



CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

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

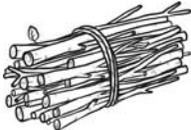
Contact Numbers

City Hall	405-390-8198
Public Works	405-390-1121
Code Enforcement	405-281-6869
Court Clerk	405-390-3333
Permits/Licenses	405-390-2999
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 pick-up will occur in the weeks of: **August 5th & 19th.**



Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule

Bulk trash is picked up based on your regular trash day. Find your trash day to see what day each month your Bulk Pick-Up will occur:

- Monday**=1st Thursday of the month
- Tuesday**= 2nd Thursday of month
- Wednesday**=3rd Thursday
- Thursday/Friday** = 4th Thursday



Food Truck Fridays

Join us for lunch **Fridays, August 23rd through September 27th** at the corner of Main & Gilbert. Each Friday from **11:00am to 2:00pm** there will be food trucks, music, lawn games, and lots of fun! Don't miss it! For more infor-

mation, call Tanner McGuire at 405-390-8198.



Annual IPRA Rodeo

Join us for a parade through downtown Choctaw on **Aug 10th** at **11:00am**, with the route beginning at the Choctaw Middle School (3rd & Harper) and traveling east on 3rd to Main Street, south to Gilbert, east to Maupin, north to 3rd, and back to the Middle School. The Choctaw Round-up Club will host the Annual IPRA Rodeo on **Aug 9th & 10th**, nightly at **8:00pm**. Pre-rodeo events begin at **7:00pm**, which includes the Kid's Coin Scramble, Stick-Horse Race, and Hay Bale Roll.

Advance tickets may be purchased at D&D Feed, located at 11338 NE 23rd Street in Nicoma Park. Adults are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the gate, while children's tickets are \$5. For more information visit their website:

choctawroundupclub.com.

Choctaw Senior Center

We are located at 14653 Dean Street and are open **Mon - Fri, 9:00am to 1:00pm**. We have lots to offer, including daily Lunch served at **11:30am**, games, books, music, and great company. Reservations are required for lunch. For more information or to sign up for a meal or an event, call the Senior Center at **(405) 390-8040** between **9:00am & 1:00pm**. For daily menu & activities calendars, go to <https://mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center>.

Here are some of our weekly events:

- Monday, Aug 12th** - SALT/TRIAD at 9:30am
- Tuesday/Thursday-Bingo** at 10:00am
- Monday, Aug 19th** Blood Pressure Clinic at 10:30am

Wednesdays - Devotion at **10:30am**

Fridays - Games

This month's special presentation: "Aging Happily" - **Aug 9th** at **10:45am**

Choctaw Library

The Choctaw branch of the Metropolitan Library System, located at 2525 Muzzy St., offers many excellent programs for patrons of all ages. To register for a program, call **(405) 390-8418 ext 3**. Visit their website to view a full calendar of events and more at www.metrolibrary.org. Here are a few of the events coming up:

Master Builders, Aug 7th, 4-5pm, ages 5-12; Explore construction and engineering with a variety of tools and challenges. Problem solve & create as you explore how these STEAM projects connect to the real world.

6th Grade Party, Aug 15th, 3-4pm, 6th grade students only; Join us for this exclusive 6th grade bash! We'll play games, eat junk food, and learn about all the fun happening at the Choctaw Library this year!

Fall Gardening Tips, Aug 18th, 2-3pm, Adults; Get tips and tricks from master gardener Cindy Schaefer to prepare your yard for the fall, such as how you can extend your veggie growing season, the best time to plant trees & shrubs, as well as landscaping chores for winter and spring.

How to Can Salsa, Aug 27th, 7-8pm, Adults; Join OSU Extension Specialist Taylor Conner for this tasty program! She will demonstrate the water bath canning method for salsa, there will be homemade salsa to taste, and recipes & tips to make your own!

City Manager's Corner

Team Choctaw, the rain finally stopped, and by the time you read this, I think we will all be ready for at least a passing shower. Your Parks & Recreation team put on a great 4th of July in the park. I hope you had a chance to enjoy the activities, it gets better every year. The Mayor opened the event by

Visit us online at www.mychoctaw.org for even more information.

Board / Commission Meeting Dates

(All meetings @ City Hall unless otherwise noted)

7 PMCity Council Meeting followed by Choctaw Utilities Authority: **August 6th & 20th**Planning Commission Meeting: **August 1st**Public Recreation Advisory Board Meeting: **August 13th**Board of Adjustments Meeting (as needed): **August 26th****4:30 PM**Choctaw Economic Development Authority (Choctaw Creek Golf Course): **Aug. 28th**

dedicating the new playground to John Miskelly. Kids' activities included water slide inflatables and a touch-a-truck display with fire, police, and public works equipment. A multitude of dining choices was available with 5 food trucks, and beverages courtesy of Charlie's. The Professional Corn Hole Association was present for the tournament and we also had a long toss competition, balloon toss, and water balloon fights. A DJ provided music throughout, and the night was capped by an awesome fireworks demonstration, courtesy of Rudy's Fireworks. Then on July 19th the first in our "Movie N the Park" series was held at the Golf Course. Check out the City website for more summer fun activities.

The new budget year started 1 July and inside City Hall we transitioned to a new finance system. It has a broad suite of reports and functionality enabling up-to-the moment status of funds, budget, and transparency. As staff learns the ins-and-outs of the reporting tools, we will attempt to make the more easy-to-understand reports available and post on the Finance Department page of the website. We are already seeing the benefits! The Mayor's Roads Committee, chaired by Councilman Malone and Vice Chair Councilman Birdsong, meets regularly. The committee is split into two subcommittees. 1) Finance Subcommittee-to study financing options for roads, and 2) Roads Subcommittee-to prioritize

roads in most need. The subcommittee recommendations will be key to final recommendations made to Council. The majority of committee members are your fellow citizens, and we thank them for taking the time to assist in this project that will impact Choctaw positively far into the future. It will take them a few months to study and refine all the information and I can assure you, they are taking this task seriously and will present quality recommendations to Council.

The design phase of the Downtown project was completed last week with a presentation to Council by the architect. The team presented floor plans, site plans, exterior elevations, a 3-dimensional model of the project, and documents suitable for a schematic-level construction cost estimate. The City will use the documents to market the building for potential tenants and or investors. It is a slow process, but important to bringing in the "stay and play" opportunities for those living in Choctaw and nearby. Your Council is excited about this project, as it will offer modern office and retail space for local businesses.

Council amended a few ordinances over the last few weeks. Driving around, moving, and running over road barriers seems to be an issue in our City. Council addressed this through an amendment and a pretty stiff fine for ignoring road barriers. The main concern, from a public safety standpoint, were the water rescues Emergency Response personnel executed during the May 21 rains. Not only does ignoring the barriers & Emergency Response vehicles put you at risk, it puts the Emergency Responder's at risk, too. And in the near future Council will update the Smoking Ordinance to include tobacco and marijuana products and vaping. One of the requirements in order to compete and receive money through the Oklahoma Healthy Living grant is to

pass such and ordinance.

The Public Works crews repaired the Choctaw Road tinhorn washout and with the nicer weather, are working down the list of other weather-related washouts. The Streets Dept. is almost finished with a needed concrete repair on Shelby, working on pothole repairs on Henney and Reno, scheduling repair for a failing tinhorn on Indian Meridian, and re-scheduling the 10th Street patch work. We appreciate everyone's patience as the Streets Dept. is working to get back on schedule after the damaging rains in May. The May rain put developers, dirt work teams, and construction projects about 90 days behind schedule.

Repairs to Bouse Park are ongoing as we prepare for the fall sports season. New fencing is up around the splash pad and playground. Work started on a Monument sign for the entrance to the park. The team is working on the outfields, filling holes and leveling the ground for better drainage and safety. The management team is working on sign-ups, training, coaches meetings, and parents meetings. We are off to another successful season.

Have you noticed the lack of "stickers" at the parks, soccer fields, and golf course this year? Earlier this winter, some employees from Parks & Recreation were trained and certified in chemical application. We applied pre-emergent early in the spring and are very happy with the result. Not all the stickers are gone, and it will most likely take a few years to eradicate them all, but the result has been better than expected. Oh, and we saved the City approximately \$12K by doing the applications ourselves.

In September your Council and City Manager will meet to take a look back on successes and what course corrections may need to be made to facilitate future success. Keeping things positive, what good is happening in Choctaw!

**Choctaw City Hall**

2500 N. Choctaw Road
P.O. Box 567
Choctaw, Oklahoma 73020

Phone: (405) 390-8198
Fax: (405) 390-8607
Email: citymanager@choctawcity.org
Web Site: www.mychoctaw.org

Did you know?

The City Council agendas as well as all of the back-up information is available on the City's website at: www.mychoctaw.org

Check it out and subscribe!