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What's Happening

Back to School Bash! Join us at Lake Palestine United Methodist Church Saturday, August 23 at 4:30 pm, down by the lake for free family fun with swimming, games, food and prizes. Family movie night to follow in the church at 7 pm.

Sunday, August 31, **Candice Myers** will be in concert at First Baptist Church, FM 773 and FM 1313, Murchison, TX. She will sing in the afternoon following a free BBQ lunch and will present special music in the morning worship service. For questions, call 903-469-3704.

Forest Grove Baptist Church will hold its fifth **Sunday Singing** on August 31 at 6 pm. Everyone is invited, admission is free. Bring your guitar or trac and join us for an evening of fun, fellowship and singing. Featured artist is Ms. Lacy Larsen; a love offering will be taken. Church is located eight miles south of Chandler at the corner of Highway 315 and Forest Grove Drive. Call 849-2378 or 849-2368 for more information.

TVCC will host orientation for **adult education and GED classes** the first week of September. Orientation is at TVCC-Athens September 3 in Room LA110, TVCC-Palestine on September 4 (Room C114) and TVCC-Terrell on September 8 (Room E112). Sessions begin at 6 pm and end at 9 pm. For more info, call 903-675-6398 or visit www.tvcc.edu/communityservices.

AARP mature driving class, sponsored by the Westside Volunteer Fire Department, will be held September 17 and 18 at the Chandler Community Center from 1 pm to 5 pm. Cost is \$10 per person. Contact Don Thomas at 903-849-2208 for reservations.

Murchison FUMC will sponsor a **benefit for the Murchison Volunteer Fire Department** Monday, September 1, from 4 pm to 6 pm at the church serving BBQ. All donations go to the fire department.

The home of Steven and Brandi Richardson burned Tuesday, August 5, around 6 p.m. The family has three children; girl age 10, boy age 8 and another boy age 6. A fund will be set up at the Citizens National Bank in Chandler to help the displaced family. Anyone wishing to donate can do so at the bank or contact Tammy Veall at 903-852-5048 or at 903-570-4255.

2008 Chandler Pow Wow is set for October 11, beginning at 10 a.m., at Winchester Park located on FM 315 S. The Chandler Brownsboro Area Chamber of Commerce will feature a PARADE, entertainment, arts and crafts, children's activities and great food. For additional information call 903-849-5930.

The 7th Annual Chandler 5K is set for Saturday, August 23. The race start and finish lines are at First United Methodist Church on Broad Street in Chandler. Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. and the run starts at 7:30 a.m. Cost to enter is \$15. Registration forms can be picked up from Dr. Cherry and Dr. Vora at Trinity Clinic on Hwy. 31E and other locations around Chandler. For more information contact Thomas Gros at 903-531-5930 or email at grost@tmfhs.org.

Brownsboro Junior High School Orientation will be held Thursday, August 21, from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. At this time parents and students will be able to pick up their schedules, tour classrooms and meet the teachers. We look forward to seeing you there.

Story-time at the Chandler Public Library will resume Thursday, September 4, at 10 a.m. Lynda McQuaid will return. For more information, call the library at 903-849-4122.

Wet road causes one-car wreck

By Nathan Straus
Statesman News

Slick roads and unsafe speeds created the third one-vehicle crash in six weeks along FM 314 north of Brownsboro.

The Brownsboro and Edom volunteer firefighters responded to an accident just over a mile south of Edom that occurred a little past 1:33 pm Tuesday.

A 2002 Ford van driven by Kenneth Lynn of Murchison was traveling southbound on FM 314 when the rear of his vehicle slid and spun counter-clockwise, sending the van off the right side of the road. The

vehicle struck a cluster of trees, then its front hit, causing considerable damage to the vehicle. No serious injuries were reported.

Investigating officer, Brad Fulton, Texas DPS Officer on the scene, said it is always good to use caution and discretion when traveling along such dangerous stretches of road such as FM 314, but especially so when the conditions are wet.

Most areas received over three inches of rain and cooler temperatures on Tuesday and more is expected to fall before the week is over.



Nathan Straus Photo

This Ford van suffered considerable damage when it slipped on slick roads and struck a cluster of trees.

Theater students meet new director David Young



Nathan Straus Photo

Amanda Parker, student, and David Young sing a song from Disney's cartoon movie, *Beauty and the Beast*.

The Brownsboro Independent School District theater community got its first chance to meet the new theater director Friday, August 15. David Young came to the high school theater building to introduce himself to theater parents and future students.

Young set up a piano on the theater stage to demonstrate his musical talents to a crowd. After experiencing Young's abilities, the theater students present joined in with singing and dancing. Such classics as Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* were featured.

Guests to the event included School Superintendent Elton Caldwell and High School Principal Kenneth Wooten.

Young said he was excited to meet his students and signaled his readiness to get started with the school year.

"I know what I'm doing now," Young said, "so that's dangerous."

The parents were similarly pleased to meet the new theater director.

Brownsboro lowers ad valorem tax rate

By Nathan Straus
Statesman News

The City of Brownsboro voted to lower the ad valorem tax rate for Brownsboro citizens. The tax rate was lowered from the previous tax rate by three cents per \$100 valuation. The decision came as part of the Thursday, August 14, regularly scheduled Brownsboro City Council meeting.

Brownsboro Mayor Ronny Harris said, "We've pretty well already done this by setting our budget."

This tax rate will be added to the I and S tax rate of 15.35.

An ad valorem tax decrease of three cents means a savings of about \$15 for those with a \$50,000 house in Brownsboro. This is an 11 percent reduction from the last ad valorem tax rate.

Council member Doug Shaffer made the motion to approve the 2008 effective tax rate, Mayor Pro-tem Randal Clayton seconded.

The council took a look at city expenditures and the budget report.

Harris said, "Water and sewer is up for the city; city funds are down some, but these will be building back up real soon."

On water and sewer revenues for July, the city took in over \$2,100 more than expected. Fines and fees are up quite a bit as well, as are city sales taxes.

Clayton made the motion to

approve the expenditures, financial status and budget report, Shaffer seconded.

Following the report from the July council meeting, the city voted to change from Stream Energy to TXU Energy.

"The City is really disappointed in the service of Stream Energy and will not recommend Stream Energy as an electric provider," Harris said.

The change will save the city money on energy, and a motion was made and seconded by Council Member Glen Vest and Clayton, respectively, to approve a three-year deal with TXU Energy.

Brownsboro voiced its support on a resolution for the discontinuation of the diversion of transportation use revenues to non-transportation areas.

The resolution, which stated "additional congestions wasted 2.9 billion gallons of fuel and cost over \$78 billion in time and fuel", resolves to no longer divert money from existing transportation revenues to non-transportation uses. Clayton made the motion to approve this resolution.

City Attorney Leslie McLean has resigned to work for the Smith County District Attorney's Office. The resignation, effective August 31. The motion also included action to hire Jay Mills to fill the open position.

Finally, the council voted to approve a request to put a mobile home between CR 3516 and Highway 31.

Brownsboro Beautification clean-up day set for Saturday

By Melissa Gaona
Statesman News

The Brownsboro Beautification group has teamed up with the City of Brownsboro for a local clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, August 23; and just when you thought "spring cleaning" was over. I'm sure you've seen the signs all over Brownsboro about the Spring Cleaning. You can bring all of your junk between the hours of 7 a.m.-12 p.m., big or small, and dispose of it in the dumpsters that the city will provide. While there, be

sure to donate at least an hour of your time to your town. The Beautification Group is asking you to bring a trash bag and some gloves to help clean up some of the trash that has gathered around the area. Any amount of time that you can donate is greatly appreciated.

At their Thursday, August 7th meeting the board discussed plans on making Brownsboro a better place to live.

In order to get their affiliation with Keep Texas Beautiful, the Board is in the process of getting their Tax ID number. Once this process is com-

plete Keep Brownsboro Beautiful will be in full effect.

The Board feels proud and blessed that they have a wonderful group of people that are truly concerned about this city and take time out of their lives to make Brownsboro better than ever. Their ultimate goal is to improve Brownsboro physically, specifically Hwy 31E, and make it a more desirable place visually.

Even though they are waiting on their affiliation, it is not stopping them from going forward with improvements.

(Continued on page 5)

Labor Day's around the corner, and so are the local police

Local law enforcements are teaming up with highway safety agencies and other law enforcements around the nation to join in and be a part of *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest*.

Texas is still rated the highest, among the states, with the most alcohol related driving fatalities. Also, drunk driving is still one of America's deadliest crimes. A .08 blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level is considered ille-

gal, but a .08 BAC is illegal in every state while behind the wheel. However, in minors, there is no tolerance whatsoever.

276, Texans under the age of 21, died in an alcohol related driving accident in 2006.

With Labor Day weekend approaching it brings heavy traffic not only on the roads but also on the water. Consequently some will take advantage of the long weekend by getting behind the wheel after drinking, putting

other's lives, and their own, at risk.

That being said, remember that a DUI can get your licence suspended, higher insurance rates, jail time, goes on your record and not to mention the thousands of dollars it cost.

For more information visit www.StopImpairedDriving.org or contact Lonnie McKinney, Patrolman, Brownsboro Police Department, 11351 Willow St. 903-852-6761.

Meet The Bears



Courtesy Photo

The Golden Girls performed to motivate and promote Brownsboro sports during the Monday night's Meet the Bears. The Bears start their regular season on August 29.