



History of Chandler

Chandler was once a quiet farming community. The town is named after Dr. A.J. Chandler, who was the first veterinary surgeon for the territory of Arizona. In 1891, Dr. Chandler bought 80 acres south of Mesa. He studied irrigation engineering, and was instrumental in establishing the canals and irrigation systems in the East Valley.

By 1900, he owned an 18,000 acre ranch, but the Salt River Project charter only allowed each landowner irrigation water for 160 acres. He decided to subdivide his land, and developed a town site plan. The project became known as Chandler Ranch, and a sales office was set up in 1912. Excursion trains on the newly completed Arizona Eastern Railroad brought in well heeled speculators, who bought parcels.

The town was envisioned to be anchored by a tree-lined central park, with businesses all around it. The very elegant San Marcos Hotel was opened in 1913, on the west side of the park, and other businesses soon began filling in the west and south areas of the park. It was beginning to look like a town.

Chandler developed as an agricultural town, and long staple cotton became a major crop, used in tires during WWI. Another big item was ostrich feathers, used mostly in ladies' fashion.

Today, these products are no longer as important. Now, hi-tech electronics and engineering are the major industries. The city is a great place to live, with lots of entertainment and shopping, and a great lifestyle. Downtown has even been revitalized as a dining and business center, and is rapidly becoming a "go to" destination.



Community Spotlight

It's that time again! On December 1, 2010 18 of us volunteered our time to put up the 3 Wise Men & the star on top of A Mountain. Last year, if you got this newsletter, then you know that it was my first time doing this and I accidentally went inside the church, thinking that was where we were meeting (and not knowing what Doug looked like), and ended up sitting through the Serenity Prayer before I decided I was in the WRONG place. :) This year, I accidentally sent Billy to Phoenix. He texted me the day before, asking where the church parking lot was for "tomorrow". I thought he needed the address for the APS Light Parade church (he does a lot of coordinating of equipment set-up), and gave it to him. He wasn't too happy at me the next morning when he found out we were in Tempe, but I apologized and gave him a hug. I have a feeling there will be some story associated with this event every year now!

For all of you that came out to help, thank you SO much! Taz was there, so it was good to see him again, and Hut Hutson and Doug Roysse were also there to help me through my first year trying to get everyone together for this. To all of the TEAM members that helped: Karl Evans, Miguel Castrol, Alex Morales, Alan Gillis, Marlies Meinhold, Billy Royal, and all of the logistics crew—THANK YOU SO MUCH! I only helped to set up the star last year, which is relatively easy...granted climbing up the mountain will make you short of breath...but I helped a little bit with the camels this year and those things are SO HEAVY! Kudos to all the guys for hoisting those things up on the poles. We certainly couldn't have done it without you! We will be taking them back down again on January 5, so if any of you are interested in helping and feel like some good manual labor, you are free to meet us at the First Congregational Church at 101 E. 6th Street in Tempe at 8:30 AM to help. I can say I was all excited to see them lit up last night...I'm glad to be a part of the tradition.



Upcoming Events

DATE

VENUE

EVENT

December 3-5

Mill Ave in Tempe

Tempe Arts Festival

December 3

Downtown Phoenix

APS Fiesta of Light Electric Parade

December 3-4

Comerica Theatre

Yo Gabba Gabba

December 3-4

Murphy Park

Glendale Gingerbread Nights

December 4

Alwun House

Lighthouse

December 6

Comerica Theatre

Zappa Plays Zappa

December 10

Veteran's Park

Tolleson Holiday Festival

December 11

Downtown Tempe

DTC Boat Parade

December 11

Comerica Theatre

Brian Regen

December 18

Comerica Theatre

Christmas Pudding

December 22

Comerica Theatre

Moscow Ballet

December 31

Mill Avenue

Block Party

December 31

US Airways Center

Suns Game



APS Fiesta of Light Parade

The APS Fiesta of Light Parade is celebrating it's 24th anniversary this year. The theme this year is "Through the Eyes of a Child". The parade's brilliantly lighted collection of floats, giant balloons, marching bands, performance groups and vehicles enchants tens of thousands of spectators each year. Some entries boast 50,000 or more lights; together the entries transform central Phoenix into a holiday spectacle of light and music. The parade is a rain-or-shine event. The parade route is approximately two miles long. It begins at Central Avenue at Montebello, heads south on Central to Camelback Road, turns east to 7th Street, where it turns south to its end point at Indian School Road. Coolers are permitted, however glass and alcohol are not allowed. Also, parade attendees are encouraged to bring at least one canned food item along for St. Mary's Food Bank. Volunteers will be collecting them along the parade route, but there are also collection boxes, one at Central Ave. & Camelback, the other at 7th Street and Camelback. To read more, visit the City of Phoenix website by clicking [here](#).



Help Yourself

The winter time can cause your body some unwanted results, such as dry skin, less-than-happy moods, and just plain sickness. But there are foods you can eat to help boost your immune system during the winter months. Read [here](#) about 5 comfort foods that will help curb these.

Christmas is right around the corner—have you taken care of your Christmas shopping yet? With the economy the way it is, budgets are a little tighter this year. What can you do to save some money? Read [here](#) for 10 Ways to Save for the Holidays.

This time of the year can be very stressful. Having to worry about Christmas and if you've taken care of everything, as well as work (and for some of us, this time of the year picks up and gets very busy). So how can you manage that stress effectively? Scott Halford tells us how in his [article](#) "Top Tips for Managing Stress".



At Christmas, all roads lead home. -Marjorie Holmes



Merry Christmas!



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