Welcome beginners! Bring your knit and crochet projects and enjoy an afternoon with crafty folks.

Get Cooking: Soups, **Jan. 13th - 2:00-3:00 PM**, Watch a cooking demo and make a dried soup mix to take home!

Babytime, **Jan. 14th - 9:30-10:30 AM**, a new storytime for children ages 0-24 months. Winter Sensory Play, **Jan. 28th - 9:30-10:30 AM**, ages 0-5, Join us for cold fake snow, peppermint paint, play-doh snowmen, and more!



## Community Health Fair

First Baptist Fitness has partnered with Alliance Health Medical Group for their 4th annual Community Health Fair. Join us on Saturday, **Jan 12th**, from 7:45-10:00 AM at the First Baptist Church (Activities Center), 2700 N. Main Street in Choctaw. There will be many free services available, including: blood pressure, blood glucose, cholesterol, foot & sleep screenings. There will be a physician, podiatrist, and a sleep tech available for questions. Stop by for a chair massage and plan to attend the FREE fitness class from 8:15 to 9:00 AM. There will be lots of door prizes, healthy snacks, and free goodies!

Contact [kreeves@fbchoctaw.org](mailto:kreeves@fbchoctaw.org) or 390-2131 to sign up for screening(s).

Visit us online at [www.mychoctaw.org](http://www.mychoctaw.org) for more

**Board / Commission Meeting Dates**

(All meetings @ City Hall unless otherwise noted)

**7 PM**

City Council Meeting followed by Choctaw Utilities Authority: **Jan 15th**

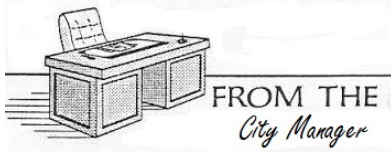
Planning Commission Meeting: **Jan 3rd**

Public Recreation Advisory Board: **Jan 8th**

Board of Adjustments (as needed): **Jan 28th**

**4:30 PM**

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (at Old Germany Restaurant): **Jan 30th**



**City Manager Corner**

Happy New Year Choctaw! My wife and I had a great time watching kids and parents take advantage of the “Christmas at the Creek” event on Dec. 1st. Santa was there listening to the wishes of the good girls and boys attending the Christmas party—some even left with surprise gifts. We then transitioned to Main Street to listen to carolers and a brass band, then lit up our Christmas Tree. Food Trucks and vendors were on hand and a good time was had by all! A big thank you to the Parks and Recreation team for coordinating the event, and an even bigger thank you to all the volunteers from the community—we cannot put on events such as these without your help.

I recently established a Twitter account as City Manager and hope I can get a following for the City. My intent is to use the account to get information out quickly on what is happening in the city, encourage civil discourse with the citizenry, and establish a meaningful and respectful communication conduit to make citizens

more aware of what is going on within their municipal government. Search “The City of Choctaw, City Manager” on Twitter and you should be able to find me and follow. We linked to the city website, [mychoctaw.org](http://mychoctaw.org), for easy access, please follow your City Manager.

In case you have not heard, Choctaw leased space to a steak and BBQ restaurant at the Golf Course. The Choctaw Creek Country Club held a soft opening on 29 November. The restaurant is run by the owners of the Landing Zone in Midwest City, and are known for their steaks! I personally have enjoyed the hamburger and the 16 oz. steak - both were very tasty. If you want to save driving time and bypass our neighbors to the West, stop by Choctaw Creek Country Club Restaurant for your steak and BBQ. By the way, you can get the beverage of your choice there, as well. In the future, the Golf Course will coordinate with the restaurant to provide options for golf tournament food and beverages. We are excited to have the restaurant owners, Ray and Bobby, on as team members.

We are working hard to execute the Downtown portion of the Choctaw Comprehensive Master Plan. Seven design/build candidates submitted packages in response to a Choctaw Request for Qualifications. A committee made up of staff and community partners evaluated candidates’ pitches on why they are the best fit for Choctaw in building the first facility on Main Street and get the plan rolling. Every presentation was outstanding and any one of the applicants would do a good job for the City and citizens. The committee has it’s work cut out for them in making a recommendation to council in the near future to just which team will be selected to move us forward. More to follow...

Finally, an update on 29th Street &

Choctaw Road. Streets department started smoothing out the southern part of the intersection before 1 Dec. We spent about 3 days using the planer to smooth the edges and were disappointed in the rate at which we were burning through the tines used to level. We are changing strategy and going back out to get a milling machine, as we believe it will be more effective, less expensive, and much faster. By the time this is published, we hope to be finished or very close to finished. More to follow....

As we move into 2019, I hope to have positive updates on status of the Markets area, as we are starting to see movement and preparations for our hotel and other retailers. I hope to have specifics for everyone next month if all works out. I also should have selected our new Police Chief by then, as our current Chief retires on 2 Jan. 2019. Stay tuned for announcements.

One last thought: I believe I may have commented on this subject before, Civility. I share with you today from the website “revivecivility.org,” thoughts on fostering civility on social media—tips to stay respectful on social media. 1) Check for accuracy—before sharing information, check the accuracy of the story, and if all sides of the facts are portrayed or available. 2) Insults and name calling—separate people’s opinions from who they are as a person. Before you post, consider whether your story/comment contributes to civility. 3) Seek information from different perspectives—is it a 9 or a 6? 4) Walk away—step away, pause, and take time to think if there is room for a civil response. 5) Spread respect—share information about the role of civility and respect in promoting constructive conversations.



**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**



**Choctaw City Hall**

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**Did you know?**

The City Council agendas, as well as all of the back-up information, are available on the City’s website at: [www.mychoctaw.org](http://www.mychoctaw.org)  
Check it out and subscribe today!