

Address delivered at the dedication of the
Cemetery at Gettysburg.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers
brought forth on this continent, a new na-
tion, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated
to the proposition that all men are cre-
ated equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war,
testing whether that nation, or any nation
so conceived and so dedicated, can long
endure. We are met on a great battle-field
of that war. We have come to dedicate a
portion of that field, as a final resting
place for those who here gave their lives,
that that nation might live. It is alto-
gether fitting and proper that we should
do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedi-
cate—we can not consecrate—we can not
hallow—this ground. The brave men, liv-
ing and dead, who struggled here, have con-
secrated it, far above our poor power to add

or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln.

November 19. 1863.

W O M A N ' S S U F F R A G E

I N I T I A T I V E P E T I T I O N

FILED

J u l y 5, 1 9 1 2 .

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BALLOT NUMBERS, 300-301

T I T L E :

"To amend Sections 2 and 15 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Arizona, granting to the citizens of the State of Arizona, regardless of sex, the right of suffrage and the right to hold public office."

Voted on at Election held

November 5, 1912.

Yes - 13,442 Votes. No - 6,202 Votes.

=====

GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION,
Issued
December 5, 1912.

*By the United States in
Congress Assembled,*

October 12, 1785

Whereas it is indispensibly necessary, for the support of the federal government, that the states should supply their quotas of money, for the purposes stated in the estimates of the subsisting requisitions of Congress.

And whereas certificates for the interest arising on loan-office certificates, and other certificates of liquidated debts, previously to the last day of December 1782, from the deficiencies of some of the states to comply with the requisition of the 4th September, 1782, and 27th and 28th of April, 1784, will, in pursuance of the requisition of the 27th of September, 1785, be issued by the commissioners of the continental loan-offices in such states.

And whereas the extra certificates which the said commissioners may issue for the payment of the said interest, should be called in or redeemed by the deficient states in order to compleat their respective quotas of the interest of the domestic debt, specified in the said requisitions of the 4th September, 1782, and 27th and 28th April, 1784.

Resolved,

That the several states be earnestly called on to compleat without delay the whole of their quotas of the requisitions last mentioned, and that such of the states as may be deficient in paying their respective quotas of the interest of the domestic debt pursuant to the said requisitions, be required to collect and pay into the public treasury the amount of such deficiencies, either in certificates to be issued by the commissioners of the continental loan offices, pursuant to the requisition of the 27th September, 1785, for the payment of the said interest, or in specie, to be applied to the redemption of such certificates; provided that the sum so to be paid into the treasury in interest certificates as part of the requisition of the 27th and 28th April 1784, shall not at any time exceed the proportion of facilities to be paid into the treasury, agreeably to the requisition last mentioned.

To all to whom

these Presents shall come, we the undersigned Delegates of these States affixed to our Names send greeting. Whereas the Delegates of the United States of America in Congress assembled did on the fifteenth day of November in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy seven, and in the Second year of the Independence of America agree to certain articles of Confederation and perpetual Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia in the words following, viz. "Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Article 1. The State of this confederacy shall be "The United States of America."

Article 11. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every Power, Jurisdiction and right which is not by this confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.

Article 111. The said states hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defence, the security of their Liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or other pretence whatever.

Article 1V. The better to secure and perfectuate mutual friendship and intercourse among the people of the different states in this union, the free inhabitants of each of these states, paupers, vagabonds, and fugitives from Justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of free citizens in the several states; and the people of each state shall have free ingress and regress to and from any other state, and shall enjoy therein the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, impositions and restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided.

IN CONVENTION, Monday, September 17th, 1787

PRESENT

The States of

New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Mr. Hamilton from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolinas, South Carolina and Georgia.

Resolved,

That the proceeding Constitution be laid before the United States in Congress Assembled, and that is the opinion of this convention, that it should afterwards be submitted to a Convention of Delegates a chosen in each State by the people thereof, under the Recommendation of its legislature for their Assent and ratification: and that each Convention ascending to and ratifying the same should give notice thereof to the United States in Congress Assembled.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Convention, that as soon as the Conventions of nine States shall have ratified this Constitution, the United States in Congress Assembled shall fix a day in which Electors shall be appointed by the States which shall have ratified the same, and a day on which the Electors shall assemble to vote for the President, and the time in place for commencing Proceedings under the Constitution. That, after such Publication, the Electors shall be appointed, and the Senators, and Representatives elected: That the Electors shall meet on the Day fixed for the Election of the President, and shall transmit their votes certified, signed, sealed and directed, as the Constitution requires, to the Secretary of the United States in Congress assembled, that the Senators and Representatives should convene at the time and place assigned, that the Senators should appoint a President of the Senate for the sole Purpose receiving, opening and counting the votes for President; and, after he shall be chosen, the Congress together with the President, should, without Delay, proceed to execute this Constitution.

By the Unanimous Order of the Convention

George Washington

Freedom Shrine puts history on display

By RICK GONZALEZ

As the United States Constitution Bicentennial celebration draws near, many people are trying to learn as much as they can about the Constitution.

The Sun City/Sun City West Exchange Club is making that opportunity available to local residents every day.

The Bell Recreation Center, 99th Avenue and Bell Road, is the home of the Freedom Shrine, a memorial to historical U.S. documents, including the U.S. Constitution.

The Freedom Shrine was presented by the Exchange Club to the Bell Rec Center on Oct. 11, 1982.

According to Truman Herr, Exchange Club member, the purpose of the Shrine is "to keep people up-to-date on history."

A visit to the Shrine, which is one of over 8,000 nationwide, allows residents to view glass-encased copies of various documents which have played important roles in the history of our nation.

A partial list of documents includes:

- The Constitution.
- The Mayflower Compact, signed by 41 male pilgrims in 1620.
- The Declaration of Independence (1776).
- George Washington's Inaugural Address.
- The Bill of Rights.
- George Washington's Farewell Address.
- Thomas Jefferson's Inaugural Address (1801).
- The Star-Spangled Banner (1814).
- The Monroe Doctrine (Dec. 2, 1823).
- The Gettysburg Address (1863).
- Germany's Letter of Surrender to the United States (May 7, 1945).
- Japan's Letter of Surrender to the United States (Dec. 2, 1945).

The display is permanent, says Herr, although the documents are often replaced. He says the cost for the display is about \$1,000.

Anyone wishing a brochure on the documents on display should contact any Exchange Club member.

The Exchange Club, says Herr, "was the first service club," in which the original purpose was for the exchange of services and goods.

According to Herr, the club has about 4,000 to 5,000 members nationally, with about 50 members in the Sun City/Sun City West group. Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff also have chapters.

The Exchange Club, says Herr, promotes education, helps

(OVER)

the needy and is now very active in child-abuse prevention programs.

The club meets once a week, with speakers on various issues. The club is open to women, Herr adds.

"Ladies are invited any time. New members are always welcome."

For more information on the Exchange Club and/or the Freedom Shrine, contact Truman Herr at 974-3210.



Laurie Hurd-Moore/Independent

WORDS OF WISDOM. *The Freedom Shrine at Bell Recreation Center provides area residents with an opportunity to view historical U.S. documents. The Shrine, sponsored by the Exchange Club, contains such documents as the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and others.* 9-16-81

DECLARATION OF THE FREEDOM SHRINE

The "kiosk" was dedicated to the Sun City Recreation Center, Inc. and community, by the Sun City and Sun City West Exchange Clubs on October 11, 1982. It is now a pleasure, on behalf of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, to dedicate to the Sun City Recreation Center, Inc., the responsibility for providing and maintaining the display of important freedom documents relative to:

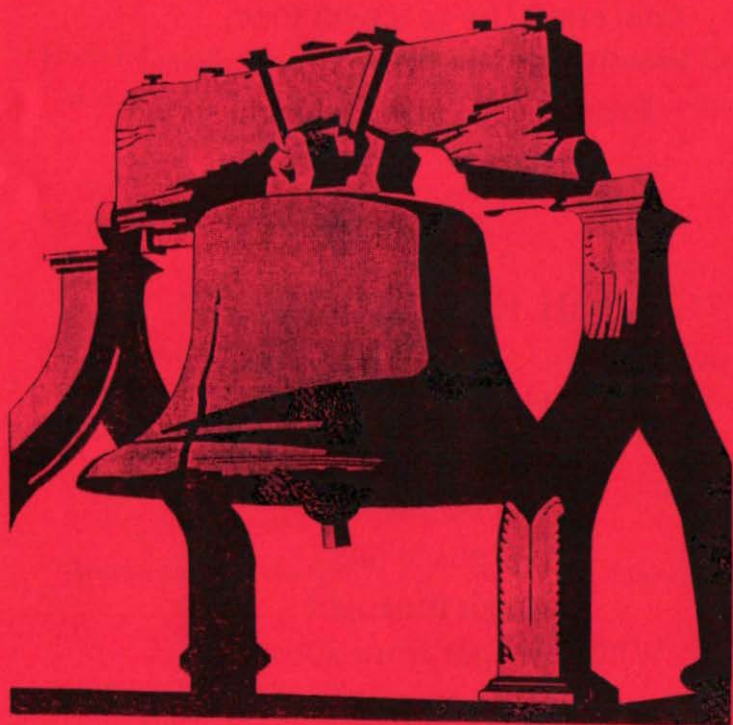
Our Nation
The State of Arizona
The County of Maricopa
The Community of Sun City

It is the intent of this effort to help the community become aware of the importance of our freedoms, and to strengthen citizen appreciation.

THE RECREATION CENTERS
OF SUN CITY, INC.

Presents

THE 23RD ANNUAL



"RING THAT BELL"

Wednesday, July 4, 2000

8am

Bell Recreation Center
DEL WEBB MEMORIAL GARDEN

"AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

"GOD BLESS AMERICA"

God Bless America
Land that I love;
Stand beside her
And guide her
Through the night
With the light from above.
From the mountains
To the prairies
To the ocean white with foam;
God Bless America
My Home Sweet Home,
God Bless America
My Home Sweet Home.

"RING THAT BELL" PROGRAM

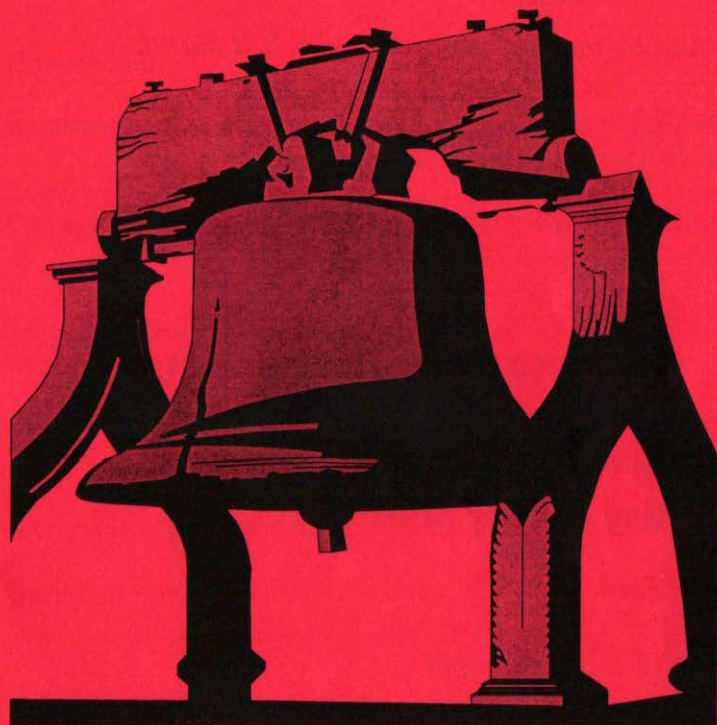
- Welcome Richard Pullen, Master of Ceremonies
Freedoms Foundation
- Invocation Pastor Ed White, Retired
The Congregational Church of Sun City
- Honor Guard The American Legion Post 101 of Sun City
Martha Albano, Paul Holt, William Privatt & James Wyckoff
- "Pledge of Allegiance" Ray Mills
Uncle Sam – Freedoms Foundation
- "The National Anthem" Lucy Hays, Vocalist
Audience Participation
- Introductions & Acknowledgment..... Richard Pullen
- "America, the Beautiful" Lucy Hays, Vocalist
Audience Participation
- Keynote Address..... Marc Spitzer
Commissioner of the Arizona Corporation Commission
- "God Bless America" Lucy Hays, Vocalist
Audience Participation

*Ring That Bell
Everyone Participating*

THE RECREATION CENTERS
OF SUN CITY, INC.

Presents

THE 25th ANNUAL



"RING THAT BELL"

Friday, July 4, 2003

8am

Bell Recreation Center

DEL WEBB MEMORIAL GARDEN

“PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE”

I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

Of the United States of America

And to the Republic for which it stands

One Nation, under God, indivisible

With liberty and justice for all!

“SPECIAL THANKS” TO:

- Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge –
Ray & Betty Mills
- Russell Dix
- Reverend Blase Meyer
- Sun City Sheriff’s Posse Honor Guard
- Lucy Hays
- Jane Freeman
- Jerry Houston
- Mike Mahoney
- Dick Stout, Sound Engineer
- Bell Center Staff

“RING THAT BELL” PROGRAM

- Greeters Uncle Sam & Betsy Ross
Ray & Betty Mills, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge
- Master of Ceremonies Russell Dix, Commander
American Legion Post #101
- Honor Guard The Sun City Sheriff’s Posse
- Invocation..... Reverend Blase Meyer
St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church of Sun City
- “Pledge of Allegiance” Uncle Sam
Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge
- “The National Anthem” Lucy Hays, Vocalist
Audience Participation
- “Freedom Shrine” Jane Freeman
Sun Cities Historical Society
- “America, The Beautiful” Lucy Hays, Vocalist
- Introduction of Speaker..... Jerry Houston, Commander
Military Order of Purple Heart, Sun Cities Chapter 691
- Keynote Speaker Mike Mahoney
Past Commander, Military Order of Purple Heart
The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign War
The Northwest Valley Veterans Association
- Benediction Reverend Blase Meyer
St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church
- Retire the Colors Sun City Posse
- “God Bless America” Lucy Hays, Vocalist
Audience Participation

Ring That Bell - Everyone Participating

Sun City's Liberty Bell was "born" in September 1975, when the Bicentennial Committees met to plan some of the many Sun City celebrations for our national birthday party. One of the objectives was to find a single event or project that would have permanence and significance long after the bicentennial year festivities were over.

About 120 Sun Citians, representing many organizations, convened and were divided into 13 "brainstorming" groups. The suggestion of a Liberty Bell appeared on every list submitted by the groups, and later, put to the test of a newspaper poll; the Liberty Bell led all the other projects the Bicentennial Committees proposed.

The DEL WEBB Company offered to underwrite the cost of the bell, and one of our residents came up with the idea of a metal drive, which would enable all Sun Citians to be a part of the project. On January 15, 1976, an estimated 1,500 residents contributed to the metal drive, creating a mountain of family treasures, precious personal mementos, wedding rings and jewelry, bric-a-brac, statuary, souvenirs from our country's wars, and musical instruments, to mention just a few of the varied items that totaled some 7,000 pounds. It was explained to the donors that any metal not compatible with the casting process would be used in the base of the bell.

THEN the artists, the craftsmen, and the foundry workers took over. The metal was processed by a Pennsylvania foundry and sent to Asten, Holland, where the bell was cast, an exact replica in size and design of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia. The original, however, was made by a sand cast process, which gives it a mottled surface. The Sun City Liberty Bell has a smoother finish because it was made by a lost wax and plaster casting method, treated with a sulfuric liquid to give it the same color as the original.

THE LIBERTY BELL arrived in Sun City on July 5, 1976, and it was unveiled at the Sun Bowl on July 8th. On November 15th it was officially dedicated and the time capsule in its base, containing memorabilia and messages of love from our generation to future generations, was sealed.

WHEN you visit the Sun City Liberty Bell, ring it. It has a fine, strong, and free sound.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF SUN CITY, ARIZONA, IN 1976, THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF OUR NATION DEDICATE THIS BELL TO THE FUTURE. MAY WE WITH THE WISDOM OF THOSE WHO WROTE OUR CONSTITUTION, WITH THE FAITH OF THOSE WHO PRESSED WESTWARD IN COVERED WAGONS, WITH THE COURAGE OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR OUR FREEDOM, BE VIGILANT THAT WE MAY PRESERVE OUR HERITAGE. MAY OUR LIBERTY BELL RING OUT FOR FREEDOM IN ALL TIME TO COME.

(Plaque on the front of the bell)

THIS LIBERTY BELL COMMEMORATES THE UNITED STATES BICENTENNIAL. SUN CITIAN DONATED THE METAL. THE BELL WAS CAST IN ASTEN, HOLLAND, BY SCHULMERICH CARILLIONS, INC. THE COST WAS UNDERWRITTEN BY THE DEL E. WEBB DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, AS A GIFT TO SUN CITY. THE TIME CAPSULE SEALED UNDER THIS PLAQUE IS TO BE OPENED IN THE YEAR 2026.

(Plaque on the back of the bell)



SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

February 8, 1999

Dear Members and Friends,

Here is a bit of history you should know. According to the Recreation Centers News for October, 1982, THE SUN CITY and SUN CITY WEST EXCHANGE CLUBS started a new tradition. They built a kiosk in the main entryway at Bell Center which they called THE FREEDOM SHRINE. On October 11, they dedicated it with U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater as the main speaker.

This six sided kiosk displayed important documents from the history of our country which served to remind us of the importance of our freedom. They dedicated this Shrine to the Sun Cities with the intention of having a celebration each year recognizing its purpose.

Sometime, as the years went on, the Exchange Clubs went out of existence and the kiosk, with the hot Arizona sunshine beaming on the documents, became badly sunburned. At the request of the Sun City Recreation Center our historical society agreed to take the responsibility of replacing the damaged documents and arranging new displays. The Recreation Center assisted by installing a protective sun screen above the kiosk.

Our Vice President, Jim Hawks, has secured new documents and members of the Bell Woodworking Club made frames to fit the panels. The historical society will continue to plan the displays which will be changed periodically.

It is time now to have another celebration of the Freedom Shrine. Jim Hawks, in cooperation with the Recreation Center has planned a special program to be held on February 24, 10:45 a.m. at the Bell Center next to the Bell Library on 99th Ave. just south of Bell Road in Sun City. See the accompanying flyer for details. Chairs will be provided for the audience.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS CELEBRATION OF OUR FREEDOM.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Street
President

Freedom Shrine receives new look

Rec Centers, Historical Society plan re-dedication ceremony

By **MARK CASSIO**
Independent Newspapers

Nearly five months before July 4, Sun Citians are invited to celebrate American freedom.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society and Recreation Centers of Sun City host a special ceremony from 10:45 a.m. to noon Feb. 24 to re-dedicate the Freedom Shrine outside Bell Recreation Center Library, 16820 N. 99th Ave.

The Freedom Shrine — originally presented to Sun Citians by the Exchange Clubs of the Sun Cities Oct. 11, 1982, displays within its six glass-covered panels reproductions of important historical documents

from the Revolutionary War era.

Deceased United States Sen. Barry Goldwater served as keynote speaker at the first dedication almost 17 years ago.

Though the shrine's original design and structure were preserved for historical authenticity, changes have been made to better preserve its documents.

In the past, the six-sided kiosk and its documents were damaged by constant exposure to Arizona's fierce sunshine.

Now the shrine stands protected beneath a large roof constructed by the Rec Centers.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society has worked for the past year

to secure new document reproductions from the National Archives to revamp the shrine display, said Jim Hawks, vice president.

Bell Woodworking Club members crafted six 24-inch by 36-inch frames to house the shrine documents.

Transcripts, type-written by the Historical Society, will be displayed alongside each document to clarify outdated language, Mr. Hawks said.

At the ceremony, Richard Hudnall, costumed in full Revolutionary War regalia, will portray ancestor William Hudnall of the Bedford Company Virginia Militia — a colonial soldier.

The "soldier" will describe his

equipment and life on the battlefield's front lines.

Mr. Hawks; Bob Briscoe, Rec Centers board president; and retired Brigadier Gen. Rob Williams of the Phoenix Chapter of the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, will address the audience, too.

The program also includes music by Dutch Schultz.

Chairs will be available for celebration participants.

The event is sponsored by the Historical Society and Rec Centers in conjunction with the Phoenix Freedoms Foundation.

The Historical Society will periodically change the shrine's documents to freshen the display, Mr. Hawks said.

**BE A PART OF
SUN CITIES HISTORY!**

**COME AND HELP RE-DEDICATE THE
FREEDOM SHRINE IN BELL CENTER**

**AND ENJOY
RICHARD HUDNALL
AS
THE COLONIAL SOLDIER**

**ATTIRED IN FULL REVOLUTIONARY
WAR REGALIA HE WILL DESCRIBE
HIS EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS LIFE
ON THE BATTLEFIELD**



WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 24, 1999

10:45 AM

BELL CENTER AT 99TH & BELL ROAD

SEATING PROVIDED

**SPONSORED BY THE SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND THE
RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PHOENIX
AREA CHAPTER, FREEDOMS FOUNDATION AT VALLEY FORGE**

Signers story misleading

Dear Ann Landers: Last July 4th, you printed an inspirational essay about what happened to the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The writer said five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the war, and another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or the hardships of the war.

The writer also said Carter Braxton lost his ships, went into debt and died in rags. Thomas McKean was forced to live in hiding and wound up poverty-stricken. Thomas Nelson Jr.'s home was destroyed when the British took it over as their headquarters, and Nelson told Washington to fire on it. He died bankrupt. Francis Lewis lost his home, and his wife was jailed. John Hart's fields were destroyed, and he died heartbroken.

The essay brought a tear to my eye. Unfortunately, a lot of the information in it was incorrect or misleading. Here's what the facts say:

No signer was killed outright by the British, and only one, Richard Stockton, is said to have been imprisoned solely for having signed the Declaration of Independence. The others were captured while fighting in the army and were treated just like any other prisoner of war (which was fairly harsh), but they were not tortured. Of the 56 signers, 17 (not nine) held commissions in the army or did medical duty during the war. Many of those whose property was looted or destroyed managed to re-establish themselves financially after the war.

Carter Braxton did suffer financial hardship because of the British, but he retained other holdings. What ruined him were commercial setbacks after the war. Thomas McKean did not die in poverty. In fact, he was quite wealthy when he died at the age of 83 in 1817. No one knows for sure if



Thomas Nelson's home was fired upon (the source of this story is family legend), but I heard the home was turned into a tourist attraction after the war, and additional cannonball holes were added for "authenticity."

The other facts are essentially correct, but give the impression that these men died as a result of wounds suffered in the war, or they died in poverty. In reality, the majority survived the war and rebuilt their fortunes.

The signers of the Declaration of Independence knew they could have been targeted by the British as traitors. They showed tremendous courage and bravery by willingly putting their names on a document that could bring about their deaths. They were remarkable men. We do not need to embellish the truth. —
History Buff in Dallas

Dear History Buff: Thank you for your excellent research. You were not the only one to tell me that the facts presented in my column were misleading. There was also some controversy about the author. Some readers insisted the original piece was written by the father of Rush Limbaugh Jr. (Rush Sr.) during World War II.

Another said the author was Peter McWilliams, a libertarian writer. Several said the true author is Gary Hildreth of Erie, Pa.

So, dear readers, those who want the entire history lesson can look up the facts at the local library or on the Internet. I've done my part.

To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit Creators Syndicate web page: www.creators.com.

DECLARATION OF THE FREEDOM SHRINE

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Our Nation
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The County of Maricopa
The Community of Sun City

It is the intent of this effort to help the community become aware of the importance of our freedoms, and to strengthen citizen appreciation.

Sun Cities' Area Historical Society

President Phyllis L. Street

Vice President James W. Hawks

Freedom Shrine shines



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Jim Hawks and Phyllis Street of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society replace documents in the Freedom Shrine kiosk at Bell Recreation Center. A dedication celebration took place at 10:45 this morning outside the Bell Library.

COVER!

Refurbished kiosk houses historic documents

By **JEFF OWENS**
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The Founding Fathers sought a more perfect Union.

Mostly satisfied with the Union, Jim Hawks of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society sought a more perfect kiosk at the entrance to the Bell Library.

After much hard work on his part, the large white kiosk — dubbed "The Freedom Shrine" — is being rededicated today at a 10:45 a.m. ceremony by members of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society and Recreation Centers of Sun City.

The 16-year-old kiosk suffered years of neglect and sun, but has been refurbished with copies of some of America's most famous and cherished documents, plus a few which aren't as famous but are no less historic and interesting.

It's like having a little slice of the National Archives right here in Sun City: Hawks has fitted the Freedom Shrine with copies of a first draft of the U.S. Constitution, Arizona's 1912 women's suffrage amendment and governor's proclamation, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the Bill of Rights, the Japanese surrender of 1945, and two documents from the Confederation Congress of the 1780s.

Plans call for new documents to be posted every six months. Hawks has already collected enough archival material for 18 panels — enough to last more than a year.

The documents are mounted under glass on the hexagonal kiosk's six panels.

Hawks, vice president of the Historical Society, said his goal was to make the display more interesting.

"I'm going to try to get some things a lot of people have never seen."

Many probably haven't seen documents such as those from the Confederation Congress or the World

War II Japanese surrender. Hawks said he plans to display copies of the Mayflower Compact, Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and the presidential oath of office.

There will be some local color too, because Hawks said he felt that old state, county and even Sun City documents would be of interest to area residents. Imagine the Rec Center bylaws posted elegantly next to George Washington's farewell address.

Because of the archaic language, syntax and penmanship, Hawks has

provided "translations" for several of the more difficult to read documents.

"When I first got involved with this, I thought it would be easy," he said with a slight laugh. "It's not."

Renovating the kiosk was a joint venture — the Historical Society provided the documents, and the Rec Centers footed the bill.

Rec Centers President Bob Briscoe said it was a pleasure.

"They did an excellent job," Briscoe said. "I think it's really nice. They put a lot of time and effort into

it. I don't think a lot of people are aware of it, but it's a nice little gift, basically, from the Historical Society."

The Freedom Shrine was originally dedicated on Oct. 11, 1982 by guest speaker Sen. Barry Goldwater. It was built by the now-defunct Sun City and Sun City West Exchange clubs. After that, the kiosk fell into disrepair in the Arizona heat.

"It just sat there and got sunburned," Hawks said. "It was looking pretty tired."

Historians re-dedicate Freedom Shrine



As Sousa marches resounded, Phyllis Street and Jim Hawks (l.) of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society and Bob Briscoe, president of Sun City Recreation Centers, greeted Sun Citians who came to celebrate the rededication of the Freedom Shrine in the Bell Center. At left, Richard Hudnall stands at attention as he portrays a Colonial soldier.

Photos, Dorothy Steck

By Dorothy Steck

On Feb. 24, the Sun Cities Area Historical Society re-dedicated the Freedom Shrine containing copies of historical documents in a kiosk located in Bell Center. Sun Citians came to the re-dedication celebration and to see the new sun screen over the kiosk that will protect the documents from the sun.

After Pres. Phyllis Street welcomed everyone, John Hawks explained why a re-dedication was indicated. Over the years, the

documents in glass paneled cases were sun-damaged, and it was necessary to restore, replace, protect them and "re-dedicate the Shrine that is a reminder of the freedom in our country."

Unexpectedly, invited students from Peoria School District arrived, and it gave double meaning to the ceremony with speakers focusing on the Constitution written in the past and the responsibility of students in upholding it in the future. Brig. Gen. (ret.) Bob Williams and Bob Briscoe, Pres. of the SC Recreation Centers, encouraged students to maintain freedoms written in the Constitution.

Another highlight of the event

See **FREEDOM**, Page D4

FREEDOM: Shrine Re-dedication, from Page D1

was Richard Hudnall portraying a Colonial Soldier. Hudnall was attired in full Revolutionary War regalia and described the uniform, life and times of a front line soldier.

The Freedom Shrine was presented to SC by the Exchange Club of the Sun Cities in October 1992. The Historical Society will continue to plan displays which will be changed periodically.

56 men of 'undaunted resolution'

The actual signing of the Declaration of Independence occurred Aug. 2, 1776, nearly a month after the 50-odd delegates of the 13 American colonies had hammered out the precise wording of the astonishingly eloquent statement originally penned by Thomas Jefferson.

William Ellery, a congressional delegate from Rhode Island, climbed up to a position where he could see the faces of each of his fellow members of the Second Continental Congress as they signed their names to "The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America."

"I was determined to see how they all looked as they signed what might be their death warrants," Ellery wrote.

"Undaunted resolution," Ellery observed, was evident on every countenance. The president of the Congress, John Han-

cock, made certain that the impressive flourish of his signature would not be missed: "John Bull can read my name without spectacles, and may now double his reward of 500 pounds on my head."

By signing the Declaration that they had approved on July 4, 1776 — 225 years ago today — the 56 men of the 13 now-former colonies did in fact place their livelihoods, if not their lives, in considerable peril. Over the course of the lengthy conflict to come with Great Britain, many of the signers of the Declaration of Independence would lose their lands, their fortunes and their freedom. Several paid for their rebellion with imprisonment. One, Francis Lewis of New York, would lose his wife, whose health failed upon her imprisonment by the British. Many of them would loan fortunes to the cause, money that few of them ever would see again.

Fast-forward to modern times.

A year ago at this time, scandal brewed over the historical accuracy of several accounts of the signers' fates. A columnist for the *Boston Globe* was suspended for not informing readers that some of the material he used for his column had come from depictions of the signers that he found on the Internet. And radio commentators Rush Limbaugh and Paul Harvey took heat from several historians who debated their characterizations of events.

A consequence of that teapot tempest last year appears to be a troubling, essentially uninformed, belief that few of the brave signers of the Declaration actually suffered deprivation for their cause, that by and large they were landed American "aristocrats," many of whom profited from the Revolution.

In fact, some did earn money from the war. But

many more of the signers suffered great loss as a result of their commitment to the new nation.

To help set the record straight, *The Republic* examined the biographies of the signers of the Declaration. Below is a list of signers who truly did endure hardship for their act of rebellion against King George III with their signatures. We should credit for their assistance the librarians of the Phoenix Public Library and Audrey Fischer of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Further, we referred to the *World Book Encyclopedia*; *Our Nation's Great Heritage* by Donald E. Cooke; *Signers of the Declaration*, a historical account prepared by the United States Department of the Interior and edited by Robert G. Ferris in 1973; and *Framers of the*

Constitution, a publication commissioned by the National Archives Trust Board and edited in 1986 by James H. Charleton, Robert G. Ferris and Mary C. Ryan.

As much as the Constitution itself, the Declaration of Independence is a masterful expression of the American perspective.

From its mesmerizing opening statement — "When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another ..." — to its emphatic pronouncement of "self-evident" truths — "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of

Happiness" — to its heroic conclusion that "we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor," the Declaration is a document for the ages.

It was an expression of democratic freedom and the pursuit of justice that has proved well worth fighting for.

This editorial was researched and written by Doug MacEachern. Editorials represent the opinion of the newspaper, whose Editorial Board consists of Keven Ann Willey, Phil Boas, Richard de Uriarte, Jennifer Dokes, Kathleen Ingley, MacEachern, Joel Nilsson, O. Ricardo Pimentel, Robert Robb, Laurie Roberts, Paul Schatt, Linda Valdez, Ken Western and Steve Benson.

Georgia

① Button Gwinnett

British-born, the mercenary Gwinnett was named governor of Georgia in 1777, which included command of the state militia. After ordering a disastrous Florida campaign against the British, Gwinnett was publicly denounced by a general of Georgia troops. The two fought a duel, and both were wounded, Gwinnett most severely. He died 11 days later at age 42.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.
The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,
... it became necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to ...
... and of ...
... self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, ...
... and to ...

IN CONGRESS

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them; a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed;—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Liberty.

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2 Lyman Hall
In 1778, British troops leveled his rice plantation and terrorized his family.

North Carolina

3 William Hooper
Having barely escaped capture as a British raiding party descended on his Wilmington, N.C., farm in 1780, Hooper watched the troops raze his property.

4 Joseph Hewes
A reluctant signer of the Declaration, Hewes nevertheless threw himself into the cause once the war began, working 12 to 14 hours daily to help George Washington plan his campaigns and to help create a Continental Navy. He collapsed and died in autumn 1779 at age 49.

South Carolina

5 Edward Rutledge
An artillery officer in the South Carolina militia, Rutledge was captured in defense of Charleston. After months as a prisoner of war, Rutledge and a number of other prominent locals were herded onto a ship and sent off to a military prison in Florida, where he stayed more than a year. Rutledge's mother also was arrested for a time by the British.

6 Thomas Heyward Jr.
A Charleston judge and farmer, Heyward in 1779 sentenced convicted traitors to hanging shortly before donning his uniform to go fight. An artillery officer with Rutledge, Heyward was seriously wounded and taken prisoner with Rutledge. He also was sent to the Florida prison. His plantation, meanwhile, was burned to the ground, and his wife died before his release.

7 Arthur Middleton
Also captured by the British during the battle of Charleston, Middleton, like his fellow South Carolinian signers, also saw his plantation razed.

Virginia

8 Thomas Nelson Jr.
A brigadier general of the Virginia militia, Nelson participated in the encirclement of Cornwallis at Yorktown. During the siege, Nelson noticed that his own artillery was avoiding firing on his seized mansion, out of respect for their commanding officer. Nelson himself is said to have directed fire on his house, killing two British officers.

9 Carter Braxton
A wealthy shipping magnate from King William County, Braxton lost nearly every one of his merchant ships to sinking or capture by the British. Though deeply in debt after the war, he continued to serve in

...and we are bound to dissolve these connections, which would invidiously interupt our connections and correspondence. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have begged their aid in our common defence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of freedom. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of freedom. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of freedom.

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

10 John Hancock
11 John Adams
12 George Clymer
13 Francis Lewis
14 Philip Livingston
15 John Jay
16 Robert R. Livingston
17 John Jay
18 John Jay
19 John Jay

15 Philip Livingston
A landed member of the gentry, Livingston's 150,000-acre New York country estate was seized by the British. Despite his loss, Livingston continued funneling money for the war to Congress. The strain took its toll on him, however. He died less than two years after signing the Declaration, in York, Pa., where Congress had fled to escape the Redcoats.

16 Francis Lewis
In his life, Welsh-born Lewis had been orphaned, shipwrecked off Ireland, captured by Indians in the French and Indian War and, as a result, imprisoned for seven years in France. He nevertheless got rich in the merchandise business in New York and retired to public service by age 52. He was a leading opponent of the British Stamp Act and other restrictive colonial laws. Scarcely a month after signing the Declaration, the British burned down his handsome home in what is now Flushing, N.Y. They threw his wife into a military prison, where she existed with no change of clothes, and no bed for months. She died shortly after her release two years later.

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A wealthy shipping magnate from King William County, Braxton lost nearly every one of his merchant ships to sinking or capture by the British. Though deeply in debt after the war, he continued to serve in the Virginia Legislature until he died of a stroke in 1797 at age 61.

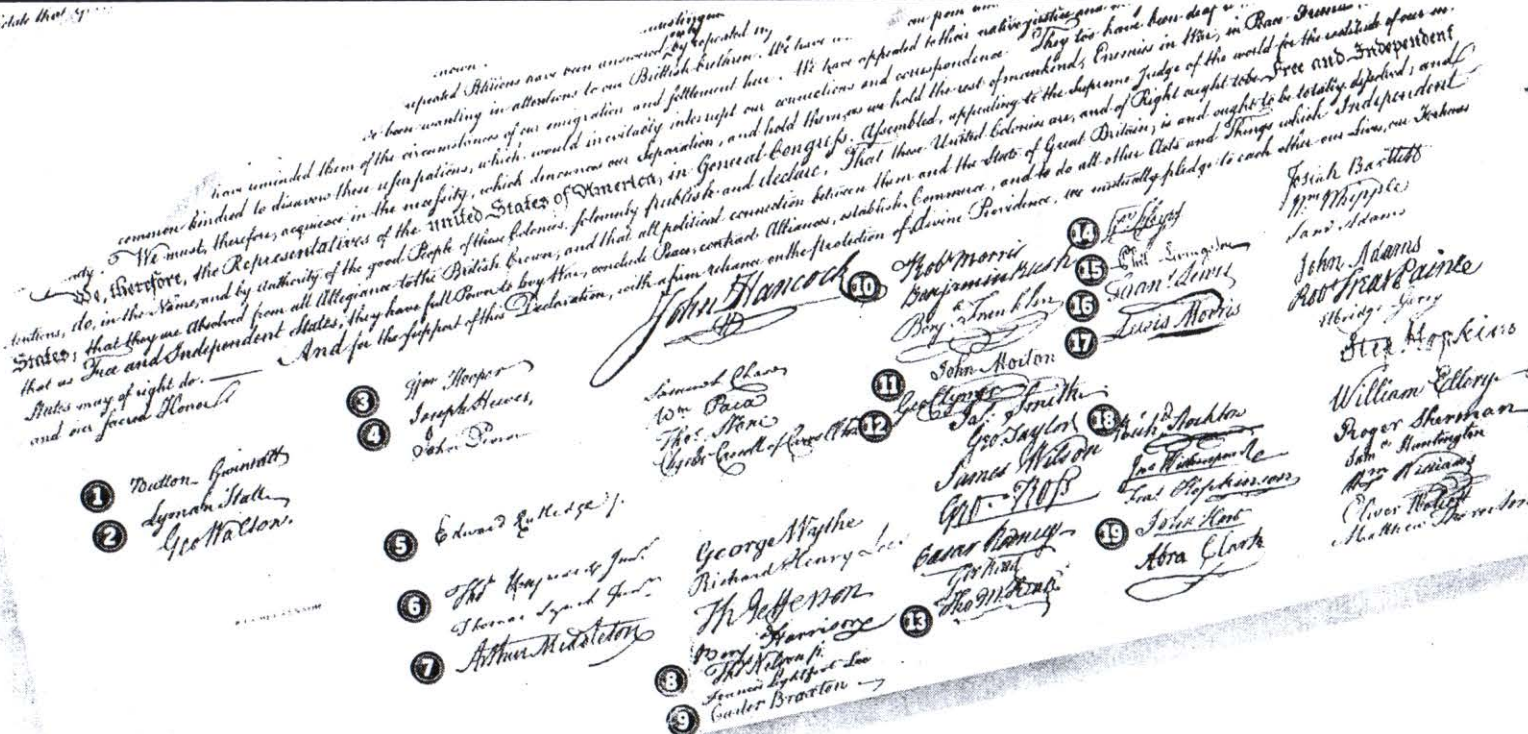
Pennsylvania

Robert Morris

A wealthy financier and shipping tycoon, Morris lost more than 100 ships in the war and barely managed to avoid bankruptcy. Still, he kept funds flowing into the government through the war. Living dangerously, Morris often barely eluded capture during midnight rides to meet European agents in dark taverns. He persuaded the French to contribute more than \$200,000 to the revolution and personally issued more than \$1 million in credit to the cause. In 1798, his financial house of cards at last collapsed, and he spent more than two years in debtors' prison in Philadelphia. He spent his last years embittered and living on a meager annuity before dying in 1806 at age 72.

John Morton

Considered a traitor by loyalist Pennsylvania Quakers, Morton was the first signer to die, in April 1777, reportedly of a fever resulting from depression over rejection by his friends. Still, his dying words, according to family, were: "Tell them that they shall acknowledge it to have been the most glorious service that I ever rendered to my country."



1. Madison, Pinckney
2. Lyman Hall, George Walton

3. John Hancock
4. Joseph Hewes, Thomas Paine

5. Edward Rutledge
6. The Marquis de Lafayette
7. Arthur Middleton

8. George Wythe
9. Richard Henry Lee
10. John Hancock
11. John Adams
12. George Clymer
13. Thomas McKean
14. William Floyd

15. Philip Livingston

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17. Lewis Morris

A militia officer during the war, Morris' Westchester County estate was sacked and burned almost immediately after the signing. Nevertheless, he restored his estate after the war's end and managed it while serving in the New York Senate until his death in 1798 at age 71.

New Jersey

18. Richard Stockton

After having rushed his family out of harm's way from their Princeton, N.J., mansion, which was sacked and burned, Stockton was on his way back to Philadelphia when he was betrayed by loyalists and captured. He was imprisoned, frequently beaten and nearly starved. Released in poor health during a prisoner exchange, Stockton died an invalid in 1781.

19. John Hart

Hessian mercenaries seized Hart's farm near Trenton, N.J. They looted and burned his home, made off with his livestock and destroyed his grist mills. Already gravely ill, Hart's wife died soon afterward, and their 13 children were scattered among various neighbors and friends. After three years of living on the run and sleeping in barns, Hart's own health quickly began to fail, and he died at age 68 in 1779.

Delaware

13. Thomas McKean

Wrote McKean to John Adams in 1777: "I was hunted like a fox by the enemy and compelled to remove my family five times in a few months." Eventually, McKean, the chief administrator of Delaware state government, found refuge in a log cabin 100 miles from his home. Afterward, he would serve as the president of Congress under the Articles of Confederation and, after moving to Pennsylvania, as chief justice for that state.

New York

14. William Floyd

The British seized Floyd's farming estate in Suffolk County, N.Y., in autumn of 1776 and allowed local crown loyalists to plunder his machinery and livestock. He and his family would not return for the entire seven years of the war. Despite this, he continued serving in Congress, as well as in the state Senate of New York.

From the Publisher

Community bell ceremony a symbol and a tradition

By Bret McKeand

Independent Newspapers

The annual "Ring that Bell" Ceremony held each year on the Fourth of July at Bell Recreation Center has become a time-honored tradition in Sun City.

But many of our community's newer residents may not be aware of the story behind the Liberty Bell replica that stands as the centerpiece in Memorial Garden.

More than just a symbol of freedom and democracy, Sun City's Liberty Bell stands as a shrine to one community's efforts to memorialize its founder and celebrate the bicentennial of its country.

The year was 1975 and throughout the nation, communities such as Sun City were searching for a proper and fitting way to mark the nation's 200th birthday.

In Sun City, a group of community leaders created a committee to come up with their own bicentennial celebration. But committee members wanted to do something more than just a parade and fireworks – they wanted something

that would stand for years to come.

Del E. Webb, the founder of Sun City, had just died a year before – ironically on July 4, 1974 – and some members of the planning group thought it fitting to tie some type of memorial honoring Webb into the bicentennial project.

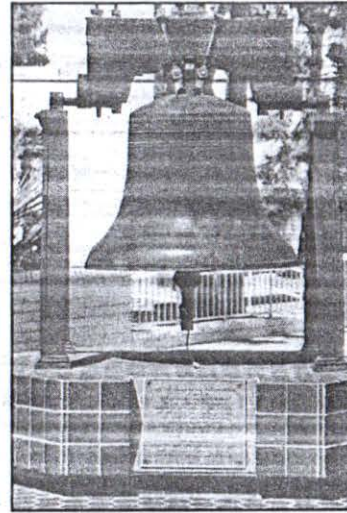
"Del Webb had just died and a mood had built up in the community that we just had to have some type of memorial for the man," recalled the late Doug Morris in a conversation with me in 1985. Mr. Morris was the longtime editor of the Sun City Citizen, the weekly newspaper that became the Independent.

A steering committee was formed and the call went out to the community: What type of memorial would work?

A number of great ideas were returned, but the most popular suggestion revolved around a "freedom bell."

At the time, there was only one other exact replica of the famed Philadelphia Liberty Bell and that sat in a farmer's market in Los Angeles. That and the Philadelphia bell were encased in glass and not allowed to be touched by human hands.

Mr. Morris said it was decided early on that Sun City's Liberty Bell would be out in the open and



accessible to the public.

The Del Webb Corp. agreed to underwrite the cost of the project with one condition: The community had to supply the metal to make the bell.

So, a communitywide drive was conducted and more than 1,500 residents dumped over 7,000 pounds of scrap metal in the parking lot of what was then Sun City Stadium.

The metal was melted down and shipped to Arsten, Holland, to be cast in the same mold used to create the original Liberty Bell (the famous crack had to be put in afterward).

The bell arrived in Sun City one

day late – July 5, 1976 – and unveiled to the community during a ceremony held July 8 at the Sun Bowl.

"Sun Citians touched it reverently, and with a special kind of pride, because something of them was merged in its being," recalled Mr. Morris.

Later that year the bell was permanently installed at Bell Center.

The "Ring that Bell" Ceremony was started the next year by Mr. Morris. In an editorial published in the Citizen, Mr. Morris encouraged all those in attendance to "ring the bell" to show their pride in their country and community.

It's a message that 30 years later still rings true.

The world has changed over the past three decades, but our values and our beliefs in democracy, our country and our sense of community are stronger than ever.

This Fourth of July – and any day you happen to walk by our Liberty Bell – give that rope a tug! Those chimes speak volumes when it comes to expressing our love for the freedoms and values we hold dearly.

Editor's note: Bret McKeand began working for the Independent as a reporter in 1983. He has served as editor and publisher and presently serves as publisher.



Bret McKeand