

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Editor's note: The Kemper County Messenger publishes the Community Calendar weekly in this space. It covers events, announcements and happenings in Kemper County. We welcome your news and comments. If you would like to have something placed in the Kemper Messenger, contact the office at 601-743-5760 during business hours; or mail it to Kemper Messenger, P.O. 546, DeKalb, MS, 39328. The Messenger's writer, Steve Swogetinsky, may be reached at 601-776-6102.

CHERRY CEMETERY MAINTENANCE FUND

If you would like to make a donation to the Cherry Cemetery Maintenance Fund, please send your donation to Mary Jane Nelson, P.O. Box 33, DeKalb, MS 39328. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

CENTER RIDGE CEMETERY DONATIONS

Anyone who has someone buried or is interested in the Center Ridge Cemetery can send their donations to: Barbara Brown, 7246 HWY 39S, DeKalb, MS 39328

KEMPER FLEA MARKET

Every 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 8am-1pm at Bizzy Bee's. Free vendor setup. Selling anything from food, snow cones, household, crafts, and much more.

GARBAGE BILL PAYMENTS

Attention: ALL KEMPER COUNTY LANDOWNERS effective January 1, 2021 all garbage bill payments must be taken at the Commercial Bank located in DeKalb, MS (in-person) please have account number.

The Kemper County Courthouse will no longer be accepting garbage payments.

Payments can be mailed to:
K. C. Garbage & Solid Waste
P.O. Box 39
DeKalb, MS 39328
Or call 1-800-253-0831 for questions regarding your account

JRMWV PROGRAM

Junior Master Wellness Volunteer Training Recruitment going on now. We are looking for youth 14-18 years old to join us for an exciting volunteer program.

The JrMWV Program is a community health education and volunteer leader training program. Youth will learn about improving health literacy and healthy lifestyle choices

and will then go out into their community and become an advocate for a healthier Mississippi! Participants will be expected to give back by completing 24 hours of community service.

Come learn, share, and inspire others to lead a healthy lifestyle. For more information or to sign up call the Kemper County Extension office at 601-743-2837 or send an email to malikah.jones@msstate.edu.

COALITION FOR A HEALTHY KEMPER COUNTY

The Coalition for a Healthy Kemper County was organized to provide educational outreach. The goal is to bring educational awareness of health issues and unhealthy lifestyles that accompany diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, etc. We solicit the help of area leaders, organizations and individuals working together to make a positive impact on the lives of our community members. If you are interested in helping us carry out our mission, contact Malikah Jones at the Kemper County Extension office at 601-743-2837 for more information.

MULTI-COUNTY CSA TEMPORARY OFFICE PROCEDURES KEMPER COUNTY

Due to COVID-19 we are providing teleservice only. Face-to-face, in-house appointments are temporary suspended. Please call our office to schedule a telephone appointment.

If you are a senior citizen or receive disability income AND have been assisted this year, you DO NOT need an appointment. Please submit your bill (for which assistance is needed) by mail, email, fax or drop box. If you are a senior citizen or receive disability income and HAVE NOT been assisted, please call for a telephone appointment.

To receive services, the following are needed: Bill (for which assistance is needed), Photo Identification, Social Security Cards, Proof of income, Unemployment/Child Support/SNAPS, Documents may be submitted by mail, email, fax or drop box.

Your application will NOT be processed unless ALL documents are submitted. Phone (601) 743-5752, Fax (601) 743-2506, Email lclark@multicountycsa.org, Mail/Drop Box-P.O. Box 126, 39 Bell Street, DeKalb, MS 39328.

ONLINE PRIVATE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION NOW AVAILABLE

In response to limited face-to-face training caused by COVID-19, the Mississippi Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Plant Industry has approved an online private applicator certification program developed by the MSU Extension Service. Persons needing to obtain or renew their private applicator certification can complete the online training (two video training modules and a competency exam) by visiting the Online Private Applicator Certification Program on the Mississippi State University Extension's website at extension.msstate.edu. The fee for training and testing is \$20, payable online by credit card, debit card, or eCheck. Successful completion of the training will certify the private applicator to purchase and use restricted use pesticides

See **CALENDAR**, page 2

dekalb high school class of 1961 reunion



Submitted photo

The class of 1961 from DeKalb High School and their spouses/guests enjoyed getting together at Kozy Kitchen on June 26. This was their 60th-class reunion. Twenty-eight individuals were in attendance, including 16 graduates. Since graduation, 18 males and 10 females have passed away. Pictured are, front row from left, Barbara Wilson Swearingen (DeKalb), Hazel Ross Johnson (Semmes, AL), Grace Smith Gibson (DeKalb), Phyllis Gully Clark (Preston), Jimmy Craig (DeKalb); second row from left, Carolyn Palmer Long (Okolona), Billie Jean Kelley Campbell (Gwynedd, PA), Mose Fleming (Scooba), Bennie Jolly (Collinsville), Ben Thornton (Duluth, GA), Bonnie Warren White (DeKalb); back row from left, Algie Davis (Meridian), Will Botts (College Station, Texas), Jimmy Weathers (Collinsville), Roy Peden (Preston) and Rev. Billy Goodwin (Meridian).

Jackson announces retirement from state Senate

By **STEVE SWOGETINSKY**
The Kemper Messenger

State Sen. Sampson Jackson II of Preston has announced his retirement from state government. Jackson, a Democrat, has represented the 32nd District, which includes Kemper County and parts of Lauderdale, Noxubee and Winston counties, since 1992. He has been elected eight times.

Jackson, 68, said the time was right.

"I have 48 ½ years in the PERS retirement," Jackson said. "I feel like it's about time to come out of there."

Along with his 29 ½ years in the Legislature, Jackson previously worked for the state Highway Department. He is also a businessman and a cattle farmer.

Jackson is the current chair of the Senate Forestry committee and has chaired the Senate Correction committee. He also serves as member on the following committees: Agriculture, Appropriations, Corrections, Energy, Highways and Transportation, Interstate and Federal Cooperation, Judiciary, Division B, and Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

When asked what piece of legislation he was most proud of, Jackson said it involved helping to get water services to people near the Kipling area.

Jackson was also instrumental in shepherding \$750,000 through



Sen. Sampson Jackson II

the Legislature last year for the Kemper County Gas District.

Jackson sent his letter of resignation to Gov. Tate Reeves last week, Reeves will set the dates for an election to replace him. Jackson said he plans to spend more time with his cattle farm and working in the community.

Sen. Jackson is a member of C Phi C Social Fellowship Club, NAACP, Kemper County Political Black Caucus, Farm Bureau and the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association. He is also a Mason.

Jackson said his son, Keith Jackson, will be a candidate to replace him.

Kemper school district sets Thursday public meeting

By **STEVE SWOGETINSKY**
The Kemper Messenger

The Kemper County School District will hold a public meeting Thursday to discuss the upcoming bond issue and plans for a new elementary school.

The meeting will be held at the John C. Stennis Vo-Tech building and will begin at 6 p.m.

Superintendent Hulite Hudson said plans for a new elementary school building will be unveiled during the meeting.

Hudson said the \$12.6 million school bond issue will be discussed. Questions about the bond issue will be answered.

A special referendum on the bond issue will be held August 5.

EMCC names new head softball coach

From school reports

SCOoba — Having enjoyed success as a player and assistant coach at the NCAA Division II, NAIA and NJCAA levels, Whitney Hawkins has returned to the Scooba campus to take over the head softball coaching duties at East Mississippi Community College.

See **COACH**, page 2

Retirement can be elusive for old sports journalists

By **AUSTIN BISHOP**
Sports Columnist

A funny thing happened on my way to retirement: I bought a newspaper.

If you are surprised by this, that makes at least two of us. It looked as though my dream of purchasing the Kemper County Messenger — the weekly newspaper of a community that is dear to my heart — had been buried 18 months ago.

But without warning the door swung wide open, and after prayer, research, and consultation, my wife Barbara and I made the decision to take on this important role.

Many people believe and proclaim from the mountain tops that newspapers are dead and gone or at the very least sucking their last breath. And surely, most aren't what they once were. But there is a place for a strong, community-based newspaper in every small town and I have been blessed with the opportunity to own and operate one of them.

My history with DeKalb is a long one that can be traced back to at least 1978 when I was a sports correspondent for The Meridian Star. That's when I first covered West Kemper High School and met the legendary Billy Brown —

head coach of the Wildcats and owner of the firmest handshake I have ever managed to escape from.

Throughout the 45 years of my journalistic career, I have had the opportunity to cover both sports and news in Kemper County as a reporter/editor for both the Meridian Star and Kemper County Messenger. Beginning on Oct. 1, I will be doing so as CEO, publisher, and editor of the newspaper.

For the last 15 years or so my journalistic work has centered on producing sports for a handful of weekly newspapers in Mississippi including the Kosciusko Star-Her-

ald. Winston County Journal, Newton County Appeal, Choctaw Plaindealer, Winona Times, and the Conservative (Carrollton). Last spring I came to the conclusion that the journalistic season of my life had come to a close.

One-by-one I begin moving out of those weekly papers that I was still producing sports for, preparing for my "retirement" which is set to begin on Jan. 1, 2022.

I will still remain pastor of Great Commission Assembly of God, whose flock I will have been leading for more than 11 years by

See **RETIREMENT**, page 4

Pressure cookers offer new ways to prepare delicious dishes

Compiled by DENISE SWOGETINSKY
Kemper Messenger

For the next few weeks, we'll explore some of our appliances that are available now to help get us out of the kitchen and still live healthy.

Today we'll look at low carb recipes using the pressure cooker (Instapot). These have cer-

tainly changed. I remember the big silver pot with the bulky lid that clicked to seal. It had that gauge that attached to the top you had to watch. Opening them was always a little scary. Instapots are a real improvement.

PRESSURE COOKER
LOW CARB WONTONS
1 pound ground pork

1/4 cup chopped green scallions, green and white parts mixed
1/4 cup chopped cilantro, or parsley
2 teaspoons soy sauce
1 teaspoon oyster sauce
1 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1 tablespoon minced ginger
1 tablespoon minced garlic

2 eggs

Place all ingredients in a mixing bowl and mix well, with a light hand.

Once you have a homogeneous mixture, fill 12 baby food container cavities about 3/4 full each. Lightly cover each with foil. It is not necessary to grease these containers.

In the inner liner of your

instant pot or pressure cooker, place 2 cups of water.

Place a steamer rack or a rack with handles on the water, and place one container and then the other of the low carb wontons on top of the first. You're essentially stacking them on top of each other.

Set your pressure cooker to steam for 10 minutes. Allow it to release pressure for 5 min-

utes, and then release all remaining pressure.

Using silicone mitts, carefully remove the top rack of wontons. Remove the lid and use a meat thermometer to check to ensure that you have an internal temperature at or above 165F.

Unmold them and serve

See COOK, page 4

Kemper County Devotional Page

SUBWAY **Subway of DeKalb**

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"This devotional page and directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage each and everyone of us to attend worship service."

Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

Psalm 133

We are going to leave our study in the book of Acts this week to look at this psalm. This is a psalm of ascents, which means it was likely sung by Israelites as they neared Jerusalem on their way up to worship the Lord at an annual feast, such as Passover.

The psalm is about the blessedness of unity among God's people: "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity" (verse 1). We know how blessed peace is in our relationships, and how fleeting it can be. Because of sin we all have a divisive, war-like nature within. It's not easy to get along with each other, but when we do we are happier.

The Lord commands his people to love one another and to have unity in him. David uses two easy to remember metaphors to teach us the root and blessedness of true unity in the Lord. The first one is in verse 2: "It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes."

Aaron was the high priest, and this imagery refers to his anointing as the high priest, the representative before God for the people. He would offer sacrifices for the atonement of the sins of God's people. The root of unity for sinners is to first have reconciliation with God through forgiveness of sins. If no one has room to boast, then it is easy to be unified over gratitude to the Lord for salvation.

Aaron's anointing pointed to the coming of the Anointed One of God, the Messiah or Christ, the greater high priest who would offer himself as a sacrifice for the sins of his people. This is Jesus of Nazareth, whom all the prophets spoke of, and who did mighty works, who suffered and died upon the cross for sinners, and who rose from the dead for our justification.

Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, and the waters running down from his head are comforting to us because we know he was committing to be our representative before God to take away our sins.

Christ absorbed all our sin and was consumed by God as the ultimate sacrifice. It is his precious blood that makes us clean and

destroys the hostility between God and us. He puts everything back in harmony between God and us.

The peace he makes with us is not only taking away the wrath of God against us. When he makes peace, he confers all good to us: reconciliation, adoption as children of God, fellow heirs of the inheritance of God, and assurance that we may go boldly to the throne of God for all we need here and when we depart from here.

Christian unity is built upon the truth and Spirit of Christ. The poor in spirit are those who inherit the kingdom of God. They are united in the knowledge of their need of salvation. Therefore, they are united in their love for Christ, and it flows down to love for his people.

The secret to Christian unity is putting the truth and honor of Christ first, and placing others before yourself. Neither is possible without God's Spirit, but we are responsible to strive to grow in both. To be sincere we must be thankful.

The second metaphor (verse 3) is the imagery of heavy dew falling upon a high mountain. In a dry, hot place, the cool, moist dew of a higher altitude can revive the body. It is refreshing. So too is the Spirit of God to the soul. We must be heavenly minded.

Christians are never to forget that we are on a pilgrimage to God. We are to live above the present world in that sense. A worldly self-centeredness is not a mark of God's Spirit. James writes in his epistle of two different ways of thinking that lead to two different ways of living.

Jealousy, selfish ambition, and such lead to boasting and denying the truth. Wisdom from above is meek, peaceable, and full of good fruit (James chapter three). James is speaking of the blessedness of the heavenly dew, even though he does not use the metaphor.

The devil wants us for his own; our sinful nature seeks to control us, so we have need to remember these metaphors. The first one leads to the second. We remember Christ crucified is our only comfort in life and in death, and we remember the blessedness of denying ourselves for his glory is the way of peace and comfort.

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"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"
— 1 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

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Westside	601-656-4978	Northside	601-656-4977
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NASDAQ: CIZN

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Off: (601) 743-2412
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'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who[a] have been called according to his purpose.'
Romans 8:28


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Retirement

Continued from page 1

the time the new year comes around. But with my table cleared from my sports responsibilities, I will now use that time to do what that I was born to do, make a difference in the local community.

My idea of local journalism is really pretty simple. Of course you must be the voice that speaks clearly about government matters, covering the board of supervisors, city hall, law enforcement, and the courts.

But you MUST also cover the people and their stories.

You do this by filling the paper up with school news, both sports and otherwise, while also promoting and covering local events and above all telling the stories of the people.

Calendar

Continued from page 2

may also be picked up at the Kemper County Library or the Kemper County Economic Development Authority office during normal business hours. Contact Loretta Hulin, Kemper County Imagination Library Coordinator on 601-416-8279 for additional details.

NEW LIFE RETREAT
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Did you know benzodiazepines are involved in one fifth of all overdose related deaths? That's over 13,000 deaths this year alone. You might consider it "safe," but this little blue pill packs more than enough punch to earn a spot as one of the most dangerous drugs in the world.

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to fully heat.

Add oil and swirl to coat bottom of pan.

Add sausage slices, onion, celery, pepper, oregano, thyme, salt, cayenne pepper, chili, onion powder, garlic powder and black pepper

Sauté for 5 minutes, or until liquid from trinity has evaporated.

Stir in chicken, diced tomatoes and chicken broth. Place bay leaves on top.

Lock on lid and close pressure valve. Cook at high pressure (most machines default to high pressure) for 3 minutes.

When beep sounds, wait 10 minutes and then release the rest of the pressure.

Open lid, select Sauté/Browning and mix in rice cauliflower, shrimp and parsley.

When shrimp turn pink, remove the bay leaves and serve.

PRESSURE COOKER
LOW CARB
MARGHERITA PIZZA
MEATBALLS

4 ounces yellow/brown onion divided

1/4 dry ted wine

1/4 cup heavy cream

1 large Egg

1 ounce pork rinds

1 tablespoon dried oregano

2 cloves fresh garlic

1 teaspoon dried basil

1.5 teaspoons sea salt

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

1 pound lean ground beef

2 cups spaghetti / pasta sauce

6 ounces Mozzarella cheese cubed

1/4 cup fresh basil leaves

1/4 cup asiago or parmigiano-reggiano cheese freshly shredded

Cut a few slices from the onion and place into bottom of pressure cooker, making sure to separate the onion rings.

Pour in wine and half of the marinara sauce.

Into the bowl of a food processor, add the rest of the onion, heavy cream, egg, pork rinds, garlic, oregano, basil, salt and pepper and process until well combined, scraping down the sides half way through.

Add ground beef/pork to food processor and pulse in 5 second intervals (about 3-4 times), until combined.

Divide mixture into 16 pieces.

Cut cheese into small pieces. Flatten each piece and add cheese cubes to the middle of the meatball (really stuff the meatballs) each piece and roll into a tight ball and make sure it is completely sealed.

Pour half the sauce into cooking pot and then add meatballs and cover with the rest of the sauce.

Lock on lid and close pressure valve. Cook at high pressure (most machines default to high pressure) for 5 minutes.

When beep sounds, wait 10 minutes and then release the rest of the pressure.

Remove lid and gently stir in parmesan/asiago cheese and fresh basil.

Cook

Continued from page 3

with soy sauce or other dipping sauce on the side.

PRESSURE COOKER
LOW CARB NEW
ORLEANS JAMBALAYA

2 teaspoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil

1 large yellow/brown onion rough chopped

3 stalks fresh celery chopped

1 large Red bell pepper rough chopped

14 ounces sausage sliced 1/2" slices

1 Tablespoon dried oregano

1 teaspoon dried thyme

1 teaspoon kosher dalt

1/2 teaspoon vayenne pepper

1/2 teaspoon chili powder

1/2 teaspoon granulated onion powder

1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

1 pound chicken breasts boneless/skinless cut into 2 inch chunks

28 ounces diced tomatoes w/juice

1/2 cup chicken stock/broth

2 bay leaves

1 head cauliflower riced

1 pound jumbo dhrimp cleaned with tails on

2 tablespoons dried Parsley flakes

Select Sauté/Browning on pressure cooker and allow pot

PUBLIC NOTICE OF FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR PHASE I, II AND III BOND RELEASE FOR UNIMPACTED AREAS IN PERMIT MS-003 RENEWAL 1 LIBERTY FUELS COMPANY, L.L.C., LIBERTY MINE

Pursuant to Section 53-9-65 of the 1972 Mississippi Code Annotated, as amended, and Section 4501 of the Mississippi Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Regulations, this public notice of the filing of a bond release application Permit MS-003 Renewal 1 issued on November 6, 2016 at the Liberty Mine is being made. The Liberty Fuels Company, L.L.C., operator of the Liberty Mine located at 4707 Highway 493, DeKalb, Mississippi 39328, has filed the referenced application.

The applicant requests a Phase I, II, and III release of reclamation obligations for backfilling and grading, on approximately 796 acres of unimpacted area as shown on the map printed with this public notice. Mining operations were never conducted on these areas.

The applicant is not seeking a reduction in the total bond amount of \$13,248,225 as a result of this application.

A copy of the complete application is available for public inspection at the following locations:

Kemper County Chancery Clerk Office
Kemper County Courthouse
123 Main Avenue
DeKalb, Mississippi 39328

Lauderdale County Chancery Clerk Office
500 Constitution Ave #105
Meridian, MS 39301

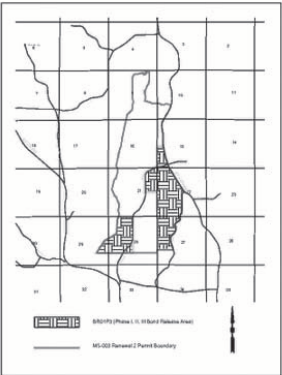
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Office of Geology
700 N State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

Interested parties are invited to submit their written comments on the bond release application within thirty days of the last date of publication of this notice or by August 9, 2021, which will be published once a week for four consecutive weeks. The application may be supplemented and should be reviewed periodically. All written comments, objections, or request for public hearing on this application should reference the Permit Number MS-003, Renewal 1 2021 bond release application and be directed to:

Dr. David Dockery
State Geologist and Director of Office of Geology
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Office of Geology
P.O. Box 2279
Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2279
Phone: (601) 961-5500

or

Mr. James Matheny
Director, Coal Mining Division Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Geology
P.O. Box 2279
Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2279 Street address: 700 North State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39202
Phone: (601) 961-5519 Fax: (601) 961-5521
Email: jmatheny@mdaq.ms.us



Adult Season: \$20 | Adult Day: \$12 | Student Season: \$10
Student Day: \$7 | Ages 5 and Under: FREE

Pre-fair tickets on sale now at Pearl River Resort & Logo and Provisions Shop

Wednesday, July 14

11:00am Gates Open
6:00pm Opening Ceremonies at Main Stage
7:00pm Choctaw Indian Princess Pageant
10:15pm World Series Stickball

Thursday, July 15

11:00am Gates Open
8:30pm Jimmie Allen in Concert
10:15pm World Series Stickball

Friday, July 16

10:00am Gates Open
8:30pm Zach Williams in Concert
10:15pm World Series Stickball

Saturday, July 17

7:00am REZ RUN 2021
10:00am Gates Open
6:00pm Closing Ceremonies at Main Stage
8:30pm Brett Young in Concert
10:15pm World Series Stickball Championship

Special Appearances Thursday-Saturday:

Scales, Tails & Teeth Gator Show
Birds & Exotics of the World Show

Thursday-Saturday
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Friday & Saturday
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For More Information on REZ RUN: 601.650.1765
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For More Information: 601.650.7450 | WWW.CHOCTAWINDIANFAIR.COM



This is a family, non-alcoholic event.

METH: A DEADLY DRUG



Methamphetamine is a stimulant drug that is destroying our community. Methamphetamine, also known as meth, is a powerful, highly addictive stimulant that affects the central nervous system. Meth takes the form of white, orderless, bitter-tasting crystalline powder that easily dissolves in water or alcohol. People typically use meth by smoking, snorting or injecting. Meth is man-made from pseudo-ephedrine and other toxic ingredients such as lithium, brake fluid and lye. Meth addiction is so powerful because this drug quickly increases levels of dopamine, a chemical in the brain that produces feelings of pleasure. This makes a person want to use meth again and again to achieve the same rush, which eventually leads to addiction.

Even taking small amounts of meth, or just trying it once, can cause harmful health effects, including:

- Rapid or irregular breathing
- Bizarre, erratic, aggressive, irritable, or violent behavior
- Increased blood pressure and body temperature
- Faster breathing
- Loss of appetite, disturbed sleep patterns, or nausea

Chronic meth use leads to many damaging, long-term health effects (even when users stop taking meth), including:

- Paranoia, hallucinations, mood disturbances, delusions, or violent behavior (psychotic symptoms can sometimes last for months or years after quitting meth)
- Anxiety, confusion, or insomnia
- Permanent damage to the heart and brain
- High blood pressure leading to heart attacks, strokes, and death
- Liver, kidney, and lung damage
- Intense itching, causing skin sores from scratching
- Severe dental problems ("meth mouth")

What can you do if a loved one is using meth?

- Do some research about addiction and meth to have a better understanding
- Be ready to listen, and do not be judgmental
- It is not wise to confront the individual when they are high
- When a person refuses help or services, voice your concern but respect the person's decision
- Self-care is very important when caring for others



For More Information contact the
Choctaw Tribal Opioid Response Project Team
(601) 389-4150