



# CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

“Celebrating the Past, Enjoying the Present, and Planning for the Future” **January 2020**

## 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 Schedule

Please remember that Waste Connections picks up recycling every other week. Recycling pick-up will occur in the weeks of: **January 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>.**

## Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule

Bulk trash is picked up based on your regular trash day. Find your *regular trash day* below 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



## Spring Youth Sports Leagues

Sign-ups end **Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>** for Youth Spring Baseball (ages 3-12) and Softball Leagues (ages 7-12) at the Bouse Sports Complex. Cost is \$35/player or \$350/team. You can register and pay online at <https://mychoctaw.org/191/Bouse-Sports-Complex> or in person at City Hall.



## Bright Star

The Choctaw High School Theatre Performing Arts presents *Bright Star*, the musical inspired by a true story, written and scored by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell. A sweeping tale of love and redemption, this uplifting journey will hold you tightly in its grasp. Performances held on **February 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, & 29<sup>th</sup>** begin at 7:30pm, with dinner theatre at 6:00pm on the **22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**. Matinee performances on **Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> & Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>** are at 2:30pm. Tickets go on sale **February 3<sup>rd</sup>** with prices starting at \$15. All performances will be at the Performing Arts Center, 14300 NE 10th Street. For more information please contact Maryjane Burton at **(405) 390-6837**.



## 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**. For daily menu & full events calendars, go to <https://mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center>.

- Here are some of our weekly events:
- Mon, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>** -SALT/TRIAD, 9:30am
  - Tuesday/Thursday** - Bingo, 10:00am
  - Tues, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>** - Alzheimer's Support Group, 12:00 - 1:00pm
  - Wednesdays** - Devotion at 10:30am
  - Fridays** - Games

This month's special presentation: "Fire Safety & the Proper Use of Fire

Extinguishers," **Wed., Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am.**

The Senior Center will be closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day on **Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>.**



## 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](http://www.metrolibrary.org). Here are a few events happening this month:

**Oddly Satisfying Family Party, Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30-8pm**, Families; Are you obsessed with #oddlysatisfying videos on social media? We'll have several stations set up for you to touch, squish, and experiment with. The entire family is encouraged to come out and play - it's not just for kids!

**Page Turners Book Club: Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2-3:30pm**, Adults; If you love to read but want to choose your own title, then our genre book club is for you! Each month we'll select a different genre, such as mystery, romance, science fiction, and then choose our own monthly read from that genre. We won't all be reading the same book, so it's a great way to learn about new books and hear what others liked. January's genre is nature-themed books.

**Zumba: Mondays, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>-Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7-8pm**, Adults (Registration Required); Skip the gym and dance to get slim in the new year! This high-energy class is set to upbeat music and features dance numbers choreographed by an instructor. But you don't need to be a great dancer, you can work at your own pace and enjoy yourself! Come dance with us!

**Hounds & Homework: Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, 4-5pm**, Ages 6-12; Want to be a more confident reader? Build "paw"-sitive

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

**Board / Commission Meeting Dates**  
(All meetings @ City Hall unless otherwise noted)

**7 PM**

City Council meeting followed by Choctaw Utilities Authority: **January 7th & 21st**

Planning Commission Meeting: **January 2nd**

Public Recreation Advisory Board Meeting: **January 14th**

Board of Adjustments Meeting (as needed): **January 27th**

**4:30 PM**

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (@Choctaw Creek Golf Course): **Jan. 29th**

self-esteem and improve your reading skills while reading aloud to certified therapy dogs. You can also team up with a local volunteer to get some extra help with your homework!

**Teen Table-Top Time: Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm**, Teens; Cards, dice, and board games: join us as we learn and play new games each month! This month we will learn about role-playing games.

**Stir Fry Basics: Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2-3pm**, Adults (Registration Required); Stir-frying is a fast, fresh way to cook, and fits into hectic lifestyles and health-conscious tastes. Join OSU Extension Specialist Taylor Conner to learn how to create tasty stir-fry meals. Taste a sample and take home recipes!

**Bubble Science: Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4-5pm**, Ages 6-12; "Pop" on in to the Choctaw Library for this messy, soapy program. We'll teach children how to make their own bubble solution, bubble wands, & explain scientifically how bubbles form. Children will be challenged to create the most effective bubble wand from provided supplies and get an easy recipe for bubble solution, so you can keep having fun with bubbles at home!

**Mixed Media Mania: Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3:30-5:00pm**, Teens; Collages, crayons, and clay-don't limit yourself to just one! Join us as we learn about mixed media art & create our own unique canvases. We'll provide the materials, you bring the creativity!



**Resources**

Need help with healthcare, housing, food, clothing, or utility assistance? Call 211. It's a 24-hour resource to provide referrals to community-based services for everyday needs or in times of crisis or disaster. Talk to someone who cares and knows where to go for help - Call 211.

**Message from Roads Committee**

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 will be a historic day for citizens of Choctaw, as you will have the opportunity to vote for better and safer roads in Choctaw.

A citizen driven task force worked with city staff and two members of the city council to develop a long-range plan for major road repair, reconstruction, and improvements. Core samples of the roads in Choctaw showed road failures that cannot be repaired by putting down layers of asphalt or filling potholes. The roads have little-to-no base and are, in certain cases, unsafe for you and your family.

We want to provide you with the most up-to-date information so you can make an informed choice. All the factual information you need to have will be on the City's website at [mychoctaw.org/347/February-11-2020-Special-Election](http://mychoctaw.org/347/February-11-2020-Special-Election).

We have established an email address for any questions you might have. That email address is [roadelection@choctawcity.org](mailto:roadelection@choctawcity.org).

There will also be many opportunities like town halls and other information-sharing events scheduled between now and the election.

Choctaw residents will decide on two ballot questions with one question authorizing general bond obligations and the second question authorizing a new \$0.75 sales tax increase for

roads. The funding will help break the endless cycle of putting band aids on a large wound. To ensure the success of better and safer roads for Choctaw, both proposals must pass. Both proposals address many of the most traveled roads, roads around schools, and failed roads. If one measure does not pass, Choctaw residents will see only a few roads reconstructed or repaired.

One of the questions we've gotten is "how much is this going to cost me?" You can get more specific on how much it will cost you with the information on the election page of the city website, but we have some general examples below on both the property tax and sales tax proposals.

The general obligation bonds would be added to the property taxes of homeowners in the city. An easy example is a \$100,000 home with a homestead exemption would result in a property tax increase of about \$60 per year or \$5 a month.

The sales tax question will request the citizens to approve a new three quarters of one percent excise tax. This would raise the combined sales tax rate to 9.5% from 8.75%. There are currently 33 Oklahoma cities whose current sales tax rate are equal or more than the proposed 9.5%. Locally and comparatively, Midwest City is 9.1% and Shawnee is 9.5%. To an average shopper, that means a \$100 purchase in Choctaw would produce 75 cents to go to funding of our roads. A \$100 purchase in Choctaw versus Midwest City results in a difference of 40 cents. The other benefit of the sales tax is a good portion will be paid by individuals living outside of Choctaw but who are shopping in Choctaw.

Please exercise your right to vote on Tuesday February 11, 2020. If you have any questions please email us at [roadelection@choctawcity.org](mailto:roadelection@choctawcity.org) or visit the election information webpage at [mychoctaw.org/347/February-11-2020-Special-Election](http://mychoctaw.org/347/February-11-2020-Special-Election).



**Choctaw City Hall**

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Website: [www.mychoctaw.org](http://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](http://www.mychoctaw.org)

**Check it out and subscribe!**