

HENDERSON COUNTY IS CURRENTLY UNDER A BURN BAN

DID YOU KNOW?

**Chandler History Facts
 From 1936**

- in 1936, Chandler only had 3 churches; the First Baptist Church, Chandler Methodist Church and Macedonia Baptist Church. The town also had a white school and an African American school.
- According to *The Handbook of Texas*, in 1936 Chandler had a population of 624.
- Chandler was a thriving community in 1936 with 22 businesses. They included three filling stations, three grocery stores, two dry goods stores, a drug store, a blacksmith shop, a pool hall, a café, a shoe shop, two barbershops, a bank and a car dealership.
- Chandler citizens celebrated the Texas Centennial in 1936.

**CHANDLER TO UPGRADE
 WATER METERS**

A new program is being started in Chandler which will upgrade all existing water meters to new meters with Automated Meter Reading technology. This program will be completed as a full system-wide conversion of existing meters to new, accurate metering equipment. Some of the key components of the approach are as follows:



- A complete system-wide change out of all existing water meters
- Accurate water meters system-wide
- No more water meter misreads
- Increased water conservation
- Increased water accountability and management
- Unaccounted for water will no longer pass through inaccurate meters
- Increased meter reading efficiency
- Decreased field risks for meter reading personnel
- The City of Chandler will no longer lose revenue through inaccurate meters
- A system-wide water monitoring system with industry leading customer service capabilities

This infrastructure investment will yield revenue and labor benefits over the life of the project while enhancing customer service and reporting capabilities. The new metering system will position the City of Chandler with the most advanced automated meter reading system available today and for future management.

Presently, the city is experiencing an approximate 28% unaccounted for water loss. It is the city's estimate that out of the 28% of unaccounted water, 10% of this loss is due to inaccurate meters. In other words, accurate meters and leak prevention could decrease the city's unaccounted for water from 28% to 18%. This reduction in lost water will allow the city to receive a return on their investment in approximately four years. Installation is expected to begin in early Fall and take about three weeks to complete.

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Chandler's "About Town"

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

Looking for a job? The Texas Workforce Commission will be at the Chandler Chamber of Commerce every 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

CHANDLER CITY COUNCIL

City Council meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall and all citizens are invited to attend.

CHANDLER MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTER

Volunteers are needed Wednesday through Thursday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Chandler Museum & Visitor Center to help with light housekeeping, guided tours and assisting with display set-ups. Call Nancy Bertholf at (903)849-4122 for more information.

CHANDLER LIONS CLUB

The Chandler Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of the month at San Pedro's restaurant. Come out and meet the Lion's Club and see what they are doing in the community. Call (903)849-6056 for information.

GLOW RUN

The 2nd Annual Glow Run will be at Winchester Park on Saturday, October 24th. The 5k run will begin at dusk. There will also be live music and food concession.

BINGO

Bingo games are every Thursday beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Chandler Community Center. Call (903)849-2252 for more information.

STORYTIME AT THE PUMPKIN PATCH

Schedules for October Storytime are available at the Library. Call (903)849-4122 for more information.

CHANDLER POLICE EXPLORERS

The Chandler Police Explorers meet the 1st and 3rd

Wednesdays 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.

CHANDLER/BROWNSBORO ART GROUP

The Chandler/Brownsboro Art Group meets every Tuesday at the Chandler Community Center from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Call Lou Griffin at (903)849-3238 or Linda Harris at (903)852-3816 for more information.

CHANDLER ACTIVITY PROGRAM FOR SENIORS (CAPS)

CAPS meets in the Community Center on Tuesdays for games and activities and on Thursdays for Bingo beginning at 10:00 a.m. Call (903)849-2252 for more information.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCHEONS

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce holds their monthly luncheon on the second Thursday of every month. Call the Chamber office at (903)849-5930 for more information.

POW WOW

The Chandler Pow Wow will be held on Saturday, October 10th. The parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. Call the Chamber of Commerce at (903)849-5930 for information on how to become a vendor.

MASONIC LODGE

The Chandler Masonic Lodge No. 993 meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at 734 Hwy 315 N. Contact Ronny Lawrence at (903)477-3053 for more information.

FREE LIMB PICK-UP SERVICE

The City of Chandler offers free limb pick-up for residents on the first Monday of every month. Please call

City Hall at (903)849-6853 if you would like to take advantage of this service.

MOVIES IN THE PARK

The City of Chandler and the Chandler Chamber of Commerce will host the movie "Captain America" at the Grand Pavilion in Winchester Park on Saturday, August 22nd (903)849-5930 for more information.

CHANDLER MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTER

The Museum is in need of local handcrafted items or collections to be on loan for 3-6 months for the Gallery Room. Please contact Juanita Price at (903)714-5315 or e-mail juanitacprice@earthlink.net. Museum Hours of Operation are Wednesday-Saturday from 1:00—4:00 p.m.

RIVERFEST

The Chandler Chamber of Commerce will host the second annual Riverfest & Mud Run on September 12th. Gates open at 7:30 a.m. Call (903)849-5930 for more information.

LUNCH & LEARN

There will be a "Lunch & Learn" at the Community Center on October 20th at 12:00 noon. The topic is "Finding Your Ancestors & Recording Your Heirlooms". Contact (903)849-4122 for reservations.

CULPEPPER & MERRIWEATHER CIRCUS

The Culpepper & Merriweather Circus will be at Winchester Park on Thursday, October 22nd. Show times are at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

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 (903) 849-2252 for more information.



This service is only for the pick up of tree limbs which fall due to weather or limbs trimmed by the property owner. It is not intended to be used by commercial tree care companies. Leaves and grass clippings will continue to be picked up by the regular trash service following their restrictions of leaf bags not weighing more than 45 lbs or more with a limit of 10 bags per trash pick up.

Curbside Limb Chipping

REGULAR PICK UP DAY:

Pick up will be the first Monday of the month (weather permitting,) If delayed due to weather or for other reasons, limbs will be picked up later that week. Limbs must be placed as neatly as possible near the curb by 7:00 a.m. on the pick up day. Limbs should not be stacked for pick up for more than 10 days prior to pick up.

WHAT WILL BE PICKED UP:

Tree limbs between 2 and 10 feet in length. Limbs must not be larger than 6" in diameter.

LOCATION:

Limbs should be stacked as neatly as possible at the curb on the property from which the limbs were cut. Stacks of limbs should not be taller than 5 feet or longer or wider than 10 feet. Limbs will not be collected if not at the street.

HOW TO REQUEST SERVICE:

Request for service must be called into the city at (903)849-6853 by the Friday before the pick up day.

LIMITATIONS:

Winchester Park



Do you ever wonder about what it takes to maintain a city park or why it's so important to the City of Chandler?

In total, the City of Chandler has 70 acres of park land between 3 very diverse parks, including River Park, (nature park), McCain Park (historic park) and Winchester Park (sports park). Assuming a population of 3,000, this is 1,016 sq. ft. of park land per capita. When comparing this to other cities in the area and across the nation, Chandler ranks very high. This is one of the many things that sets Chandler apart from other cities.

Winchester Park is by far the city's largest and most active park. Winchester Park consists of approximately 35 developed acres and 15 undeveloped acres. It supports five baseball fields, a basketball court, 2 playgrounds, a 1.5 acre fishing pond, a 7,500 sq. ft. Grand Pavilion, a 750 sq. ft. Pocket Pavilion, 9 court tournament level horseshoe complex, 4 parking lots, 2 concession stands, 4 bathrooms, picnic areas with tables and a ½ mile paved walking trail with exercise stations.

This type of park takes a lot of city resources to keep it maintained and running. Electricity alone is over \$20,000 per year and over \$10,000 is used in supplies, materials and support services. When these costs are added to the cost of a full time maintenance staff member it is easy to say that the city spends over \$70,000 per year in maintaining and supporting this one park.

Over the past five years, the Chandler Economic Development Corporation and the City of Chandler have spent \$477,000 in improvement projects to continue to make this park, not only a great recreational opportunity but an economic asset to the city as well.

Recent Winchester Park projects over the last 5 years with approximate costs

- 1.5 acre Fishing Pond – City \$50,000
- Re-lamp all field lights and ballasts and repair scoreboards – City \$17,800
- New baseball field - EDC \$28,215 + City \$30,145 = \$58,360

Grand Pavilion/Restrooms/Concession - EDC \$225,866 + City \$125,000 = \$350,860

Total Special Projects = \$477,020 EDC/City

There are over \$200,000 in projects still needed at Winchester Park.

- Drainage improvements to correct Field 4 drainage - \$50,000
- Shade covers on grand stands on Field 5 and portion of the playground - \$12,000
- Reconstruction of main parking lot - \$30,000
- Lights for Field 4—\$135,000

Parks in general, are never going to be in a position to pay for themselves and Winchester Park is no exception. However, the city needs to continue to look for ways, other than taxes, to help offset these costs. The local baseball league (BMC) that bases its operations out of the park pays about \$5,500 per year in fees to the city. The Chamber of Commerce leases the concession stands for \$10,000 a year and the rental of the pavilions brings in another \$1,500 a year. However, all of this revenue does not even pay the electric bill.

For years, the city has looked for an outside baseball tournament to use the park and help offset more of the park costs. This year the city has been able to establish a relationship with an outside organ-

ization called Independent Baseball & Softball Tournaments (IBST). It is projected that this organization, which plays baseball tournaments 11 months out of the year, will have 18 to 20 tournaments a year in Chandler. Most of these will be Saturday/Sunday tournaments and the anticipated team fees to be put back into Winchester Park will be over \$36,000 per year. There is also potential to grow this relationship over time to bring in more tournaments, including softball, to our city.

Recreational tourism can have a big economic impact on the economy of Chandler. For example, one business like Whataburger can expect a \$10,000 increase in business during a tournament weekend and this is only one business out of many that will benefit. If the city had a hotel, many of these people would be spending the night here, further impacting our economy.

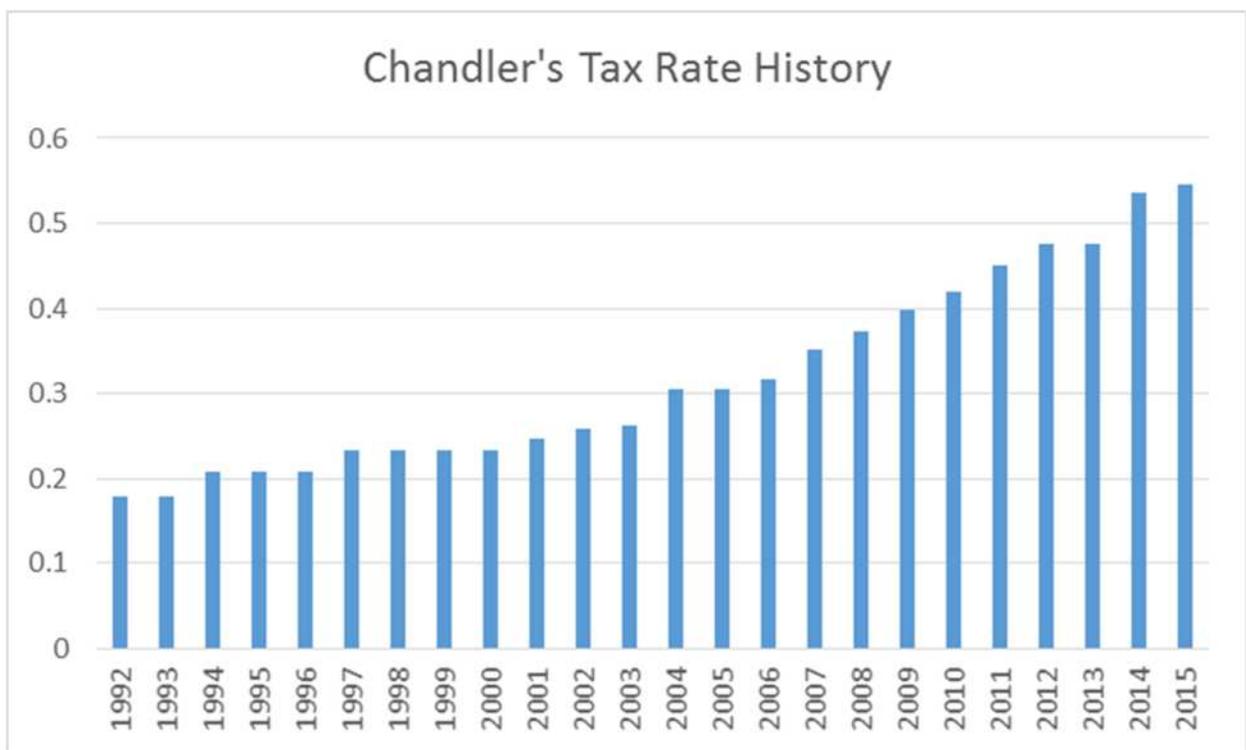
In addition, hundreds of new people will be coming into our city and some of them will decide to open businesses or move here because of what they experience while they are in our city. It is for these reasons that our local Economic Development Corporation has chosen to put its resources into the park.

The city's intention will be that the local BMC baseball league and the IBST tournament organization's schedules will be able to co-exist and not interfere with each other. The winners will be kids who use the park, the businesses in Chandler, and the taxpayers of the city.

PROPOSED 2015 TAX RATE & 2015-16 BUDGET

A taxing unit like Chandler must identify its needs and draft a budget to meet those needs. The City Council must decide the amount of property taxes necessary to fund that budget and, based on the current year's values, what rate is necessary for the general operating expenses.

Like most cities, the property tax rate has continued to increase over the years. You will notice from the chart below that when the city goes a couple of years without an increase in rates, a more substantial increase is required the following year. Since last year's increase was relatively large, this year's increase only needs to be a small one. The proposed tax rate increase is only one cent per \$100 valuation.



The current 2015 Chandler tax rate of .535603 per \$100 valuation is proposed to go to .545603 per \$100 valuation.

Example:	On a \$100,000 house, it will cost the homeowner \$10 more per year.
	On a \$150,000 house, it will cost the homeowner \$15 more per year.
	On a \$200,000 house, it will cost the homeowner \$20 more per year.

The city's full 2015-2016 Draft Budget has been placed on the city's web page (www.chandler.tx.com) for public review. Public hearings are set for August 25th and September 1st at 6:00 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Pre-School Reading Program

The Chandler Public Library has announced a new Reading Program for preschool children. "1000 Books Before Kindergarten: Read It and Reap!" will kick-off September 1st at the library. The program for preschool age children encourages parents to read and share stories on a daily basis to instill in children a love of reading as well as improving brain development.

In *The Role of Public Libraries in Children's Literacy Development*, Celano and Neuman stated that "a survey of recent literature reveals that libraries continue to play a major role in fostering literacy in our nation, particularly among those seg-

ments of the populations that need special assistance in developing literacy skills, such as pre-school and elementary school children. Public libraries are in a remarkable position to expose children to great quantities of print and meaningful language opportunities that researchers say are crucial to reading achievement. One study found that children who had been exposed to a library pre-school program showed a greater number of emergent literacy behaviors and pre-reading skills than did those in a control group".

Parents will be provided with reading logs. There will be in-



cremental rewards for achieving specific numbers and then a grand prize for reaching 1000 books before that first day of kindergarten. The Chandler Public Library also participates in the Texas State Reading Club for the summer months and promotes reading through special story times, events and even movies. The library is open daily from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Saturday.



Businesses and homeowners will be able to enter a Scarecrow Decorating Contest this fall. Scarecrows must be in front of your business or home and can include other decorations such as hay, corn, pumpkins, etc. Scarecrows will be judged on creativity, Pow Wow spir-



it and personality of the homeowner of business evident in the design.

Prizes are \$100 each for Best Business and Best Home. Entry forms are available at the Chandler Chamber of Commerce, the Chandler Public Library or Chandler City Hall. Forms are also available online at www.chandler.tx.com. Entry forms must be received by Thursday, October 1st. There is a night drop at the library and at City Hall. Judging will begin on Saturday, October 3rd.

Winners will be announced at 12:00 noon at the Grand Pavilion in Winchester Park on Saturday, October 10th during the Pow Wow.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Phase III construction of the Old Main Street Market has begun. The new building will have the same basic “shed type” profile as the Market Pavilion but will also feature brick, glass and steel panels. When complete, the new 2,856 sq. ft. building will host “The Porch” barbecue restaurant, a fresh produce shop and possibly a bakery. The building will also have an additional 264 sq. ft. screen-in area on the west end of the building to house the BBQ smoker pit and wood

supply.

Larry and Olivia Tedford have opened “The Porch” in the former “Tomato Shed Café” space until construction is complete. They are open Thursday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and sell delicious barbecue, spuds and homemade desserts.

The fresh produce shop will offer a wide variety of vegetables, fruits and nuts, with an emphasis on items

that are locally grown.

Use of railroad property has been secured with a multi-year lease which will allow plenty of parking and service access to the rear of the building and existing pavilion.



Mayor's Corner

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.

From one extreme to another, this sure has been an interesting Spring and Summer. We have had record rainfall in the Spring and triple digit temperatures over the past month. As a new school year begins, we look forward to the cooler weather. Fun times are in store for Chandler with the upcoming Fall activities, including football, volleyball, Fall baseball and the Pow Wow, just to mention a few. A new agreement with the BMC baseball league was reached and the City will be hosting Independent Baseball & Softball Tournaments (IBST) throughout the Fall.

On the business side of things, we are working diligently to bring more merchants into our

city. We are proud to see the completion of our local businesses that were under construction and the beautiful appearance they bring to our city. We look forward to the completion of the last phase of the Main Street Market. Additionally, we are proud to announce that City Hall will be getting a much needed facelift.

Please join me in praying for our teachers, students, bus drivers, police force and volunteers as we prepare for a new school year. Remember: Shop Chandler First!

Blessings to all,

Libby Fulgham, Mayor

