

Bank mural brings back memories

FULL CIRCLE: Surprise woman saw art on her workplace's wall as child

BRUCE ELLISON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Irma Arana of Surprise can remember 25 years back to when she first visited what was then the First National Bank on Grand Avenue in Sun City with her father.

"I loved it in there because of the mural that had so many kids on it," she said recently.

These days, Arana can see the colorful and large Jay Datus mural every day.

She's now a customer service representative at the Desert Schools Federal Credit Union, which purchased the former bank office — and the mural — a year ago, and now opened it as its Northwest Valley branch in May.

On Wednesday, Arana showed the mural, called "Children of the World," to a Sun City customer couple, Margaret and Archie Schiavo, who had asked about it.

When Desert Schools purchased the building, which earlier had housed a First Interstate Bank and then a Wells Fargo Bank office, local history buffs feared for what would become of the work of art installed in the late 1960s that many revered and most remembered.

But the credit union and its remodeling contractors carefully preserved the

artistry, painted directly on the wall near the ceiling, and cleaned it.

Its full effects now radiate down on some old-timers and the new customers the credit union has brought to the structure.

C. Lee Brice, vice president of marketing at Desert Schools, said his organization was "pleased to have protected this incredible piece of art and return it to a place of high visibility.

"In every community we serve," he said, "we take an interest in what is uniquely theirs, and in Sun City it was clear that this" work had significance."

The only thing missing is a plaque that once was on the wall under the mural, explaining it. Wells Fargo retained that for its own archives when it sold the building. A replica, or similar wording, may take its place later.

The credit union, and mural, are in the Grand Plaza Shopping Center, 10725 Grand Ave.

Datus, a Phoenix artist, painted seven works for the old First National Bank and was a well-known muralist. Some of his work now is in the state Capitol Museum and at the Kachina School of Art, a school and gallery he founded.

His first mural, done for the state library when he was just 23, in 1937, is called, "The Pageant of Arizona Progress," in eight panels.

The largest Datus mural was in the main banking hall of the Arizona Bank and Trust Co., in Tucson, and was called "The Legend of the Seven Cities of Cibola."

Datus died in 1974.

Daily News-Sun • Saturday, Aug. 19, and Sunday, Aug. 20, 2000



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Irma Arana of Surprise works at the Desert School Federal Credit Union in Sun City that houses a mural by Jay Datus that Arana remembers from when she was a child and would visit the then-bank.

MAY 23-29, 2001

A Name to Know

Sun City resident **Bev Davis** loves people and loves to be busy, so for the last 21 years she has made volunteering one of her top priorities.

Since moving to the City of Volunteers in 1987, Mrs. Davis has made her presence known on countless committees, leagues and boards.



In 1988 she became tournament director at Riverview Golf Course and then advanced to chairman. The year 1993 found her as president of the Sun City Women's Golf Association and in 1994 she was elected to the Arizona Women's Golf Association board where she served as state director. She also served as secretary and president of two bowling leagues until August 1999 when she was appointed to fill a four-month vacancy on the Recreation Centers of Sun City's board of directors.

Currently, Mrs. Davis is secretary of the RCSC board, president of the Sun City Foundation, chairman of the bowling and golf committees, co-chair of the entertainment, budget and finance and long-range planning committees.

She is also a liaison to the Northwest Valley Community Council and a member of the Presidents' Council.

Mrs. Davis said her volunteer work averages out to about 50 hours each week.

"I just love being busy and I love people," said Mrs. Davis. "I want to do whatever I can to help the members of the community have a better life. It's wonderful working here and I truly enjoy it."

Resident searches Mt. Ararat for proof of Ark

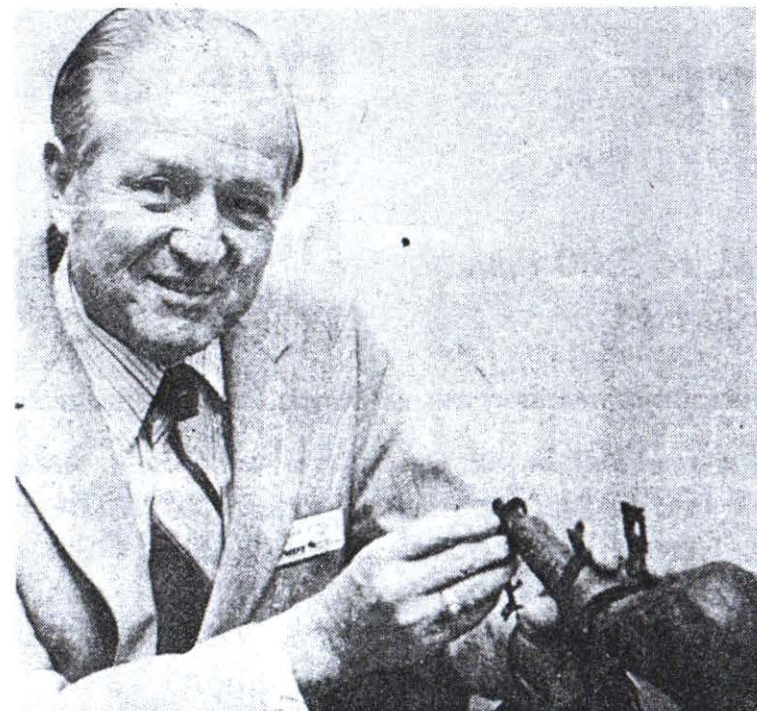
By YOLANDA MUHAMMAD
Sun Cities Independent

1/27/88
SC ad

Biblical histories are rooted in faith and often shrouded in mystery. And some of the most enduring questions center around Noah's Ark.

Long ago swept up in research on the ark, Sun Citian Dr. Howard K. Davis has led five expeditions to Mt. Ararat in Turkey in search of evidence to prove the ark's existence.

Dr. Davis' background is in archaeology, studying ancient civilizations at Central State University in Oklahoma. He is the founding president of Artesia Christian College and past presi-



DR. HOWARD DAVIS, noted archaeologist, has journeyed to Mt. Ararat in search of Noah's Ark. Here he holds a 100 year old canteen that has been used on expeditions to the ark.

dent of Midwest Christian College.

He also spent 14 years in Japan as a missionary. He has traveled extensively throughout Asia and Europe visiting archaeological excavation sites and touring areas holding Biblical significance.

Giving lectures and showing slides to religious, civic and scientific groups across the United States and in Canada, Dr. Davis has also appeared on television and radio discussing his findings.

His impressive credentials and works have made him one of the world's foremost authorities on Noah's Ark.

"My first trip to Mt. Ararat was in 1980. Five people went along. We raised the money for the trip ourselves. As an independent team we had more freedom to work as we wanted," Dr. Davis says.

A rapport has developed among the various teams exploring Mt. Ararat. "We share information," he says.

"Recently, teams from all around the world met for a convention in New Mexico. One of the men there, he is 80 years old, has been involved in the search for the ark all his life.

"What we found by reviewing the common ground, and what has come to light in the past few years, is that we know pretty well where the ark is -- we have concrete evidence as to its condition and position," Dr. Davis says.

The ark, he says, is partially buried in ice and rock. "Much of it is visible in August."

Mt. Ararat rises 17,000 feet on the eastern plain of Turkey. It is separated from Russia on the north by a river and from Iran on the east by a strip of desert.

The range covers more than 500 square miles. There is no timber anywhere on the mountain. Its barren volcanic slopes are continually in motion with rock slides that make climbing dangerous.

Ararat is topped by a 17-square-mile glacial ice cap, which is 400-feet thick in some spots. It has 65 major peaks and hundreds of ice-filled canyons.

Dr. Davis says the evidence surrounding the ark that has been gathered by various expeditions has now been augmented

See ARK, page 11

• ARK *From page one*

by satellite observance and computer work. Satellite photographs show the ark in two distinct pieces about a mile apart. Computers have been used to analyze the data from these photographs.

"From all we can determine from this research," Dr. Davis says, "the measurements of the ark coincide closely with the description in the Bible."

Carbon dating on pieces of wood found near the believed site of the ark were performed in the 1950s. A Frenchman named Novarrea brought the pieces back and they were sent to France, the United States, England and Germany for testing.

"Though the tests were not conclusive," Dr. Davis says, the information gathered does "indicate an ancient wood that had been hand tooled and fits all the descriptions that history has given us. Most of the reports we work from date back to Babylonian times.

"An expedition from Switzerland found a small pot that contained a residue in the bottom. When it was taken back and analyzed it was found to be honey."

Dr. Davis says there are difficulties with the Turkish government, which will not issue permits to groups to explore Mt. Ararat at the present time. He is not overly concerned, however.

"When the Lord is ready for the truth of the ark to be revealed, then it will be. The Lord holds precedence over all governments."

He is anxious to get back on the mountain for another rea-

son -- he and his teammates have been conducting tests for Ankara University in high altitude medical research.

"At 16,000 feet, we study the changes in blood and respiration. We are the guinea pigs. It takes five days from the time we start to reach the summit and it takes about the same time to become acclimatized to the climate and altitude."

Dr. Davis says that with the help of the findings of the many groups searching for the ark and the computer information, "we have a few scientists who are interested in being a part of our team and they have coached us on proper documentation.

"Once we have sufficient data to impress the scientific community, and we are near that point now, then there will be an interest in mounting an expedition with scientific equipment."

His wife, Kathryn, who sometimes accompanies him on the trips, helps out with preparing the food. They have been Sun City residents for just over two years. First coming to visit friends, they found they liked it enough to settle down here. "It is all we thought it to be and more," he says.

Even with all the dangers of sliding rock, sub-zero temperatures and the brushes with disaster Dr. Davis has experienced on the slopes of Ararat, he is ready to act on his goal to find and document the ark.

He says he plans to make another trip to Mt. Ararat as soon as the Turkish government allows it.

"I have my bags packed and I am ready to go at a moment's notice."

BETTER THAN AVERAGE

Sun Citian to enter second hall of fame

RICH OTT
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Daryl Dedic said he thinks of himself as an average bowler.

Yet soon, the Sun City resident will be inducted into a second bowling hall of fame during his 40 years of playing the sport.

The 65-year-old is already a member of the bowling hall of fame in Longmont, Colo. On Feb. 26, Dedic will be one of three bowlers inducted into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame during ceremonies at the Lakes Club.

"It's quite an honor really," Dedic said of becoming the 65th inductee into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame since 1984. "I was surprised. I knew I had the 170 average but I never gave it much thought."

The other members of the hall of fame's Class of 2000 are Harold Hoffman and Mike Reder. Each of this year's inductees will enter the hall of fame based on superior performance.

To be eligible based on superior performance, a male bowler must carry a minimum 170 average for at least five consecutive years or throw a perfect 300 game. The accomplishments must be in competition sanctioned by the American Bowling Congress.

Dedic began bowling at the age of 25 in Sidney, Neb.

"I think I'm better now than when I was younger because I bowl more," he said. Dedic bowls for three teams: Jerry Jackson Realty on Tuesdays, Meryl Lynch on Thursdays and Big O Tires on Fridays.

"Some guys bowl five to six times a week," he said. "I guess I could if I didn't golf." Dedic spends four days a week golfing, his other favorite pastime.

Dedic will be part of a

nine-person contingent that will travel to Albuquerque, N.M., in March to compete in a national bowling tournament.

"I don't think we'll win anything, but we will have a good time," Dedic said. "I admire the guys who are real consistent. Me, I could bowl a 250 one game and then turn around and bowl a 150."

"He (Dedic) is like any of us in this age group," said 77-year-old Dallas Barker, who was inducted into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame in 1998. "We are up and down and not consistent anymore."

Dedic did crack the 700 club with a three-game total of 702 during the spring at Lakeview Lanes.

"The night before I had a 698 and I thought there goes my chance at ever getting 700," he recalled. "I came back the next night with a 702."

The retired schoolteacher's personal-best single game was a 279 in Longmont. Dedic said he remembered beginning that game with four strikes before picking up one pin for a spare and then striking out.

"I don't think I'd ever get a 300," he said. "On the 12th frame I'd be too nervous and fall down. I once started a game with nine (strikes) in a row and I remember how nervous I was in the 10th."

Yet with the ball Dedic uses today — a 15½ pound Storm El Nino model — he definitely has a bigger hook on his bowling ball, which may make a 300 game possible one day.

"Nowadays, it's easier to get your ball to hook with these new balls," he said. "Which is good for us old guys."

Editor's note: The Daily News-Sun will have upcoming features on the other two inductees into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame.

DARYL DEDIC

OVER



LISA GOETTSCHE/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Daryl Dedic displays the form which helped him earn induction into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame. Dedic and two others will be inducted Feb. 26.

DAILY NEWS-SUN

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2003

Sun City loses pioneer physician

**COMMUNITY
M.D.:** Sun City's
second doctor
dies at 95

STAFF REPORT

A valuable piece of Sun City's history passed away last week.

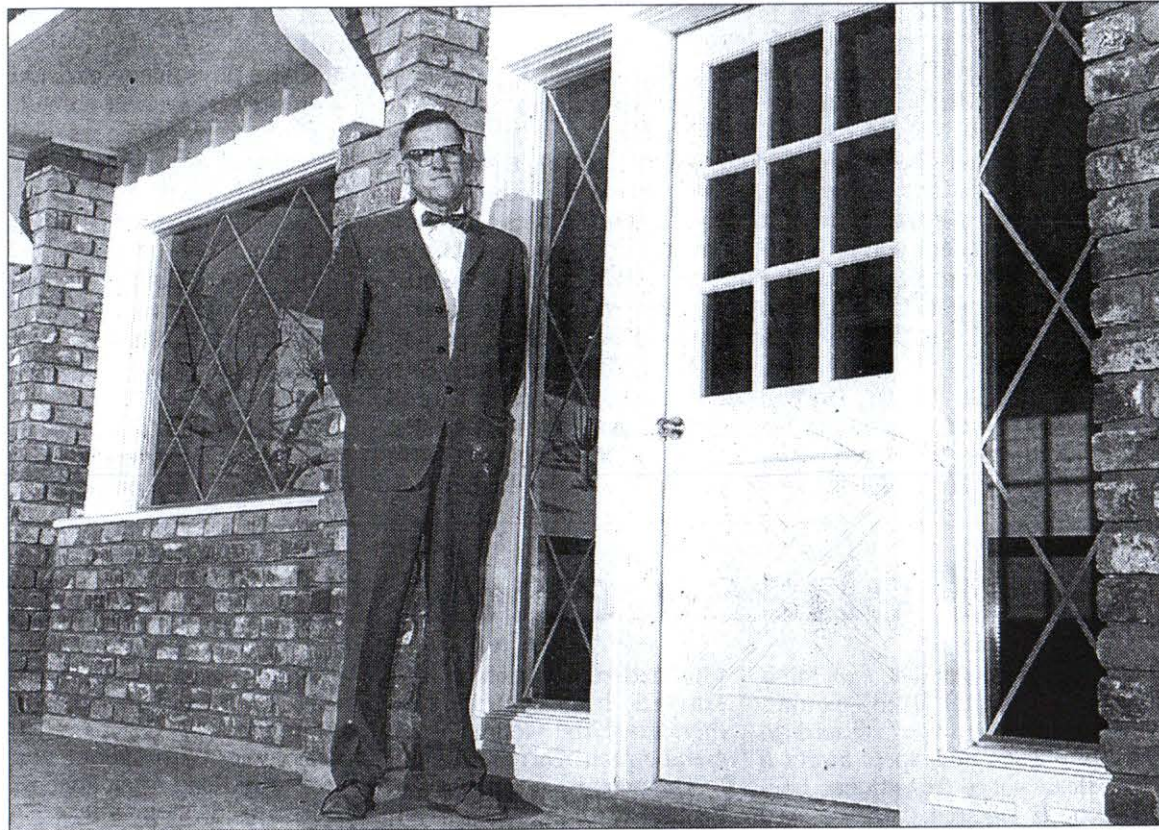
Dr. Edgar James Deissler, the second physician to practice in Sun City, died Feb. 28, 2003 at his home.

In 1961, when the population of Sun City was about 4,500, Deissler opened a medical office at 103rd and Grand avenues where he practiced medicine until retiring in 1975.

His Sun City practice included general practice and general surgery. He also helped establish the Eye Institute.

Deissler was born Jan. 16, 1908, in Meadville, Pa., and attended Allegheny College in Pennsylvania before graduating from Hahneman University, also in Pennsylvania in 1931.

Before relocating to Sun City, Deissler practiced medicine in Meadville from 1933 to 1960.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dr. Edgar Deissler stands outside his office at 103rd and Grand avenues in Sun City. He was the second physician to open a practice in Sun City, following Dr. Robert Stump.

Deissler also trained at the Mayo Clinic while serving in the Army Air Corps as a medical officer during World War II, and was awarded the Victory Medal as well as the American Campaign Medal.

Deissler was a member of the American College of

Surgeons, Sun City Masonic Lodge and the Consistory Coudersport of Pennsylvania. He also was a Sun City Pioneer Physician and a charter member of the Sun City Country Club.

Deissler established the Edgar J. Deissler, M.D.

Endowed Chair in surgery at his alma mater. He was awarded the Hahneman University President's award in recognition of his community service.

Deissler is survived by his wife, Zona; son Charles of Glendale and several

grandchildren.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. at Advantage Funeral Home, 11211 Michigan Ave. Youngtown. Services will be 10 a.m. Thursday at the United Church of Sun City, 11250 N. 107th Ave.

Local woman shares expert shelter advice

By Chris Seggerman
Independent Newspapers

Betty DellaCorte of Sun City knows firsthand how difficult it can be to get a women's shelter off the ground.

A lack of funding, lack of public awareness and sometimes lack of public trust can combine to slow down the process.

But the founder of one of the nation's first known shelters for battered women, Faith House in Glendale, Ariz., the closest shelter to the northwest Valley, also knows that such obstacles can be overcome.

"You just have to believe in

what you're doing and do it," Ms. DellaCorte said.

In a recent interview with the Independent, she encouraged those with the Unitarian Universalist Church in Surprise, who have been trying to coordinate a community effort to open a shelter after the collapse of the House of the Hope project there, to stick with it.

The chief fundraiser for the failed House of Hope, Diann Wilson, is currently facing felony charges for allegedly misappropriating funds earmarked for the shelter.

"They shouldn't have missed a beat," Ms. DellaCorte said.

Shelter

Continued From Page 1
mismanagement of funds led to financial trouble.

Faith House eventually was purchased by Prehab Services of Arizona, which now runs the facility.

Ms. DellaCorte said the survivor skills and persistence that helped her leave an abusive relationship with her husband also helped her deal with problems at Faith House.

In 1974, the Glendale City Council turned down a funding request for Faith House, telling her, "What you have is a dream, and we can't invest in a dream." However, the city recently donated \$300,000 to the reality that dream became.

"Be aware of everything going on within your organi-

People and organizations need to keep moving after any setback, she said.

"No matter what happens, you're a survivor," Ms. DellaCorte said.

She said that background checks on people who handle financial matters are important, but so is continuing on after a setback. And Ms. DellaCorte is no stranger to setbacks.

In 2000, Faith House had raised funds to build a 20,000 square-foot, 80-bed facility on five acres in northwest Phoenix. After construction started, fighting among the board of directors and

See Shelter — Page 7

zation," Ms. DellaCorte advised.

She explained that sometimes focusing on helping victims meant she overlooked "the internal things going on behind my back."

Ms. DellaCorte also stressed community education as a means for growing organizations and gaining support.

Ms. DellaCorte chronicles her experiences in "Storm Within The Shelter," published by Elan Press.

She said the book outlines how to start a shelter, as well as "all of the pitfalls and struggles that they have."

Ms. DellaCorte remembers starting Faith House in the 1970s without a large budget or financial support.

"We didn't have any state or government funds," she said, adding that Faith House ran for five years solely with the help of volunteers and private

donations.

At that time, there was little societal knowledge about the problem of spousal abuse.

"There was a lot of shame surrounding it," Ms. DellaCorte said.

In an area such as the Sun Cities, Ms. DellaCorte said that elder abuse is a problem often overlooked, and any shelter in the area would need to address the needs of victims of such abuse.

Ms. DellaCorte cited "a definite need" for more counseling and accommodations in shelters for elderly residents, and she said she would be interested in starting a support group for victims of elder abuse.

Ms. DellaCorte's other books, "Shelter From The Storm," (1985) and "Don't Cry Out Loud" (1999), both deal with her personal experience of escaping an abusive

environment.

"It's something you just can't turn off," she said. "That was my life for 25 years."

Ms. DellaCorte's daughter, Robin Burke, heads the Stepping Stones shelter in Prescott, to which Ms. DellaCorte said she donates most of the money donated to her by individuals.

In addition to writing books, she shares her experiences through speaking engagements.

Ms. DellaCorte will be speaking on May 15 at the annual luncheon of the New York Club, which is open to members of the club only. The luncheon will be held at San Remo's Restaurant at 98th Avenue and Bell Road.

Ms. DellaCorte's website is www.bettydellacorte.com. Her e-mail address is: bettydellacorte@cox.net. Her phone number is (623) 561-0555.



Photo by Chris Seggerman/Independent Newspapers

Betty DellaCorte of Sun City, who founded one of the nation's first shelters for battered women, says that perseverance can bring about great things.

Sun City resident makes a present for the president

ROBERT DENT: Creates ceramic sculpture for George W. Bush

JOHN SOKOLICH
DAILY NEWS-SUN

A Sun City man wants to personally thank President George W. Bush — even if it's not in a face-to-face meeting.

For the last month, Robert Dent of Sun City has been working on a ceramic sculpture of an American flag with a gold-leaf-plated eagle in front of it.

"The reason why I am sending it is because the president has a backbone and is willing to stand up to the (terrorists)," he said. "I've been voting since I was 21 and President Bush is the first one to stand up to people like

that. So, I guess it's my way of saying, 'Hey, thank you for a job being well done so far.'"

Dent moved from California to Sun City three years ago. The 65-year-old said he has been working with ceramics for quite a few years as a hobby. He said when the American flag and eagle mold came out, he was one of the first people to get one.

"I think the hardest part about making it was the stars," Dent said. "It took a long time to paint those.

"I just really liked it," he added. "It took me a while to clean it up and paint it, and then I really wanted to send it to someone who would appreciate it."

That's when he thought of the president.

"If nothing else, I want him to know that I think he is doing a good job and better than what anyone else would be doing," Dent said.

He said his support for President

Bush is not politically motivated.

"I'm actually a Democrat," he said. "But above all else, we are all American. That is why I am giving (Bush) my support and this gift."

Now that the mold is complete, Dent said he will send it to the president with a note explaining why he is giving it to him.

"There is no firm date at this point, but I want to send it out next week," he said. "I think it's nice."

In Dent's letter, he asks for a few reciprocals from President Bush. Some he thinks he might get, others he's more doubtful about.

"I asked for the flag from the White House," Dent said. "Then I asked for one of those ink pens they have. Those are nice and I like them. I asked for a personal thank you and asked him to come up with some kind of prescription drug package for the seniors."

John Sokolich can be reached at 876-2526 or jsokolich@aztrib.com.

Robert Dent of Sun City made a ceramic eagle and an American Flag and plans to send to President George W. Bush.



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun City remembers local senior athlete

A4 Tuesday, February 6, 1990 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Local residents bade farewell Monday to a man who touched many lives as a member of civic, political and sporting activities.

Edmund E. Deuss, 85, of Surprise, died last Thursday at Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital.

Local residents flooded Menke Funeral Home during services Monday morning as many recalled fond memories of Deuss.

Deuss was an active member of the community since he moved to Arizona from Illinois in 1976.

He was former president of the Sun City Walk-Jog Club and participated in the National Senior Olympics.

Rupert Brewer, second vice president of the club, said Deuss was an active member of the club.

"He was an active president and always

peppy. He took an interest in everything," Brewer said. "He took part of a lot of the walks and the swims."

Deuss was a member of the West Valley Church and publicity chairman of the Sun Cities Illinois Club.

He was a former director of the Sun City Home Owners Association, a Republican committeeman, deputy registrar and vice president of the 15th Republican Legislative District.

In 1988, Deuss was elected to attend the National Republican Convention.

"He was really excited about that because it was the first one he had ever attended. He was a great worker for the party," said friend Betty Van Fredenberg. "He was a great guy with a wonderful personality and was friends with everybody. He has given a lot more to his community than he got out of it."

"He swam all his life and was just a beautiful swimmer. His stroke was just gorgeous," Van Fredenberg said. "Ed was 85 years young."

Van Fredenberg, information officer for the HOA, said Deuss helped create the association's newsletter while on the board.

Deuss graduated from the University of Illinois and was a self-employed advertising executive for 25 years in Chicago.

Survivors include two daughters, Dorothy Ann Ward of Glendale and Betty Jean Goetschel of Walnut Creek, Calif.; four grandchildren, Susan Harris, Amy Peebles, Chuck Goetschel and Matt Ward; three great-grandchildren, Sondra Munoz, and Robert and Steven Peebles.

Memorials may be sent to the University of Illinois swim team, Urbana, Ill. 61801.

OVER

DEUSS, ED MUND



Daily News-Sun file photo

SENIOR SWIMMER — While active in civic and political affairs, Ed Deuss may be best remembered as a Senior Olympian. An avid swimmer, Deuss also was a former president of the Sun City Walk-Jog Club.

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 1988

Final tribute

Board member leaves estate to Sun Cities fine arts group

News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Jack R. de Ward, 79, a founding member of the Sun Cities Fine Arts Society, died last Friday at his home.

De Ward, a member of the original board of directors, was vice president and program director for the society at the time of his death.

Shortly after he moved to Sun City in 1973, de Ward was instrumental in helping incorporate the society as a non-profit organization.

Now, even after his death, de Ward will support the society in memory.

He has earmarked the income of his entire estate as a permanent endowment for the society. The gift will be known as the De Ward Endowment, said Byron Healy, president of the fine arts society.

Healy said de Ward told him privately about a month ago of his plans to leave his estate to the society.

Although Healy said he did not know the exact amount of de Ward's contribution, he said it is a "comfortable estate."

"He was a very dedicated man to the whole idea of bringing community concerts to the area. Over the years he developed wonderful contacts with agents in the U.S. and Europe," Healy said. "He was highly respected by these agents too, because through negotiations he was able to bring the finest talent here. It will be very difficult to fill his shoes. We have lost a great friend."

Healy said de Ward made arrangements with his attorney in his will and trust agreement to leave the entire estate to the Arizona Community Foundation for administration.

The foundation will ensure that all income is used as a permanent endowment for the society. De Ward's attorney could not be reached this morn-

ing for comment.

"I think that his estate is going to strengthen our programs. It's difficult to continue with increased talent costs. It will give us a security we never had before," Healy said. "It's been his primary interest in the last years. He was interested in chamber music and believed that the West Valley deserved to have this fine music brought here. He did a fabulous job."

Stephen Nittenthal, president and executive director of the Arizona Community Foundation, said the society will receive the income from interest on the estate and will not have control of the principal.

Nittenthal said Monday the foundation had not yet been informed that it will administer de Ward's estate.

"Donors do not often tell you that they have included you in their will. The foundation is an aggregation of charitable funds set up by donors and now we administer more than 110 funds," Nittenthal said. "Mr. de Ward most likely designated his fund specifically for the society. If for some reason the society went out of business, we can redirect to another comparable society."

The non-profit organization gets administrative salaries from a 6 percent fee on the capital gifts it receives for establishing charitable endowment funds.

In addition to his active involvement in the society, de Ward was a member of the Charter Government Association. He was born in Paris, France, and grew up in England. He attended schools in Sherborne, England, and moved to the United States from Canada.

He retired from the Mutual Benefit Insurance Co. as vice president and moved to Sun City in 1973. He has no survivors.

Local Area Holds Rich Fun Potential, Little Gold For Prospective Prospector, Says Mining Expert

BY HAL BRAMAN
The Sun City - Youngtown area offers good possibilities for gold prospecting as a hobby, not in anticipation of wealth, the opinion of one of Arizona's leading mining engineers, Robert H. Dickson, 10208 Palmer

However, Dickson has his doubts about news articles regarding a new strike of silver worth in the hundreds of millions which the Phoenix newspapers carried recently.

From time to time Dickson has had over-all supervision of various mines in Arizona although he maintained his residence in New York. He moved here six years ago.

The Morenci mine, the largest copper working, is an open pit

operation in eastern Arizona. San Manuel near Mammoth, north of Tucson, is an underground working and is second in size.

Third is the Ajo open pit mine which Allied Chemical had him develop years ago.

There are also large mines at Bisbee and Superior. There were formerly active mines around Wickenburg and Morristown, and at Jerome, among other communities.

One of his oils is of the Shrine Mine at Tyrone, N.M., in 1941. Another is of a mine at Bisbee, 1912, which he did years later from knowledge and memory.

Dickson started taking painting lessons in New York about 20 years ago. He has a definite touch with persons. A favorite is a painting of his mother in the kitchen of their home many years ago.

He has samples of mineral bearing rocks in a private ex-

hibit in his study but is very modest about its importance, just as he says little about his painting.

But ask a question about how minerals were put together by nature: cons ago and his eyes light up, and he is off and running. He has supervised both metallic and non-metallic mines.

If a local hobbyist-pro prospector found a gold vein an inch thick, he would have it made, Dickson says. But, he urged, prospect for fun, not wealth.

was for many years manager of Allied Chemical Corp. in various parts of the world, including operations in several parts of Arizona.

His indoor hobby is painting oil. On the walls of his home are various paintings with minor personal history background, including his rendering of the view of several Arizona mines hanging alongside paintings of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dickson on Staten Island, N.Y. Arizona, he said, is first in nation in copper production fourth as a gold producer. What are the chances of local prospecting for gold?

In Sun City, as he described it, is a big basin full of alluvial material perhaps as deep as the surrounding mountains are high. If it could be brought together in one area, this basin might contain a million dollars worth of gold in it or more.

The problem, he says, would be to find it in amounts worth mining at costs that would not be prohibitive. The gold has been washed down the mountains in centuries past and any of the red rivers around here offer possibilities for the hobbyist prospector, Dickson believes.

This area is of granitic rock, Dickson suggests areas south of Sun City might be interesting to the hobbyist but the vast, built terrain west of here between the Blythe and Yuma rivers offers the biggest hope of strikes.

is in this area, where special vehicles would have to be used, that the Kofa Mine, of Quartzite, has been getting publicity on the strength of a silver find.

The area of the Kofa Mine is of importance in lead, silver as the possibility.



MINING EXPERT Robert H. Dickson displays oil painting he did of mine he supervised, Burlington Mine at Jamestown, Colo., 1949.

Sun Citizen for six years, Dickson has carried paints with him to many states while supervising mines for Allied Chemical Corp. (News-Sun Staff Photo)

DICKSON, Robert

DAILY NEWS-SUN

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2004

Sun City artist shows her colors

ANNIE KARSTENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Art has always been Rose Dillberger-Bey's life. When she was a young girl, her father told her she was born with a pencil in her hand.

The Sun City artist has traveled the world, capturing people and places in her paintings. Today, one of her pieces, "Pensive," hangs in the West Valley Art Museum in Surprise, a gift from her to the museum. Greeting cards with a print of the painting are sold in the museum gift shop.

"Pensive," an oil on canvas painting, is bold with color and features a woman in thought, leaving the beholder to decide what's on her mind.

"She just evolved," Dillberger-Bey said. "People just find it colorful and they try to imagine what she's thinking. The word pensive came to me as I studied my painting, and it just seems to say exactly what it is."

Dillberger-Bey said she's painted all of her life. Her first fan was her father.

"He always had a lot of faith in me, everything I did he thought was marvelous," she said. Her late husband, Everest Bey, was also a driving force in her life as an artist. "He was very well educated and understood art, so he was very inspiring to me."

With friends, fellow artists and widows, as her inspiration in Sun City, Dillberger-Bey continues to paint portraits and never tires of studying art or cultivating her talent. A member of the Arizona Artists Guild and the Vanguard Artists group, art remains a main focus in her daily life.

"I love my art, I love to do it and I enjoy what I do, which is a wonderful thing in life," Dillberger-Bey said. "As my husband said, 'I don't have to worry about you because you can always go to your art.'"

She was born in St. Louis and attended the Washington University School of Fine Arts in her home town before teaching there for ten years. From there, she and her first husband traveled the globe to wherever his job as a corporate controller took him.

Dillberger-Bey was grateful for the opportunity to travel and took full advantage of it. London, Paris and Iran are a few of the places she and her first husband lived. Her favorite locale was Iran, where the couple lived for three years in the late seventies.

"I loved Iran. To me, it was absolutely fascinating. I painted like mad" she said, adding Iran was where she sold many of her paintings. "Everything was so different there. When in Paris, everything had been painted by masters, and it was



SUBMITTED PHOTO

"Pensive" by Sun City artist Rose Dillberger-Bey now hangs in the West Valley Art Museum in Surprise.

difficult to try to find something different."

She lived in Paris from 1980 to 1983, and during that time, the American ambassador there presented her with a blue ribbon for her artwork. Her extensive travels landed her in London where she studied art for a year. Dillberger-Bey continued her art education in California, and nurtured her passion for portraits.

"I love figures and heads, that's my thing — not too many landscapes," she said.

Dillberger-Bey recently submitted two of her pieces to the American Artist Magazine for award consideration. Last week, she presented art achievement awards to local middle school children at

the West Valley Art Museum, sponsored in part by the Arizona Artist Guild and Vanguard Artists.

"Each year, we award money to the winners of the middle grade school's art contest," she said. "They had some really surprising art. I was fascinated with it."

A veteran to art shows and juried award selections, she could relate to the young artists. Her advice to them is to love art, as she does.

"We cry and we laugh as artists...It's very rewarding at times, and, at times, a very frustrating thing, especially juried things," Dillberger-Bey said. "I am a happy artist, and I love to paint."

Annie Karstens can be reached at 876-2532 or akarstens@aztrib.com

DILLBERGER-BEY, ROSE

DYER

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2004



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN
Rose Dillberger-Bey stands in front of a self-portrait and a painting of her daughter. The Sun City woman's picture should have accompanied a story about her in Thursday's edition.

Daily News-Sun Monday, Nov. 13, 1989

Iranian street life inspired Sun City artist

By P. ATWOOD WILLIAMS
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Rose Dillberger has painted scenes in London, Paris and Tehran.

Now she paints from her studio in Sun City.

"I paint here every day," Dillberger said from her patio home on Thunderbird Boulevard. She has converted the utility room into a studio.

Her paintings were in such demand by foreigners and Iranians in Tehran, where she won a blue ribbon, that she has only a few left from when she lived there.

In recent years, her Iranian friends have told her they were not allowed to take her paintings from the country.

It was unfortunate for the artist. When Dillberger moved to Paris in 1980 after the Islamic Revolution and expulsion of Americans from Iran, she didn't find the oft-painted scenes as inspiring as the life in Iran.

"In Iran, there were scenes of happy families sitting on their carpets having picnics in the park," she said, showing the instant prints she had taken of paintings sold long ago.

Others paintings included men with their hookahs (water pipes); women in chadors (long white, black or tan robes) with high-style garments or blue jeans underneath and veils pulled up over their faces; men leading or riding camels in the desert; and women washing dishes and children in the "fresh" water running down the gutters.

The walls of her patio apartment contain favorite paintings of window scenes showing the high mountains through a metal balcony; the men with shovels moving happily through the snowy streets after shoveling snow from the flat-roofed homes; a still life of pomegranates and tea glasses. There are also portraits of her late husband, Hugo,

and daughter Alexandra, now 30.

Other artifacts include a brass samovar (urn) that she purchased on a trip to the Soviet Union, examples of art from all over the world and Iranian carpets.

Before moving to Iran, she taught for 10 years at Washington University of Fine Arts in St. Louis.

Dillberger said her husband was financial director for Lytton Industries in Tehran, beginning in 1976. He was one of the last Americans to leave during the Islamic Revolution, following the exodus of French, British and other foreigners from the strife-torn country.

She said life in Iran was elegant before the revolution. She taught art and painted, took trips with her women's club, and enjoyed rounds of sumptuous meals and entertainments by Iranian friends.

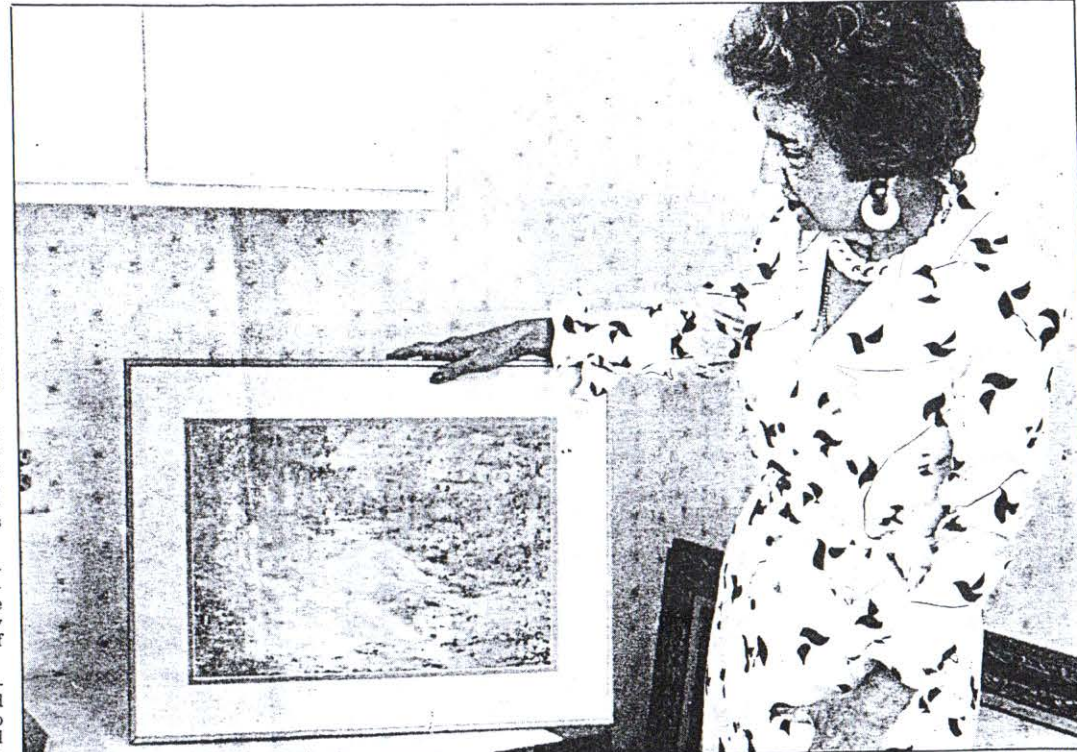
In their second floor apartment heated by oil, a housekeeper had to scrub the marble floors and tile walls frequently because of the accumulation of oily residue.

After the shah was overthrown, there was no more need for a chauffeur to drive Hugo to work, Alexandra to her school and Rose to do the shopping for items in a different shop.

The Dillbergers had survived power, fuel and water outages in 1978 and were among the few American families left in their apartment building when she awoke one day to hear machine gun fire in her neighborhood.

Still they stayed on. They finally left on a chartered British flight in December 1979, one month after the American diplomats were taken hostage at the U.S. Embassy.

After a harrowing experience



Daily News-Sun photo by P. Atwood Williams

LATEST PAINTINGS — Rose Dillberger's studio is a converted utility room in her apartment. While living in Tehran, Iran, she taught and painted many scenes of happy

people with their camels, on picnics or doing their daily tasks. She was more inspired to paint there than in Paris, where the scenes had been painted by so many others.

in the airport, where they could have sold their tickets for a fortune to Iranians trying to flee the country, and without the aid of flight controllers, their plane flew to Bahrain where they were able to get enough fuel to complete the trip.

Her husband returned to Iran to evacuate his company personnel to Greece.

Their next assignment took them to Paris. Now she had time to paint, but she said that she wasn't inspired.

Dillberger has a few oil and acrylic paintings that she completed in Paris. But she said it does not represent the best of her abilities.

In 1983, Hugo died while on a safari to Kenya with his daughter.

people with their camels, on picnics or doing their daily tasks. She was more inspired to paint there than in Paris, where the scenes had been painted by so many others.

Rose buried him in Zurich, Switzerland, where he was from. She then returned to California and lived there until recently.

She visited Sun City last spring and decided to move here.

Now she is painting pink, blue and mauve scenes. One is a madonna and child on a carousel, another an impression-

istic nude in woods of blues and greens.

A large canvas titled "Ghost Riders" is her impression of what happens in a carousel after all the people have gone home.

The new resident of Sun City finds that her days are flying by, as do the figures on her muted carousels.

PHILIP DION

By Catherine Reagor
Staff writer

Philip Dion's first job was pouring concrete for sidewalks at a Del Webb Corp. community in Oak Brook, Ill.

More than 30 years later, he is chairman and chief executive officer of the Phoenix-based company that gave him his first paycheck.

The man who loves vintage roadsters and race cars has been the driving force in the retirement-community developer's trek to its current spot as the top home builder in Arizona.

When Dion took over in 1987, the company was struggling with debt. It had huge losses from hotel and gaming operations and had to fight off several hostile-takeover attempts.

"The first order of business was to stay alive," Dion said. "The second order was to become profitable."

Through his leadership, the company has done both.

Del Webb lost almost \$200 million from 1987 to 1989 during its restructuring.

But Dion is a passionate leader who believed the company could be turned around, and he was up for the fight. The company returned to its core business of building adult communities, then set about expanding into other markets.

In 1986, Del Webb had one Sun City. Today, it has nine spanning from California to South Carolina, with plans for more. Last year, it had record earnings of \$28.5 million.

"The evolution of the company and the evolution of our Sun Cities has come from constant research of the market and a constant effort to understand what people want," Dion said.

Del Webb is praised by housing analysts for its strategy and vision of the changing senior market.

Its Sun City developments have evolved with the changing desires of retirees' more active lifestyles. Tennis courts have replaced shuffleboard courts, and aerobics classes and more golf courses have been added.

As Del Webb began to expand its Sun Cities geographically, Dion said, the right opportunities came along to expand into other markets, moving into

building upscale developments. In that niche, it has found great success with Terravita in north Scottsdale.

It also bought Coventry Homes and began building production homes. Last year, it launched another division, an upscale home-building line called Trovas.

Dion said the company is poised to continue growing by bringing all of its home-building divisions to metropolitan areas where it already has a Sun City.



Peter Schwepker/Staff photographer

- **Age:** 51.
- **Title:** Chairman and chief executive officer, Del Webb Corp.
- **Years in that job:** Nine.
- **Previous jobs:** Chief financial officer, Del Webb Corp., 1982 to 1987; executive, Armour-Dial, Phoenix, 1970 to 1982.
- **Education:** MBA, Loyola University of Chicago; BA, St. Ambrose University.
- **Vision for the future:** Keep expanding the company's Sun City communities and other home-building divisions geographically and evolve the developments to meet the changing needs of buyers.

DION, PHILIP

Sun Citian embodies City of Volunteers' spirit

MITCHELL VANTREASE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Even though National Volunteer Week ends today for some people, it's never over for Russell Dix.

Every day, the Sun Citian offers his services by helping others in the community. Whether it's at the El Mirage Senior Center or cleaning up the sidewalks, Dix enjoys lending a helping hand.

Dix, 74, is considered an avid volunteer who dedicates his time to several organizations and charities. The retired electrician said he volunteers about 18 to 20 hours a week.

"You're helping your fellow man, and that should be important to everyone," he said.

The Wisconsin native's interest in community work ignited years ago when he helped his sons with the local chapter of Boy Scouts of America and their marching band.

He also was involved in several church activities.

"I did a little bit while the kids were growing up, but it really took off later," Dix said.

After Dix retired from General Motors, he and his wife, Joyce, came to Sun City as winter visitors in 1989. He decided to volunteer more time when they became permanent residents.

"Russell's got an itch for doing things," said Joyce. "He won't quit. It's never-ending for him."

A lot of Dix's time is devoted to the El Mirage Senior Center. Along with 39 other volunteers, he helps provide food to low-income seniors in the area.

Guadalupe Valdez, an administrative assistant at the center, said she enjoys Dix's enthusiasm and spirit of giving.

"He does make a difference, and works very hard," Valdez said. "We all get along with him, and he's like a member of our family."

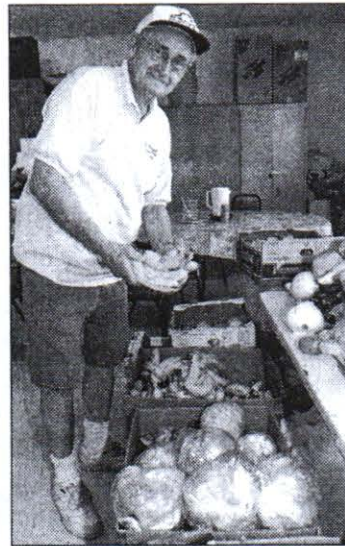
Dix is also active with the Sun City PRIDES, a group that helps clean common areas and roadways.

"It's a really great civic service where I can help keep the city clean," he said.

In addition to those duties, he's a member of the John Harries American Legion Post 101 in Sun City, as well as four different veterans groups.

As National Volunteer Week closes, Dix said he encourages people to get involved not just during the week but throughout the year.

"Just pick something that you like, and it doesn't matter what it is," he said. "The field is wide open, even if you want to just help your neighbor."



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Russell Dix of Sun City checks the bananas he'll give out Friday at the El Mirage Senior Center. Dix spends most of his free time volunteering.

Sun Citian has 'designs' on Desert-Aires

Djuvik, Carl

By P. ATWOOD WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

During World War II he repaired damaged railroad tracks in Tehran. Then he invented mining equipment, designed and built his own eaves trough-style solar heating in Sun City.

Today he also designs, constructs and paints scenery for the Desert-Aires, a Sun City barbershop chorus.

Carl Djuvik has loved to sing since he was taught by his father in Bergen, Norway, before coming to this country in 1924.

Eighteen-year-old Djuvik arrived in Casper, Wyoming, during the oil boom days as a carpenter with the bridge department of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. By age 22 he was bridge foreman and was taking correspondence courses to become an engineer.

He left Wyoming in 1937 to build bridges for the Tennessee-Central railway, learning as he went.

Five years later he was in the U.S. Army engineering and transportation corps in Tehran. The British said it would take three months to repair the rail line from the Gulf of Tehran to Russia, the U.S. Army said six weeks. Djuvik and his crew had the rail supply line running on the washed out tracks in 10 days.

After the war he joined the

Jones and Laughan Co. in Pittsburg, where he worked in the iron ore mining department. There he invented a better piece of equipment for mining ore in the company's open

pit mine near Watertown and Lake Placid, N.Y. He then became a licensed engineer in the state of New York.

"My ideas for mining equipment are still in use in Aus-

tralia, France and Norway," he said of patents his company holds on his concepts.

Although Djuvik and his wife Peg moved to Sun City in 1970, they still maintain a part of their past from back east. They own the cottage they built at Star Lake where they spend vacations with their children, especially their son who lives near Philadelphia.

Djuvik also was in the Lions Club for 20 years. One of their projects was to build a ski hill, and as a volunteer Djuvik gave free skiing lessons on weekends to the area youngsters.

Once in their Sun City home, Djuvik did much of the remodeling, such as enclosing the lanai and designing and building an eaves trough-type solar heating unit over the patio.

Remodeling was easy for him as he had rebuilt the old church at Star Lake, where he also sang in the choir. Djuvik likewise participated in a church choir and a male chorus in Wyoming.

So it seemed natural for him to get involved in Sun City as well. First, a friend persuaded him to join Kiwanis. He then gravitated toward the Desert-Aires, for whom he designed and constructed several pie-shaped portable, collapsible risers several years ago.

He also builds the scenery for the group's thematic an-

nual spring concerts. Last year the theme was *Picnic in the Park*. For this year Djuvik built two scenes on the theme *Backstage of the Shubert Theatre*.

On the day of this interview, he was painting the scenery on 12-foot by 64-foot polyethylene sheets that he had spread out on the floor in his garage. He had made the design to scale, he explained, which he then transferred to these sheets.

He can always make room in his life for singing, he said, which his dad taught him to love when he was a boy in Norway.

Moreover he can make room in his life for other pleasures, such as dancing—which he and his wife do—and family. At his 80th birthday celebration at the Lakes Club, where Djuvik is the president of the Lakes Club golfers, most of his family was present.

He also held his annual family reunion for skiing at Park City, Utah. "I got them on skis and now I can't back out," he laughed in an interview at his home, adding that he has 10 grandchildren.

Now that he has finished with his scenery project, Djuvik will concentrate on the Desert-Aires March 23 concert in Sundial Auditorium. It'll be there that the public will be able to witness his artistic talents.



CARL DJUVIK

MARCH 14, 1986

VIEW

A-F

VF - PERSONALITIES

Still going strong

Octogenarian golfer has no time to practice

By ANN T. DALEY
Assistant sports editor

SUN CITY — You won't find Ina Dodt on the driving range or putting greens anymore.

"I don't practice because it would wear me out," the 86-year-old Sun City resident said with a laugh.

Sun Cities Ladies Octogenarian
A picture of perfect health, Dodt forgoes practice these days because of a busy schedule filled with social, church and golf activities.

"I've spent my life on the golf course, but I've been busy with things besides golf," said the South Course member, who, after about 40 years of playing, still manages to hit the links three times weekly.

Dodt's next outing is Saturday as she takes another swing at the second annual Sun Cities Ladies Octogenarian tournament played at Quail Run golf course.

The tournament, for women ages 80 and older, consists of two nine-hole rounds. Play will conclude Thursday.

Despite her lack of practice, don't count Dodt out as a contender.

On opening day last year, Dodt landed a ball within 4 feet, 11 inches of the 86-yard seventh hole to win the closest-to-the-pin challenge.

In addition, she placed second in the low-gross competition's second flight by carding a two-day 26-over-par 88 on the par-31 course.

Despite a handicap she describes as "too much," Dodt's enthusiasm for the sport remains strong. Long drives, exercise and camaraderie

► See Women's tourney, B3

■ From B1

contribute to her enjoyment.

Around 1940, Dodt began playing golf while living in the Champaign-Urbana, Ill., area.

Golf became Dodt's primary hobby, giving her an escape from her hours working as a saleswoman. She sold tobacco, candy and chewing gum in her father's company, then women's clothing and accessories in the two dress shops she owned with her husband, John.

Upon moving to Scottsdale in the late 1950s, Dodt accepted a job as a fashion

model. Memories of lounging in fur and tweed coats around the Biltmore and Wigwam country club pools remain vivid.

"It used to get so hot in the sun," Dodt said. "We used to look forward to when we could change into something lighter."

In 1960, the Dodts relocated to Sun City and Ina Dodt traded in the modeling job for a position with the Del Webb Corp. as a hostess in Sun City model homes. John Dodt was one of Webb's first 10 salesmen in the area.

Around 1965, Ina Dodt re-

tired from sales and modeling and devoted her energy to golf.

In the 30 years that have passed, Dodt has finished as runner-up in "many" tournaments, but has yet to win one.

"I've won my flight, but never the overall championship," she said. "That's OK. As long as I make friends and get exercise, I'm happy."

■ ■ ■

Champion Helen Pfister, 82, will return to defend her title.

A field of 59 golfers are entered to play in this year's event. The inaugural event drew 61 players.



Steve Cherek/Daily News-Sun

Ina Dodt of Sun City will be among the participants in the Sun Cities Ladies Octogenarian golf tournament.

DODT, INA

'We've always had

Pioneers recall Sun City's early days -

a good time'

- the fun, the activities, the comradery

Editor's note: In honor of Sun City's 30th anniversary, during the next four weeks the Independent's "Sun City Profile" will feature Sun City pioneers.

Sun Citian

Profile

Portraits Of Our Residents

By PEG KEITH
Sun Cities Independent

John and Ina Dodt came to Sun City to enjoy their retirement, and that's just what they've been doing, for the past 30 years.

In fact, Mr. Dodt, 90, says he can't imagine living anywhere else.

The Midwesterners (they're from Indiana and Illinois) moved to Arizona in 1958, after he retired as a Railway Express agent in Indiana. She was a former model in Illinois.

The couple settled in Scottsdale where Mr. Dodt worked as an expediter in his brother's construction company.

Soon, he busied himself in acquiring a real estate license and in fashioning a new career.

When Sun City started, the Dodts both joined the Del Webb team. As a real estate agent, he sold the first house that was built in Sun City.

The purchaser was John G. McDonald, a motel builder from Denver. Mr. McDonald owned the house from 1960 until 1984. The second owner was Vera Jean Painter, owner of Jean's Sportstogs of Sun City.

The Historical Society of Sun City recently purchased the residence from Mrs. Painter and has

turned it into a museum.

It must be the Sun City ambience. The "first house" has maintained its charm, as have Sun City Pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. Dodt.

Mr. Dodt resumed his retirement last year, after racking up a total of 70 years on the job.

"If you're active, you'll live longer," he declares.

He insists that he'd never have made it this far, if he hadn't lived in Sun City. All the outdoors, all the fresh air and activity keep the body going, he declares.

His "retirement" years were built on activity. John was one of the first 10 Del Webb salesmen, and became a sales manager for the Webb organization.

Later, he organized his own real estate firm, Sun City Realty, with his partner, the late Hal James.

As one of the 1961 Pioneer Del Webb hostesses, Mrs. Dodt introduced visitors to the model homes.

"I never did sell houses out here," says Mr. Dodt.

"No, there was never any hard sell," his wife agrees, explaining that her husband would take the visitors around to several houses, and explain the good and the not-so-good.

Sun City just sold itself.

"Those days were the days when we did things," says Mrs. Dodt. "We've always had a good time."

Her ready smile, and his affectionate attention emphasize the words. "I didn't really retire until Jan. 1, 1988," he says,



LOOKING BACK. The Dodts were involved in a number of community activities during the early days of Sun City. Both were fans of hula dancing and were responsible for organizing the Hula Men, shown above. Although the group made for a nice photograph, the Hula Men has long since disbanded.

DODT, John - INA

OVER



NO REGRETS. Although Sun City Pioneers John and Ina Dodt moved to Sun City 30 years ago, they say they continue to enjoy the community as much now as they did when they first moved into their home. Working for the Webb Corporation, Mr. Dodt was the salesman who sold the very first Sun City home.

adding that he loved his work.

"He loved anything he did," Mrs. Dodt agrees.

Life in the retirement community wasn't all work. Mr. Dodt belonged to the Businessmen's Golf Group and enjoyed tournaments, which, for the most part were set in June, July and August, "the hottest part of the day, the hottest months of the year," he declares.

He quit golfing about seven years ago.

His wife, about 10 years younger than he, still golfs regularly, and describes herself as an avid bridge player.

Mrs. Dodt recalls the comradeship of helping build the community, the enjoyment and friendly ease in knowing almost everyone in Sun City, being on a first-name basis with newcomers and oldtimers.

There were style shows and dances and card games, and parties around the pool to keep folks occupied.

And hula dances.

The Dodts traveled to Hawaii shortly after they moved to Arizona, and both earned their proficiency certificates for the dances — the trademark of the Island Paradise.

"The Hula Boys were great out here," Mrs. Dodt laughs.

Life has changed, certainly.

"Sun City was smaller; that made for more friendship ... We had about 2,000 people in 1961," she says.

"But it's a dream for us to be living out here ... we wonder

how we could have been so lucky."

And he continues, "We fell into a big bowl of wishbones."

The Dodts have lived in the same house for 30 years. It fits their needs, as they've enlarged it to some extent, but preserved the restful, sweeping view of Fairway golf course.

They remain involved in community affairs as board members of the Pioneers Association, an organization made up of residents who have lived in Sun City since its early days.

-December 12-18, 1984—SUN CITY INDEPENDENT

LIFE ENRICHMENT — REACH FOR IT The Dodts — Pioneers on the Go

By Jerry Svendsen

We're working on the January-February edition of Sun Cities Life Magazine, and since Sun City celebrates its 25th Anniversary during the first month of the New Year, it occurred to me to interview some of my pioneer friends about the early days. Well, let me tell you, it hasn't been easy. Now don't jump to any conclusions. I called several residents and found it was almost impossible to make an appointment. Comments such as, "If you're in a hurry, Jerry, you will have to call someone else. The calendar is full up."



Jerry Svendsen

Let me give you an example. Ina and John Dodt, whom I've known well since the early 60's would have been "only too happy to help. But ..." Said Ina during our telephone visit, "Jerry, I have golf on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday our bridge group is having a party. Oh, and I have an afternoon doctor's appointment. Then there's shopping and another card group. Maybe in a few days."

Ina's husband, John, and I were associated with the Del Webb Company at the same time. John sold real estate for Webb for several years. He's 85 now and is still selling real estate for Tri-State Realty on Coggins Drive in Sun City. What else does he do? "Oh, he has his hobby horse — actually a stationary bike — and he does the yard work," Ina reported.

"Let me tell you, Jerry, we love Sun City. We were just back in Illinois. I have six brothers and sisters there. It was so good to come home to Sun City."

Ina is a former model. I remember her well. You see, as Webb's PR man, I took her picture more than once during her attendance and participation in various Sun City activities. She reminded me that she was one of the four women who entertained Sun City groups with a hula dancing program. I didn't need the reminder. I and my camera were there to catch the graceful swinging and swaying on numerous occasions.

I had wanted to discuss the good days in Sun City with Ina, but we talked more about the present. "We had good times then, but we love what we're doing right now," said Ina. "We don't feel our age. We both feel that Sun City has lengthened our lives. It certainly has made life better."

That wasn't John selling real estate. That was Ina speaking with genuine enthusiasm about a community that the Dodts have called home for nearly 25 years.

Dodt, John & Ina

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2000

Blaine Donaldson

SUN CITY NEIGHBORS



Name, age: Blaine Donaldson, 67.

Hometown: Storm Lake, Iowa.

Former occupation: Donaldson was the chief executive officer of Methodist Manor, a multilevel health-care facility in Storm Lake. He was a consultant to the Iowa Legislature on health care. A graduate of Michigan State University, he was in health care for 31 years.

Political life: He served on the Storm Lake City Council and was mayor pro-tem.

Family: Wife, Dorothea; two sons, Brian and Brent; seven grandchildren.

What he's doing now: He's the president of the Sun City Home Owners Association and is involved in numerous volunteer groups, including the Sun Visitors Lodge and the Foundation Board of Sun Health. He's also the District 15 representative of the Silver-Haired Legislature, which discusses issues and sends recommendations on bills to legislators. He's also on two committees that focus on HMO reform and is a consultant to the Legislature's Joint Select Committee on Aging.

Early obstacle: Contracted polio at age 7 but pitched on his high school baseball team.

Major accomplishment: Persuaded the board at Methodist Manor to build a unit for victims of Alzheimer's disease.

Quote: "I saw a need for the Alzheimer's unit. It was an attempt for them to maintain dignity but also to keep mentally and physically active."

— Jim Gintonio
The Arizona Republic

DONALDSON,
BLAINE

TOP TRUSTEE

Sun Citian tabbed for prestigious national award

By **MIKE RUSSO**
Independent Newspapers

A Sun City man, who has devoted his life to serving senior citizens, has been selected as the 2001 recipient of the National Trustee of the Year Award from the National Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

Blaine Donaldson, president of the Sun Valley Lodge board of directors, will receive the award Nov. 4 during the national convention in San Diego.

He was selected for the singular honor for his years of service to the elderly.

"This is a very prestigious award

and I am looking forward to attending the national convention," Mr. Donaldson said. "This is something you only dream about."

Mr. Donaldson was nominated for the award by the Arizona Association for Homes and Services for the Aging, for which he was selected as the Arizona Trustee of the Year during the June convention in Mesa.

"I was thrilled when I was notified I was named Arizona Trustee of the Year, but this is an even bigger honor," Mr. Donaldson said.

"The pool of volunteers who are eligible to compete for the Trustee of the Year Award at the national level is 60,000 people (in more

than 5,600 agencies)," explained Jim Green, Sun Valley Lodge resource development director. "This is the first time a volunteer from Arizona has received recognition from the national association.

"To our knowledge, this is the first time the same person has received any state and national association honor in the same year," Mr. Green continued.

Mr. Donaldson with his wife, Dorothea, retired to Sun City in 1990 following a 28-year career as the chief executive officer of a multi-care facility in Iowa. While at Methodist Manor, Mr. Donaldson

See ■ TRUSTEE, Page 9



File photo

Sun Citian Blaine Donaldson, posing before the Arizona Capitol, has been selected as the National Trustee of the Year by the National Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

pioneered the separation of residents by physical and mental abilities to enhance their quality of life.

Since moving to Sun City, Mr. Donaldson has remained active as a volunteer.

He is the president of the Sun Valley Lodge board of directors, a post he has filled for three years. He has served on the Sun Valley board for six years and for three years prior to that he did pro bono consulting for Sun City's first retirement home.

A past president of the Sun City Home Owners Association, Mr. Donaldson currently serves on the Sun Health Foundation board of directors, the Sun Health Government Affairs Committee and the governor's Advisory Committee on Elder Aging. In addition, he serves in Arizona's Silver-Haired Legislature.

While still a resident of Iowa, Mr. Donaldson consulted for the legislature's Long-Term Care and Health Care Rules and Regulations com-

mittees.

It is his work with Sun Valley Lodge that has earned Mr. Donaldson this recent honor.

He helped Sun Valley Lodge establish a cost-accounting system and helped them work with their programs to expand levels and types of care.

Mr. Donaldson also helped introduce a capital campaign in 1998 that exceeded its \$2.4 million goal by one-half million dollars, according to Mr. Green.

"I contacted foundations and individuals who could afford to make contributions," Mr. Donaldson explained.

As if all his local volunteer efforts do not keep him sufficiently busy, Mr. Donaldson has done a lot of consulting for the American Association of Homes and Service for the Aging.

"Working with the elderly is very rewarding," Mr. Donaldson said. And now he is getting national recognition for his efforts.

and 19, Sun City West is in District 15 and Surprise, in which Sun City Grand is located, is split between districts 15 and 20.

HOA previously passed a reso-



Mary O'Connell

Mary O'Connell Downing was born and raised in Litchfield, Illinois. She was educated in the public school system and was an honor student all four years of high school, graduating in 1937. She was active in the Girl's Athletic Association and participated in many state-wide events. During her Junior and Senior years she took part in school plays and was on the editorial staff of the school year book.

She was married to Gene H. Downing in 1938. They lived in St. Louis until his retirement from the St. Louis Fire Department in 1973 when they moved to Sun City. They have two daughters, Pat and Barbara. Mary was a Brownie and Girl Scout leader for both girls and held office in Parent Teacher's groups. She served two years as Deaconess of her church and taught Sunday School for many years. One of her warmest memories of teaching Sunday School is the times she had with students from the Missouri School for the Blind.

During their years in St. Louis Gene was active with baseball, softball, soccer and golf. He was one of the first members of the Greater St. Louis Association of Umpires to be inducted into their Hall of Fame as a lifetime member. Following their move to Sun City, he became interes-

(Continued on page 2)

(O'Connell, continued from page 1)

ted in the Sun City Saints and helped with the Boosters and the team. Mary and Gene played "Mom and Dad" to two of the players who lived with them during the summers. Gene also filled in as umpire for the Milwaukee Brewer's Spring Training games during the time the National and American League umpires were on strike. He helped organize and played actively in the Senior Men's Softball League until his death in July 1984.

Pat is married to Richard M. Smith and lives in Pittsburg, PA with their two children Lynn, 10 years, and Grant, 8 years. Barbara is married to Dennis R. Fulk and they live in the Weston-Platte City area in Missouri. They have two sons, Brian who is 7 years, and Mark who is 4 years.

Mary was president of the Sun City Women's Social Club in 1977 and 78 and again in 1984. She is an active golfer and bowls in two leagues. She calls herself one of Sun City's happiest volunteers. She has helped with mailings, the Senior Citizen's Overlay Project and has chaired the Hostess Committee for the Spot-light Coffees the Rec Centers give for new residents since the program began in 1978. She has served on the Club Organization Committee and has worked with the Carnival of Clubs and Lakeview Fun Fairs. Mary credits her willingness to be a good volunteer to a quotation she once read and has never forgotten — "The smallest good deed is far better than the greatest intention". Her friends know that one of her firm beliefs is that if you are going to get along in this world, you have to give of yourself.

DOERS PROFILE

**Frances
Dubowski**



Family: Husband of 39 years, George
Inspiration: "The nurse in me inspires me to help people."
Philosophy: "Be good to one another."
Greatest accomplishment: "My work with the brittle bone disease."

Nurse with a heart loves helping others

By **TINA SCHADE**
Staff writer

Sometimes it seems that only the world's horrors make it into the history books and that destruction is the most recognized catalyst for change.

But somewhere, sometime, if there is ever a historian looking to document some of history's quieter, but equally life-changing events, he may want to contact Frances Dubowski of Sun City.

The 76-year-old, who hails from central Wisconsin, has had a hand in changing the lives of literally thousands of people.

As a nurse on the General C.C. Ballou, Dubowski cared for former Nazi war prisoners, who were relocating to Canada, Australia and countries in South America.

She compassionately looked into eyes hollowed by emaciation and administered ointments to soothe skin ulcerations. Still today, nearly 50 years later, Dubowski sees each patient as a person, instead of a medical condition.

"It's so hard to forget the intense suffering that those people went through, those who had been in those torture camps. They lost their parents, their relatives, they lost everything," she said quietly.

But fortunately, Dubowski has used these memories to end suffering in any way she knew how. After the relocation efforts had waned, Dubowski found her niche working with children who had a rare bone disease, known as osteogenesis imperfecta.

"It's like being born with eggshells for bones, where your bones fracture continuously," she said.

Dubowski decided to put her medical knowledge and resourcefulness to use by starting a foundation for these children and their families. She remained the foundation's president for nearly 25 years and despite resigning in 1992, she still gets the occasional phone call or correspondence from a parent seeking information on the disease from the expert.

Since her retirement, Dubowski has been actively involved in St. Clement's of Rome Catholic Church, where she heads inventory for the crafts department.

Proceeds from the crafts made by church members and sold in the gift shop, located in the church's hall, benefit local charities, including Habitat for Humanity, Faith House and Clinica Adelante.

The combination of these activities earned Dubowski "Woman of the Year" in 1994.

"It's recognition for helping internationally, nationally, statewide and locally," Dubowski said shyly.

Severing her international roots slightly, Dubowski has turned to volunteering locally as a means to satisfy her intense need to help others. Other local volunteer work includes working as a nurse with the Interfaith Services Adult Day Care Center in Sun City and administering blood pressure checks at the Sun City fire stations.

Under a doctor's supervision, Dubowski currently goes out to people's homes to help the blind with insulin injections and to assist some older women with their injections for osteoporosis. While she admits to slowing down slightly, Dubowski isn't likely to stop anytime soon.

"I just feel that if someone needs you, there's no point thinking that I'll have the chance to help them later, they need the help now," she said.

To unwind, Dubowski likes to swim at Sundial Rec Center and spends a little time on the treadmill. She also volunteers at the Royal Oaks thrift shop a few hours a week.

"It's fun and you get to know people," she said.

DUBOWSKI, Frances

DOERS PROFILE

Mary
Duncan

Hometown: Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Family: Husband; four children

Motto: "What I do, it doesn't matter how hard it is. It's like the saying, 'He's not heavy, he's my brother.'"

Inspiration: "Both my mom and my dad. Nobody ever asked them for help that didn't get it. I grew up during the depression, so I saw a lot of people asking for help."

Key to longevity: "You just have to keep learning. I'm learning something new every day at the Red Cross."

Red Cross worker lives to save lives

By RUTHANN HOGUE
Staff writer

Saving young lives on the battlefield seems daring and romantic to American Red Cross nurse Mary Duncan.

The 67-year-old volunteer said she would gladly have traded places with the likes of Agnes von Kurowsky. Kurowsky was the World War I Red Cross nurse who charmed Ernest Hemingway into a clandestine love affair while nursing him back to health.

"I would have loved to have done that," said Duncan, of Sun City.

"I love nursing the patient. I like being at the bedside. That's what I went into nursing for."

Duncan's nursing career began in 1947 when she graduated from school in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. She married her husband, Ronald, two years later. She continued to work as they raised four boys.

The family moved to Phoenix in 1963, and to Page in 1970.

A small, 25-bed hospital in Page offered Duncan the chance to practice hands-on nursing, as she often worked one-on-one with her patients. She tried to fill their needs any way she could.

"We did everything because it was a small hospital," Duncan said. "I wore a lot of hats besides my nursing cap."

When Ronald retired from his job as an educator in 1989, they moved back to Phoenix. Once again, Duncan found herself working with patients as a nursing supervisor with Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital.

Duncan spent the last few years before her retirement in 1993 working in obstetrics and women's health.

Times have changed.

Duncan donates about 30 hours each week to the Central Arizona Chapter of the American Red Cross. As chairperson for disaster physical health nursing services, she often works harder than when she worked full time. She coordinates nurses who respond to everything from local fires to hurricanes or floods across the United States.

The job follows Duncan home, too, where she often handles cases by phone.

"I hated carrying a pager when I worked at the hospital," Duncan said. "And here I am retired, and I'm still carrying a pager and I still hate them."

But Duncan doesn't really mind being busy when it comes to nursing. She thrives on it.

"I've always worked, and I felt like I had time on my hands," Duncan said. "I had some skills I felt I shouldn't let go to waste."

So, she followed in her mother's footsteps and signed on with the Red Cross.

"It's rewarding when you can help someone in need. And you don't know always how much you've helped, but you know you have helped."

The need for help is constant.

Locally, Duncan usually handles cases when homes have burned down and families have lost everything. She or one of her nurses responds at the request of the local fire department. If there are burn victims, someone visits them in the hospital to assess their needs when they are released. Others might need to have a prescription or medical equipment replaced if they were lost in the fire.

"Of course, we bury them too, if they die in the fire. Anything medical, that's what we're there for," she said.

Duncan, Mary

Marinette memories bring history to life

By DAN BURNETTE
Daily News-Sun staff

1-6-95

The land on which Sun City is built often is described as a "former cotton field," but to Amanda Durand, it was much more.

Marinette, Ariz., was the place where Durand grew up, where her parents earned their livings, where Durand and her husband, John, started their lives together. These grounds, where so few remnants of Marinette still stand, teem with the memories of family and friends who have since moved elsewhere or died. While Durand loves Sun City, she still orients herself in the community with the nearly cryptic cues from where melon fields or cotton gins or wells once stood.

The wells that Sun City still uses

for its drinking water are much older than the retirement community, dating from the 1920s, when Marinette grew into a bustling farm community operated by Southwest Cotton Co., a subsidiary of Goodyear Tire & Rubber. The community, mostly spread along Grand Avenue between 100th and 105th avenues, included a school, post office, store, boarding house and a few frame houses. Among those early residents was Amanda Monreal, now Amanda Durand, who lived in Marinette from 1928 to 1962.

"You can say I really lived here all my life, because even though I was born in Phoenix and my family lived in Glendale for awhile, I spent almost all my time out here," Durand, now 71, recalled this week.

Durand's mother was the postmaster; her father bought the company store when Amanda was 4.

Durand often worked in the store, where, along with groceries and dry



Steve Cherek/Daily News-Sun

Amanda Durand looks over clippings and other items about Marinette before it was developed as Sun City.

goods, farm workers picked up their pay. She also started her present career in real estate.

"I knew where every piece of land was," Durand said. "You just had a

lot of dirt roads and no signs. We used to have land listed in a store, so when someone came in and wanted to look at the land, my father just

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—From A1

sent me out to show them. Those were the days, of course, when you didn't have to worry about someone taking your children and not coming back. So you can say I got the sellers and buyers together, because I knew where everything was and where everyone lived."

The many irrigation wells drilled around what are now Sun City and Sun City West were the real centers of activities. The farm hands, virtually all migrant workers from Mexico, clustered around the wells and put up hundreds of tents for shelter.

"Each little tent city around

the wells had a name, usually taken from the little towns in Sonora where the workers came from," Durand said. "When workers came up, they usually wanted to stay with friends and family from their village."

After working hard picking cotton by hand, the farm workers unwound with frequent celebrations: births, marriages, baptisms, Saints Days — "just about any reason to have a party would do," Durand said.

The peak population of 15,000 began declining in the 1930s, as more mechanization reduced the need for farm hands. J.G. Boswell Co. bought

Marinette Ranch in 1936. Both Amanda and her husband, John, worked for the Boswell company through the farm's demise with the construction of Sun City, beginning in 1959.

Durand was concerned about where the workers would go, but her concerns were allayed as many began working for better pay as part of Webb's construction work force.

Durand lived a while in Glendale, then moved to Sun City in 1969. She said fellow Sun Citians sometimes ask her how long she's lived in the retirement community.

"I tell them, 'All my life.' "