



CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

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

March 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 Pickup Schedule

Waste Connections picks up recycling every other week. Recycling will occur on the weeks of: **March 2nd, 16th, and 30th**.

Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule

Your monthly bulk trash pick-up is scheduled as follows: If your **regular** trash day is:

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

Spring Break Kids Camps

Choctaw/Nicoma Park schools are out **March 16-20** and we are proud to have 4 great camps going on during that time: Golf Camp, Art Camp, Football Camp, and Science Camp. For ages 7-12, there is sure to be one your child will love - so reserve your spot now! You can find out more on the website at mychoctaw.org/318/Spring-Break-Camps, or call Sports Complex Manager, Matt Anderson at **(405)281-6289** for more information.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **April 11th**, *10:00am-1:00pm*, at Choctaw Creek Park. Visit our web page for all the information: mychoctaw.org/197/Easter-Egg-Hunt.

Choctaw Senior Center

The Choctaw Senior Center is located at **14653 Dean Street**. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday *9:00am to 1:00pm*. Lunch is served at *11:30*. 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 and 1:00pm*.

For daily menu and event calendars, go to <https://mychoctaw.org/255/Choctaw-Senior-Citizens-Center>.

The Senior Center has lots to offer including lunch, games, books, and music to enjoy, as well as plenty of company. Here are some of our weekly events:

Mondays—Blood Pressure Clinic, SALT/TRIAD every **2nd Monday** at *9:30am*

Tuesdays—Bingo at *10:00am*

Wednesdays—Devotion at *10:30am*

Thursdays—Bingo at *10:00am*

Fridays—Games

Special Events this month include:

Mar. 3rd, *10:00am*, First Baptist Church of Nicoma Park Choir Performance

Mar. 6th, *10:45am*, Oklahoma Retired Citizens Travel Club

Mar. 17th, *10:00am*, St. Patrick's Day Party

Mar. 23rd, *10:30am*, “Remember When?” music

Choctaw Public Library

The Choctaw branch of the Metropolitan Library System, located at **2525 Muzzy Street**, 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, including a calendar of events,

visit www.metrolibrary.org. Here are just a few of the events happening this month:

Glow In The Dark Party—March 4th, *4-5:00pm*, Ages 6-12; Join us for fun glow-in-the-dark activities including painting, games, and crafts!

Cardboard Arcade Challenge—March 12th, *3-5:00pm*, Teens; Join us to build our own cardboard arcade games!

A Very Merry Unbirthday Party—March 31st, *9:30-10:00am* and *10:30-11:15am*, Ages 0-5; We'll play croquet, decorate a birthday cake, play games, and so much more as we celebrate everyone's unbirthday (or birthday if that's the case)!

Wildcrafting—March 31st, *7-8:00pm*, Adults; Herbalist and heritage wildcrafter Jenny Solidago Mansell will share about this tradition as well as how to identify several common wild plants that have edible and herbal uses.

City Manger's Corner

Hello Choctaw! In the after math of the Bond Election I suspect everyone has a bit of “election campaign” fatigue from talking about roads. I will say, even though the propositions did not pass, your council is determined more than ever to find a solution to fix our roads—one that is acceptable to the voters and fits within the confines and challenges of the financial ecosystem we work under in Oklahoma. The scope of the road problem remains unchanged, as does your desire to drive on smooth roads. I am confident our council, in partnership with citizen input, will find a funding solution acceptable to the majority. So, enough about the election and roads, today I want to tell you about all the good going on in your city, as well as what is in store for the future.

Starting with Bouse Park and moving into the spring ball season, the Parks & Rec team is zeroing in on the sweet spot for park success. The Ball Park team set a schedule for leagues and

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

Board / Commission Meeting Dates

(All meetings @ City Hall unless otherwise noted)

7 PM

City Council Meeting followed by Choctaw Utilities Authority: **Mar 3rd & 17th**

Planning Commission Meeting: **Mar 5th**

Public Recreation Advisory Board: **Mar 10th**

Board of Adjustments (as needed): **Mar 23rd**
4:30 PM

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (at Choctaw Creek Golf Course): **Mar 25th**

tournaments that surpasses last year's. We have 58 teams signed up for Spring League play compared to 44 this time last year. The park is booked every weekend starting 14 Feb through the end of June and we are actually turning away interest. These teams come to town with family and you may even see them at our retail and food outlets. We recently responded to a request the Wednesday before the Presidents Day weekend and added two tournaments, 40 and 60 teams respectively for a Saturday / Sunday tournament. Our concessions contractor also flexed and was able to provide concession services to the tournament. The new paved parking came in very handy over this booked holiday weekend. The lined, paved lot helped to control a bit of the parking free-for-all we have seen in the past.

There is a lot of development going on around the City. The developer for the Starbucks building is set to complete construction and turn the facility over to the owner around 1 March. Starbucks will then take about 90 days to outfit the interior and hire and train staff. We should see an opening early this summer if not sooner.

The Best Western Hotel is coming along nicely and has the 3rd story up. I predict completion sometime in ear-

ly fall. Something I have heard often is "why does Choctaw need a hotel?" For one, looking at the projected activity of our ball park, all those teams are spending the night in Midwest City or Shawnee. The EOC Tech Center has multiple conferences each year and the attendees end up staying in Midwest City or Shawnee. EOC Tech also has a Fire Fighter School whose attendees end up staying in Midwest City or Shawnee. The goal is to capture that business and keep people in Choctaw.

Tinker Federal Credit Union is also progressing nicely. I believe they are projected to be complete sometime in the fall as well. The new TFCU will bring two amenities in addition to a banking facility: 1) small coffee business Cyndi Beans Coffee, and 2) a community gathering facility available for meetings, small conferences, and receptions.

Bobby Lewis from State Farm Insurance broke ground on a retail building at the corner of 15th & Choctaw Road. He will relocate his insurance office to the new site but also have multiple retail spaces available. We are excited with the potential of that development.

Three other areas of development include one on Harper across from Choctaw Creek Park, which will be a physical therapy office, and one on 23rd Street across from Tractor Supply, which will be a health clinic. The third one, on 23rd Street west of the car wash where an auto mechanic shop was. The building is completely gutted with water pipe out front, but when complete will house two or three retail entities, as we are working out design details with the developer now.

Continuing with image zone improvements, we are adding new picnic tables and benches at The Caboose. The flag poles were refurbished and flags were added at the Caboose and we

will be adding landscaping.

Contractors are working on resurfacing the Cemetery roadways and adding a parking lot. We added new benches at Ten Acre Lake. New playground equipment courtesy of the Mayor's Golf Tournament was recently added to Choctaw Creek Park and work is being done to resurface the playground parking as well as adding more parking for the Farmers Market. We are also in the process of adding concrete pads and landscaping work for the disc golf course.

We made some updates and improvements to the Senior Center with new flooring, repairs to water and sewer, and added new fencing.

Coming soon will be updates to the current bathrooms in Choctaw Creek Park and repainting and resurfacing the Splash Pads. We are exploring the feasibility of adding a bathroom at the front entrance of Choctaw Creek Park as well.

There is so much good going on in the City it is difficult to capture everything in one small article. The Mayor has set up an "idea box" to get more from citizens. The email is active and can receive your input at:

ideabox@choctawcity.org. His vision is to set time aside before council meetings to discuss with council and the citizens concerned. I am on Twitter if you want to follow me, City of Choctaw City Manager (@ofChoctaw). I am attempting, within the constraints of Twitter, to get out small tidbits of information useful to understanding some of the inner workings of your City Government. Believe it or not, Municipal government is not about politics but more about building a community. Your council and staff are one-hundred-percent trying to serve in the best interest of the community first. Engage us on Facebook, our website, by email, or by phone. More to follow, take care...



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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
Check it out and subscribe today!