

CHOCTAW LIVING

United Way reminding residents about 2-1-1 availability

MOBILE, BUTLER – Officials with the United Way of Southwest Alabama are promoting the use of the 2-1-1 information system located throughout the country.

The free, confidential information and referral service connects more than 93% of the country to information about health and human services. The hotline is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and can be accessed by telephone.

In Southwest Alabama, through a United Way of Southwest Alabama (UWSWA) partnership with Lifelines Counseling Services, trained call specialists provide individuals and families with access to services such as job training, navigating veterans' affairs, paying a utility bill, finding housing, food pantry options, and emergency, and crisis assistance.

By dialing 211 or 251.431.5111, anyone in Choctaw, Clarke, Mobile, or Washington counties can access help.

In 2019, 2-1-1 specialists received 9,197 calls. They provided 8,406 referrals to local agencies and followed up with 1,978 callers in crisis.

United Way 2-1-1 is also an important resource for first responders, health professionals, government agencies, and local leaders. Through 2-1-1, providers can direct individuals



and families in need to local services. A fire fighter can refer a family that has lost their home to 2-1-1 for immediate disaster services. An ER Nurse can refer a patient that needs help filling lifesaving prescriptions. Law enforcement can refer a crime victim for counseling services.

In addition, 2-1-1 maintains extensive records of the needs for services to help local leaders develop plans for services in order to meet the changing needs in the community.

United Way 2-1-1 also helps dur-

ing disasters. In the event of a hurricane, another type of natural disaster or manmade disaster, 2-1-1 is able to refer community members to the agencies providing immediate and long-range recovery assistance.

Together with Volunteer Connect (volunteer.uwsa.org), 2-1-1 will also connect individuals and groups looking for opportunities to volunteer with Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) working with the response and recovery effort that need volunteers.

Obituaries

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Mandie Duke (TJ Duke). He is preceded in death by his first son Stephen Donald who passed away in 1970. He also leaves behind five grandchildren, Alexander Donald, Catherine Donald, Ansley Salmon, Cara Salmon, and Braxton Duke.



W.L. Donald was born in 1943 on October 25th in Gilberttown. He is the son of the late Walter and Sadie Donald. W.L. is also one of 3 siblings: (Bunk) Walter Braxton Donald (deceased) and (Bill) Jimmie Nathan Donald. He graduated from Southern Choctaw High School in 1961. A few years later, W.L. and Irene were married at Black Creek Baptist church in June of 1965. W.L. is a Veteran of the Vietnam war, where he served from 1966 through 1967. When he returned from Vietnam, he enrolled in the University of South Alabama and graduated with a bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1971. He started work at Alcoa Aluminum in 1971 while building homes on the side. In the early eighties, Alcoa closed. Instead of transferring out of the area, he started his own construction company -W.L. Donald Builders-where he went on to build custom residential homes up until an accident in 2005 that left him paralyzed. He also went back into mechanical engineering from 1992 to 2003 working for a chemical plant (Elf Atochem later named Arkema) in Axis, Alabama. There he served as one of the companies construction project engineers.

For the past thirteen years, Irene and W.L. have resided in Orange Beach, Alabama. W.L. always had a passion for working on old cars, collecting coins, and working in his garden. He also rarely missed a western film!

There was a memorial service on Tuesday, February 4th at the Bear Point Community Center at 2 o'clock.

Town of Gilberttown is now accepting bids for Concession Stand at Gilberttown Sportsplex for the 2020 season. The minimum bid is \$1,000.00 plus 20 percent of sales each month. Please turn in Bids at Town Hall no later than 12:00 noon on February 26th.

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Joe Bullard



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2007 Toyota tundra SR5 Stock # F56621T	8900.00
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2013 Ford F150 4x4 Stock # F06020T	10000.00
2008 Ford F150 4x4 Stock # F03009T	10900.00
2014 Chevy Equinox Stock # F99667T	11500.00
2017 Chevrolet Malibu LT Stock # F27040P	15900.00
2018 Dodge Grand Caravan Stock # F38723P	16500.00
2018 Dodge Journey Stock # F97148P	17900.00
2017 Ford Explorer Limited Stock # F56226P	22800.00
2016 GMC Acadia Denali Stock # F32115T	23500.00
2018 Ford F150 4x4 Stock # F46186P	31500.00
2016 Buick Enclave Premium Stock # F26355P	24400.00
2017 Jeep Wrangler Sport Stock # F61765P	24900.00
2018 Ford F150 4x4 Stock # F17859P	29000.00
2018 Silverado 2500 Stock # F27043P	47900.00
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