

Community Calendar

Every Thursday

"Ministry of Disciples Conference Line", (605) 313-6132, access code # 583013, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. eastern. Facilitators will be Pastor and First Lady Charleston.

Saturday, February 15th

CEMETERY CLEANING, Kaiser Hill, 8 a.m., Melvin, for more information call Tim Pearson @ 251-599-0252.

PRAYER BREAKFAST, St. John CME Church, Mt. Sterling, 10 a.m.

Sunday, February 16th

CHOIR DAY, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 2 p.m.
BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM, Morning Star Baptist Church, 11 a.m., guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. Phil Ertha.

22ND PASTORAL APPRECIATION, honoring Pastor Cecil and Sandy Hopkins, Trinity Tabernacle of Faith, Lisman, guest speaker: Min. McSellin Ray.

RESTORATION LIFE MINISTRIES, will have services at Christian fellowship Baptist Church, 2 p.m.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS' DAY, and Dora Whitted 50 States Rally, Butler Chapel AME Zion Church, 2:30 p.m., Guest speaker: for Dora Whitted will be Elder Oliver Whitted, Jr., speaker for Family reunion, Rev. Wendell Charleston.

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM, Wahalak Missionary Baptist Church, Butler, 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 22nd

LOVE YOUR HEART GALA, Warehouse Industrial Event Center, Butler, Vendor space: \$25, Multiple guest speakers, Contact Eric President for more info.

Sunday, February 23rd

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, Shady Grove Baptist Church, Silas, guest speaker: Rev. Cornelius McDonald

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM, Fairfield CME Church, 1:30 p.m., guest speaker: Rev. Ricky Howard.

Tuesday, February 25th

CEMETERY COMMUNITY MEETING, Kaiser Hill Cemetery, 6 p.m., Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, call Tim Pearson at 251-599-0252 for more info.

Saturday, February 29th

LOVE PROGRAM, for Shawanda O'Neal, Shady Grove Baptist Church, Silas, 6 p.m., sponsored by Love Group

Sunday, March 8th

MUSICIAN APPRECIATION, honoring Elaine Hicks-Rush, 3 p.m., Macedonia Baptist Church, Millry. Guest speaker: Clifford Mitchell.

Sunday, March 15th

WOMEN'S PROGRAM, Wahalak Missionary Baptist Church, 11:30 a.m., speaker: Losie Jones-Ivery.



The Choctaw County Historical Society will meet in the building that was once Choctaw Bank, now Mulberry Bleu. The building is currently owned by Ron Mason. (Submitted photo)

Historical Society to meet in Butler building

By Jim Evans
Choctaw Co. Historical Society

BUTLER -- The Choctaw County Historical Society will meet at the historic Butler building now home to Mulberry Bleu.

In March of 1920, following a construction phase of some roughly 6 months, the Choctaw Bank, then a 15-year-old banking institution headquartered at Butler, first occupied the ground floor of its newly-constructed home, made of bricks which were fabricated on the scene, using local raw materials, by a Mr. Will Horn and one dedicated employee, both natives of Choctaw County.

For 37 years (until March of 1957) this building was home to that banking institution. Following that period, this prime commercial location in downtown Butler, situated at the address of "120 South Mulberry Avenue" and located directly across from the main entrance of the Choctaw County Courthouse, was known to several generations of shoppers as home to "Virginia's Dress Shop," a popular venue for exclusive

ladies apparel. That business had been established at an earlier location in the late 1940's by Mrs. Virginia DuBose Douglas (later she was Mrs. Cliff Dansby) and had been acquired by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. "Bill" Bruister from Mrs. Dansby in 1949. After more than 50 years of operation by the Bruisters the business was sold. In subsequent years the building's main floor has been home to other operations, including Choctaw Survey Consultants and the law office of Judge D'Wayne May.

Over the years there have been tenants in the upstairs level, including the law firm of Gray & Dansby, and later of W. J. Dansby alone, and still later the office of Mr. E. T. "Genie" Means, a longtime early and well-known Butler surveyor (who was the originator of the still-often-cited "E. T. Means Survey of the Town of Butler,") and insurance/investments offices maintained by Judge Hunter Phillips, and the dental office of Dr. M. T. Whitted, who practiced until shortly before his death in the late 1950's.

Visitors to the building can view

a handsome interior wall in the rear area of the ground-floor which displays the artisanship of these brick-masons of 100 years ago, and can observe other interesting features of this historic structure.

"Mulberry Bleu," organized in 2018, is the "brainchild" of area entrepreneur Nicole Jordan Lewis, whose shop features a very interesting array of merchandise, a notable amount of which consists of items on consignment from Choctaw County natives or residents, some food items, some clothing articles, some crafts and artistic works.

Also available are commemorative books, specialty and other gift items. Mrs. Lewis commented, "I am excited to have become a part of the local business community and I welcome and appreciate the good reception that is being given to my new business."

The meeting will begin at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 16th. Guests are welcome to attend. Those interested in county history, culture, and folklore are encouraged to become members of the Society.

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Blonde from page 7

For weeks, we talked about the new baby – would it be he or she? Would we be adding a grandson or a granddaughter?

On Saturday, we finally knew.

Now, I believe I need to take a trip to the store and fill my shopping cart with all those little tell-tales signs of the future – little onesies and blankets and pacifiers, little outfits and shoes and all those things a baby needs – and okay, a whole bunch of things that we may not need but will buy anyway.

And they will all be blue.

3ABN WINTER CAMP MEETING February 13-15, 2020

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY END-TIME DECEPTIONS

BROADCAST SCHEDULE ALL TIMES CENTRAL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

8:45 PM CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
9:00 PM WELCOME MUSIC HOUR
10:00 PM THE BATTLE FOR THE MIND

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020

12:00 PM TWISTED DESTRUCTION
1:00 PM DARWIN VS. THE CREATOR'S ACCOUNT
5:00 PM FOLLOWING THE STARS & SPIRITS
6:00 PM THE RAPTURE RUSE
8:45 PM CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
9:00 PM MUSIC HOUR
10:00 PM THE SANCTUARY &
THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2020

11:00 AM SABBATH SCHOOL PANEL
12:30 PM DIVINE SERVICE -
DR. BEN CARSON
5:00 PM GRACE PLUS
7:45 PM CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
8:00 PM MUSIC HOUR
9:00 PM MORE THAN CONQUERORS
10:00 PM CAMP MEETING CLOSE

**LOG INTO - 3ABNCAMPMEETING.ORG
CHANNEL 9393 ON DISH NETWORK**

Mardi Gras parade entry still available

BUTLER -- The Town of Butler will host the annual Mardi Gras Parade and Block Party on Thursday, February 20, beginning at 6 p.m.

Line up for parade entries is set for 5 p.m.

Parade entry and vendor forms are available at the Butler City Hall or at www.butleralabama.org. All county businesses are invited and encouraged to enter.

Vendor deadline is February 14, and entry form deadline is February 17.

For more information, call 205.459-3795.