

CONDITIONS • FROM 1

between the district administration building and other facilities to the east, Brownsboro Junior High to the south, and Brownsboro High School to the west.

Brownsboro High School is the youngest campus of the group. Built in 1987, it has been expanded just once and appears to be in the best condition. Brownsboro Junior High was built in 1981 and has never been

expanded.

All four schools are at capacity.

At Chandler Elementary, limited parking areas for buses and other vehicles is always a concern, with traffic usually stalling on Farm-to-Market Road 315 during drop-off and pick-up times. Like the other schools, it has run out of classroom space and its cafeteria is too small. Multiple access

points to the building also pose safety risks.

At Brownsboro Elementary, the campus has simply outgrown itself. It has no room to expand a fifth time, and district and school officials have acknowledged a new campus is needed.

Students at Brownsboro Junior High have their own issues. They must cross Ingram Street to attend classes at buildings that share

the same property with the district administration building, and band students have to cross a field and a loading and unloading zone to reach the band hall at Brownsboro High.

At the high school, its athletic facilities and instruction space for student-athletes are inadequate and outdated.

A number of options would be available to the

district, including building two new elementary schools and a high school, and increasing the number of students who attend its two intermediate schools.

The district owns a 52-acre tract of land west of Brownsboro where a campus could be built.

Committee members "feel strongly about how supportive the community is of the schools," Oates

said. "They feel they have good teachers and a good board, and they are proud of their schools."

Oates said he will present five scenarios for expansion during the committee's meeting on March 22 at Chandler Intermediate School.

He declined to release the details of that report before the meeting, scheduled for 6 p.m.

Texas School Planning was hired last October to consult the district on its capital-improvements plan. District officials have reported the student population has increased by about 60 percent over the last 20 years — a rate of 3 percent annually.

PARK • FROM 1

Brownsboro water bills since last December. The Brownsboro Economic Development Corporation,

with more than \$125,000, is considering helping finance other improvements at City Park, including building a

second softball field and adding a walking trail, and adding kitchen equipment for the concession area of

the pavilion.

The park board is Roxie Holley, Brownsboro Mayor Ronnie Harris, J.D. Jones,

Glenda Bearden, Jerry Alexander, Sam Blackmon, Jeffery Fulgham, and Charles Cox.

CHANDLER • FROM 1

Historical collections, including that of Sen. Ralph Yarborough and Jackie Kennedy, are kept in two cases at the Chandler Public Library, and Librarian Nancy Berthoff has said space is inadequate.

Activities planned for the July celebration include a street dance, concert, and fireworks exhibition. Food

FAIR • FROM 1

people," Marshall said. "Our first show in 2006 started with about 50 booths and we are up to 75, which is all we have room for along with the play area and entertainment.

"The day starts at 10 a.m. and wraps up around 5 p.m., when the Edom cruise night begins."

The fair, Marshall said, begins at Edom United Methodist Church on Farm-to-Market Road 279 and

concessions will be available.

To help raise money, a Heritage Cookbook will be sold. It's an update for the 1980 centennial publication, "Chandler: Its History and People."

Though the city was incorporated in 1960, its history dates to 1880 when the Texas and St. Louis Rail-

road established a station on land donated about 31 years earlier by Alphonso Chandler, for with the town was renamed. It was originally called Stillwater.

Chandler Public Library is a branch of the Henderson County Clint W. Murchison Memorial Library. Originally housed in a book mobile, the Chandler branch

was moved to Broad Street in 1983 and relocated again 13 years later to its current building at 900 State Highway 31.

The late Yarborough, a Democrat, was born in Chandler in 1903. He taught school in Henderson County, practiced law in El Paso and Austin, was a Texas judge and assistant

attorney general, a World War II veteran in the U.S. Army, and an author. Yarborough was in Kennedy's motorcade during the president's assassination in 1963 in Dallas.

The planning committee for Chandler's 50th-anniversary celebration is scheduled to meet at City Hall on March 18, at 6 p.m. Call 903-849-4122.

Douglas' Web site is tonydouglas.com.

LIBRARY • FROM 1

because of space limitations has not grown to meet the needs.

A library serving our population should have at least 30,000 volumes. We have 14,000. However, we do not have space to meet the requirements. We thought, at the time, we were building a facility that would meet future needs. We just didn't expect the future to come so quickly.

What all is in those collections? How long have they been in the library's possession?

A representative of Ralph Yarborough's estate contacted the library shortly after his death in 1995 and asked if I could come to Austin to pick items we would hold permanently in our collection. The items displayed depict his early life in Chandler and his political career.

We also have Chandler pictures and memorabilia from the early 1900s and numerous school photos. There are boxes of items in storage that we do not have space to display.

What is the library's membership, budget, and staff? What is your main user demographic?

We have 4,600 registered patrons. The library is open 46 hours per week and has one part-time employee plus great volunteers. We serve persons living in the eastern part of Henderson County.

Though we haven't done a "demographic" survey specifically, I would say that the group is represen-

extends a few blocks west to First State Bank of Ben Wheeler.

"Some of the local businesses in town are gracious enough to give up a few parking spaces to let us put up booths in front of their establishments," Marshall said.

"Also, a great deal of the festival is located in front of First State Bank of Ben Wheeler, Edom Branch, where they give us access

to their entire parking lot, as well as the Edom Water Department, which also gives us full access to their grounds.

"Edom Methodist parks cars in their parking lot and Edom Baptist youth department has a booth that offers free face and hair painting for kids."

April in Edom differs from the Edom Festival of the Arts in that the October event is a "juried" fair.

"Although we do have an acceptance committee, as we don't want 'flea market stuff,' we are a bit more liberal and we are at the mercy of the shops and businesses in town for space, as we are billed as an 'old fashioned street fair.'"

For more on the April event, call 903-852-4438, or you may send an e-mail to aprilinedom@hotmail.com, or visit aprilinedom.net.

SOARS • FROM 1

cent.

February jobless numbers are expected to be released on Thursday, March 25.

tative of the area with the majority of our users being over 40 and retired. We have a large group of children who use our library in the summer and during school breaks. The Internet registers about 250 users monthly.

We do not record the WiFi use but it is very popular especially with people visiting or passing through town. The library is funded through city and county funds and donations from the Friends of the Chandler Public Library.

I understand the library has been moved two times. Tell me about its growth.

The library started by accident when the county's Book Mobile broke down in 1983. Because they could not afford to fix it, it was left in Chandler and manned by volunteers.

The volunteers soon realized that a better facility was needed and raised funds to purchase a storefront building on Broad Street in 1987. This worked well until 1995, when the building's age began to show and it was decided that a new facility would be necessary.

The volunteers and interested citizens, led by Alice and Jerry Kidd, raised over \$300,000 to construct the new building on land donated by Greg and Luster Kidd.

What does the library offer in the way of services and products?

Besides a very current fiction section that features all the latest best sellers, we have a large children's and young-adult collection. The library offers free Internet services for persons over 16, including WiFi access.

Computers provide access to Microsoft software as well and copy service is available for a fee. We also provide fax service. We have DVDs and audio books.

The library participates in the Texas State Library Summer Reading Program and registers 50-plus each summer. Speakers, storytellers and performers are scheduled each summer to encourage children to read. The Kickapoo Literary Society and Book Club meets the first Monday of each month at the library.

Where do you see the library going in five years?

I would hope that a five-year plan would include an online card catalog, membership in the North East Texas Library System, and a facility that would meet the needs of our growing collection.

What can be done better in the way of operations?

One of our immediate issues would be updating the computers. Several are getting pretty old and it would be nice to be able to replace all at the same time.

The Gates Foundation has been very generous and we have participated in the two awards presented thus far.

ETMC • FROM 2

tion will be well worth it."

Once the ICU is moved into the new space, the OB department will expand its footprint to include the area occupied by the ICU.

Among the gains for the OB department will be eight additional labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum rooms. The department currently has one LDRP room, which provides a spacious environment where expectant moms can, in most cases, stay throughout their hospital stay.

All the existing postpartum rooms will be refurbished. The radiology department will also expand.

The architect for the project is Hammel, Green & Abrahamson of Minneapolis. The builder is Vaughn Construction Company, LLC of College Station.

Henderson County Voters,

Thank You for your support and vote, allowing me to serve as your next County Judge.

I appreciate your vote of confidence and I look forward to serving the citizens of Henderson County.

Richard Sanders



Pol Ad paid for by Richard Sanders Campaign, Kathy Sanders, Treasurer, PO Box 1438, Athens, TX 75751

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- Awaking gasping for air
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- Awaking with headaches
- Dozing at inappropriate or dangerous times

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