



CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

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

June 2017

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 on the week of **June 12th and 26th**.



City Splash Pads Now Open

The Alexis Clarke Waterpark at 1333 **N Indian Meridian** and the Barrel Springs Splashpad located at **2500 N Main Street** are open from *now through September 4th*. Stop by for a fun way too cool off from the summer heat.



Choctaw Independence Day Celebration

Come celebrate Americas birthday in Choctaw on July 4th from 12pm-4pm on Main Street between Gilbert Street and 1st Street.

There will be food, music, water slides, and carnival games for the whole family to enjoy. We will also have a Cornhole tournament with youth and adult divisions. We will offer cash prizes for the adults and trophies to the youth winners. You can register at City Hall (2500 N Choctaw Rd). Cost is \$5, and the deadline to register is June 30th. We will also have a Beer Garden at this event. So before the fireworks pop, stop by, cool off, get some food, relax at the Choctaw Independence Day Celebration!



Choctaw Community Heroes Celebration/Tractor Pull

Come Honor and celebrate civil service groups that serve Choctaw on July 8th at Choctaw Creek Park by the Large Pavilion. The Community Heroes event will run from 11am to 3pm and the Tractor Pull event will run from 11am to 5pm.

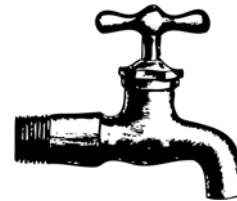
There will be Police, Fire, American Legion, FFA, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, JROTC. We will have waterslides to

cool you down while you are having fun there. And while you are doing all of that, step over to the Tractor Pull event. There will be 3 divisions, Farm Stock, Modified, and Open that will compete for prizes. If you are interested in being apart of this competition contact Terry Tate at 405-249-7755. It should be a fun, tractor-pullin' time!



2016 Annual Water Quality Report Posted

The 2016 Annual Water Quality Report is available for viewing at City Hall or online at <http://choctawcity.org/utility-billing/>



Utility Rate Increase Starting July 1st

Please be aware that rates will be increasing on Utility Services. New rates will be in effect **July 1st**.



Choctaw Senior Center

Did you know the Senior Center offers computers, internet and WiFi, free to its members? You may even bring your own laptop. Enjoy a cup of coffee daily and a Panera Bread sweet treat on **Mondays**, as you access the internet or join in on funny and witty conversa-

Visit us online at www.choctawcity.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: **June 6 & 20**

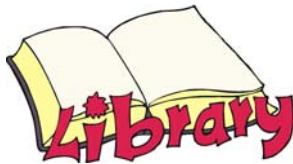
Planning Commission Meeting: **June 1**

Public Recreation Board Meeting: **June 13**

Board of Adjustments Meeting (as needed): **June 26**

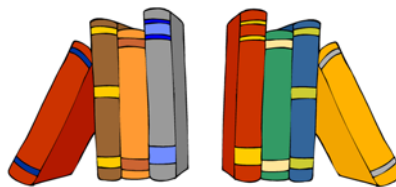
4:30 PM

Choctaw Economic Development Authority (at Old Germany Restaurant): **June 28th**



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



CITY MANAGER TALK

Hello Choctaw! First, my wife Kat and I want to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for the warm welcome we received upon arrival to the City of Choctaw. We feel so honored to have the opportunity to serve you and blessed for the outpouring of welcomes. You made our transition from Northern Virginia that much easier. Thank you.

After 60 days on the job, one thing I have noticed is, we may not be using all avenues to get information out to the Citizens of Choctaw. I am starting a monthly City Managers corner in the Choctaw Times paper to keep you, the citizens, updated on the goings on from City Hall and within the City. My intent is to share more than just the minutes from the bi-weekly council meetings. The Choctaw Times CT) has graciously offered the space and I look forward to providing updates to you in the future.

To start, I want to tell you a little bit

about my management philosophy and style. As most of you know, from a previous article in the CT announcing me as City Manager, I am a retired Air Force Officer. My main job over 29 years' of Air Force service was focused on taking care of Airmen and their families; taking care of people. Taking care of people is what drives me and has been an essential element in formulating my thoughts and philosophy in the practice of a servant leadership style. My #1 focus for the citizens of Choctaw and my staff over all else is, "Customer Service, appreciating the power of Yes." Customer Service in the government setting however is different from customer service in the private sector; it is all about communication. Let me explain.

Contrary to popular belief, in government, no matter what level, red tape, rules, regulations, codes, ordinances, policies and procedures abound. Citizens trying to navigate the minefield often get frustrated and confused or worse yet, when they think they have crossed all the t's and dotted all the i's some government bureaucrat tells you "no" with little or no explanation as to why. Customer Service is more than taking the question and responding politely with a "no". It is all about listening to the customer, understanding intent and responding in such a manner to show we (staff) really care and understand the customer issue. As government employees we should listen, understand the request, and help the customer formulate the "ask" in such a manner the request can fit within policy, code, or law so we can get to "yes" or at least get to an alternate acceptable solution for all. Granted, there are times no is the right answer, but I would like to think "no" is used sparingly.

More to follow....

tions. If you're looking for a crochet / knitting group or need help learning a new stitch, come in at **10:00am** on **Mondays**. One of the best ways to get to know the members of the Senior Center is through bingo. We play fun bingo every **Tuesday and Thursday** at **10:00am**. Are you a little hesitant to attend devotion services because there held in the evening? Join our devotion services on **Wednesdays** at **10:30am**. Contact the Senior Center at **390-8040** to check for additional activities or changes to listed activities. Don't allow lack of transportation to keep you from attending our activities. For transportation to the Senior Center or to Wal-Mart, call **390-8040**. We are located at **14653 Dean Street**. Our hours of operation are Monday through Friday **9:00am to 1:00pm**. We serve our meals at **11:30am** each day. Please call for a meal reservation, no latter than **12:00 noon** the day before you plan to attend. *We can't wait to see you!!*



Choctaw City Hall

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

Check it out!