



*The City with a Heart -
Preserving Our Past -
Claiming Our Future*

Did You Know?

- Water bill and traffic citation payments may now be paid online at www.chandler.tx.com.
- City Council meets every second Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
- The average response time for the Chandler Fire Department in the city limits is 4 minutes.
- Online access to the Chandler Public Library Card Catalog is available at www.chandler.tx.com.
- Chandler has a Facebook page! "Like Us" to receive current updates and information.
- Chandler has an Animal Control Officer for stray dogs & cats within the city limits.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

About Town	2
Horseshoe Club Forming	2
2012 Street Program	3
Sting Rays Win State	3
Local Option Election	3
River Park Expansion	4
Mayor's Corner	4

Yarborough House Moved to McCain Park

Moving Day!

The Ralph W. Yarborough home was moved from Old Tyler Rd to its new location at McCain Park on July 18th after many months of preparation, rain delays and extensive fundraising. Onlookers enjoyed watching the historic move while lining the streets and walking along.



The birthplace and childhood home of the late U.S. Sen. Ralph W. Yarborough is destined to soon be the Chandler Historical Museum. The Chandler Historical Society has plans to refurbish the two-story home and create a genealogy room, a Yarborough history room, two rooms displaying historical items and Chandler memorabilia and a gift shop.

Yarborough was in the U.S. Senate from 1957 to 1970, serving on the Senate Appropriations Committee among several other committees. He also authored several major pieces of legislation, including bills creating Guadalupe Mountains and Padre Island national

parks, worked to expand the Cold War GI Bill and authored other bills that enabled millions of students to attend college. He was known as "Mr. Education of the Senate." He also led the fight for the Big Thicket National Preserve. He was an assistant attorney general of Texas for about 3 years and a Texas district judge in Austin for 5 years. He served in the Army during World War II and practiced law in Austin from 1946 to 1957. The Yarborough exhibit will include information about his accomplishments as a senator, his family, childhood, education and personal life, books and letters he wrote, and pictures and other items.

Other museum historical exhibits will include artifacts that date to the early 1800's when pioneers came to the area before the town was established and possibly some railroad memorabilia.

Please consider donating your money or your time to the non-profit Chandler Historical Society. The organization is in need of volunteers to help with the restoration work. Please call City Hall at (903)849-6853 for more information on how to make donations of money, labor or equipment or become a volunteer.

Chandler's "About Town"

Citizens Academy

The Mayor and City Council are looking for more citizen involvement in the community. They understand that the best tool to demystify local government is communication, and as a result, the Citizens Academy is being established.

Chandler's Citizens Academy will be a fun, hands-on, interactive learning experience about city services, programs and responsibilities. Members will learn about challenges to city government, budget limitations, and day-to-day operations. The course will consist of informative presentations and interesting tours that focus on city departments and functions.

Settings will be casual and comfortable. The number one goal of our Academy will be to develop well-informed citizens, one class at a time. Hopefully our graduates will take their specialized knowledge of how local government works back to their respective neighborhoods to generate interest so that others will participate in future sessions. Participants will also have the opportunity and responsibility of providing valuable feedback to staff for use in developing future plans for the City of Chandler.

LOCAL OPTION ELECTION

Early voting be located at City Hall and will begin on October 22nd and end on November 2nd. Early voting hours are 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Election Day will be on November 6th from 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Chandler Community Center.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels in Chandler is in need of volunteer drivers. Meals are available Mon-Thurs from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the Chandler Community Center. Call Eva at (903)849-2252 for more information.

NEW ALZHEIMER'S GROUP, "TALK IT OUT"

Chandler now has an Alzheimer's support group which meets at the Chandler Community Center every second Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Call ahead to Cherish O'Barr at (903)515-0361.

CHANDLER POW WOW & CHILI COOK-OFF

The 31st Annual Chandler Pow Wow and Chili Cook-Off will be on October 13th at Winchester Park.

SENIOR CITIZEN DANCE & LUNCH

Live Country & Western band and dancing every Thursday at the Chandler Community Center from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Lunch may be purchased through Meals on Wheels.

CRUISE NIGHTS

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce sponsors "Cruise Night" car show on the 1st Thursday of the month from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Wade's Place.

CHANDLER POLICE EXPLORERS

The Chandler Police Explorers meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at

City Hall. Those interested in the program are encouraged to attend or apply at the Chandler Police Department. Applicants must be between 14-20 years of age. Call (903) 849-2181 for more information.

LET'S DISCOVER CUP-CAKES!

Chandler Public Library presents "Let's Discover Cupcakes" on August 7th from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the Chandler Community Center. Attendees will learn the secrets of decorating cupcakes. Free to persons 12 and older.

MEET THE BEARS

"Meet the Bears" will be on August 13th in Brownsboro.

Chandler Horseshoe Club Forming & Tournament Planned

In April of this year, the City approved funding for the construction of a tournament level horseshoe complex. Three months later it is complete and it is expected to draw a lot of interest locally, as well as regionally.

The Texas Horseshoe Pitchers Association has sanctioned our first tournament, the "Chandler Challenge", on September 22nd. The tournament is expected to draw many regional horseshoe enthusiasts.

The city is promoting the creation of Chandler Horseshoe Club. The club would adopt the courts, help maintain them and would

plan and host area tournaments. Of course the courts are public and open for anyone to use but the club would be a good way to meet new people with similar interests and to ensure you always have friends to play with.

To register your interest in

being part of a club, call (903)849-6853 and leave your name and phone number and someone will be in touch with you.

You can sign up for the "Chandler Challenge" Tournament by going to www.texasringer.net.



BMC Sting Rays Win 8 and Under TTAB State Tournament

Not even the excessive heat could dampen the enthusiasm of the more than 200 boys that recently converged on Chandler with their families and friends for the Texas Teen-Age Baseball Tournament in the 8 & Under division. 17 teams from across the state, including 3 teams from Chandler, participated in the 5-day event held at Winchester Park from August 22-26.

Sunday's opening ceremonies drew a huge crowd and included a welcome by Mayor Ann Hall. "Goody" bags provided by the Chandler Economic Development Board were presented to each player.

The tournament culminated with the Championship game on Thursday evening where the local BMC Sting Rays defeated the Pleasant Grove Red Sox. The Sting Rays were the only team that went undefeated during the tournament. The BMC Rangers narrowly missed out on being in the Championship game but did finish up in third place overall.

It took a community-wide effort to make the tournament a huge success as volunteers from the BMC league, Economic Development Board, City Hall, Lion's Club and a large contingent from Rock Hill

Baptist Church all pitched in to make sure the tournament ran smoothly. Judging from the many compliments from out-of-town visitors

about our city such as the beauty of the park, and the friendliness of its citizens, Chandler can be very proud of this event.



2012 Street Program Underway



Much needed street repairs will soon get underway for Russell Dr., Ellis Dr., Fifth St. and Bradshaw Circle. Repairs at Russell Dr., Ellis Dr. and Bradshaw Circle will include scarify and mix, adding base and resurfacing with asphalt. Ditches will be cleaned out on Fifth St. and the road will be resurfaced. The contract for the street work was awarded to Reynolds & Kay Construction from Tyler after the city accepted their bid of \$82,067.50. Engineering for this project is being done by Everett Griffith, Jr. & Assoc. from Jacksonville. Final approval from the City Council is expected on August 14th and work will begin shortly thereafter.

LOCAL OPTION ELECTION

In November of this year, the citizens of Chandler will have an opportunity to vote yes or no on two separate propositions regarding the sale of alcohol in the City of Chandler.

The first proposition is for the sale of beer and wine in grocery and convenience stores. The second proposition is for allowing the sale of mixed drinks in local restaurants. In preparation for the possibility of alcohol sales in Chandler, city staff prepared and took to city council for approval an ordinance

that would keep the look of our city the same. The ordinance sets the required distance from schools, churches and day care centers where alcohol may be sold. Also, the ordinance will not allow outside signs advertising alcohol.

Citizens have the right to vote yes or no and to choose how they would like to see Chandler handle the issue of alcohol sales. To some it is a moral issue and to others it is an economic issue. Some believe that no good could come from sales of alcohol

and some believe that the economic impact would benefit the city for years to come. Estimates vary of how much sales tax would be generated. It could be as much as \$125,000 to \$150,000 a year given the results of sales in other cities that have passed the same two propositions. Citizens should also consider how the city will be affected if Smith County JP-2 passes the same two propositions and the City of Chandler does not. Will Chandler lose sales tax that it is already receiving because people stop to buy beer and wine

just across the bridge on Hwy 31 and also pick up items they would normally buy in Chandler?

The citizens of Chandler will ultimately decide this issue. All are encouraged to vote your conscience and heart. If you are not registered to vote, stop by City Hall for a Texas Voter's Registration Application or go online at <http://co.henderson.tx.us/ips/cms/countyoffices/VoterRegistration.html>.

River Park Expansion Plans

It's easy to tell when the white bass are making their annual spring run up the Neches River above Lake Palestine: cars and trucks line both sides of the highway where Texas 31 crosses the river just east of Chandler, and tackle-laden anglers scramble across the busy four-lane divided highway.

"It's a dangerous situation. Someone could get killed out there," said Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Inland Fisheries biologist Richard Ott, but help is on the way. Thanks to TPWD, the City of Chandler, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Henderson County and the East Texas Woods and Waters Foundation, work will soon begin on a new public access area north of the highway that will eventually connect with the existing parking lot, boat ramp and park on the south side. Included in the new area will be a nearly one-acre parking lot, an information kiosk and a canoe and kayak launch. Funding for the project is from the East Texas Woods and Waters Foundation and federal funds distributed through the U.S Department of Agriculture's Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program.

The City of Chandler will operate the property as an extension of the River Park south of the bridge and will be able to provide police protection and trash collection. TxDOT provided the engineering for the new parking lot and will also contribute recycled asphalt paving for base material. Grant funds will pay for moving the fences, topping the base and building the drive off the highway. Henderson County Precinct 3 Commissioner, Ronny Lawrence, will provide the equipment and labor to actually build the parking lot." "This section of the river has always been a diamond-in-the-rough for the City of Chandler," said John Taylor, assistant city administrator. "This project will not only improve angler and boater access to this very scenic stretch of the Neches River, it will bring more visibility and awareness to this great natural asset."

Work is expected to begin on the project by the end of September and be completed in time for the white bass run next spring.

Mayor's Corner

WWW.CHANDLERTX.COM

Be sure and visit the new official website for the City of Chandler at www.chandler.tx.com. New and improved features and tools will help residents and visitors quickly locate information and services they need. Special requests, complaints, suggestions, compliments and other forms are only a click away. Water bills and traffic payments can also now be paid online!

As you can see from all of the articles in this newsletter, Chandler is a "happening" place this summer! It's been so exciting to see the hard work of our wonderful community volunteers and city employees come to fruition, and there are many people that deserve a great big "Thank You"...

**BMC Youth Foundation, the Park Board, our maintenance department, and the many volunteers that worked to make Chandler's first State Tournament a huge success. It was wonderful to hear all of the nice comments about our park facilities,

and how welcomed the teams felt by our community. The only drawback of the event was that teams had to stay in hotels in Athens, Tyler, Lindale and Jacksonville. We must continue our efforts to secure a local hotel.

**Nancy Bertholf and the library volunteers for a successful summer reading program for our children.

**Chandler Historical Society and City Administrator, Jim Moffeit, for the successful move of the Yarbrough House.

**Chandler Chamber of Commerce for a successful Car Show at Winchester Park and their continued efforts to showcase our local businesses.

OUR VISION

Chandler is a sustainable, full life cycle city with a balance of past, present and future; priding itself on its hometown family values. Whether raising a family, growing a business or spending your retirement years in Chandler, the community works together to provide opportunities and a dynamic future for generations to come.

**Our local churches that have engaged our children and youth in VBS, mission trips and volunteer opportunities.

I want to say an extra "Thank You" to John Taylor, our Asst. City Admin/Planner that will be leaving Chandler to further his career as a planner in Midlothian. His expertise has helped our community move forward and we appreciate him so much. We wish the Taylor Family the very best.

Blessings!
Mayor Ann Hall