CHOCTAW LIVING

STUDIES CONTINUE TO SHOW HEALTH-WEIGHT LINK

Alabama still ranks high in obesity, diabetes

■ State Department of Public Health highlighting November as National Diabetes Month

By Dee Ann Campbell Sun-Advocate Publisher

MONTGOMERY, BUTLER The State of Alabama remains one of the 'fattest' states in America, according to a recent survey of obesity rates in the nation, and the state also ranks high in the numbers of residents struggling with diabetes.

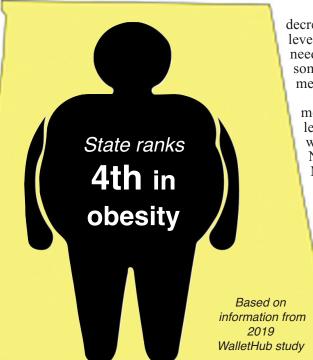
According to a recently-released WalletHub study, the state ranks 4th in the nation when it comes to the percentage of adults who are considered obese, listed behind the states of West Virginia, Mississippi, and Oklahoma, respectively. Alabama also gained poor rankings when it comes to health issues that are often related to weight.

Like other areas of the state, Choctaw County also has a high obesity rate, according to data from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which also produces health rankings for state and individual counties. The county's obesity rate, as of 2015, was 40.20%.

and the District of Columbia based on a list of metrics measuring obesity, overweight factors, exercise and eating habits, and health problems that are often related to obesity.

The study showed that Alabama is ranks 2nd in the nation in the percentage of adults with hypertension – and 2nd in the percentage of adults with Type II diabetes. Only West Virginia ranks worst in that measurement.

Diabetes and weight often go handin-hand. According to figures from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), about 30% of overweight individuals have diabetes and 85% of all diabetics are overweight or obese. Weight can also be a factor in how much the patient struggles



2nd in diabetes 2nd in hypertension 3rd in adults eating less than one serving of fruits/veggies per day 7th in percentage of inactive adults

> control the disease. According to a list of studies, sustained weight loss can improve insulin action,

decrease fasting blood sugar levels, and even reduce the need for some – and in some cases all -- diabetes medications.

The Alabama Department of Public Health released a statement last week in observance of National Diabetes Month, highlighting the fact that 30.3 million Americans are estimated to suffer with diabetes and more than 84 million adults are prediabetic. In Alabama, an estimated 14.5% of adults re-

> ported having been diagnosed diabetes, with counting not those with gestational (pregnancy-related) diabetes.

The said that diabetes was the 8th leading cause of death in Alabama in 2017, and is a leading contributor to heart dis-

ease, stroke, kidney damage, blindness and amputations of the legs and feet.

The numbers of overweight and obese Alabamians can also be linked to dietary habits. The study showed that the state is 3rd in the nation in the percentage of adults eating less than one serving of fruits and vegetables per day.

Residents in Louisiana have the highest percentage of adults eating less than one serving of fruits and veggies, while Vermont showed the lowest.

Kids are not immune to the obesity problem in Alabama. The study showed that the state ranked 26th in the percentage of overweight children, and 10th in the percentage of kids who are considered obese.

The State of Mississippi ranked at the top in obesity among kids, with Minnesota listed as having the lowest percentage.

The obesity rate in the state is linked, at least in part, to the overall inactivity of adult residents. According to the WalletHub study, the state ranks 7th in the nation in the percentage of physically inactive adults.

The State of Kentucky showed the highest percentage of inactive adults, and Washington posted the lowest percentage.

According to Robert Wood Johnson Foundation data, the physical inactivity rate in Choctaw County was 34.80% as of 2015.



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Lisman to hold parade on December 14

By Dee Ann Campbell Sun-Advocate Publisher

LISMAN – The Town of Lisman has announced plans for its annual holiday celebrations.

The Christmas parade will be held on Saturday, December 14, with line-up beginning at 10 a.m. The parade is set to begin at 11 a.m.

This year's parade route will begin on Commerce and Broad St. to Crowell Dr. (Hwy. 10) and ends on Municipal Dr. at the Lisman Municipal Complex.

Individuals, organizations, and businesses may enter floats, cars, vans, trucks, horses, motorcycles, four wheelers,

groups, etc. No entry fee will be required. Vendors are also welcome to set up during the day of the parade.. Deadline for all entries will be Friday, December 13 at 4:00

For additional information, contact Lisman Town Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at 205-398-3889.

Kids Fitness Camp to be held at Butler library

By Dee Ann Campbell Sun-Advocate Publisher

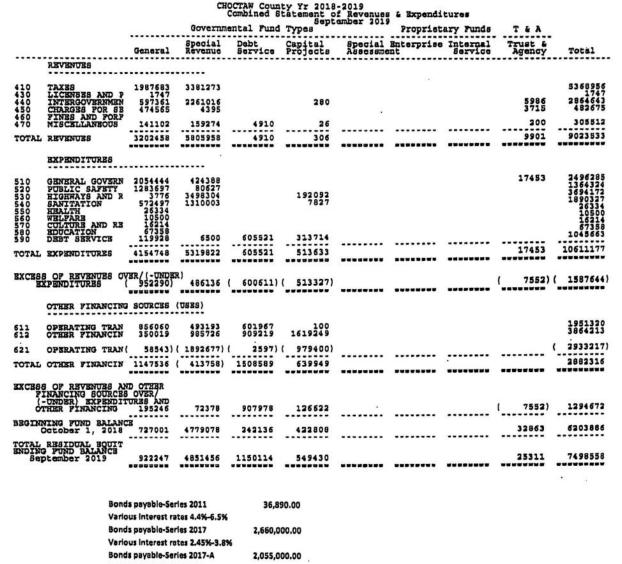
BUTLER – Local kids are invited to take part in an event designed to encourage fitness and good health.

The Choctaw County Public Li-trainer Libby Singley who will work on December 3 and 10 at the Butler and fitness information. branch. The event is open to kids age

5 to 12 years. The camp will feature local fitness

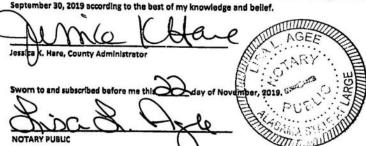
brary will hold a free Kids Fit Camp with participants to provide exercise

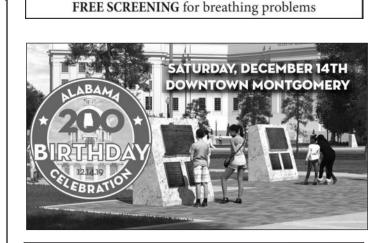
Space is limited, and parents are urged to sign up their kids by calling 205-459-2542.



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i, Jessica K. Hare, County Administrator, Choctaw County, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct statement of the financial condition of Choctaw County, Alabama, as of





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