

**The Chandler & Brownsboro Statesman**

Founded 1976

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**Letters To The Editor**  
The Statesman welcomes and encourages letters and e-mails from readers.

Letters must include the name, address and telephone numbers for verification purposes only. Just your name and city will be published.

All letters are subject to editing and must be limited to 400 words or less. No letter can be published without the above information.

Letters must not be false or misleading, the paper reserves the right to check on any information in the letters submitted. If misleading information is printed we will submit a retraction as the information is called to our attention. It is not the goal of this paper to harm anyone by the letters to the editor, but it is our goal to give those in the community a place to voice their opinion.

**Deadline:**

The deadline for all news, display advertising and the "What's Happening" in *The Statesman* is 5:00pm Monday.

**Attention:** The classified ad deadline is Mondays at noon for the same week's paper.

**Family News Policy:**

Family news such as wedding or engagement announcements must be submitted by 5:00pm Monday for publication on a space available basis in the same week's newspaper. Please include a telephone number to call if questions arise about spelling, etc.

Engagement announcements must be signed by both the prospective bride and groom, or other satisfactory arrangements made by which the newspaper may verify authenticity.

Birth announcements should be signed by both parents.

There is NO CHARGE for timely engagement or wedding announcements and a photo may be included at no cost.

Anniversary announcements with photos are also published free for couples celebrating 20 years or more of marriage, with subsequent free announcements limited to increments of five years.

Free anniversary announcements may not include an invitation to a reception or party where gifts are expected.

Because of space constraints, free birthday announcements are not published. However friends and relatives may purchase advertising space to congratulate a person on their birthday.

**Letters To The Editor**

Please review Letter to the Editor policy before submitting letter. The policy is found in the information column on the left hand side of this page.

**Online paper,**

Love the new Statesman online layout! All of the features are user friendly, and maneuverability is a breeze.

Kudos to the designer and Statesman!  
Lori Rascoe,  
Chandler

**Attention sixth grade parents,**

If you have a child in the 6th grade band, please read this letter out loud because they need to hear it.

This past Tuesday the 6th grade band, comprised of students from the Brownsboro and Chandler intermediate schools, went to Sandy Lake Park in Carrollton for a band competition. They received a rating of "2," with "1" being the best.

After talking to some of the students, I know that many of them feel bad about their performance that day. Some feel cheated, and I know that they have been told that receiving a rating of 2 is unacceptable.

I attended the competition, as did many other parents. I sat in the competition tent and listened to other bands play before our band entered. The bands I heard sounded similar ... some better than others, but mostly on the same playing level. I expected to hear the same thing from our band, but within the first 10 seconds of hearing them I was blown away. I was surprised, astonished and PROUD of those kids. I don't say this because I'm biased. They were just REALLY GOOD. Some parents had tears in their eyes. Parents with other bands were asking what grade level our band was on. I watched people enter the tent to listen to them ... watched them smile and nod and keep time with the music.

I think just about all of us expected the band to receive a "1" rating, and we were really disappointed when they didn't. A lot of those kids had heavy hearts on the way home, but in reality they should be really proud of themselves. So this is what I have to say to them: Don't listen to whoever is telling you that you didn't do good enough. Don't bother yourselves with the rating. You worked really hard, came together as a team and did an excellent job. You deserve praise and recognition! You made us PROUD!

Way to go, 6th grade band! You rock!  
Lisa Garrison  
Brownsboro, Texas

**Dear Editor:**

First off, I would like to thank *The Chandler & Brownsboro Statesman* for making the community aware of what is happening to the Theater Department of Brownsboro ISD.

As you pointed out, it appears that Mr. Wooten has decided it is time for Mr. Innerarity to go. Mr. Wooten was quoted as saying, "Personnel decisions in the high school are his to make." That I can respect. What I cannot respect is that after less than one year as the principal of BHS, that he has had enough time to get to know the true value of the 60 teachers, per the website, in our system. I was never good in math, but if there are six six-weeks periods, that equals 36 weeks. If you have 60 teachers and only 36 weeks to find out if they should stay employed, that works out to about 3 days for each teacher. So has anybody in the community come to Mr. Wooten demanding the firing

of Mr. Innerarity? If so, it has not been brought up yet. Has there been an outcry of the community for this not to happen? The answer is yes.

Just look how many showed up at the School Board meeting with less than 30 minutes notice of what was going on before the meeting.

If I were a full time teacher with the Brownsboro High School, this would be making me very nervous! I hope Mr. Wooten realizes that although personnel may be his call to make, when making such decisions he should consider what is truly best for the community, current and potential new teachers and most of all, our students.

As I was writing this, more information has come my way. It seems after he told Mr. Innerarity that he might want to be looking for a new job and not getting the response from Mr. Innerarity ("I quit"), he has now given Mr. Innerarity a directive that all of the high school drama classes will be held in the Little Theater in the high school. A power play, in my opinion. In doing this Mr. Wooten has managed to waste three and a half years of volunteer work and a large amount of donated equipment that finally got the tech department up to the same level as all of the schools they compete against. Now all of it is just collecting dust in the new control room that the school board finished building for them during this school year. Now that everything is in place and with six weeks left to teach the new equipment, they are locked out. I truly wonder why I bothered pushing for doors to keep the building dry, hanging sound panels on all of the walls to improve the acoustics, building dressing rooms, and a place to store all of the material used for costumes, bathroom door on the ladies' stalls so their guests had privacy, to painting the stage three times, along with countless other tasks at no cost to the district. All of this is for nought. If you feel that the students should have Mr. Innerarity as their teacher and allowed to return to the building that has been updated for them, then I ask you to help me by letting Mr. Wooten know how you feel. In fact, I ask you for true feedback, positive or negative, to Mr. Wooten so he truly knows the community's feelings and not just my opinions stated here.

Sincerely,  
Matt Mueller,  
Taxpayer

**Voters of Chandler:**

I wish to thank all of you who voted for me. There are many of you who not only voted, but put much of your time in supporting me and my goals. There are too many of you to mention here; most of you I have already spoken to personally. Again, THANK YOU. We were in a very intense campaign and as you can see, it was worth it. I am committed to continued progress.

Gene Giger  
City Councilman  
Chandler, Texas



# Cook of the Week

By Nathan Straus  
News Reporter

Phyllis Vaseleniuck and her husband Ivan own Echo Springs Blueberry Farm on FM 607 between Brownsboro and Leagueville. The 60-acre blueberry farm ships blueberries all over the world to hungry customers.

Phyllis and Ivan are from Canada. Ivan wanted to move out of the big city, so they moved in 1988 and eventually came to Texas looking for land.

The previous owners of the blueberry farm hadn't kept it in the best of shape, but were willing to sell. The farm was purchased in 1999, and the Vaseleniuck house was built in 2000.

"My husband is a builder," Phyllis said. "When we came here we knew we didn't want livestock. We found this berry farm that had been let go."

Phyllis said she found America to be a land of resourceful people who are confident when taking risks.

"Canadians are not like Americans," she said. "There are not as many risk takers."

After a great deal of work, the farm that had once been 20 acres had grown to its current size and Phyllis had her own blueberry store to boot.

Some of Phyllis' favorite hobbies include gardening and baking. She is also a retired journalism and English teacher, having taught in Windsor, Ontario.

"One of my favorite things about cooking is the experimentation," Phyllis said. "I think it's creative."

It turns out there are many delicious recipes and treats made with blueberries available at "The Best Little Blueberry Store in Texas". Though



Phyllis Vaseleniuck

the store is open all year for special orders, the busy season is blueberry season, which lasts from late May throughout the summer. The grand opening will be June 14, but the farm will be open starting May 24.

Phyllis had a host of blueberry recipes to choose from, but these are some of her store's best sellers.

**Blueberry Pie**

- 1 9-inch pie shell
- 4 cups blueberries (dust with 1/4 cup flour)
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 2 tbsp flour or cornstarch

Put the blueberries and lemon juice in a saucepan. Using low heat, let mixture simmer for 3-4 minutes. In a separate bowl, mix the sugars, cinnamon, nutmeg and flour/cornstarch. Add to cooked mixture and simmer until thickened. Pour into the pie shell and cover with the top shell. Bake at 350 Degrees until the crust is brown and the mixture bubbles.

**Blueberry Coffee Cake**

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
  - 2 large eggs
  - 1 tsp vanilla
  - 2 tsp lemon rind
  - 1 1/2 cups flour
  - 1/2 tsp salt
  - 1 tsp baking soda
  - 1/4 cup sugar
  - 1/2 cup chopped pecans
  - 1 tsp cinnamon
  - 1 cup powdered sugar
  - 4 tsp milk
  - 1 -8 ounce sour cream
  - 1 package blueberries
- Beat butter at medium speed for two minutes or until creamy. Gradually add 1/2 cup sugar, beating 2-3 minutes. Add the eggs, sour cream, vanilla and lemon rind, beating till smooth. Combine flour, baking powder and salt to butter mix, beating till blended. Pour batter into a lightly greased 9" springform pan and combine berries, pecans, 1/4 cup sugar and cinnamon, sprinkle over batter. Bake at 350 Degrees for 35-40 minutes. Cool in a pan on a wire rack for 10-15 minutes and remove from pan to cool on the rack for 10 more minutes. Whisk together powdered sugar and milk until smooth. Drizzle over the cake.

**Blueberry Sour Cream Pie**

- 1 9-inch graham cracker crust
  - 4 ounce cream cheese, softened
  - 2 cups sour cream
  - 1/2 cup sugar plus 1 tbsp flour, mixed
  - 1 1/2 cup blueberries
  - 1 tbsp sugar
- Mix together the cream cheese, sour cream and sugar/flour mix. Fold in blueberries and pour into crust, top with one tbsp sugar and bake at 350 Degrees for 10 minutes. Cool and chill for two hours.

**The doctor is in**  
By Dr. Tariq Vora

**Why am I losing my memory?**

There are several causes of memory loss. Although age is usually one of them, it is important to pay attention to other causes, especially when your daily life is affected by it. Information is stored in three different parts of your memory: the short-term memory, the recent memory, and the remote memory. Information stored in the short-term memory may include the name of a person you met a few minutes ago. Information stored in the recent memory may include what you ate for breakfast today. Information stored in the remote memory includes things that happened years ago, such as memories of childhood.

Beginning in the 20s, one could begin to notice a change in his/her memory just naturally. Although the recent memory may be affected by

aging, the short-term and remote memories are not usually affected in the process.

Memory is also affected by several problems including depression, stroke, head injury, and alcoholism. Dementia (such as Alzheimer's Disease) is a major cause of memory loss and requires medical treatment because it gets worse over time.

If you are forgetting things much more often than you used to, have trouble learning new things and making choices, handling money, or forgetting to do things you

have done many times before, it is very important that you seek medical attention. A memory problem can become serious and start to affect your daily life.

It may be hard to figure out on your own, especially in advanced age, if you have a serious memory problem. In that case, you should talk to your family doctor who can listen to your concerns and offer further evaluation as needed to help determine the exact cause of your problem.

(source: Journal of the American Family Physician.)

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**NOTICE**

The Statesman will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance on Memorial Day. All ads and story information for the May 29 issue must be turned in by Friday, May 23 at noon.



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