



Checklist Charlie

Red, white, blue & read all over

July is the star-spangled time of year when I feel it is my patriotic duty, and my free speech right, to say why I love small town newspapers.

Don't we all have a soft spot in our hearts for freedom of speech?

This year in particular I am counting blessings when I consider how many of our small towns around East Texas have careful publishers who are crunching the numbers and managing to stay ahead of the recession while the big boys in big cities across the U.S. are closing down due to the weight of interest on old loans.

Of course, any student of history knows that our forefathers recognized that an independent news source would hold government leaders accountable.

Some folks these days think that the web can fill the need for independent news sources. That may be true when it comes to broadcasting news to Timbuktu. But, just ask yourself this ...

Who are you gonna call

with a rumor you heard from your kids about something fishy going on between a student and a teacher?

When you hear elected officials are thinking about raising sales taxes, aren't you gonna whisper in the ear of the reporter who came out to the ribbon cutting on your new business? E-mailing a blogger just doesn't quite cut it.

When your county commissioners and state representatives aren't listening as you helplessly fume about the new state highway cutting through your grandparents' old farm place, where are you sending your letter to get public attention?

Any day of the week, our small town publishers, editors, and reporters are accessible. You can drop by the office for a free cup of coffee and a chat, run into 'em in the line at the bank, or see 'em in church on Sunday. Heck, you probably have their home phone numbers.

Okay, folks, if ever there was a time to vote with our dollars, now is the time to show support for our local

newspapers.

If you have a business, buy ads.

If you can sell something in the classifieds, do it now. Not only will you give the paper a boost, but your own budget will get a bonus, too.

If you want to honor someone's birthday or anniversary, why not do it with an ad in the local paper?

Instead of canceling your subscription, keep it, at least until we get past this recession. Think of it as a donation to a worthy cause. A really cheap donation.

In fact, why not buy a subscription for a friend? Tie today's edition up in a bow, deliver it yourself, and tell your friend you love them. And you love a free press and a free country.

You can sing "God Bless America" to your friend when you deliver the news.

Cathy Primer Krafve, aka Checklist Charlie, lives and writes with a Texas twang. Comments are invited at <http://checklistcharlie.blogspot.com> or cathykrafve@gmail.com.

Sheriff's Report

by Ray Nutt



Sheriff Ray Nutt

On June 22, 2009, Henderson County Drug Enforcement Unit investigators observed a white Saturn traveling at a high rate of speed on County Road 2139 west of Seven Points. Investigators attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the vehicle when it began to speed away, increasing its speed even more in an attempt to elude them.

When the vehicle approached the intersection of CR 2139 and FM 85, it had to stop due to traffic on the busy Farm to Market road. At this time investigators ordered Ryan Michael Martin, W/M, DOB June 19, 1979, to throw the keys out of the window where he could not drive away, and he complied.

When Martin was asked if there was anything illegal inside the vehicle, he advised that he had some methamphetamine inside the car. A quantity of sub-

stance believed to be methamphetamine, baggies for packaging the drug for sale, syringes, and digital scales believed to be used for measuring the drug for sale, were located in a small black bag between the console and the seat.

Martin was transported to Henderson County Justice Center in Athens for the Manufacture/Delivery Controlled Substance PG1>1 grams<4 grams which is a 2nd degree felony. His bond had not been set at press time.

Texas' August sales tax holiday gets bigger

From Staff Reports

Great news for back-to-school shoppers. For the first time since it began in 1999, the annual August sales tax holiday will include many school supplies.

"A lot of families look forward to saving their hard-earned money during the sales tax holiday weekend," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "Now they can make their back-to-school budgets stretch even further because more than two dozen school supply items will be tax-free."

House Bill 1801 identifies school supplies priced less than \$100 that will be exempt from state and local sales tax for the tax-free weekend. Pens, crayons, calculators, notebooks, rulers, scissors and lunch boxes are a few of the items on the list. The full list can be found below.

These items are in addition to school backpacks and most clothing and shoes priced less than \$100 that are already tax-free the weekend of Aug. 21-23.

The comptroller's office is sending information to

retailers about implementing the expanded sales tax holiday.

Tax-Free School Supplies:

- Binders
- Blackboard chalk
- Book bags
- Calculators
- Cellophane tape
- Compasses
- Composition books
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Folders (expandable, pocket, plastic, manila)
- Glue, paste and paste sticks
- Highlighters
- Index cards
- Index card boxes
- Legal pads
- Lunch boxes
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Paper (loose leaf ruled notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored paper, poster board, construction paper)
- Pencil boxes and other school supply boxes
- Pencil sharpeners
- Pencils
- Pens
- Protractors
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Writing tablets

Carter BloodCare to host drives in area

Carter BloodCare officials are concerned that blood donations are down this year and the blood supply is running low.

Besides the donation decline, Carter BloodCare is faced with the possibility of very hot temperatures in weather this time of year, less donors because of vacations and school being out.

The blood center urges eligible donors to give blood in the coming days to ensure supplies are available to treat patients at North Central and East Texas hospitals. For more information and to make an appointment, contact Carter BloodCare at 1-800-DONATE 4, or to sponsor a blood drive for your church, business or community group, contact Carter BloodCare local representative, Dianne Martin at 903-571-8200.

The following locations in the Smith County area have stepped up to sponsor community blood drives. Contact the location of your choice, to schedule your appointment and to learn more about the event. Donors will also receive a free T-shirt.

June 28 Broadway Square Mall 12-4pm, drawing for \$50 Walmart Gift Card.

July 2 YMCA, 225 Vine in Tyler 2-5pm

July 13 Texas Roadhouse in Tyler 4-6pm, \$5 Gift Card to each donor. Drawing for \$25 Gift Card.

July 16, 17 ETMC Tyler at Pavillion 8am-5pm

July 18 McAlister's Deli, 4325 Old Bullard in Tyler, 11am-4pm, Free tea and cookies.

July 21 Walmart, 1405 S Tyler St in Athens, 2-7pm.

July 31 Pep Boys, 3616 S Broadway Tyler, 10am-1pm. Free oil change to donors.

July 31 Trinity Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler, 9am-4pm. Drawing for \$50 Walmart Gift Card.

"Maintaining an adequate blood supply is critical for patient care in our community. Unfortunately, the number of people who need blood does not decline because the weather is bad," says Carter BloodCare President and CEO, Dr. Merlyn Sayers. "Cancer, surgery and trauma patients cannot wait for blood, it must be available when it is needed."

In order for the community blood supply to be prepared for both large and small crisis situations, Carter BloodCare must have all types of blood available, especially Type O+ and O-, before the crisis happens. Donors must be 17, weigh at least 110 pounds, have photo ID and be in general good health.

The Chandler & Brownsboro Statesman

Founded 1976

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Henderson & adjoining Counties: \$26.00 / yr.
Other Counties within Texas: \$30.00 / yr.
Out of State in U.S.: \$33.00 / yr.
Disabled Veterans & Social Security Recipients in Henderson Co.: \$24.00 / yr.

To subscribe or change your information call 903-984-2593

Published every Thursday by Bluebonnet Publishing, LLC Brownsboro, Texas 75756

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to: THE STATESMAN, P.O. Box 1210, Kilgore, TX 75662

Periodicals Postage Paid at the Post Office Brownsboro, Texas 75756 (USPS 335-710)

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 pm 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 and are published free of charge.

There is a \$15 fee for engagement announcements and a \$40 fee for wedding announcements. A photo may be included at no extra cost.

Anniversary announcements with photos are published for a \$10 fee and are free for couples celebrating 50 years or more of marriage.

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

Birthday announcements for children under 6-years old and seniors 80-plus are published free of charge. Friends and relatives may purchase advertising space to congratulate a person on their birthday for the standard per column/inch advertising rate.

Reach more than 14,000 readers with a classified ad 3-papers one low price.

As little as \$7 per week!

Call 903-852-7641

Battle recreation is July 11

The annual Battle of the Neches memorial celebration hosted by the American Indian Cultural Society will be all day Saturday, July 11 at the battle site at Highway 64 and F.M. 4923 (about 15 miles west of Tyler).

A picnic will begin at 5:30 p.m. An RV camp will be available.

For more information, call Sondra McAdams at (903) 425-8581.

Sparks In The Park Brownsboro, Texas

(At Brownsboro Park, Stuart Street)

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. July 4, 2009

Festivities kick-off with a kid's Parade at 10 a.m. at Brownsboro Elementary School parking lot

(Lots of entertainment for the kids)

Events include:
Softball tournament
Catered Lunch Specials
Arts & Crafts
Bounce Houses

Door Prizes
Concession Stand
Snow Cones
Costume Contest (parade only)
T-Shirts & More

Live Music performed by Southern Made

Events Sponsored by Keep Brownsboro Beautiful & Friends of the Park

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