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## 2016 Mayor's Listening Tour

### Spring Meeting

Tuesday, April 12  
Knox Gifted Academy  
700 W. Orchid Lane  
7 p.m.

### Fall Meeting

Tuesday, Sep. 13  
Hartford Sylvia Encinas Elementary  
700 N Hartford St.  
7 p.m.



## Neighborhood News

The winners of the 3rd annual Mayor Tibshraeny's Neighborhood Excellence Awards will be announced at my April 12<sup>th</sup> Listening Tour stop at Knox Gifted Academy. I

hope you will join me that evening as we celebrate all that is great about our City's neighborhoods and the special people who live here.

Thanks to all of our neighborhood leaders who continue to invest time in their communities – but also for taking the time to apply. There were many fascinating stories told within the applications, as you will hear that night. The event begins at 7 p.m. in the school's Multipurpose Room. Knox is located at 700 W. Orchid Lane.

Thanks also to our Neighborhood Advisory Committee who was instrumental in developing this awards program three short years ago. This is a

group of community volunteers who are very active in working to address neighborhood issues and concerns on the City Council's behalf.

It will be a busy spring. My annual Health Expo takes place on Saturday, March 19, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Tumbleweed Recreation Center. As always, we will have dozens of vendors from the health and wellness community, great raffle prizes, interesting demonstrations and more. Our friends at Dignity Health are sponsors again and we appreciate their support. The Chandler Police Department will be doing fingerprinting for kids – a great service to help give parents piece of mind.

Other March events include the Ostrich Festival, Family Easter Celebration and Senior Expo – a little something for everyone! For more details on these events and others, visit [chandleraz.gov](http://chandleraz.gov). And, as always, please follow me on Twitter at [twitter.com/jaytibshraeny](https://twitter.com/jaytibshraeny) for more news on our community.

*Mayor Jay Tibshraeny*

## General Plan Update

City leaders are eager to hear from residents interested in Chandler's updated General Plan. A draft of the General Plan will be the subject of two public hearings in March. The goal of the updated General Plan is to ensure that the high standard of community building set by past plans and decisions are upheld going forward. The draft plan is a refinement of the previously adopted General Plan approved by voters in 2008.

A draft of the updated plan is available for public review at [chandleraz.gov/GPupdate](http://chandleraz.gov/GPupdate) and at Chandler libraries, the Transportation & Development

Department and the City Clerk's Office. Comments can be submitted online or emailed to [david.delatorre@chandleraz.gov](mailto:david.delatorre@chandleraz.gov).

Wednesday, March 9  
Tumbleweed  
Recreation Center  
745 E. Germann Road  
6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 16  
City Council  
Chambers  
88 E. Chicago St.  
5:30 p.m.

## SPECIAL EVENTS!

### Spring Break Time

The spring Break Time magazine outlining all-ages recreation classes, youth camps and special events for March, April and May is available at City offices, libraries, recreation and aquatic centers and online.

For more information, call 480-782-2727 or visit [chandleraz.gov/breaktime](http://chandleraz.gov/breaktime)

### Mayor's Health Connect

Saturday, March 19  
9 a.m. - Noon

Tumbleweed Recreation Center  
745 E. Germann Road  
Refresh, renew and recharge with a healthy approach by attending the Health Connect Expo. This free, family friendly event will feature health conscious vendors, fitness, cooking demonstrations and more! For more information, call 480-782-2243 or visit [chandleraz.gov/connect](http://chandleraz.gov/connect)

### HOA Academy

March 23 - April 13 (Wednesdays)  
Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
Environmental Education Center  
4050 E. Chandler Heights Road  
This academy is for residents living in a Homeowner's Association (HOA), and who are interested in learning more about HOA law. For more information or to register, call 480-782-4354 or visit [chandleraz.gov/neighborhoods](http://chandleraz.gov/neighborhoods)

## Building Friendships in Neighborhoods



I moved to Chandler in the summer of 2005 from Chicago. It was jarring. You may think it was due to

the extreme heat, but it was actually the cold. This was a different sort of cold than I was accustomed to. My perception, as I drove the neighborhood, was that no one was interested in knowing their neighbors. Where were the children playing and elderly ladies sitting in front of their doors watching the comings and goings of the neighborhood?

In an interview about his book, *In the Neighborhood*, author Peter Lovenheim, stated "There is a pervasive fear of strangers today, we are much more likely to think of strangers as a potential threat than a potential friend." I happen to be one of those people that strike up conversations with strangers, to the extent that I have been dubbed "the friend collector." I often joke that my idea of heaven is a street where all of my closest friends and family live. There may be truth in that statement. Neighborhoods where people know one another are safer, more vibrant and foster a greater sense of community.

When I moved to Chandler, I met Bob and his wife, Taka. They invited me over for dinner and I wanted to return the favor, but had no furniture. To my surprise, they lent me their extra table. A year later when I moved, I returned their table and we bid one another a fond farewell. Recently, I rode my bike to the store, only to find that the items I had purchased would not fit in my basket. I walked home with the shopping cart and was heading back to return it, when my next door neighbors, unprompted, offered to put the cart in their flatbed truck and drive me back to the store. People are kinder than we give them credit for.

What I perceived as the cold shoulder, was really an opportunity for me to take the first step. Neighbors, like anyone else, are potential friends! With that shift in perspective, I attended the Traditional Neighborhood Academy and registered my neighborhood. Through our neighborhood meetings, I have met great people. We have planned events together, re-established our Block Watch program and are excited about the online community on our Nextdoor site. Several of my neighbors joined me for New Year's Eve. Warmed by the fire, I smiled, knowing that this was, perhaps, the beginning of beautiful friendships.

*Eshé Pickett  
Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC)*

## Inspection & Maintenance of Storm Drains



You may have observed standing water, erosion of landscaped areas or excessive trash and other debris in or near storm water drainage structures located in your community. Such

observations are commonly related to structures that have not been properly maintained.

The City of Chandler Streets Division conducts proactive inspections and maintenance of storm water drainage structures that are located solely within City right of way, such as City streets, parks and retention basins.

Homeowner's Associations (HOAs) and local business owners are responsible for the inspection, maintenance and proper operation of the drainage structures located within their respective properties. Failure to properly inspect

and maintain storm drainage structures may increase the potential for health or safety hazards or affect the functionality of the structures.

Please contact the Streets Division at 480-782-3503 to report an issue or concern associated with storm water drainage structures. Please be prepared to provide details regarding the location, type of structure and the specific issue or concern that was observed. Observations may include, but are not limited to excessive vegetative growth, unmaintained structures, damaged structures, standing water, trash and debris, sedimentation, erosion and odors.

For more information on the Storm Water Program, visit [chandleraz.gov/stormwater](http://chandleraz.gov/stormwater). Remember – "Only Rain in the Storm Drain!"

*David Verhelst  
Storm Water Program Coordinator*

# Code Enforcement on Neighborhood Preservation



Code Enforcement professionals have the unique perspective of witnessing improvement and decline in neighborhoods.

The latter condition is the basis for most comprehensive code enforcement programs. Blighted conditions left unchecked can send a message that a neighborhood is uncared for leading to increased degradation and ultimately becoming an attraction for criminal activity. Here are some ways you can combat neighborhood decline.

**Tackle Small Maintenance Issues** - Overgrown lawns, uncontrolled landscape, minor areas of deteriorated paint and the abandoned project vehicle in your driveway, can become signals that your property is not cared for. A property condition that requires only minimal maintenance can tomorrow become a condition requiring significant cost to you and to the entire neighborhood.

**Report Indicators of Decline** - Roaming shopping carts and graffiti in neighborhoods can indicate a diminishing neighborhood. Contact

neighborhood grocers about carts abandoned in your neighborhood and report incidents of graffiti to the City. The faster these items are remedied the less likely they are to become recurring or ongoing problems.

**Be Attentive to Alley Areas** - Unfortunately, because alleys are sometimes overlooked, these areas can quickly become targets for illegal dumping, graffiti and access points for criminal activity. Taking time to regularly maintain this small strip of property outside your back fence, can be a strong signal to a prospective criminal that you have an interest in the care and maintenance of your property and community as a whole. Remember, when it appears that there is little care about small things, larger things happen.

The goal of Code Enforcement is to sustain good neighborhoods by staving off blighting and hazardous conditions that lead to neighborhood degradation. By focusing on the small details, you send the message of neighborhood attentiveness which works against the appearance of disorder often associated with neighborhood decline.

For more information, visit [chandlercode.com](http://chandlercode.com).

*Malcolm Hankins  
Neighborhood Preservation Manager*

## MORE SPECIAL EVENTS!

### Family Easter Celebration

Saturday, March 26  
Snedigar Sportsplex  
4550 S. Basha Road  
9 a.m. - Noon

This event provides some of the most enthusiastic Easter Egg Scrambles in the East Valley for kids up to 9 years of age.

There also will be information booths, displays and interactive amusement. For more information, visit [chandleraz.gov/easter](http://chandleraz.gov/easter)

### Jazz Festival

Friday, April 1  
Saturday, April 2  
Downtown Library Plaza  
178 E. Commonwealth Ave.  
5 - 10 p.m.

Come and enjoy a spectacular weekend of great jazz and free, live performances. Visit the galleries, restaurants and shops that make Downtown Chandler a great place to visit. For more information, visit [chandleraz.gov/jazz](http://chandleraz.gov/jazz)

### Traditional Neighborhood Academy

April 14 - May 5 (Thursdays)  
Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
Chandler City Hall  
175 S. Arizona Ave.

This academy is for residents living in a traditional neighborhood (non-HOA), and interested in making a difference in their neighborhood. For more information or to register, call 480-782-4354 or visit [chandleraz.gov/neighborhoods](http://chandleraz.gov/neighborhoods)

## Broken Sprinklers Waste Water



Summer is around the corner, which means your landscape water needs will increase and your irrigation system should be in good working order. Leaks may not be noticeable unless your system is running, so turn your controller on manually and walk your property. Obvious signs of leaks include water shooting into the air from

broken sprinkler heads, missing drip emitters or breaks in irrigation piping or tubing. Here are a few things to look for:

**Geysers** – obvious indication that a sprinkler head is broken or has a missing nozzle. (Replace)

**Leaners** – Leaning heads spray at an angle and miss some of their target. (Straighten)

**Misdirected Spray** – Nozzles may be pointed in the wrong direction, watering pavement instead of plants. (Realign)

**Blocked Spray** – Thick foliage may need pruning to let the spray reach its target. (Trim)

**Weak Spray** – Weak spray can be due to low water pressure, a leaky underground pipe, or a clogged nozzle. (Inspect)

**Seepage** – Patches of soggy soil and pooling water can indicate a serious underground leak, especially if spray heads are also performing poorly. (Inspect/repair)

To attend FREE irrigation workshops in April, contact the Water Conservation Office at 480-782-3580 or email [conserve@chandleraz.gov](mailto:conserve@chandleraz.gov).

*Cathy Rymer  
Water Conservation Coordinator*

## Special Events!

### Spring Aquatics

Chandler residents can register for swim lessons in the spring, including Aqua Fit Deep and American Red Cross Lifeguard Courses! Residents also can enjoy public swim hours at various aquatic centers. For more information on registration, hours and locations, call 480-782-2749 or visit [chandleraz.gov/aquatics](http://chandleraz.gov/aquatics)

### Chandler Public Library Offers New Program

Chandler Public Library patrons with a valid library card now have free access to one of the leading online learning companies - [lynda.com](http://lynda.com). Lynda.com offers on-demand video tutorials for personal and professional development from industry experts on business, technical and creative skills. Patrons can get to Lynda.com by logging in through the library's website with their valid library card and pin number. For more information on this free program, call 480-782-2800 or visit [chandlerlibrary.org](http://chandlerlibrary.org)

The award-winning News for Neighbors Newsletter is Edited by

Cristabel Dykstra  
Neighborhood Programs

City of Chandler  
Neighborhood Programs Office  
235 S. Arizona Ave \* Chandler AZ, 85225  
480-782-4354  
[chandleraz.gov/neighborhoods](http://chandleraz.gov/neighborhoods)



With the new year upon us and the opportunity for a fresh start, I would like to share some thoughts with you and your neighbors. The City of Chandler continued to experience a downward trend in crime in 2015, due to the partnership

between the Chandler Police Department and the community. There is however, still some work to do. Property crimes and crimes of opportunity drive much of our response for calls for service. We ask you to survey your property, watch for unusual activity, and ask yourself if there are things you can do to make a difference. The simple act of making sure things are closed and locked, impact the thefts and burglaries that occur.

I also want to remind residents of the City of Chandler's Stored Vehicle Ordinance. This ordinance restricts the parking and storing of RV's, toy haulers, trailers, etc. on the street. We continue to receive calls regarding this issue. Warnings are issued but sometimes enforcement action can be taken, which can lead to having your vehicle towed. This is an issue that has been important for the quality and safety of neighborhoods and residential streets in the community.

The City of Chandler also recently passed a Pedestrian Regulation Ordinance, which prohibits pedestrians from standing or stopping in the raised or painted medians throughout the City. Likewise, if a person is crossing the street or using an intersection, it can only be for the purpose of crossing and not for movement in and out of the street or any other purpose. This is an important step in protecting pedestrians in hazardous areas and limiting the distraction of drivers. Educational

## NEWS, TIPS & NEIGHBORHOODS

outreach to residents on this ordinance is important to the Police Department and we will continue to work with the public regarding pedestrian safety.

You may have seen recent bus stop posters stating that if you see something say something. It is as pertinent today as it has ever been. This same advice is important to apply in your own neighborhoods and in your home. Sometimes it is the slightest bit of information that helps with an investigation just as double checking the security around the house. You may catch something that was missed the first time you checked. It is always important to be smart and aware for the safety of your family, coworkers, friends and community.



See Something,



Say Something™

And, the final thing I want to share with you is the Police Department's Return Me Safe Program. The program provides a means to share crucial information with the police about a person who may be missing or who has wandered off. This may include children or adults who suffer from Autism, Down Syndrome, Dementia or Alzheimer's. It also provides parents and caretakers with a mechanism to share crucial information with the police when responding to calls for service. If you would like more information on the program you may visit our website at [chandlerpd.com](http://chandlerpd.com) or contact Officer John Somerville at 480-782-4951.

Commander Gregg Jacquin  
Chandler Police Department

Receive free e-mail updates about current Chandler news and events! Register today at [chandleraz.gov/listserv.aspx](http://chandleraz.gov/listserv.aspx)



**Chandler City Council** - Front Row from left: Vice Mayor Jack Sellers, Mayor Jay Tibshraeny and Councilmember Rick Heumann. Back row from left: Councilmember Nora Ellen, Vice Mayor Kevin Hartke, Councilmember Terry Roe and Councilmember René Lopez

The Mayor & Council Office can be contacted at 480-782-2200.

