

THE CHANDLER MESSENGER

December 2014 – Quarterly Issue

PUBLIC MEETINGS

We invite every resident of the Town of Chandler to attend our public meetings. We would love for you to share your input on any activities and events that occur throughout the year. Below is a list of all of the town's civic boards and their meeting dates and times. Come see your local government in action and participate in the things that affect your community!

Chandler Town Council – meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission – meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

MS4 Storm Water Board – meets the 4th Monday of every month at 6 p.m.

Parks Board – meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

All meetings are held at the Chandler Community Center; meeting dates that fall on a Town Holiday are generally held the following business day.

TOWN OF CHANDLER CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Christmas lights along Lincoln Avenue are up and running again this year. As always, with some of the decorations more than 25 years old, there were some issues that had to be resolved before getting the lighted decorations on display. Eight of the 13 decorations had to be re-worked completely.

This year's display was accomplished with about 80 hours of volunteer time and \$400 in cash donations. Sponsors for the 2014 Christmas Decorations display include:

Evans Tree Service (Robert Evans and his crew) • Eddie Gammon
Long & Mathies Law Firm • Gammon Trucking • Emily Titzer
Elliott Excavating (Kenny & Carolyn Elliott) • Donnie Derrington
Chandler Lions Club • Mr. & Mrs. Larry Lillpop • Ryan Fisher
Taylor's Garage and Body Shop (Bobby Taylor) • Andrea Johnson
Kathy & David Lemmons • Grover & Linda Fisher

A big thank you to all of the sponsors who helped get the displays up for residents and visitors to enjoy!

Additional donations are being accepted to help with a few issues that still need to be addressed. If you would like to make a donation, please do so by mailing a check to: Town of Chandler c/o Christmas Lights, 417 E. Jefferson Avenue, Chandler, IN 47610.

Quarterly Storm Water Tip:

Never dump anything down storm drains

Happy Holidays!

From all of the employees of the Town of Chandler, we want to wish our residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to serving you and working together to make Chandler a clean and safe place to live and raise a family!



This newsletter sponsored by:

**Chandler Storm Water
Department**

417 E. Jefferson Avenue
Chandler, IN 47610
812-925-7145

[Email](#) | [Website](#)

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY 2015

It may seem like a long ways off, but plans are already being made for next year's Christmas display on Lincoln Avenue. We are looking to expand and have a few more lights and displays for next year.

We would like to have more ground units, and we are looking for a few volunteers who will allow us to put a display in their yard or in front of their business, right next to the highway, and who don't mind to cover the cost of running electricity for the displays. Our estimate is that each display will cost no more than \$10 on your electric bill for the holiday season. Anyone interested in hosting a display for next year should contact Grover Fisher, MS4 Storm Water Manager and Planning Commission Director, at 812-925-7145 or 812-454-1527. You can also stop in at the Chandler Town Hall.

We have a good display of lights, but there are also some areas where we have nothing on display. So, please consider it, give us a call, and let's mak' next year's Christmas Display even bigger and better!

SAYING GOODBYE TO FISHER BROTHERS LUMBER CO.

For more than 60 years, Fisher Brother's Lumber Company on West Lincoln Avenue, in the heart of town, was one of Chandler's mainstays. Unfortunately, due to many factors, this historic business property will be razed this spring.

Back in its prime, the company employed more than 25 workers. But, more than a business, Fisher Brothers was a support to the community.

When the town decided to start its own baseball program more than 50 years ago, Fisher Brothers built the first field in Chandler, right on the northwestern end of its own property. It was the start of the youth baseball program that is still going today.

The company sponsored many youth teams over the years, sometimes up to four teams in a year. It also helped the town's youth football and basketball programs get off the ground.

Beyond sports, Fisher Brothers Lumber Company helped every organization that asked. It was the backbone support for the Chandler Kiwanis Club, selling thousands of Pancake Day tickets and holiday fruit baskets. Fisher Brothers supported countless Boy Scouts looking for donations for their Eagle Scout projects. There are many more examples of the company's philanthropy efforts over the years, with too many to list.

So, as we say farewell, Chandler thanks Fisher Brothers Lumber Company for all that it has done for our town.

All of the buildings on the five-acre property will be demolished, and soil remediation will be completed. Once the complex is razed, it will become a green space.

There are no specific future plans for the property, and the Town of Chandler will be seeking public input on what should be done with the property once it has been cleaned up.

Reminder: House Numbers on Homes and Businesses

This is a friendly reminder to everyone that the Town of Chandler has an ordinance that reads every residence and business must have the numerical address displayed on the front of the building. Please make sure you are in compliance.

THE GREAT FLOOD OF 1913

In 1913, the State of Indiana was hit with a rain that started on Easter morning and led to one of the most costly, damaging, and life-taking events to ever hit the United States to date.

I have recently had the pleasure to meet and listen to a lady that gave one of the most interesting sessions at a state meeting that I have ever heard and watched. Her name is Trudy E. Bell, a technology journalist, independent historian, and an outstanding author of many books. I was so wrapped up in her session, I just didn't want it to end.

Recently, through many hours of hard work by many people and agencies, a documentary has been released and it is amazing to watch. It's called "[When Every River Turned Against Us](#)." You can view this documentary on the internet free of charge by clicking on its title in this article.

I would like to send an invitation to all of Chandler to sit down at your computer spend 30 minutes, and please watch it. It is my job as the MS4 Storm Water Coordinator for the Town of Chandler to reach out to the public, get them involved, and educate them the best way I can. I know of no better way to do that than through our history.

If you take the time to sit down and enjoy this documentary, please let me know what you think of it. I promise you that it will not be a waste of your time.

The Great Flood of 1913, or the Great Easter Flood of 1913 (as some people called it), was America's most widespread natural disaster, overshadowing Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Hurricane Rita in 2005, and Hurricane Sandy in 2012. Hardest hit was Indiana, and yet, it remains largely forgotten – until now!

Sincerely yours,
Grover Fisher Jr.
MS4 Storm Water Coordinator
Town of Chandler

Quick Facts about the Great Flood of 1913 – “When Every River Turned Against Us”

- Started on Easter Sunday, March 23, 1913 with torrential rains
- Killed more than 1,000 people
- Based on today's value, caused \$115 Billion in damages
- Afflicted 15 states and caused shortages across the nation (due to impaired transportation of goods through the Midwest)
- Was the first widespread response effort by the American Red Cross
- Indiana was the hardest-hit state; in less than 7 days time, every area of the state was affected
- Following the excessive rainfall, temperatures plummeted, causing further death and devastation
- In the first 24 hours of the excessive rainfall, Main Street in Fort Wayne was covered by 4 feet of water
- In Indianapolis, when the White River breached a levee, it sent a wall of water nearly 2 stories high and a half-mile wide into 4 square miles of the city's business district on the north side
- All of the animals in the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus, whose winter headquarters was near Peru, Indiana, perished in the flooding of the two rivers surrounding the grounds
- Numerous horses used for transportation, and livestock animals were also killed in the disaster, causing a public health hazard in many areas
- Prisoners of a nearby Indiana correctional facility worked around the clock, one shift at a time, for nearly a week to raise and reinforce the railroad embankment at Jeffersonville, successfully protecting the city from flooding by the Ohio River