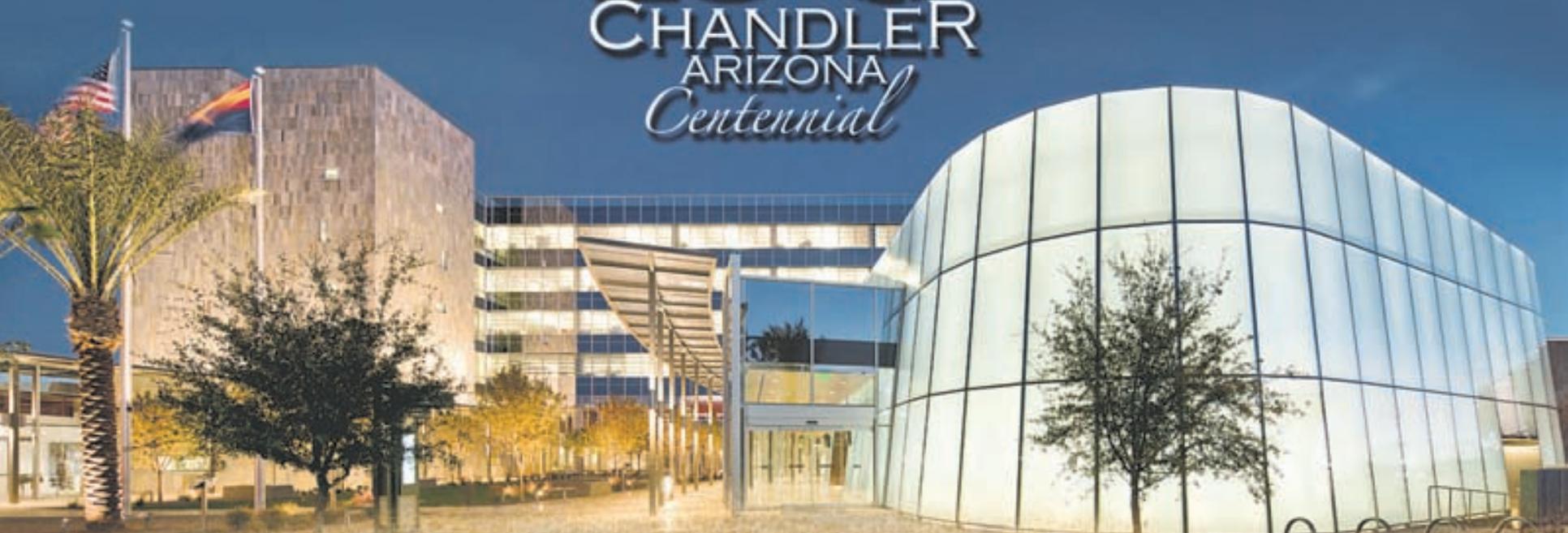


1912-2012

CHANDLER
ARIZONA
Centennial



HISTORY
COMMUNITY
INNOVATION



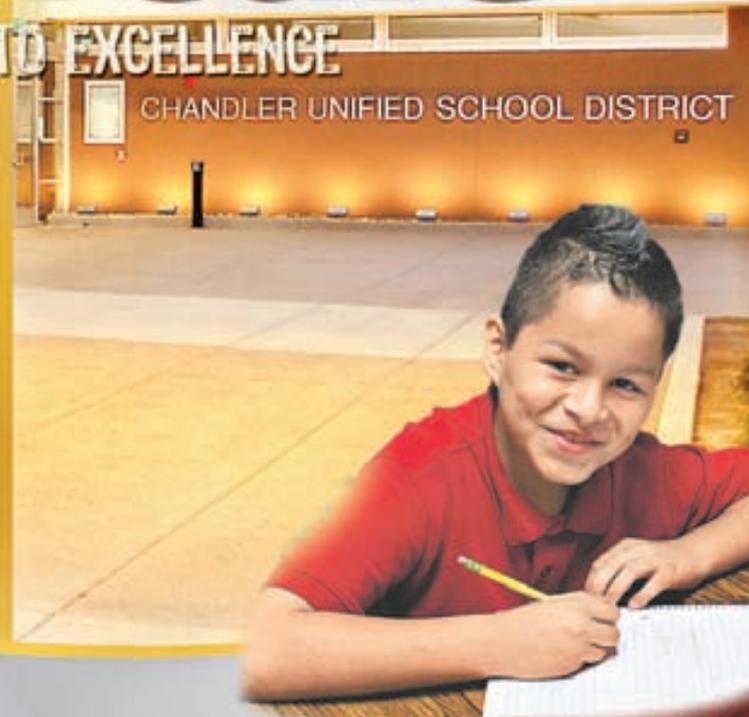
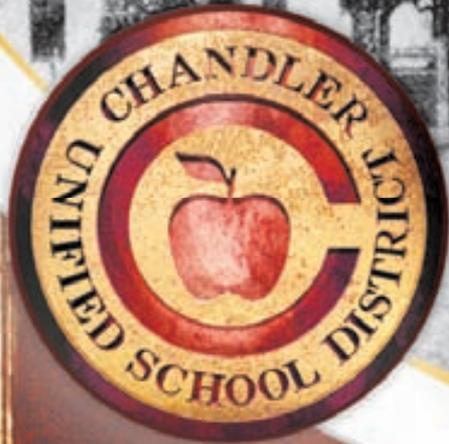
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WEEKEND MAY 17-19, 2012

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100 Years

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- ◆ Basha High Academy for grades 6-8
- ◆ Humphrey Elementary Core Knowledge – CTA
- ◆ Science and biotech classes that promote critical thinking
- ◆ Career and technical education



MyChandlerSchools.org/Choice

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REPUBLIC MEDIA CUSTOM PUBLISHING

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COVER DESIGN CONTEST WINNERS



Elements of the four winning entries in the Program Cover Design Contest were incorporated into the design on the front page. They were created by (from left): Linda Fox, John Hill, Thi Thi Nguyen, and Barbara Peacock.

Happy Birthday, Chandler!

Chandler City Council, from left; Front row: Trinity Donovan, Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, Rick Heumann. Back row: Matt Orlando, Kevin Hartke, Jack Sellers, Vice Mayor Jeff Weninger.



Celebrate CHANDLER!

You're invited to the party of the century

BY RHONDA PASCHAL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHANDLER! BUT NOT JUST ANY BIRTHDAY.

This once small town with a history rooted in agriculture, has blossomed over the decades into an economic and culturally diverse, All-America community. You are invited to celebrate Chandler's 100th birthday during the three-day Centennial Celebration Weekend, May 17-19.

The family-friendly activities start on Thursday, May 17, in the plaza at Chandler City Hall with numerous dignitaries, descendants of the city's founder, Dr. A.J. Chandler,

and other community pioneers. The "Happy 100th Birthday Chandler" celebration will include Mayor Jay Tibshraeny honoring Chandler centenarians, musical entertainment, the city's birthday cake design competition winners, and other highlights of Chandler's history. Be sure to spend some time perusing the community birthday cards designed by local elementary and high school students. And, what better way to commemorate this historic occasion than to dedicate a 50-year time capsule and Centennial plaque?

Bring the family to historic Downtown Chandler for an evening of art, history and culture during the "100 Artists Celebrating

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>> From page 3

100 Years” event on Friday, May 18. Take a stroll along the colonnade walkways and enjoy an expanded Friday Art Walk, featuring the work of local artists, a Farmer’s Market, and food and

entertainment. It is also a night where the Centennial sponsors will be recognized by the Mayor and Council for their generous support.

“We could not celebrate our centennial appropriately without the generous contributions of our many sponsors from

Admission to all of the Centennial Celebration Weekend activities is free. Go to chandler100th.com for more information.



our business community and service organizations,” said Mayor Tibshraeny. “In addition, we are grateful to the many community members who have stepped up to volunteer their time to make our yearlong celebration a huge success.”

The “Chandler Bash of the Century” at Tumbleweed Park is the place to be on Saturday, May 19, so plan to spend the day enjoying live entertainment, performances by local musicians and dance groups, and playing classic games. When was the last time you competed in a pie eating contest or three-legged race? The day’s festivities also will include exhibits that highlight the city’s agricultural history, hands-on art activities for the entire family, stargazing, a flyover by historic airplanes, and a fireworks finale. Check out the Family Fun Zone where kids can enjoy bouncy castles, an inflatable obstacle course, a BMX bike show and other activities. Local vendors will be on hand selling food, drinks and Centennial merchandise.

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Kids



Celebrating Chandler's history, culture and legacy

BY JAKE POINIER

IT'S DAUNTING TO PUT

yourself in the shoes of Dr. Alexander John Chandler, a Quebec native overlooking the desert expanse of the Arizona Territory back in the summer of 1887, and envisioning a bustling city among the creosote and cactus. Yet, enormous visions can come from the unlikely of places, as the former livestock inspector and veterinarian came to prove.

In May of 1912, just three months after Arizona became the 48th state, the town of Chandler was created — with fewer than 500 citizens. “People had to be pretty resourceful and tough back then,” says lifelong Chandler resident Norman Knox, whose relatives settled as farmers in the 1890s. “My dad and his three siblings were born and lived in a tent house, with no running water or electricity.”

In subsequent years, agriculture began to take off, particularly with the arrival of

Chandler and Bashas' — two names that've nearly always been linked.



The Basha family came to rural Arizona in 1910, but it wasn't long before patriarch Najeeb realized the family's future was in Chandler. In 1920, he opened a store on the corner of Boston and Washington. Twelve years later, sons Ike and Eddie Sr. opened a store of their own in the Ocotillo area. And because it was a family affair, they gave it the plural possessive of the family name – Bashas'.

As Chandler celebrates its 100th birthday, Bashas' marks its 80th. Although we now have stores in every Arizona county, our corporate office and distribution center remain here in town. Chandler will always be home.

Happy Birthday, Chandler. In our humble opinion, we're both looking pretty good for our age.



World War I and the increased demand for cotton from the West. In addition, through the 1920s, Chandler began to come into its own as a tourist destination, with the growing popularity of the San Marcos Hotel and its grass golf course. As had been the case with the previous war, World War II was a boom time for the Chandler area, with the construction of nearby Williams Air Field and the influx of service men to the area.

Today, Chandler's evolution into an All-America city might even surprise the visionary doctor after whom it's named. Agriculture still thrives, but modern-day high-tech Chandler is now better known for its business-friendly environment—and for its manufacturing, electronics, computer technology, and financial services sectors rather than its crops and livestock. "Intel and Motorola coming to Chandler was a major shift," said Jim Patterson, mayor of Chandler from 1980-84.

"There was no question change was coming, so it was really a matter of planning and ensuring the infrastructure

would accommodate a diversity of employment for the future."

Since the early 1990s, Chandler has experienced amazing growth, ranking among the fastest-growing cities in the country. Indeed, nearly 100,000 homes dot the landscape in the Centennial year. The population has surged to nearly 240,000 residents who enjoy an ethnically diverse community with a revitalized, yet historic downtown (listed on the National Register of Historic Places), a Center for the Arts that attracts national performers, exceptional schools, top-notch healthcare, new parks, restaurants and retail centers.

Fittingly, it's also a city proud of its cultural roots, which are promoted through the Chandler Museum, 1938 McCullough-Price House and Tumbleweed Ranch. And among the many yearly events that draw visitors from across the country, Dr. Chandler might best appreciate that there's even a hat-tip to the city's roots with the annual Ostrich Festival. A tradition started in 1957 continues each year with the building of a community

DESERT DIAMOND

Dr. Alexander John Chandler's aspirations didn't stop with creating a model "City Beautiful;" he also sought to create a resort capable of attracting the rich and famous from around the world.

Named the San Marcos Hotel — after Friar Marcos de Niza, who ventured from Mexico City to search for the legendary "Cities of Gold" in the 1500s — the Arthur Burnett Benton-designed resort opened its doors in 1913. With all the trappings of luxury, from Arizona's first grass golf course to tennis and equestrian sports, from quaint afternoon tea to lavish social events, the resort was received with fanfare in its early years by dignitaries, socialites and Hollywood stars.



The resort has continued to evolve over its century of hosting the who's-who as well as ordinary folks looking for an elegant escape. Significant changes occurred in 1986, when the property was renamed the San Marcos Golf Resort and then added to the National Register of Historic Places. Today, it remains the downtown anchor to more than 20 award-winning independent restaurants, art galleries and boutique shops. It is a city center that remains true to Dr. A.J. Chandler's vision of a desert oasis.

Christmas Tree made of tumbleweeds.

"It's a very generational town," says Dorothy Woods Ruoff, whose family owned the old movie theaters in downtown Chandler. "Some of today's

Chandler High School graduates have great-grandparents who went there. It's just amazing, all of these folks with a connection to this funny little town that Dr. Chandler created."

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Chandler on 100 years!





“We thank the following sponsors and partners for their generous support of Chandler’s

Centennial Celebration. It is wonderful to see Chandler’s business and civic leaders come forward to make this time in our City’s history very special indeed.”

Mayor Jay Tibshraeny



Chandler Centennial sponsors and partners

Dr. A.J. Chandler Level



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Mayor Jay Tibshraeny and City Council

AR-000775607-01

San Marcos Level



San Tan Level

Chandler Chamber of Commerce
 CH2MHILL
 Crafc
 di Sciacca Glass Gallery
 First Credit Union
 Flores Wealth Management

Orbital Sciences Corporation
 Rockefeller Group Development Corporation
 Santan Sun News
 Studio Creations
 Whole Foods

Ocotillo Level

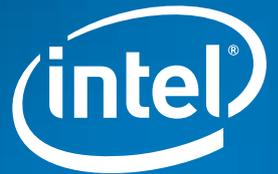


Tumbleweed Level

Nationwide Vision Centers
 Chandler Rotary Club
 Crowne Plaza San Marcos Golf Resort

Ostrich Level

Harkins Theatres
 Kiwanis Club of Chandler
 Chandler Quilting Guild



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Centennial Events

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HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, CHANDLER!

May 17, 2012, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Chandler City Hall Complex, 175 South Arizona Avenue

- 4:30-5 p.m. DreamCatchers Acappella Quartet
- 5:05-5:20 p.m. Basha Elementary School Students
- 5:30-5:45 p.m. Chandler Centennial Choir
- 5:45-6:15 p.m. Official Ceremony
- 6:15-6:30 p.m. Chandler Centennial Choir

ACTIVITIES
Musical entertainment
Centennial booths & merchandise
City information booths
Sign the Centennial birthday cards

Museum history exhibit
Make your own birthday card & 100th birthday gift
Photo booth with souvenir photos
Lights snacks, beverages & birthday cake

Scavenger hunt, historic home tours, Chuckwagon demonstrations, agricultural history booths, corn crop tours, and Model Ts on display.

X TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS: Chicago St. will be closed between Arizona Ave. and Washington St. on May 17, from noon to 8 p.m.

CHANDLER ART WALK: 100 ARTISTS CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!

May 18, 2012, 4 to 10 p.m.

Downtown Chandler, West side of Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 3 South Arizona Avenue

Commonwealth Avenue Stage

- 4-5 p.m. String Theory
- 5:15-6:15 p.m. Chandler Children's Choir
- 6:30-7:20 p.m. The Dance Loft
- 7:30-8 p.m. NJ Harris Cookbook Presentation
- 8:15-10 p.m. Spruce Top Trio

ACTIVITIES

Entertainment
Vendors selling art, crafts, jewelry, etc.
Food & beverage vendors
Centennial booths & merchandise
Sign the Centennial birthday cards
Museum history exhibits
Photo booth with souvenir photos
Downtown businesses will be open

NJ Harris Cookbook Presentation:
Receive a copy of this limited edition cookbook beginning at 6 p.m. Cookbooks are FREE available on a first come, first served basis until they run out. Get your copy signed by Coy Harris, former Mayor of Chandler.

Boston Street Stage

- 4-5:30 p.m. Sandy Hathaway
- 6-7:30 p.m. Heidi Berryman
- 8-10 p.m. Wikked Rev

Buffalo Street Stage

- 4-5:30 p.m. The Low Men
- 6-8 p.m. Ken Caviaasca
- 8:30-10 p.m. Blair Olsen Duo

X TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS: The following streets will be closed on May 18, 2012 beginning at 4 a.m. and re-opening on May 19, 2012 at 2 a.m.:
Boston St. between Arizona Ave. and Oregon St.
Buffalo St between Arizona Ave. and Oregon St.
San Marcos Place between Boston St. and Buffalo St.
Commonwealth Ave. between San Marcos Place and Oregon St.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY

1890s

1893

Consolidated Canal is built through the East Valley, under Dr. A.J. Chandler's management.



1910s

1912

Dr. A.J. Chandler opens the town of Chandler.

Population est. 480

1913

San Marcos Hotel opens to wealthy winter visitors.



1917

Goodyear Tire Co. creates a small company town and establishes 6,000-acre cotton ranch in today's south Chandler area.

1920s

1922

Chandler High School opens, only high school in the city for 76 years.



1940s

1941-1942

Williams Air Field (Base) opens east of town, bringing business and growth to Chandler.



P

Downtown Chandler Parking

Chandler Office Center Parking

Structure: South side of Buffalo St. and east of Arizona Ave.

North Side Surface Parking

Lots: North side of Buffalo St. on both sides of Arizona Ave.

South Side Surface Parking

Lots: North side of Chicago St. on west side of Arizona Ave.

First Credit Union Parking

Structure: North side of Boston St. and east of Arizona Ave.

Fire Department Parking Lot:

South side of Boston St. and east side of Washington St.

Chandler Police & Courts

Parking Lot: North side of Chicago St. and east side of Washington St.

City Hall Parking Structure:

Enter on Washington St. between Frye Rd. and Chicago St.

San Tan Regional Courts

Parking Lot: South side of Chicago St. east of Washington St.

CHANDLER BASH OF THE CENTURY

May 19, 2012, 4 to 10 p.m.

Tumbleweed Park, 2250 S. McQueen Road

Main Stage

4-4:30 p.m.
4:35-4:45 p.m.
5:00-6:40 p.m.
7:25-8:05 p.m.
8:30-10 p.m.
9 p.m.

Rock Chamber
Madi Esteves
Arizona Bop Cats
Talent Team Chandler
The Chubby Dog Band
Fireworks

Birthday Games

4:30-5:05 p.m.
5:25-6 p.m.
6:20-6:55 p.m.
7:30-8 p.m.
8:20-8:55 p.m.

Pillow Sack Races
Three Legged Races
Relay Races
Water Balloon Toss
Pie Eating Contests

ACTIVITIES

Birthday Games: Kids of all ages can participate in the birthday games taking place throughout the afternoon and evening.

Kids Games – Ages 5 and under

Participants can play as many games as they would like; no registration. just show up and enjoy the fun. Games include:
Musical Chairs
Sponge Relay
Limbo Game
Silly Races – like balance an object on your head and spoon races

Youth/Adult Games – Ages 6+

For these games, there are multiple age groups, and participants can only register for one game. For the team games, all team members must be in the same age category. Registration begins at 4 p.m. and is on a first come, first served basis. Games and times are listed above.

Family Fun Zone: Inflatable amusements, a dunk tank, and more!

Chandler Experience: Explore our history through exhibits and unique artifacts. Enjoy art activities, Centennial birthday cards, and buy official Centennial merchandise.

TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS: Ryan Road will be closed between Arizona Avenue and McQueen Road on May 19, from noon to 11 p.m.



TUMBLEWEED RANCH ACTIVITIES (Southeast corner of Tumbleweed Park)

Solar and Star Telescope Viewing: Presented by the East Valley Astronomy Club. Solar viewing begins at 6 p.m.; Star viewing begins after sunset, ends at 10 p.m.

Agricultural and Ranch History: Presented by the Chandler Museum and Chandler Future Farmers of America (FFA).

Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and picnic supplies (no alcohol, no glass containers).

Population est. 3,700

1950s

1957

at Tumbleweed Christmas Tree built.



Population est. 10,000

1960s

1967

Rogers Corporation, forerunner of our present day hi-tech industry, opens in Chandler, producing electromagnetic materials.

Population est. 30,000

1980s

1980

First Intel plant opens in Chandler.



Population est. 90,000

1990s

1990

Coy Payne elected, first African American in the state to serve as mayor of a city.



Population est. 176,000

2000-Present

2001

Chandler Fashion Center opens, Chandler's first major mall.

2010

New Chandler City Hall Complex is dedicated.



2012

Population est. 238,451

Downtown Chandler exudes history, with a dose of modern charm

By Gremlyn Bradley-Waddell

If Dr. A.J. Chandler were around today, he'd be impressed with the way his namesake city has grown from a sleepy farming outpost into a vibrant, tech-friendly community — all without leaving behind its small-town charm.

He probably wouldn't recognize the present-day downtown area, which was comprised of a few small houses



the DC DOWNTOWN CHANDLER

www.downtownchandler.org

when he opened the townsite office in 1912. But a bustling central core full of a variety of merchants is surely what Dr. Chandler envisioned, and that's exactly what the city's modern business district offers. Visitors can enjoy fine dining and one-of-a-kind retail experiences in the centralized plaza that still boasts historic charm. South of the historic area, Olde Towne Market Square maintains the quaint early-1900s charm with businesses now located in former houses.



Entrepreneur incubator, Gangplank, also calls downtown Chandler home and brings growing technology innovation to the area. Frequent community events, like Thursday-evening farmers markets and monthly third Friday art walks, further add to the lively downtown scene.

Although there have been dramatic changes to the city through the years, some things remain comfortingly familiar. The grand Hotel San Marcos that Dr. Chandler conceived as a resort drew the wealthy to this sun-drenched spot. Now known as the Crowne Plaza San Marcos Golf

Resort, this Mission-inspired beauty that opened in 1913 still graces the downtown area and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

As for the city's future, it's sure to continue at its currently booming pace. Thanks to ongoing revitalization efforts, downtown Chandler boasts one of the lowest vacancy rates in the state, and business will certainly only surge when Arizona State University and the University of Arizona build their satellite campuses in the next year.

By now, everyone knows that downtown Chandler is the place to be!

Century of art

Love Chandler and great art? Be sure to check out 100 Artists Celebrating 100 Years, an exciting, Centennial-themed art walk experience from 4 to 10 p.m., Friday, May 18 in the downtown area. Food, entertainment, Centennial booths and merchandise will further enhance the event. For further information, please visit downtownchandler.org or contact 480-855-3539.

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A YEAR TO REMEMBER

Overview of Chandler Centennial Activities

BY GREMLYN BRADLEY-WADDELL

LET'S FACE IT — CHANDLER KNOWS HOW TO THROW A PARTY! Longtime residents and newcomers, young and old — everyone has been invited to be a part of the city's 100th birthday, which is officially May 17, 2012.

We will kick off Chandler's Centennial Celebration Weekend that evening, followed by a night of 100 Artists Celebrating 100 Years in the historic downtown on Friday, May 18, and the big Bash of the Century on Saturday, May 19 at Tumbleweed Park. But there is much more to Chandler's Centennial festivities! It is a year-long celebration filled with family-oriented events, traveling exhibits, contests, history projects and more that the Chandler Centennial Steering Committee

developed based on your suggestions! Here are some of the completed and ongoing Centennial projects that are commemorating our city's history, innovation and community spirit.

Centenarians

Chandler residents who will be 100 years or older in 2012 are being honored during the Celebration Weekend and beyond. Those identified so far are: Dorothy Dulin, Jan. 22, 1906; Maynard White, May 8, 1907; Irene Richer, May 20, 1912; Grace Bristol, Aug. 2, 1912; Verla Morris, Aug. 24, 1912; Chrystal Gockel, Aug. 31, 1912; Ione Maxson, Sept. 1, 1912; Helene Zagar, Oct. 2, 1907; Elizabeth Lawton, Nov. 12, 1912; Jennie Marie Clitty, Dec. 28, 1912. Read their stories at www.chandler100th.com.



Chandler Senior Quilters Guild crafted a special Centennial Quilt.

Quilt Project

Using the power of pictures, the talented artisans of the Chandler Senior Quilters Guild crafted a special Centennial Quilt in honor of the city's 100 years. The handi-

work is on display at Chandler City Hall and will also be displayed in other city facilities throughout the rest of the year.

Continued page 14 >>

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the Chandler community.
Happy 100th Anniversary!



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>> From page 13

Southside Neighborhood History Cookbook

The Southside neighborhood — bordered by Arizona Avenue and Hidalgo Street to the west and east, Frye and Pecos roads to the north and south — is considered one of the city's most historic and diverse areas.

With help from a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council, the city solicited recipes from families with roots in the neighborhood to create *Southside Neighborhood — 100 Years of Recipes and Stories*. The book celebrates the area's food and culture, while sharing family narratives amidst the pages, making it a history book as well. Copies of the cookbook will be given away free during the 100 Artists Celebrating 100 Years event



Southside Neighborhood — 100 Years of Recipes and Stories will be given out free

on May 18. The cookbook will also be available on the city's website.

Chandler Centennial Scholarship

Listen up, local college students — this information could pay off! The city, in partnership with Chandler-Gilbert Community College (CGCC), is awarding \$500 Chandler Centennial scholarships to qualifying Chandler residents who will attend CGCC this fall. The total number of scholarships will depend on the total amount of donations received. Want to help out? The scholarship application,

and other ways to donate, can be found at www.chandler100th.com. Applications are due by May 25.

Sharing Our History

The Chandler Museum produced a new history book, a collection of traveling exhibits, and an online history archive called ChandlerpediA. Learn more at www.chandlermuseum.org.

Century Ride

More than 400 people of all ages and abilities participated in the largest bicycling event in the city's history in April.

Centennial Contests

Chandler residents enjoy a spirited competition! Since last fall, folks of all ages have taken part in fun (and even funky!) contests dedicated to the city's 100th birthday. For example...

More than 1,500 Chandler students in kindergarten through twelfth-grade picked

up crayons, paints and markers to create cheery and colorful birthday artwork for the Birthday Card Cover Contest. The winning designs are featured on large birthday cards that the public can sign.

Artistically inclined adults also got into the act through the Commemorative Program Cover Design Contest. Elements of the four winning entries have been incorporated into the design on the



Century Ride

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cover of this publication.

You can't have a birthday without cake — and the more cakes the better, right? Two cake design contests were held, one for the public and the other was a friendly competition between the four bakeries of the Bashas' Family of Stores — two Bashas', an AJ's Fine Foods and a Food City — in Chandler. Judges chose the public winner, and the public chose the winner among the Bashas' Family of Stores entries. The winning Centennial-inspired designs will be recreated and dished out to hungry revelers at the Happy 100th Birthday Chandler! Celebration on May 17 at City Hall Plaza.

In a nod to city founder Dr. A.J. Chandler and his healthy sideburns-grown-into-a-mustache look, The Whiskerino Contest is among area gentlemen to see who can grow the best beard. The three-man teams started on February 7th and the hope-to-be-hirsute

fellows will have, uh, a face-off on May 19 at the Chandler Bash of the Century at Tumbleweed Park.

Time Capsule

Most traditional time capsules are metal boxes buried in dirt... and, on occasion, forgotten about or even lost. The one made for Chandler's Centennial Celebration by glass artist B.J. Katz won't face that kind of fate at all. The 2012-2062 Chandler Time Capsule case will feature a unique architectural-style, opaque glass design, and it will not be buried. Instead, the capsule will be placed on a pedestal, displayed in City Hall and other facilities over the next five decades. Chandler residents, businesses and other institutions submitted items for possible inclusion in the time capsule, and the chosen items will be sealed in the capsule during the Happy 100th Birthday Chandler! Celebration on May 17.



You Don't Look a Day over 20

100

Happy Centennial Chandler

1912 - 2012

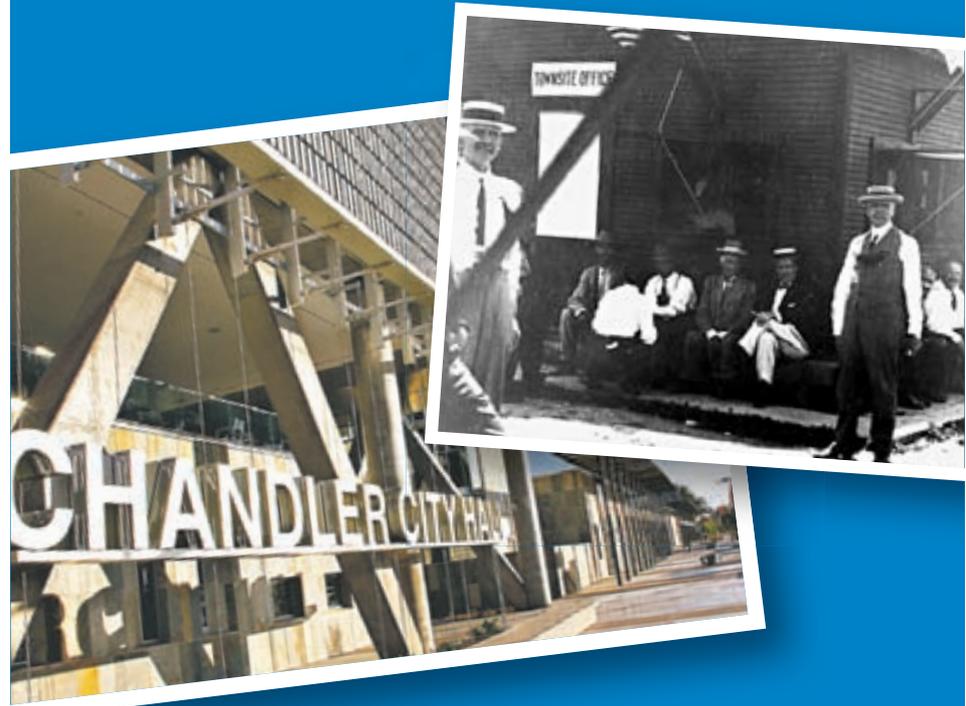
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CHANDLER

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CHANDLER'S BEGINNINGS Sowed from the land and the sky

History is rich in families and farming

BY STEPHANIE CONNER

WHEN DR. ALEXANDER JOHN CHANDLER CAME TO THE SALT RIVER VALLEY

IN 1887, he set about developing a farming community — extending the East Valley canal system, studying irrigation and buying land. He ultimately owned an 18,000-acre ranch, and on May 17, 1912, he opened the Chandler town site and began selling parcels of his ranch to prospective farmers and investors.

That farming community remained intact for most of Chandler's 100 years. Farming was the main economic driver in Chandler until the 1980s, when the scale tipped more toward manufacturing and high-tech businesses.

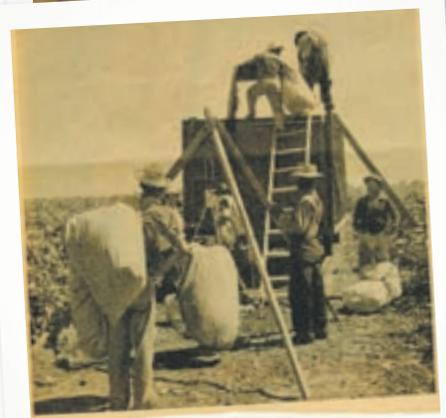
Chandler's Agricultural Past

Early on, cotton was a key crop for the city. Grown by well-known Chandler farmers like the Knox family, cotton became especially significant during World War I.

Local cotton production sparked the interest of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Corporation, which needed cotton fiber for manufacturing tires. Goodyear bought 8,000 acres south of Chandler, and soon the company town of Goodyear flourished in what is present-day Ocotillo. The Basha family opened its first grocery store there in 1932, now the site of the Bashas' corporate offices.

Other farming families like the Bogles and the Dobsons raised cattle, sheep and crops.

Dairies, too, were common in Chandler. Small dairies on family farms were replaced by the 1960s by larger operations — such as the Hamstras' dairy,



Historic photos courtesy of the Chandler Museum.

which sat on the southwest corner of Gilbert and Pecos roads for 40 years before the family sold it in 2005.

Land and Sky

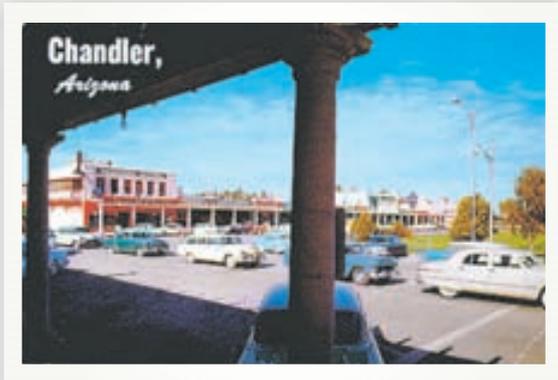
The Chandler Airport started in the 1920s, and in '48, moved to its present location — where it functioned for years as a hub for crop dusters and pilot training. In addition, many of the local farming

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

Historic Downtown Chandler continues to evolve and change, but a few things remain the same.

San Marcos Hotel – A jewel in the desert, the San Marcos Hotel, continues to serve as a reminder of Chandler’s past. The hotel is a long-standing example of Dr. A.J. Chandler’s vision that Chandler wasn’t just a farming town — but a resort destination for winter visitors. The San Marcos had the state’s first grass golf course, which opened in 1914 — just a year after the hotel itself opened.

Serrano’s Mexican Food – Since 1919, the Serrano family had owned several clothing stores, including a downtown Chandler shop.



In 1979, the family opened their first restaurant right behind their downtown Chandler store. Ultimately, they closed their clothing operations and moved forward as restaurateurs. In addition to their popular Serrano’s locations, the family owns Brunchie’s, a breakfast and lunch

restaurant in downtown Chandler.

Saba’s – Saba’s Western Store opened in downtown Chandler in 1927. Now with nine locations, Saba’s sells Western clothing — such as hats, boots and more — for men, women and children.



families — names like Sossaman, Schnepf and Riggs — also had airplanes. Many were members of the so-called “Flying Farmers” who used the Chandler Airport from its earliest days.

Today, the city is working to build the business community around the Chandler Airport and develop the airport area into a thriving commercial center.

World War II and Beyond

The skies over Chandler were also a training ground for pilots stationed at Williams Air Force Base, which opened in 1941.

Service members traveled into Chandler to catch the latest movie, shop or have dinner. Chandler became their home-away-from-home, and many settled here during and after World War II.



Farming and small business remained a strong foundation for the community in the decades after WWII. The base, which produced more than 25,000 pilots, closed in 1993. Yet when it did, Chandler didn’t become a ghost town. That’s because the city was slowly moving away from its agricultural roots, and diversifying its economic base. Chandler became one of the fastest growing cities in the nation in the ‘80s, ‘90s and into the early 2000s.

Today, Chandler remains focused on sustaining and enhancing its high-tech and financial services industries. But rural areas remain an important part of our city, where Chandler’s agricultural past meets the ever-changing present.

Happy 100th BIRTHDAY, CHANDLER



My, how you’ve grown!

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

FASCINATING facts and figures

Courtesy of visitchandler.com and City of Chandler, Public History Coordinator's files



Since its opening in 1989, more than **2 million people** have walked through the doors of the Chandler Center for the Arts. The center is jointly owned by the city of Chandler and the Chandler Unified School District, which provides the students with the opportunity to perform in a world-class theatre.



Chandler uses water from 22 wells operating in the city. Chandler's oldest drinking water well is the Erie well, which has been in service since 1948. Over time, it has produced an estimated **8.614 billion gallons** of drinking water.

There are **15,106 street signs** in Chandler. The signs are included in an inventory that is entered and used by the city's Geographic Information System (GIS).



When Chandler Fashion Center opened in 2001, it incorporated **2,007 cacti**, 11,490 ground cover plants, and a whopping 17,820 shrubs and 8 million pounds of steel.



Chandler Center for the Arts



2012-2013 Sneak Peek

January 2013

26 Cesar Millan: *The Dog Whisperer* . . . 7:30pm

February 2013

9 Wayne Newton 7:30pm

23 Vicki Lawrence and Mama:
A Two Woman Show 7:30pm

March 2013

2 John Schneider & Tom Wopat
Formerly The Dukes 7:30pm

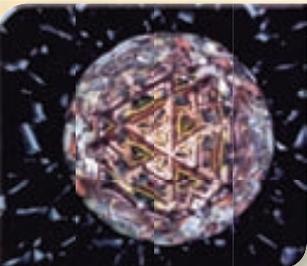
23 Tony Orlando In Concert 7:30pm

16 ROOTS AND BOOTS: *Featuring Sammy
Kershaw, Joe Diffie & Aaron Tippin* . . . 7:30pm

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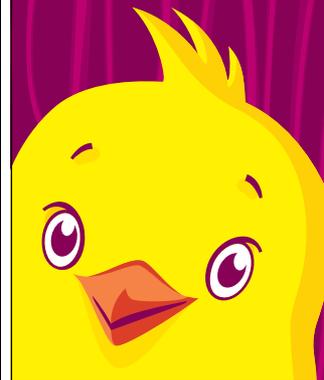


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Have you ever heard of Folley Park? This park was named after **Zora Folley**, a former city councilmember and heavyweight boxer who once fought Muhammad Ali.



A.J. Chandler was the first in the state to experiment with **solar power**.



Architect Frank Lloyd Wright and Dr. A.J. Chandler had drawn up plans for a **second San Marcos Resort** in 1930, "San Marcos in the Desert," but the resort was never built due to the Great Depression



When Dr. Alexander J. Chandler founded the Town on May 17, 1912, he created one of the most advanced irrigation systems in the country, converting the dry desert into farmable land.



The gray water produced by Chandler high-tech companies like Intel, who just recently opened FAB 32, provides the water for all the lakes of Ocotillo.



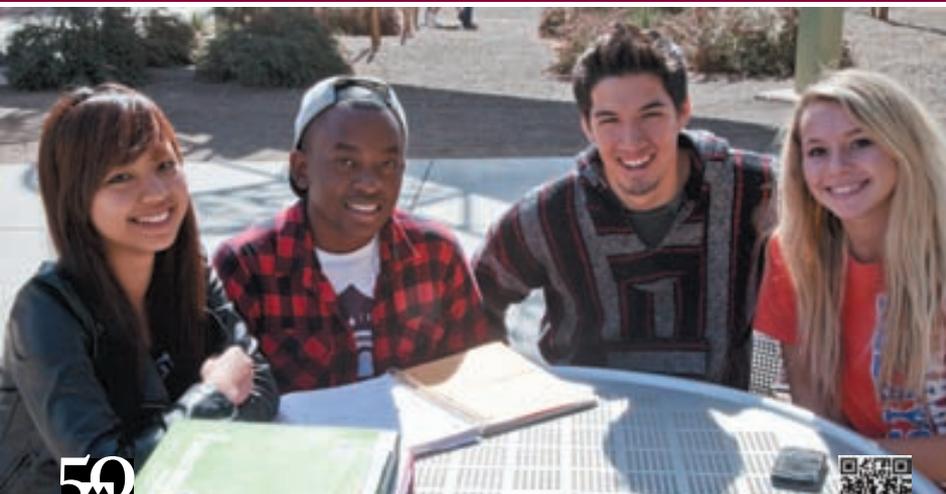
The first Ostrich Festival was held in **1988**.

A Southwest tradition for more than 50 years, the annual Tumbleweed tree is constructed from **1,500-2,000 tumbleweeds**, 1,200 lights, 65 pounds of glitter, and 25 lbs. of paint.



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