

SanTan Sun News



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Relentlessly local coverage of Southern Chandler and our neighboring communities

Locals help map traffic options

by Jen Bondeson

The City needs help to diversify transportation in Chandler, according to Mike Normand, transportation manager.

Since June, City officials have been asking for input on how residents want to get around town. By the end of the year, an updated arterial street system transportation plan will be completed, matching residents' priorities, wants and needs.

The survey, which is located on the transportation page of the City of Chandler website, asks residents how they would divide \$100 if they only spent it on transportation improvements in their city.

Options include widening major streets or intersections, expanding bus service, improving and/or adding pedestrian walkways, adding more bicycle lanes and developing high-capacity transit systems. The survey also allows residents to comment on what should be a priority and speak out if they have any issues or concerns.

Normand says through the surveys and other road research, main bus routes will be identified, bicycling routes will be improved and a more reasonable

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STSN photo by Gordon Murray

FIRST DAY: Basha High Principal Ken James helps students on the first day of school. Chandler Unified School District has a modified year-round school schedule that runs from July 28 through June 3, 2009.

City museum takeover delayed

Historical Society questions need for new audit

by Natalie Morris

Delays continue in the plans for the City of Chandler to assume operational responsibility for the Chandler Museum, pending a signed agreement between the City and the Chandler Historical Society (CHS).

Key sticking points include the City's insistence on its own audit of the Historical Society's operations over the past three years and the nonprofit's desire for clarity regarding the process for transfer of its collection and operations. The City's take is that a review of Historical Society financial records by a City internal auditor is a standard part of the operational transfer process.

"These records are important because they will



Submitted image

SITE: The latest location for the Chandler Museum is just north of Washington Street and east of Arizona Avenue, across from the new City Hall buildings.

provide the City with a baseline of expenses that CHS has incurred to operate the museum over the last three years," explains Jody Crago, Chandler's newly hired museum administrator. "It is the City's position that it has a fiduciary responsibility to its citizens to understand the financial obligation it will be assuming with the museum."

Over the past three years, the City has provided CHS with at least \$75,000 each fiscal year to support its programs, particularly the Chandler Museum. The City has also allowed the museum to operate in a City-owned building at no cost.

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Guiding future growth through General Plan



STSN photo by Gordon Murray

BUILD OUT: As the City approaches build out, its plan allows for higher density and taller buildings, such as the new Hilton Hotel under construction along the 101, off Frye and Price.

by Natalie Morris

Ask a friend or family member what they know about the new Chandler General Plan. Then ask the same person what they know about Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's new twins. Most likely they'll know more about the twins.

Although it's not glamorous and City planners aren't being stalked by paparazzi, the 2008 General Plan is worth learning more about, since it will have a significant impact on the day-to-

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Chandler runner finds new purpose

by Jen Bondeson

At 5:30 a.m. on a given summer morning, Fox Crossing resident Doug Shade is most likely drenched in sweat. Three or four days a week, he may burn 500 calories before the sun comes up. Afterwards, he showers, gets ready and is at work by 8 a.m.

Summer is off-season for runners like Shade, but that doesn't mean he sits



Submitted photo

SEE DOUG RUN: Doug Shade of Fox Crossing is training for upcoming marathons that will benefit children.

idle. Shade began running again four years ago after a two-decade vacation from the sport. He says he felt his "middle-aged-ness" approaching. Since last summer, though, Shade has been running for a different reason.

In August 2007, the marathon training group Team Chances was announced, and Shade

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"Lost Boy" in Chandler

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Local gym gets great "Results"

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Just4Kids

SanTan Family Fun A+ Center spread

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joined. Team Chances supports and fundraises for Chances for Children, a nonprofit committed to providing children access to sports, among other things, that might not be available otherwise.

Shade says he now gets as much out of doing the charity activities as he does out of running.

"I have been given an outward focus to my running; helping the community," he says. "It is a great charity. The money goes right into helping local kids. You really get a purpose and pride in running and fundraising, and being able to work with your neighbors and neighbors' kids."

Shade trained for the 2008 P.F. Chang's Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon with Team Chances Coach Susan Loken, and a local running partner, Susan Meyers-Kennedy.

In the six months leading up to the race, he worked with the team twice a week and with Meyers-Kennedy for long runs. He says it is because of his running partners that he was able to improve his marathon time by more than 30 minutes.

On Jan. 13, Shade completed the marathon in 3:38:44. The best part of every finish line, he says, is his family at the end.

"I am forever grateful to my supportive wife and daughters for encouraging me," he shares, "for putting up with my early bedtimes and early rises, for cheering me on at all the big races and for standing by the road with big posters and cow bells clanging."



GO DOUG GO: The family of runner Doug Shade decorated his house, garage and put signs on poles along the street to celebrate his running in the recent Boston Marathon.

STSN photos

Shade and his wife, Julie, moved to Chandler in 1993, and have two girls, Kelsey, 18, and Haley, 15. When he isn't running, Shade works as an electrical engineer for Freescale Semiconductor. He first started running in 1984, but after college decided to make his family and career his top priorities.

Now, he says he is "hooked" again. Just six weeks before the P.F. Chang's Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon, Shade qualified for the Boston Marathon by running the Tucson Marathon in 3:18:55.

It was, and still is, his personal record. Shade says the Boston Marathon is something he would love to do every year if he could and something he will always remember. "Boston was a 26.2 mile long party," he says. "It was a solid 26.2 miles of people. As you run into downtown, crowds get thicker and wilder, with tens of thousands of people screaming. You feel like you're a champion."

Soon, Shade will begin training for the Big Bear Marathon on Sept. 6, and hopes to do the Big Sur and St. George marathons at some point. He is cautious of revealing his finish time goal of under 3:10:00, saying at his age, it is "now or never."

"There aren't many challenges thrown my way that scare me anymore," Shade says. "I know that with determination and self-discipline, I can endure. I will not likely finish first, or fastest, but the challenge can be defeated."

For more information on Team Chances or Chances for Children, visit www.chancesforchildrenaz.com.

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