



# CHOCTAW CITY NEWS

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

March 2018

## 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 **March 5th and 19th.**



## Easter Egg Hunt

The 20th Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, **March 31** at **Choctaw Creek Park** located at **2001 Harper Rd** with the first hunt starting at **11am**. The hunt is divided into five age categories for ages 12 and under. Be sure to wear your Easter bonnet, the best bonnet will win a prize!

## OKC County Health Department presents the My Heart program

Heart disease is the leading cause of

death for both men and women. Every 39 seconds an adult dies of a heart attack, stroke or other cardiovascular disease.

My Heart is a program aimed at reducing cardiovascular disease in Oklahoma City, OK. This program is for individuals between the ages of 25 and 60 who have or think they have at least one of the following risk factors.

### Risk Factors

- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- High blood sugar
- Overweight

### Our Program offers:

- Free Doctor Visits \*
- Free Lab Tests \*
- Free Medication \*
- Access to Total Wellness classes to learn healthy eating and exercise habits to lose and maintain weight lose.

\* Call for details and qualifications.

Call Dontae Sewell at 405-425-4496 or J'Q Williams at 405-419-4256 for more information.



## Cancer Support Group Meeting

Come join cancer fighters going through treatments and those who have “beat it”. Come talk with those who have either walked or are walking a similar mile.

This group is very supportive as it involves individuals who have come to understand challenges dealing with cancer treatment because of personal involvement in a similar experience.

Virtues of listening, encouragement, and comfort that aren't in books or doctor's offices can be found here.

This group is made up of people who share a camaraderie, who meet together to share their experiences and provide emotional support for one another, because having cancer is often one of the most stressful experiences in a person's life. This group helps you cope with the emotional aspects of cancer by providing a place to share feelings and challenges helping you realize that “You Are Not Alone”!

The Cancer Support group meets at **Grace Bible Church** located at **15012 SE 29th Street**, on **Tuesday** evenings @ **6:30 pm**. For more information call **405-694-0434**.



## Choctaw Senior Center

If you're a senior citizen age sixty (60) or older, come join us at the Choctaw Senior Center. If you need a ride, give us call. We can arrange transportation for you. This is an excellent time to get out; Spring time is almost here. We serve delicious and nutritious meals **Monday thru Friday** at **11:30am**. (*Prior Meal Reservation Required*)

We will have a seminar on “Medicare Management & Trouble Shooting in 2018”, **Monday, March 12th** at **11:00am**. Sheryl Presley with OKC Police Dept., will talk to us about safety on **Monday, March 26th** at **10:45am**. As the weather begins to get warmer, we will be out and about more and safety must be a priority. Also, if you are having issues with scams or you want to know what the newest scams are, come to this presentation. Other activities include knitting, crocheting,

Visit us online at [www.choctawcity.org](http://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: **Mar 6th & 20th**

Planning Commission Meeting: **Mar 1st**

Public Recreation Board Meeting: **Mar 13th**

Board of Adjustments Meeting (as needed): **Mar 26th**

**4:30 PM**

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

blood pressure clinics, bingo, devotionals, dominoes, scrabble, card and board games.

For more information or to sign-up for any of these events, please call the Senior Center at (405) 390-8040, between 9:00am and 1:00pm.

For daily menu and activities, go to [www.choctawcity.org](http://www.choctawcity.org), click on "Living in Choctaw", then click on "Choctaw Senior Center". 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!!*



**City Manager Corner**

Six more weeks of Winter, Ugh! According to Punxsutawney Phil at least. It has been a long Winter and as I look

around town you can tell. One big indicator of a long Winter is the amount of trash building up in our neighborhoods, section line roads, business areas, and public spaces. Of course the Oklahoma wind does not help as it contributes to blowing trash everywhere. Per Keep America Beautiful, along roadways, motorists (52%) and pedestrians (23%) are the biggest contributors to litter. Research shows younger citizens are more likely to litter than those who are older. In fact, age, not gender, is a significant predictor for a propensity to litter. Why do people litter? According to research done by Keep America Beautiful, 1) Personal Choice. Individual behavior, or choosing to litter, means litter on the ground. Nearly one in five people observed in public spaces chose to throw their trash somewhere other than the receptacle. 2) Litter begets litter. People are more likely to litter if the environment is already trashed. Once there, litter attracts more litter. However, a clean community discourages littering and improves the overall community quality of life. 3) It's not my responsibility. Then you have people that feel no sense of ownership for the community and believe someone else will pick up after them. So, with all that said, what can we do? We are open to creative suggestions. City Staff is looking at a few options; resurrect the "adopt-a-road" program to get more community and citizen involvement, community clean-up days, hire a part-time crew for easement clean-up then transition to staff once a week. The obvious solution is just don't litter or when you see litter, pick it up. More to follow on this topic as we get closer to Spring and prepare for Spring cleaning. We are open to innovative citizen suggestions in helping to keep Choctaw litter free!

In other City news, I am almost at my 1 year point in the job and my biggest challenge to date is and has been how to fix our roads. There is an easy formula, however that I think will get things moving: 1) assess what you have and prioritize worst to best, 2) what is the cost, 3) build a plan over time based on condition and cost, then execute the plan—rinse and repeat. The Team here at City Hall is hard at work on plan execution. Planning and Development just finished a "soup to nuts" road assessment, giving a score to every road in Choctaw. Next step is to list them in priority order from worst to best, put a cost to the list, and figure out how to fund the "elephant", then implement the repairs, construction, and reconstruction schedule. Everyone knows our roads are not great; the tricky part is not establishing a program, or identifying costs for the program—the challenge is actually funding then implementing the program. Something, quite frankly that has been a challenge for the city over the last several years. Citizens should, however, see a few intersection improvements from this year's funding to take care of some very unsafe areas; 23rd and Indian Meridian--concrete going in as of this email. Choctaw Road and 29th intersection will be concreted in May after school is out. I know as we are working on the intersections there will be some inconvenience, but the pay-off is worth the wait.

As I said the total roads assessment was just completed. Once staff calculates the cost of the program, we will need to break road repairs and construction up by priority and place into the program by year –working down the list worst to best, rinse and repeat. We will keep you updated as the plan comes together.



**Choctaw City Hall**

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**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](http://www.choctawcity.org)

**Check it out!**