



The Official Newsletter of the  
**Sun Cities Area  
 Historical Society**

Fall 2015 | Volume 24 | Number 2

# Historic Recognition



Museum earns designation  
 on National Register  
 of Historic Places

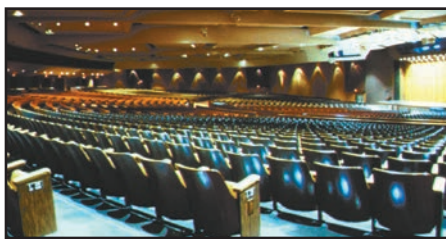
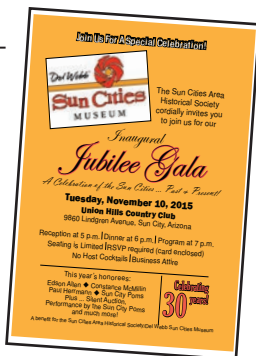
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## Inside our fall newsletter ...

### Fall Membership Meeting

Museum turns its annual meeting into a fun, 'Jubilee Gala!' Order your tickets today!

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### Sundome salute on display

New exhibit pays tribute to the Sundome Center for Performing Arts.

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### Live from Sun City!



Local radio stations have long, varied history in Sun City.

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# Sun Cities Area Historical Society slates inaugural 'Jubilee Gala' on November 10

**T**he Sun Cities Area Historical Society will kick off its 30th anniversary year with its first-ever fundraising gala Nov. 10 at Union Hills Country Club.

The event, which also serves as the organization's annual meeting, will feature entertainment by the Sun City Poms and a salute to several residents who have contributed to the history of Sun City and Sun City West.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society officially incorporated in 1986, soon after the celebration of Sun City's 25th anniversary. The society owns and operates the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum, located in one of the first five model homes built in 1960 by the Del Web Corporation.

"The event is meant to celebrate the history of the Sun Cities and those who have played a role in making these communities what they are today," said Bret McKeand, president of the board of trustees.

"It's a fun event that we hope will become an annual celebration, but it's also meant to raise funds to sustain the museum and all it does to preserve and protect the history of the Sun Cities," said Mr. McKeand.

The inaugural "Jubilee Gala" begins at 5 p.m. with a social and silent auction. Dinner is served at 6 p.m. followed by the program.

Tickets are \$25 each for museum

All Del Webb Sun Cities Museum members should have gotten an invitation to the gala in the mail. If not, contact the museum for information and to purchase tickets. Deadline to purchase tickets is Nov. 1.



members; \$30 for non-members. Business sponsorships are available as well. The society is a non-profit 501(3)(c) organization.

Union Hills Country Club is located at 9860 Lindgren Ave., Sun City.

This year's honorees include:

■ Edson Allen of Sun City West, a longtime member of the historical society and creator of several of the museum's most popular exhibits. He also is author of "Sun City West Silver Anniversary."

■ Constance McMillin of Sun City, another longtime supporter of the historical society and an

ardent supporter of arts throughout the Valley of the Sun – including the West Valley Art Museum and Theater Works.

■ Paul Herrmann of Sun City, retiring director of the Sun City Visitors Center.

■ The Sun City Poms, the internationally recognized goodwill ambassadors who have represented the community and entertained crowds for over four decades.

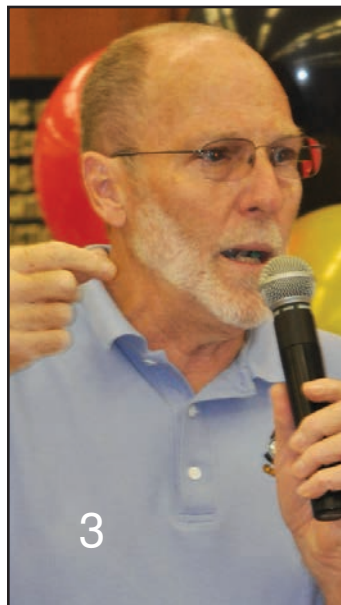
The Sun City Poms will also perform, and present a special tribute to veterans.

The name of the event, said Mr. McKeand, is tied to the organiza-

*Continued on next page*

## Gala Honorees

This year's inaugural "Jubilee Gala" will salute several residents who have contributed to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society and/or the history of our community, including, 1.) Constance McMillin, shown here with former Museum Presidents Jane Freeman and Bill Pearson at the unveiling of The McMillin Terrace at the museum; 2.) Edson Allen, former museum Board of Trustees member and author of a book celebrating the 25th anniversary of Sun City West; 3.) Paul Herrmann, retiring executive director of the Sun City Visitors Center; 4.) Sun City Poms (shown here from a 1985 calendar).



tion's early beginning.

"One of the founders of the historical society – Jane Freeman – was co-author of the first extensive history of Sun City, a book called "Jubilee," that was published in conjunction with the community's 25th anniversary," he said.

"In honor of Jane, who recently passed away, we felt it appropri-

ate to link that title to our first gala fundraiser," said Mr. McKeand.

Tickets are available by calling the museum at (623) 974-2568 or by stopping by during open hours 1-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday or Friday. The museum is located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City.

The deadline to purchase tickets is Nov. 1.

# Hurry!

Deadline to purchase

Tickets:

Nov. 1, 2015

# It's official: Del Webb Sun Cities Museum earns 'National Historic Places' designation

**W**hen visitors step into the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum they're not only stepping back into history and into one of the first homes ever built in the nation's very first community -- they're now stepping into the only building in the Sun Cities to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Museum officials were notified last spring that after several years of applying for the designation, the museum was finally granted historic status.

The museum, located at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive in Sun City, is home to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society. The organization was created in 1985 with a mission to preserve and present the history of Sun City and Sun City West.

The museum is located in one of the first five model homes built by the Del E. Webb Corporation in 1960 as it prepared to launch Sun City, the nation's very first master-planned, active-adult retirement community.

The community opened to the public on Jan. 1, 1960. The five model homes, along with Oakmont Recreation Center and a golf course were open to the public on that first weekend.

The home has been restored and features rotating exhibits focusing on the history of the community, as well as its developer – Del E. Webb – and the clubs and organizations



*Sun Cities Area Historical Society archives*

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum as it appeared shortly after the community first opened in 1960. The museum, which reopened to the public in September, has been added to the National Register of Historic Places.



Visitors to the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum are presently greeted by this welcome plaque near the front entrance. A new plaque designating the museum's new distinction of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places will soon be installed.

in the retirement communities.

"We're extremely proud of our museum and think it's a fitting honor to be recognized as one of our nation's historic landmarks," said Bret McKeand, president of the museum's board of trustees.

The National Register of Historic Places is the "official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation." The list is overseen by the National Park Service.

Presently there are over 80,000 places on the list. Locations on the list in Arizona include the Wrigley Mansion, Hunt's Tomb, Petrified Forest and Canyon de Chelly National Monument.

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum becomes the first property in either Sun City or Sun City West to

*Continued on next page*

# Newest exhibit offers visitors opportunity to experience Sundome Center for Performing Arts

**T**he Sundome may be gone from Sun City West, but it lives on in a new exhibit at the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum.

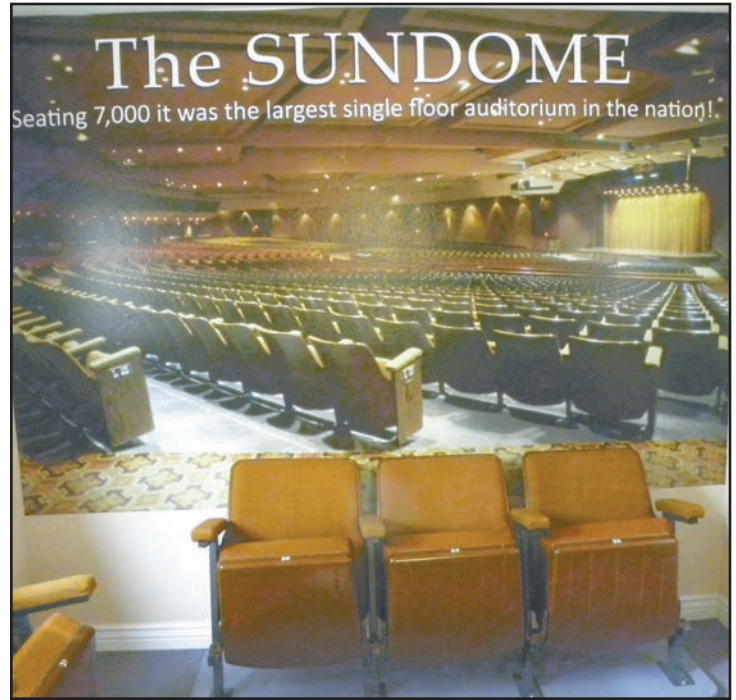
It's a dual-purpose exhibit as the room displays the history of the Sundome, and serves as a theater.

Nicknamed "Sundome Jr.," it is Arizona's smallest theater seating six in seats saved from the Sundome before it was razed. Entertainment is the film, "The Beginning," which was shown to prospective Sun City buyers in the 1960s.

Entering the theater, a giant photo of the Sundome interior fills the front wall. When it opened in 1980, the Sundome was the largest, single-floor auditorium in the nation with some 7,000 seats.

Years earlier, John Meeker had built the Sun Bowl in Sun City -- an outdoor amphitheater with grass terraces. Residents would bring their lawn chairs to enjoy entertainers like Bob Hope, Rosemary Clooney, and other stars.

A large mural of the recently demolished Sundome Center for Performing Arts is part of a new exhibit saluting the popular Sun City West venue.



As many as 7,000 would attend, and Meeker vowed to seat that size crowd indoors, in air-conditioned comfort in his new Sun City West.

The exhibit shows the construction challenge the Del E. Webb Corp. faced in building such a large structure -- a free span of 225 feet and an interior the size of two football fields side-by-side. It was

a beautiful structure inside with a spacious lobby and an outdoor courtyard that was a pleasant place to meet friends during intermissions.

Meeker personally picked out the seats for the Sundome, wanting everyone to have a first-class

*Continued on Page 14*

earn the designation.

The museum is open 1-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Exhibits include a celebration of the performing arts in the Sun Cities, a display honoring Del E. Webb, and a new tribute to the Sundome Center for Performing Arts.

The museum is a nonprofit organization and relies on memberships



The museum's original sign installed in the late 1980s.

for its funding. Call 623-974-2568 or visit [delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org](http://delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org) for information on supporting the organization.

Those who love history and people are encouraged to visit the museum and volunteer as museum guides.



An official publication of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society © 2015 SCAHS 10801 Oakmont Drive Sun City, AZ 85351 (623) 974-2568 email: scahsm@gmail.com www.delwebbsuncities-museum.org

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is certified by the Arizona Historical Society

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the preservation and presentation of the records and artifacts for Sun City, Arizona, (the world's first Active Adult Retirement Community), and its sister city, Sun City West. The Society's headquarters are located in the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum, in one of the five original Sun City model homes.

Museum Hours: 1-4 p.m. Monday - Friday Or by appointment Office Manager: Julie Glass

Board of Trustees

Bret McKeand President Tim Ericson Secretary Norm Dickson Treasurer Ed Cirillo Past President

Hal Lind Gail Warmath Priscilla Fenner Yasmina Snider David Verble

Newsletter Editor:

Bret McKeand Contributors: Edson Allen, Priscilla Fenner Layout and composition courtesy of the Sun City Independent

Message from the President

Inaugural gala tops off busy year for our great museum!

It's hard to believe that the year is almost over -- but what a year it's been for the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum!

Your Board of Trustees started the year off with a short list of simple objectives. Among the list of goals: Enhance our exhibits, promote the museum, create a major fundraising event and increase our membership.

We've made tremendous strides on several of those fronts -- and we intend to celebrate those successes at our annual meeting, which will double as our very first community-wide fundraising gala!

The "Jubilee Gala" will be held 5 p.m. Nov. 10 at Union Hills Country Club.

The dinner and program will include a celebration of our history and kick off our 30th anniversary (the SCAHS was officially incorporated in 1986).

Among this year's highlights that will be celebrated at the event:

After several years of intense lobbying, the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum was notified earlier this year that we



Bret McKeand 2015 President, Sun Cities Area Historical Society

are now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This is quite an honor and the building is the first in the Sun Cities to receive the designation. We will soon install a plaque at the front entrance to celebrate the designation.

The museum was prominently featured in a segment produced this summer for the "CBS Sunday Morning Show." The segment profiled Sun City, but the CBS folks visited the museum for background on the segment, and filmed part of the segment on the property. If you've not seen the segment, we'll be showing it at the gala and eventually have it available at the museum.

By the time you

receive this newsletter our newest exhibit -- a salute to the Sundome Center for Performing Arts -- should be open. The display features a mural of the popular 7,000-seat Sun City West venue that takes up the entire wall. The tribute to the now-torn-down facility is in the appropriately named "Sundome Jr." Theater and features six Sundome seats "rescued" by the museum prior to the building being demolished.

And then there's the Jubilee Gala. We hope the event becomes an annual community celebration and I hope to see all our members in attendance.

The gala is meant to serve as both a fundraiser for the museum, and a way to attract new members. So not only do I hope to see all our members attend, but by all means, bring a friend, a neighbor or relative.

All ticket sales and business sponsorship will help fund our operations and help sustain the museum for many years to come.

You can purchase at the museum or by returning the ticket-order form on Page 9.



# Unlock the            Mystery            of History

The past comes to life at the only museum in the nation devoted to the world's very first active adult retirement communities! Located in the first of five model homes built in Sun City, the museum offers a living tribute to the history of Sun City and Sun City West, and to the enduring spirit of those who pioneered an exciting new lifestyle!

## Become a Member!

Show your support for the museum and its efforts to preserve our community's unique heritage!

- Copper Circle           \$15
- Turquoise Circle       \$25
- Silver Circle            \$50
- Gold Circle             \$100
- Clubs/Organizations   \$25
- Businesses             \$50

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Sun Cities Area Historical Society, and mail to 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351. SCAHS is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization.

## Special introductory offer

Join at the Gold Level (\$100) and receive a FREE copy of "Sun City: Images of America" photographic history book. (Limited offer; while supplies last.)



Exhibits, Historical Artifacts and More!



Tours, Volunteer Opportunities

Speakers Bureau

Meeting Facilities



Call or Stop By Today!

10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City, Arizona  
(623) 974-2568 \*delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org  
Hours: 1-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday

This advertisement made possible in part due to a generous gift from Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage



9949 W. Bell Road, Ste. 101, Sun City, AZ 85351

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

# Join Us For A Special Celebration!



## *Inaugural Jubilee Gala*

*A Celebration of the Sun Cities ... Past & Present!*

A Fundraiser to Benefit the  
Sun Cities Area Historical Society

Join the Historical Society for its annual meeting -- which this year includes a special 30th anniversary celebration and salute to Sun City and Sun City West "History Makers!"

### **This year's honorees:**



■ Edson Allen of Sun City West, a long-time member of the society's Board of Trustees, creator of several of the museum's most popular exhibits and author of "Sun City West Silver Anniversary."



■ Constance McMillin of Sun City, a long-time supporter of the museum the arts throughout the Valley of the Sun -- including the West Valley Art Museum and Theater Works.



■ Paul Herrmann, of Sun City, retiring executive director of the Sun City Visitors Center.



■ Sun City Poms, the internationally recognized goodwill ambassadors representing the community for over four decades!

**Plus ... A Special Veterans Day  
Performance by the Poms!**

**Tuesday,  
November 10, 2015**

**Union Hills Country Club**

9860 Lindgren Avenue,  
Sun City, Arizona

Reception at 5 p.m. ♦ Dinner at 6 p.m.

♦ Program at 7 p.m.

♦ Seating is Limited

♦ RSVP required by November 1, 2015

No Host Cocktails ♦ Business Attire

### Tickets

Individual: \$25 (museum members)

\$30 (non-members)

Table of four: \$100 ♦ Table of eight: \$200

Cash/Check Only

**Call (623) 974-2568  
to Purchase Tickets or Sponsorships**

Email [scahsm@gmail.com](mailto:scahsm@gmail.com)

Purchase tickets at the museum

1-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday

10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351

Reservation Deadline: Nov. 1, 2015





# Jubilee Gala

*A Celebration of the Sun Cities ... Past & Present!*

Please respond before  
Nov. 1, 2015

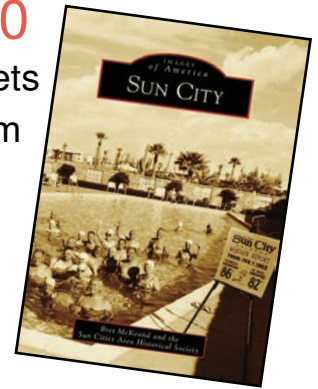
## Ticket Order Form

Individual Tickets:	Quantity
Museum Member/ \$25	_____
Non-Member/ \$30	_____
Table of eight/\$200	_____
Table of four/\$100	_____
<b>Total:</b>	_____

Special Gala "New Membership Offer"

**\$200**

- ◆ Includes two tickets
- ◆ One-year museum membership
- ◆ Signed copy of "Images of America: Sun City" published by Arcadia Publishing



My regrets are expressed with a donation to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, of  
 \$500    \$300    \$100    \$50    \$25    Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsorships

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gala Sponsor<br>Table for 8 at gala, 1/2 page advertisement in gala program, full page ad in spring and fall SCAHS newsletter, one year museum membership | \$2,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Sponsor<br>Table for 8 at gala, recognition in gala program, 1/4 page ad in spring and fall SCAHS newsletter, one year museum membership       | \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron Sponsor<br>Table of 4 at gala, recognition in gala program, one year museum membership   | \$500   |

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address (Tickets will be mailed): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cash or Check Only

Return to: Sun Cities Area Historical Society  
 10801 Oakmont Avenue, Sun City, AZ 85351 ◆ Call 623-974-2569

# Donated period pieces give museum authentic feel and flavor of the early 1960s

By P. Atwood Fenner

Visitors to the model home at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive are stepping back 55 years as they enter the living room of the 1960 model home now the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum. It is part museum and part as it might have been when the MacDonald family from Colorado moved in.

The living room furniture is French Provincial: a low sofa, two fruitwood end tables and a coffee table, an occasional wing back chair with a hanging lamp, table lamp and black rotary telephone. The carpeting is standard issue Del Webb sculpted synthetic fiber.

A large gold framed landscape oil painting hangs over the sofa on the painted concrete block wall. Table accessories include a large ceramic ashtray, glass candy dish and early Phoenix magazines.

A crocheted afghan and pillow grace the occasional chair. A small portrait of the MacDonalds sits on an end table.

The other two walls feature the early community of Marinette with a long period credenza to hold museum publicity materials on one wall, and the other has a built-in open wooden shelf for house plans and early Sun City Scenes.

Above it is the iconic First Day in Sun City photo and another shows what was already built and



The kitchen in the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum reflects the style and look of the early 1960's Sun City home. The table is from the King's Inn Restaurant that once existed on the corner of Grand and 107th avenues. The place settings were donated by the Estrella Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution.



open on Jan. 1, 1960. Nearby is a photo display of the evolution of this small home to a museum, purchased by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society in 1989.

The outstanding feature of this room is a life-size cut-out of active senior living pioneer Del Webb, at 6 feet, 4 inches tall. When a nearby button is pushed, visitors hear him briefly talk about the role building the first two Sun Cities played in

his life as a nationwide builder.

While most of this room was designed and furnished by the museum, many of the accessories have changed and displays have been rearranged through the years.

Many items just appear when people who have been board members or docents or visitors turn up with things they have made by hand or that had belonged to older members of their family.

In this room the crocheted pieces were color coordinated with the furniture and made by the museum's then-Volunteer Coordinator.

The custom-crafted credenza was built with a grant from the Yucca Chapter of Questors in 2013. Candy dishes (and candy) and other items have appeared by magic on the coffee table and are enjoyed by the always-hungry visitors.

But it is in the pink tiled kitchen that many other items slip in, as if being presented to grandparents by loving grandchildren or their parents. This includes a properly matched orange juice carafe to go with the set of juice glasses, a pink handled soup ladle to go with the matching pink ice crusher and ice cream paddle. Four milk glass snack sets trimmed in pink sit on a new shelf above the gas stove.

For years the round maple dining table from the King's Inn sat empty. One day pink placemats appeared, and the Estrella Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution donated two place settings of the Desert Rose pattern of Franciscan Ware suggested by the museum.

Before long there was a pale round pink table cloth with Oneida Patrick Henry flatware donated by Docent Marcia Case and Board Member Pris Fenner.

Other friends and docents gradually completed the table setting: a tulip candle stick and salt and pepper shakers from Toni Ashby, light pink candles by Barb Brozman, a relish dish, ceramic glasses, ashtray, candle stick and floral arrangement by Fenner; a sugar and



All the comforts of home: Items in the museum -- many of them donated over the years -- include chairs, blankets, pots and pans and four milk-glass snack sets (above the stove).

creamer by Bunny Sherman.

At Christmas time a dark green cloth is set with white Christmas tree plates, cups and saucers, soft sculpture snowman and candlesticks with dark green candles donated by Fenner; matching tree glasses by Nancy Donielson.

January's table setting features a citrus theme: snack plates with orange design and matching cups, lemon salt and peppers donated by Betsy Harris, and the citrus carafe and glasses previously donated.

One wall holds an ornate baker's rack with dozens of baking dishes and accessories and cook books donated many years ago. Just this summer came a donation of a pair of ceramic fighting cocks made in



1965 by members of one of the first chartered clubs next door, the Sun City Ceramic Club. They will soon hang over the baker's rack.

Last year's Apron Show resulted in the donation of several choice pieces to the museum.

One lavender-checked apron graces the life-size cutout of the lady of the house holding a tray of cookies, and another is thrown over the back of a kitchen chair, as if the Sun City housewife had just stepped out after finishing her baking.

Perhaps she has gone across the street to shop at the Safeway or just next door to go swimming or to use the sewing machines at what is now called Oakmont Center.



Amateur and professional radio stations are a part of Sun City's history. The tower located behind the Grand Shopping Center at 107th Avenue and Oakmont Drive -- and once fully-operational station below it -- has over the years broadcast a variety of music and styles -- from country to Lawrence Welk to rock 'n' roll.

## Live ... from Sun City, Arizona! Sun City takes to the airwaves with local station

By P. Atwood Fenner

**M**any of us in the original Sun Cities were raised listening to radio. We collected milk bottle caps, and Ovaltine seals and sent for Dick Tracy decoder badges and anthracite coal rings that glowed in the dark. We could be found after school tuned in to "Little Orphan Annie" and "Jack Armstrong, the All-American Boy" and later hunkered down under the quilts listening to "Suspense" even when our folks told us not to do so.

As young adults we were hooked

on "The Lone Ranger," "The Shadow," "Johnny Dollar" and others which filled the airwaves in the car on the way home from Sunday outings.

And there were weekday soap operas: "Stella Dallas," "Our Gal Sunday," "Fibber Magee and Molly" with the sound effects of opening a closet door followed by the grating sounds of tons of stuff tumbling out every week. Who can forget the distinctive drawl of Amos and Andy or the voices of The Great Guildersleave or Molly Goldberg?

And so it was not hard to believe

that only two years after Sun City was founded in 1960, residents of a block on 108th Avenue, just west of the shopping center anchored by Safeway, woke up one day and found a metal lattice-work tower lying in the street.

When it was raised to a height of 382 feet, 9 inches high, it beamed out the signals of KTPM 106.3 FM featuring Western music from studios in the building behind Grand Center at 10820 Oakmont Drive. The building and tower are still there; the tower a lighted beacon - which once guided Greyhound Bus drivers to the depot

originally in the Grand Center.

The call letters changed in March, 1975 when KWAQ-FM came on the air to play music of the twenties, thirties and forties and do public service announcements. The 3,000 watt station was on the air seven days a week from 6 a.m. to midnight with music, interviews with local residents, sporting events and church programs.

Former news director Nancy Brandt, in a 2005 interview, said that all staff members wore a "few hats" and combed through personal collections, attics, garage sales and thrift stores for music from the Big Band era, as KWAQ was one of the first stations to use this format. They also aired radio serials including seasons of "Fibber McGee," "The Shadow" and "Mr. District Attorney."

In 1976 Ralph Warren produced

a patriotic show called "Listen America." And in 1980 the station initiated a lunch hour with disc jockey Don Jackson where celebrities like Ray Anthony, Mitch Miller, actresses, actors, singers, musicians and politicians were featured on the air.

In 1982 on Labor Day weekend, more than 100 volunteers banded together to help "Jerry's kids" at the KWAQ-FM studios telethon. A traditional fishbowl was set up in the parking lot for drive-in donations and was manned by celebrities and Posse members.

A beginning pledge of \$500 was parlayed into \$8,000 by the end of the weekend. Several Phoenix broadcasters made appearances as did Sun Citian Dutch Schultz, author of the official Sun City song. And local merchants donated supplies to feed the volunteers and

support the event.

Perhaps one of the most unique things that happened during the KWAQ era was in 1981 when Mrs. Santa Clause did a mini-strip tease during a Don Jackson Christmas luncheon show at the Sheraton Inn, just east of Sun City on Grand Avenue. Mrs. Claus (the fashionable Margo Barron) started to demonstrate some fashion tricks to update Mrs. Santa's image. As she began to remove her granny cap, the band spontaneously broke into "The Stripper," taking everyone by surprise. Mrs. Claus then removed her wig, spectacles and apron revealing the popular Margo Barron, a fitting end to her "Costume Magic" routine.

Another real coup for the station came when Producer Brandt suc-

*Continued on Page 14*

## Sun City West Broadcast Club takes to the airwaves

Soon, Sun City West will have a radio station to call its own.

Test signals now come from a 57-foot tower on the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center Campus.

At least part of this dream has been realized for the Sun City West Broadcast Club whose local radio stations are in the Sun City West Men's Club Building next to the new tower.

Eventually the club will have its low power FM station up and running: KSCW-LP. The RCSCW governing board will hold the FCC broadcast license, while the Broadcast Club operating as a 501 (c)(3) group will operate the station.

The Broadcast Club of 90 with

six engineers has installed equipment which is still in the testing stage, following 2 1/2 years of planning. Members worked many weekends to bring the project to the stage where music and station identifiers are broadcast weekdays on internet: [LIVE365.com/Stations/SCWInternet](http://LIVE365.com/Stations/SCWInternet).

Club President John Huotari, admits he has no broadcasting experience.

"My idea was to become part of something new and maybe to create a program myself at one point," he said.

Many others also have little or no experience, but "People can come together here and, with guidance,

learn about broadcasting and have fun doing it," he added.

The club will interview veterans for November and will have a "nice mix" of music and entertainment as well as educational programming.

Meanwhile the engineers are trying to solve the problem of the "lemon transmitter."

"We are working with the manufacturer after two identical failures of the transmitter," says Broadcast Club Chief Engineer Hal Lind.

"It will take several weeks to resolve the problems or replace the transmitter with one from a different company," he added.

## Sundome

From Page 5

experience. Not only were the seats comfortable, but he specified a full 40 inches between rows for comfort and ease of access.

Thanks to board members Ed Cirillo, David Verble, and Hal Lind, six of these seats were removed from the closed and darkened Sundome before it was torn down.

Two display panels challenge visitors to identify performers that appeared at the Sundome over the years. Another panel lists the variety of shows from circuses to stage shows to the popular Sun City West Variety Show that raised \$1,700,000 for the Del E. Webb Hospital.

A final panel gives the chronology of the Sundome from its grand



opening with Lawrence Welk on Sept. 13, 1980 to its closing in 2009.

The exhibit was made possible by a generous donation from Don Tuffs who managed the Sundome from the time it opened until it was sold to Arizona State University. Don has been an active member of the Historical Society and served on the Board for several years.

The exhibit will bring back happy memories to those who attended performances at the Sundome – and introduce this amazing performing arts center to those who arrived after it closed.

## Radio

From Page 13

ceeded in landing a live broadcast of “The Lawrence Welk” show which opened the Sundome in Sun City West in 1980.

Listeners responded negatively when KWAO-FM changed over to KMZK-FM in May, 1983, due to lack of support from local advertisers. Brandt said that people felt they were losing their hometown station and were plenty loud voicing their dismay over the telephone at the new rock’n’ roll music. (She moved to KLFF-KMZK.)

Canyon Communications Corp, the new owner in Sun City, first

played rock’n’roll and then classical and then country-western music.. Soon the rock’n’ roll was abandoned; classical music was put on their KONC station; and KMZK adopted the classical music format. There were interviews with Bob Hope and Caesar Romero to name a few. The office was still in the building near the radio tower.

In 1993 KMZK became KEDJ, the Edge, and in 2000 the Station was sold by New Century Arizona License Partnership to Big City Radio-Phoenix. By 2005, Spanish love songs were the staple of KOMR. The tower is now owned by Triangle Construction Inc. Profit Sharing Plan of Phoenix.

Today the tower holds several

dishes for various uses, but we have been unable to reach Triangle Construction Inc. to find out who uses them and for what purpose. The office building is not considered safe to be occupied.

Gone from Sun City are the sounds of the mellow big bands, the stirring classical music and those playful musicians who were motivated by a fashion conscious actress - the Mrs. Santa, whose light-hearted mini-strip tease was never captured on camera ‘cause it was performed on a luncheon radio show for Christmas Day guests.

However, the tower still serves silently for residents as a beacon in the desert.



# Welcome to Sunshine Service

People, meeting needs of people is what Sunshine Service is all about. Sunshine Service lends medical and children's equipment to residents of Sun City and we have been doing so for over **53** years. We are a non-profit Arizona corporation and are funded by voluntary contributions and memorial gifts.

While the equipment is available for the use of all residents or visitors staying with residents, the equipment must not be taken out of Sun City on a permanent basis. As a matter of control, equipment is loaned only to Sun City residents.

Records show that as the population of Sun City grew. So did use of our medical equipment. Savings for Sun City residents have been calculated periodically; in **2015**, it was estimated that residents saved over two million dollars in cost of equipment for that year alone.

Sunshine Service, Inc has received local, state and national recognition. Awards received include the George Washington Honor Medal for services to the sick and handicapped from the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge in Pennsylvania

## Some Of The Many Items We Carry:

**Arm Exerciser • Bath Bench • Bed Rails • Bedside Commodes • Companion Chair • Crutches  
Foot Massager • High Chairs • Hospital Beds • Lift Chairs • Overbed Tables • Pack-N-Play  
Ramp - Aluminum • Rollaway Beds • Strollers • Trapeze • Walkers • Weights • Wheel Chairs**



Monday-Friday • 9 am - 4 pm  
9980 Santa Fe Dr.,  
Sun City 85351-3197  
**623-974-2561**

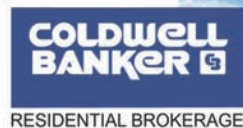
Sun Cities Area Historical Society/  
Del Webb Sun Cities Museum  
10801 Oakmont Drive  
Sun City, AZ 85351



## Support Your Local Museum!

Become a member and  
help us preserve  
and promote the history of  
the Sun Cities!  
See Page 7 for  
membership information

Sun City  
we live here  
we play here  
we work here  
we volunteer here  
and  
we help people buy  
and sell their homes here



**National company - local focus**

### Buying?

We have over 80 agents in our office who know Sun City, Sun City West, and surrounding areas, and can find you the home you've been looking for.

### Selling?

We have the resources to help you get the best price for your home.

**Call us today or come in and pick up a free map!**



Pat Burden, Associate Broker  
Manager



Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage  
9949 W Bell Road, Ste. 101 | Sun City, AZ 85351  
623-972-1161 | Fax: 623-974-1709 | [www.azmoves.com](http://www.azmoves.com)  
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