

HART, Jack

Jack Hart, 85, of Sun City, Arizona, died Saturday, September 19, 2009 at Peoria, Arizona. Born on a farm near Cozad, Nebraska, he was a graduate of the University of Nebraska and served three years aboard submarines with the US Navy during World War II.



Hart joined the staff of the Lincoln (NE) Journal Newspaper in 1950. He served as farm editor, government reporter and editor of the editorial page before being named managing editor in 1974. He left the newspaper to become natural resources coordinator for Governor Charles Thone. He later lobbied for the city of Lincoln in the Nebraska Legislature and then established a public relations business.

In 1991 he and his wife, Mary, moved to Sun City, Arizona where he became active in community affairs, including service as board member of the Sun City Homeowners Association and Sun Cities Area Historical Society. He served as President of the Sun City Republican Club, the Nebraska Club of the Sun Cities, and the Sun City Bell Lions Club. For a time, Jack was a blogger for the Arizona Republic. He was a member of the Willowbrook United Methodist Church, Sun City.

Hart authored a biography of Virginia Smith, a resident of Sun City West. After serving 18 years in Congress, she was the only woman from Nebraska ever elected to the US House of Representatives.

In 2001, after the death of Mary, he married Judy Taylor, who had moved to Arizona from Pennsylvania. He is also survived by daughters: Linda Stroh of Glendale (George Stroh) and Susan Hart of Federal Way, Washington; two granddaughters; and three great-granddaughters.

Jack has donated his brain and body to the nationally acclaimed Sun Health Research Institute in the hopes that they soon will find a cure for Alzheimer's, the disease that finally claimed him.

Memorial donations may be made to the Willowbrook United Methodist Church, 19390 N. 99th Avenue, Sun City, Arizona 85373 or Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W. Santa Fe Drive., Sun City, Arizona, 85351. Memorial service will be held Saturday, October 3, 2009 at 10:30 A.M. at the Willowbrook United Methodist Church, 19390 N. 99th Avenue, Sun City, Arizona.

Visit this person's Guest Book at
www.yourwestvalley.com

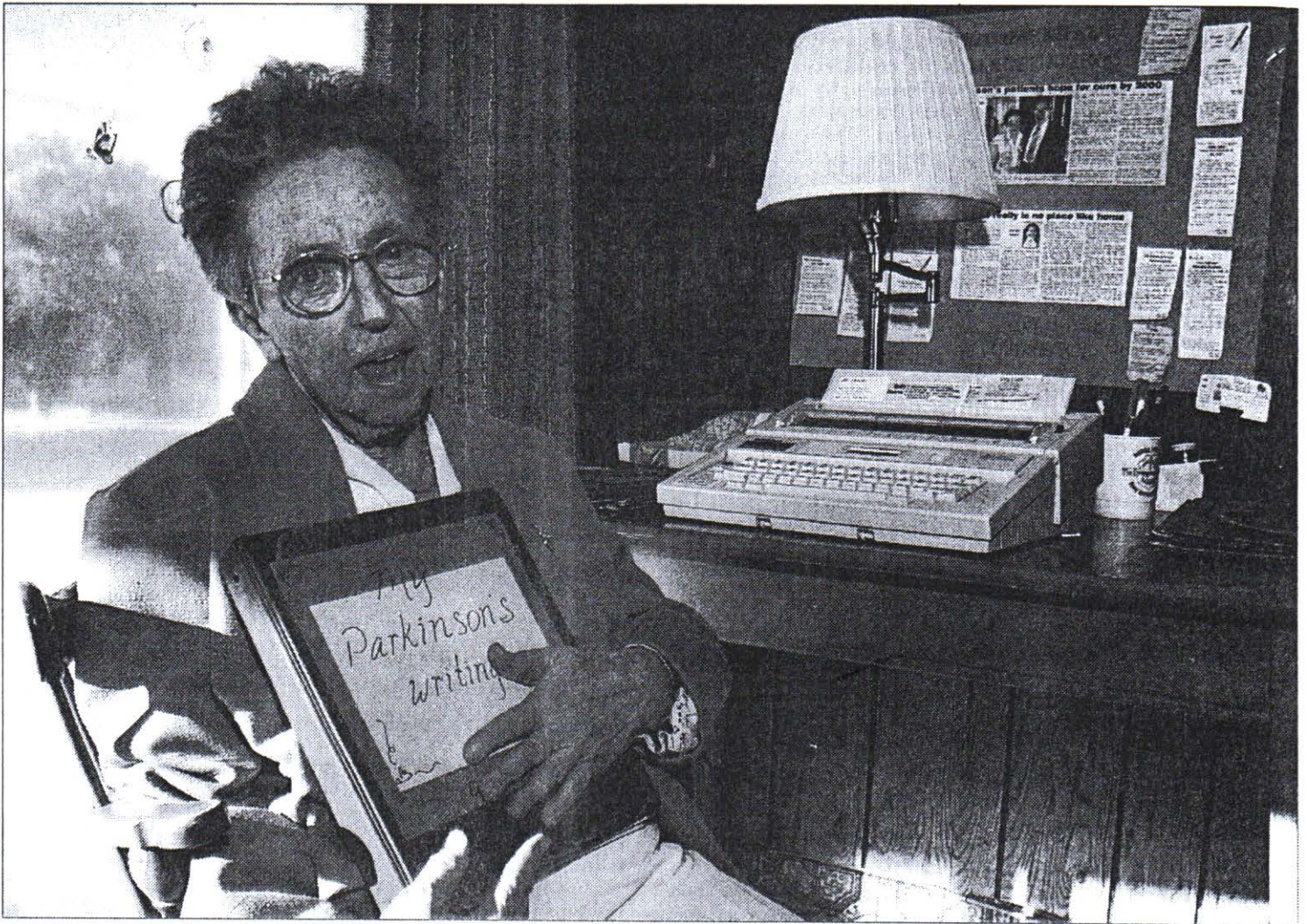
Daily News Sun 9-23-09

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Daily News-Sun

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 1999

Upbeat attitude fuels busy life



Steve Chernek/Daily News-Sun

Sun Citian Jean Hack, who has Parkinson's disease, writes poems and paints watercolors to stay active.

Don't Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the world you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As everyone of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow,
You may succeed with another blow.
Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver line of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

Jean Hack

Hack, Jean

OVER

Studied violin under Eugene Ysaye

Sun Citizen will receive medal from Belgian official

By THELMA HEATWOLE

SUN CITY — "I cried when I first heard Eugene Ysaye play his violin — he was so wonderful. I was 10 and I vowed then that I would study with him if he would accept me."

That's how Mrs. Mary Louise Hafford described her first encounter with the famed Belgian violinist and composer.

And, in an exciting chapter of her life, Ysaye did become her violin master.

Mrs. Hafford, then Mary Louise Gale, was 17 when she auditioned for Ysaye before a class of violinists at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music.

"I played Bruck G Minor and nearly died a thousand deaths," she said of the big moment.

SHE WAS WELL REWARDED when Ysaye in broken English said, "I take you." She was his pupil four years, from 1918 to 1922.

Souvenir memories of the Belgian conductor - master are being relived by Mrs. Hafford. And for good reason.

The Sun Citizen, a former solo and chamber music concert violinist and one of the few living students of Ysaye, will be presented the Medal of Honor by the Honorable Roger Tybergheim, Consul General of Belgium.

The exciting presentation will be made during her honorary recital at "The Homage to Eugene Ysaye," at 2 p.m., April 15, at the Kerr Recital Hall, 6102 Scottsdale Road.



Retired violinist Mary Louise Hafford

The event is sponsored by La Fondation Eugene Ysaye, L'Alliance Francaise Chapitre de Phoenix, Le Cercle Francais de Sun City and Mu Phi Epsilon Phoenix Area Alumnae Chapter.

MRS. HAFFORD, who also taught violin many years, started playing the instrument when she was seven.

"I used to ask my mother to wake me up early in the morning so I could practice before going to school," she said.

Mrs. Hafford, seated in her charming home here at 10320 Caron St. with bouquets of fresh flowers from her garden adorning the room, recalled other memories about Ysaye.

"I was very excited when Mayster Ysaye took me to hear Fritz Kreisler and we went backstage to meet and present him a gift," she said. "Kreisler opening Ysaye's package found to his joy a jumping jack. The joke creat-

ed much laughter between the two friends."

SHE RECALLED THAT people were always bringing violins to Ysaye to see. One man had a cheap instrument he had varnished believing it would resemble the tone of a Stradivarius.

"The pegs screeched and it omitted a horrible sound," she remembered. "Ysaye gave a violent gesture as if to throw the instrument to the floor, but fortunately the offender caught it and fled in fright."

"Ysaye could not tolerate mediocrity or charlatanism," she said.

Once while waiting for a lesson in Ysaye's home, Mary Louise listened to the "most glorious playing of a very poetic" composition unknown to her.

"When I spoke later about how wonderful it was, Ysaye gave me copies of 'Poeme, Au Rouet', his own composition," she said. "I was able to have only one lesson on the Poeme as Ysaye soon left to return to Belgium."

"We never saw the master without his beautiful pipe while he listened to our lessons," she continued.

EUGENE YSAYE was born in Liege, Belgium, July 16, 1858. His music training began at age five with violin lessons from his father, a theater conductor. He studied

later under eminent violinist composers.

Ysaye's activities as conductor started in 1894 when he organized his own orchestra in Brussels. In 1918, he made his American debut as a conductor. His success with the Cincinnati Symphony was so marked that he was offered a permanent conductorship of that orchestra, a post he retained until 1922. He died in Brussels on May 12, 1931.

Pablo Casals, celebrated cellist, once said of Ysaye, "He was a sort of giant, but a giant full of grace, who moved about with natural ease. I've never known an artist who displayed more stage presence, and his heart matched the size of his external appearance."

Mrs. Hafford, whose other tutors included Lucien Capet and Leopold Auer, played solo and chamber concert throughout the U.S. She also taught violin, viola and conducted youth orchestras and chamber music at New York College of Music and Manhattan School of Music, New York City.

During World War II she traveled with USO camp shows soloing at 243 performances at military installations throughout the country.

"WE TRAVELED by plane, bus and train, averaging 14 performances a week," she said. "The government did not think our classical music would go over. But it was amazing how the servicemen loved it. We planned to be away six weeks, but we were gone 6½ months."



Eugene Ysaye (1858-1931)

Among prized souvenirs of Mrs. Hafford's long career is a Nicholas Gagliano violin, vintage 1736. And therein lies another story.

"I was 19 and playing a concert tour in Dallas when a patron of the arts asked me to play some of his violins. I fell in love with the Gagliano."

"He told me I played Ava Maria the way he had always hoped to hear it," she said. "He allowed me to take the violin on a tour and later willed it to me."

AFTER THE WAR, Mrs. Hafford volunteered her services at a Staten Island hospital, where she taught and entertained patients. It was through concern that Anthony Wrona, confined to a wheelchair because of shrapnel wounds, rekindled an interest in violins. She also contacted Simone Sacconi, a master violin maker, who gave Wrona free instructions in the craft.

Wrona, now a successful craftsman, will move to the Phoenix area in June. Mrs. Hafford proudly exhibited her Wrona-made violin that was beautifully crafted with inlay wood insets.

The Haffords—he a retired dentist—moved to Sun City from New Rochelle, N.Y., in 1969. She still plays the violin or the love of it and is a old card holder (member over 25 years) of the American Federation of Musicians NYC.

"HOMAGE TO YSAYE," Mary Louise Hafford, violinist, Daniel Durand, pianist; Saturday, 2 p.m., Kerr Studio, 6102 Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale.

PROGRAM
Au Rouet, Op. 13 Ysaye
Solo Suite No. 1 Bloch
Sonata in A Franck

Intermission
Solo Sonata, Op. 27 Ysaye
Rondino Vieuxtemps
'Reve d'Enfant' Ysaye
Polonaise, Op. 4 Wieniawski

H3 Republic
April 9, 1972

HAFFORD, MARY LOUISE

HAGAN, MARJORIE

HAGAN, Marjorie L.

2/21/04

Marjorie L. Hagan, 15 year resident of Sun City, Arizona, passed away in the early morning of Sunday, January 25, 2004. She was three months shy of her 84th birthday when she succumbed to cancer. Mrs. Hagan had moved to Sun City from Mexico, Missouri where she spent the majority of her adult life.



She was born Marjorie Laverne Branstetter on April 9, 1920 to George and Rosa (Hansen) Branstetter in rural New Harmony outside Curryville, Missouri. Upon graduation from Vandalia (Missouri) high school, she enrolled in Kirksville State Teachers College (now Truman State University) in Kirksville, Missouri. Before completing her education she began to teach, but World War II interrupted her plans as she moved to Austin, Texas to be close to her fiancé. Marjorie and Joe N. Hagan were married in the chapel at Bergstrom Field in Austin on April 24, 1943. To this union two sons were born.

After the war, she took on the role of housewife and mother, becoming active at church and school as well as the PTA. In

1950, the Hagan family moved to Mexico, Missouri which was to be her home for the next 38 years. Marjorie resumed her formal education in the early 60's while teaching in rural Audrain County schools, and received her bachelor degree a few years later. She joined the Mexico School System at that time, but continued to work toward her Master's Degree in Education, which she received in 1969. She eventually became principal of the Eugene Field Elementary School, a position she held until retiring in 1985. Even in retirement, she maintained close ties to Eugene Field School.

She was an active participant at the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Mexico, Missouri, until the move to Sun City, Arizona, where she became an active member of the Sun City Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). She also was a member of PEO, Kappa Delta Gamma, the local and state retired teacher's associations, and several other clubs and organizations, each very important to her.

Marjorie was preceded in death by her husband, Joe, in July of 1997; and a grandson: Patrick Reid, in April of 1979. She is survived by two older brothers: Harold Branstetter of LaJolla, California and R. Dean Branstetter of Derby, Kansas; two sons and daughters-in-law: Paul N. and Jill Hagan of Indianapolis, Indiana and Gary L. and Patricia Hagan of Bartlesville,

Oklahoma; five grandchildren: Sean Hagan of Dewey, Arizona; Ryan Hagan of Indianapolis, Indiana; Sarah, Rebecca and Tessa Hagan of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; a brother-in-law, J.R. Hagan of Dallas, Texas; as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins.

A family service of Committal and Burial was held at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona on Friday, February 6, 2004 under the direction of the Menke Funeral Home in Sun City with the Rev. Dr. R. Scott Pricer presiding. A Memorial Service and Celebration of the Life of Marjorie Hagan will take place at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, February 28, 2004 at the Sun City Christian Church.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to Eugene Field School (Marjorie Hagan Fund) c/o Melanie Richter, 704 W. Boulevard Street, Mexico, Missouri 65265 or to your local Hospice organization.

Arrangements handled by Menke Funeral Home, 623-979-6451.

Visit this person's Guest Book at www.dailynews-sun.com.



Webb's New Leader: Providing Quality and Value is Heart of Long-Term Success

by Dick Kemp

Unless you're a dedicated stockholder, an avid newspaper reader or a dyed-in-the-wool fan of the company that built America's first Sun City, keeping up with Del Webb these days is a challenge.

Not long ago, the firm introduced its first four-season Sun City, near Chicago.

Recently, Webb opened its first all-ages Anthem community in Las Vegas. Then, its second Anthem, north of Phoenix, bowed in to great acclaim and 400 home orders in 32 days.

In fiscal 1999, in fact, Webb added four major projects to its developments in seven states.

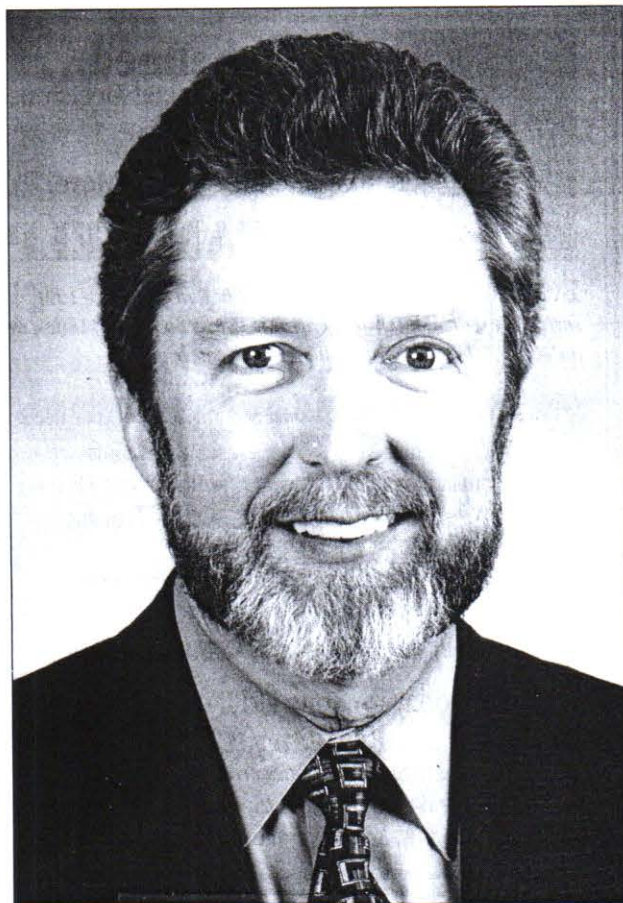
What's going on?

What exactly is going on at the 72-year-old Phoenix-based firm, nationally identified with sunbelt retirement communities?

The answer is, "plenty!" That includes a new president – LeRoy C. Hanneman, Jr.

The title may be new to the 53-year-old chief operating officer. But the company he now heads, and its core business, retirement communities, certainly isn't.

**NEW CAPTAIN AT
HELM – LeRoy
Hanneman, who
joined Del Webb as a
project engineer in
Sun City in 1972, is
the new president of
the Phoenix-based
developer.**



LeRoy joined Webb in Sun City, Ariz., in 1972 as a project engineer. He fondly remembers early retail building assignments, like La Ronde shopping center.

"When we were averaging 1,500 to 1,600 new homes a year, I really grew to understand production housing, and the nuances thereof," he says. Sun City and Sun City West represent the foundation of his management abilities.

"Sun City gave me the enormous opportunity to learn the Sun City difference under John Meeker, a true visionary in terms of customer profile, project development and overall quality," says LeRoy.

Sharpened for nine years

Those lessons and skills were sharpened for nine years while heading Nevada operations, where the concept of two Sun Cities in one marketplace was introduced. Today, Sun City Summerlin in Las Vegas ranks high among America's master-planned communities.

In opening Sun City at Huntley, just north of Chicago, Webb was tapping into the results of years of surveying retirement desires and trends.

The firm learned that a very high percentage of those considering retirement were willing to move, but not a long distance, and preferably near a metropolitan community.

OVER

"Sun City Huntley has been a wonderful experiment and success," says the new Webb president, "and the reaction has been tremendous...better than we ever imagined."

"We are looking at more four-season Sun Cities. Because we build large communities, the search for the right property at the right price is critical, and often time-consuming."

"Today, we're very interested in the Northeast, along the coast, and hope to announce something in the near future. We continue to look at other opportunities in the Midwest, even in the Chicago area."

In another phase of its research, Webb has honed in on the retirement dreams and aspirations of the "baby boomer" generation – the 76 million Americans who will move into their fifties, sixties and seventies in the next three decades.

Boomers and Zoomers

The company has determined that Zoomers, a word Webb uses to describe ultra-active Boomers, want far more in a home than well-built and well-planned structures.

Webb uses another term, "smart houses," as the product needed to satisfy these desires – many of which will be served by fiber optic cable.

"Anthem (Arizona) has made the most technological strides...we can look to other (Webb) communities to follow," says LeRoy.

"Right now Anthem residents can chat with neighbors, make golf reservations, place want ads, look for a babysitter or carpooler – and do a number of other amazing things, all at digital speed."

"They can get on the Internet up to 200 times faster than a standard modem. It's all available."

The way things are moving

"A refrigerator that places electronic orders to the grocery store, or a bathroom scale that recommends a dinner menu, are 'far out' features of smart homes that may not be that many years away, the way things are moving."

With 12 communities underway, and a division that also builds smaller housing developments, Webb is well poised on a national level for any type of building challenge. The Sun Cities concept, however, remains its core activity.

"Del Webb is the undisputed leader in the most attractive segment of the housing market today – the active adult," says LeRoy.

Some of our readers might be surprised at Webb's financial growth.

The new president reported on the most recent fiscal year:

"Net earnings rose 37% to \$58.1 million, or \$3.11 per diluted share. Revenues grew 24% to \$1.47 billion, as home closings increased 16% to 6,824 units...at fiscal year-end our backlog stood at 4,484 homes with an aggregate value of \$1.04 billion, another record-breaking level for Del Webb."

Summed up Webb philosophy

In his annual message to stockholders, chairman and chief executive officer Phil Dion summed up the Webb philosophy:

"Our primary goal is to be the finest residential community development company ever conceived."

LeRoy Hanneman adds:

"Our commitment to quality and value, in the products we create and the services we provide, lies at the very heart of our long-term success."

Many *Sun Life* readers have keen, even proud "ownership" interest in the firm that pioneered "active" retirement.

With Webb based in Phoenix, and still active in the Sun Cities and nearby Anthem, the style and pace with which the firm maintains leadership in its field should be interesting to watch.

Poms 1-14-99 founder dies at 84

By JEFF OWENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Frances "Foofie" Harlan, the legendary Sun City Pom who high-kicked her way into hearts here and around the world, died Tuesday in San Jose, Calif., at age 84.

Harlan was born in Daly City, Calif., on Oct. 9, 1914.

In 1979, Harlan was a founding member of the Sun City Poms. The dance troupe of local girls made good has kicked and cartwheeled through countless performances, parades and television appearances in the United States, Europe and Japan.

Harlan's image has graced the pages of Time, National Geographic, Self, Fortune, Health and even the Journal of American Medicine. She starred in a line of greeting cards which one card shop owner in British Columbia said was among the hottest selling products in his store.

The diminutive Harlan had a leg up on everyone though, and was the troupe's most charming and beloved member.

Astoundingly flexible well into her 80s, Harlan could gracefully throw one leg over her shoulder and parallel to her tiny 95-pound body the way an envious woman a fraction of her age could bat an eyelash.

Harlan officially retired from the Poms in May 1997 after 18 song, dance and antic-filled years. She will be missed.

"She was my best friend," said Natalie Alderson of Sun City, a close friend and fellow founding Pom member. "We met at a dance class in 1976. We were very close."

Alderson stayed in weekly touch with her friend after Harlan and her



Foofie Harlan, center, dances with other members of the Sun City Poms in this photo taken at the goodbye party given when she moved back to California.

husband, Bud, moved to San Jose in May 1998 after 25 years in Sun City.

Harlan retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1973. In retirement in Sun City, she worked for 20 years at a greeting card shop, spent 18 years with the Poms, 16 years with Meals on Wheels and 11 years with West-

side Food Bank. She translated books into braille for the blind, and taught people in low-income area how to read.

"She was more than just a pom-pomer," said Leora Nugent, a fellow Pom member. "She was a big humanitarian."

Harlan - Foofie

Daily News-Sun file photo

Bye, bye Foofie, bye, bye

Performer splits, leaves leg-acy

By DAVID MILLER
Staff writer

The Foofie fallout is Sun City's loss and San Jose's gain.

That's the assessment given by the friends of Foofie, in the wake of the news that the venerable resident will soon be leaving.

When Frances "Foofie" Harlan takes her act out of town, however, she'll leave more than a slew of friends. She'll also leave a veritable trove of lore about her incredibly springy antics, and about the Sun City Poms, one of the community's signature performers.

Harlan spent years kicking up her heels in the service of the Poms, and she's crossed the globe for international photographers as well.

Perhaps you've seen a recent pic of the 83-year-old. Several weeks ago, for instance, she appeared in Time Magazine, hitting her famous split for Blue Cross/Blue Shield, sponsor of the Poms.

If you missed that, there was the National Geographic spread that pictured Foofie standing on her head. She's also appeared in Self, Fortune, Health and even the stately Journal of American Medicine.

Not only that, but she's the standout in a series of senior greeting cards — perhaps the most limber line ever seen in stores.

Sadly, all the cards and posters are being put away. Foofie and husband Bud are busy packing up their house after 25 years in Sun City.

Their new home will be in San Jose, Calif., where they'll be closer to family. This, Foofie says, will ease the pain that's forcing her to leave — her increasingly debilitating arthritis.

But it doesn't ease the sting of abandoning her life as Sun City's stateswoman.

"I don't know anyone I don't like," Foofie said recently. "I just love it here."

Those who've come to know her, from the Poms to folks at the Westside Food Bank, have kind words for her as well.

"Foofie's a wonderful person," said Vera Kraker, a Pom retiree who often shared the stage with Foofie. "We're good friends. Will I ever miss her."

"She's always been my mentor," said Phoebe Saunders, another Pom performer. "She was very good about teaching us her acrobatic routines."

Foofie was also good about donating time to the less fortunate, say those around her.

Debbi Ennis, community relations director with Westside Food Bank, threatens to cry when asked about Foofie.

"She's done so much for everybody," said Ennis. "She's such a unique person and a joy to be around ... She's the ideal person to represent all the good things about this community."

She's also good for a story. "You know, she used to ride a Harley," said Ennis. "There are so many interesting things about her."

Even her name is noteworthy. Harlan said the moniker dates back to her elementary school days, and a classroom stocked with girls named Frances. To help out she assumed the Foofie tag, and it stuck.

She bore it proudly through a career with

the U.S. Postal Service, from which she retired in 1973. When she moved to Sun City's retirement mecca, however, she wasn't ready to leap into a rocking chair.

Rather, she promptly found work in a greeting card shop and spent spare time leaping through stunts with the Poms.

In fact, Foofie's retirement resume is as impressive as the average person's regular file. She spent 20 years with the card shop, 18 with the Poms, 16 with Meals on Wheels, 11 with Westside Food Bank ...

That's not including her modeling career, for which she receives no compensation. "I'd rather use my time helping other people," she said.

Of course, there are a few comps. The Time shoot, for instance, meant a trip to Chicago and even room service, which Foofie indulged in for the first time.

She's also been to Europe and had visits from the foreign press. While the attention might swell the average head, however, Foofie retains her spunky personality. And she still takes requests.

"People are always stopping me in the grocery store and saying 'Hey Foofie, can you still do a kick?' So I do. I don't dare wear a dress in public anymore."

It's no wonder, though, that the kicks con-

► See Foofie leaves, A3

◀ From A1

tinue to be a big deal. Even her fellow Poms are in awe, and they're among the most active seniors around.

"I can't do what Foofie does," said Saunders. "Though I did learn to do a split and a headstand and a handstand."

Foofie says that's par for the course. Always decked in sparkling suits, the Poms have earned an international reputation as the embodiment of active retirement.

Just don't ask about David Letterman.

Foofie hits her only sour note in discussing the talk show host, who invited the Poms to his show and then failed to air the tape.

"I thought it was a jerky thing to do," she said, unsure to this day what happened to the segment. Still, affable as ever, she's willing to give Letterman the benefit of the doubt. "I'm sure he didn't do it on purpose."

What she isn't sure about is what became of the segment. Flown to New York about a year ago, the Poms received billing on "Late Show" ads and got the red carpet treatment from Letterman's staff.

(over)

... seemed to be going well. Until the meat-weighting contest, that is.

That night, with the Poms poised to pose with Dave, a battle of the butchers blew through its time limit. No worries, a staffer told the Poms. You'll be on tomorrow.

Several members, however, had prior engagements. One woman had to return to Arizona to greet her husband, who was checking out of the hospital. A day's delay would have been impossible.

The Poms did tape a segment, however, to a cheering "Late Show" crowd.

Foofie recalls the performance. "They loved us!" Unfortunately, that was the last she ever saw of the tape.

Even now, Foofie gets calls from friends asking when the Letterman clip will appear. "People are still

looking for it."

A call to Letterman's office this week found a switchboard operator, but no one who could solve the mystery. Not even deli man Rupert Gee, who narrowly lost the butcher brawl, was around to clear up the mess.

So, for the time being, the Poms will have to wait for an answer. But there have been other appearances, including TV shots with Geraldo and Bill Cosby.

For her part, Foofie said she's sad to leave Sun City, the Poms and her volunteering behind. But she imagines she won't be idle in California.

Already she's thinking of helping with a family member's cable TV show. And no doubt she'll offer a hand somewhere. Or perhaps a leg.

One thing's for sure, she said: "I'm not taking my rocking chair, so I won't be sitting in it."

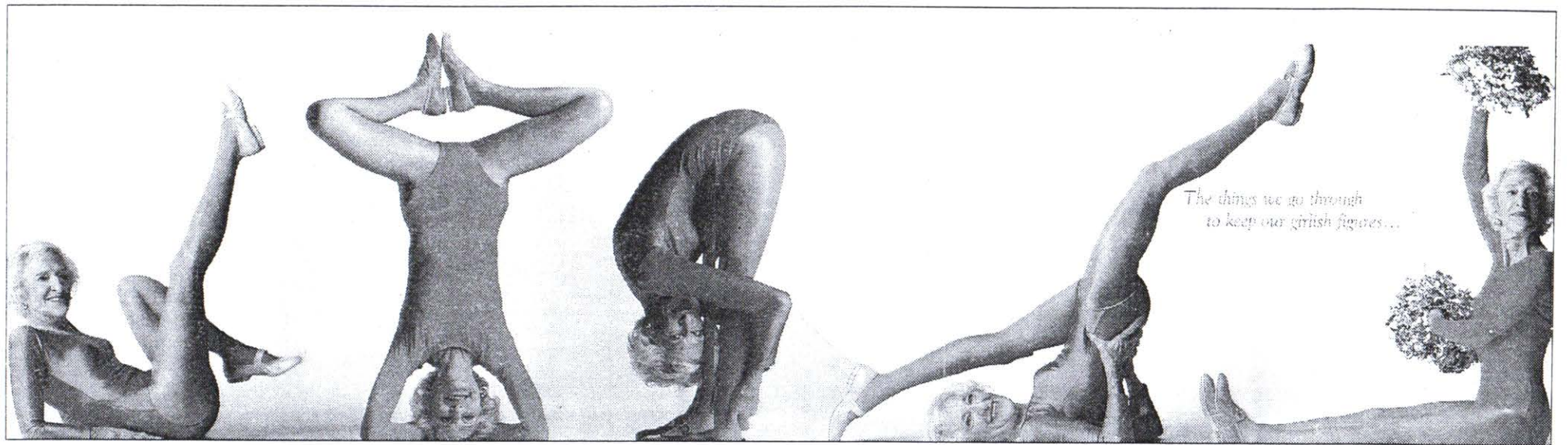
'I can't do what Foofie does. Though I did learn to do a split and a headstand and a handstand.'

**Phoebe Saunder
fellow Pom performer**



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Foofie Harlan, center, performs with the Sun City Poms in this Oct. 13, 1997, file photo.

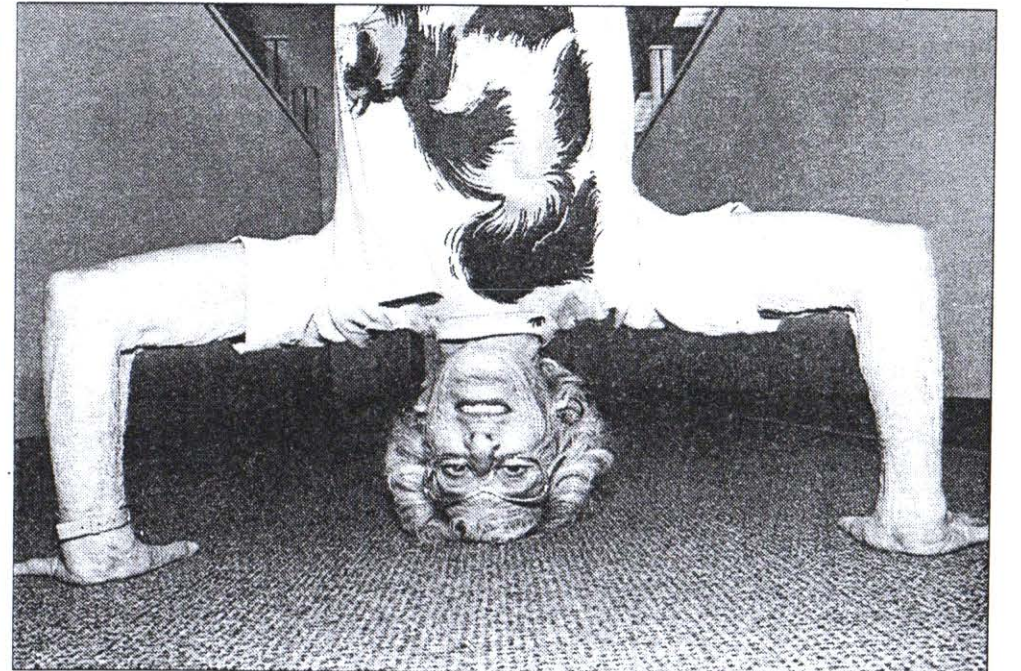


Submitted art

Foofie posed for this series of photos which later became a greeting card.



Daily News-Sun file photo



Daily News-Sun file photo

In an exhibition of flexibility, Foofie demonstrates her "split personality." Foofie Harlan views the world from a unique perspective.

Foofie leaves rocking chair behind

Fit, feisty & flexible

That's Foofie!

By Linda Helser
The Arizona Republic

Fifi, Fluffy, Floozy or Flaky. Foofie Harlan has answered to almost every contortion of her name.

What others do to mangle her handle pales in comparison to what this 82-year-old does to her own body.

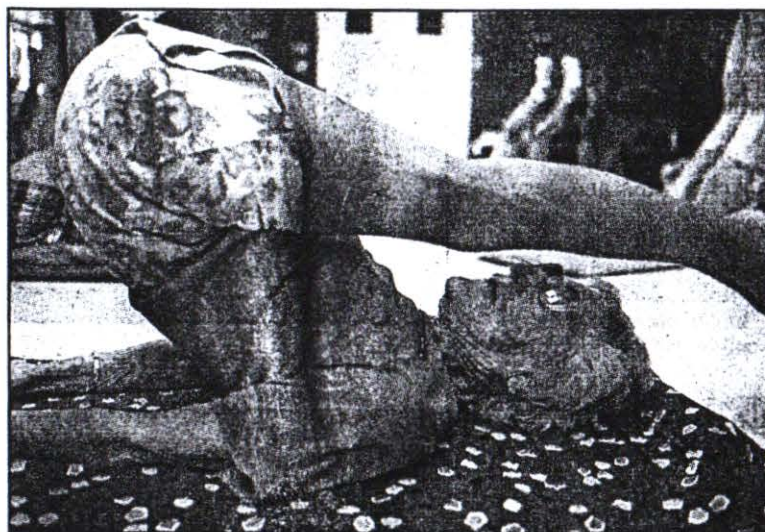
Try to have a serious chat with the gray-haired retiree and she'll throw her slender outstretched leg up above her head, pressing it parallel with her body and just grin at you.

While everyone else in Foofie's Sun City exercise class is following the lead and performing simple stretches and bends, she's standing on her head.

Or doing the splits.

Or twisting her tiny, 95-pound body in

Foofie, who dances with the Sun City Poms, also has her acrobatic likeness showing up on greeting cards and posters.



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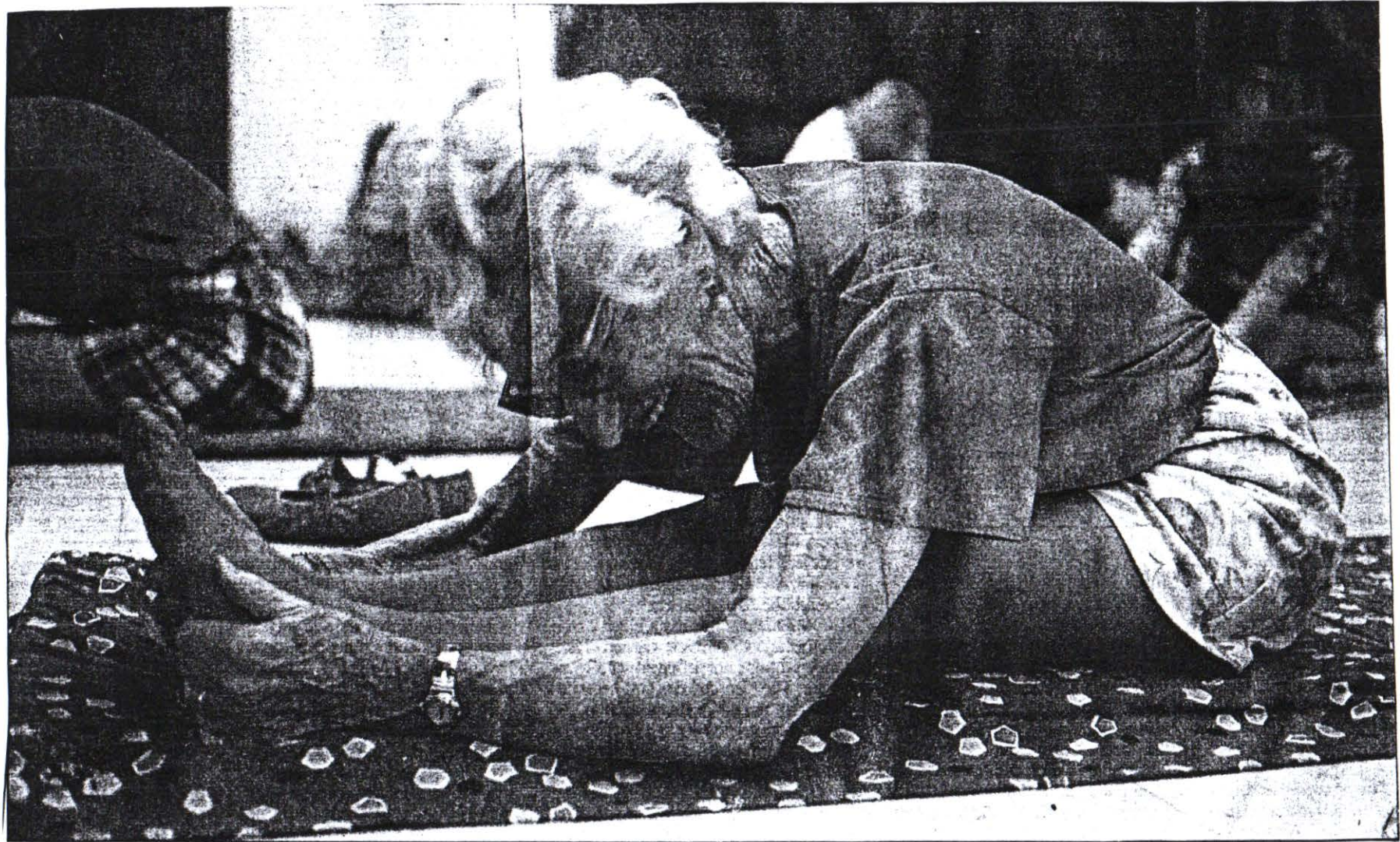
Exercise for us older ones keeps us supple and puts spring in our step and wards off osteoporosis. And it's never too late to start.

**FRANCES “FOOFIE”
HARLAN**
SUN CITY 82-YEAR-OLD

— See FEISTY, page HL2

Harlan, Foofie

HL2 The Arizona Republic Thursday, April 3, 1997



Eighty-two-year-old Frances "Foofie" Harlan of Sun City stretches out in her morning exercise class.

Photos by Tom Tingle/The Arizona Republic

Write habit to have

Cartwheeling Pom spins yarns to pals

By BRITT KENNERLY
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — To Sun City Pom dance troupe fans around the globe, she's simply Foofie, the Gumby-like, cartwheeling granny who can stick her ankle behind her neck.

To many in Sun City, she's Foofie Harlan, a faithful friend, a long-time volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

But Foofie, 78, has a secret. She can't lick her habit of writing letters.

And it's gotten to a point where the money she makes working one day a week as a postal clerk at Al-Mart of Sun City heads right back into the Post Office coffers — for stamps.

It's a pleasant addiction for Foofie, who spends her evenings writing letters to 30 or more regular pen pals around the globe — one with whom she's corresponded for 69 years.

"I can't drive at night, so I write instead," she said. "You get to know these people so well — you tell them things you'd never tell your neighbors or other friends."

And yes, it is also as much fun to receive as to give.

"I just love getting letters," she said. "When I only get



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

The ever-curious Angel sneaks a peek as Foofie Harlan writes a letter to a pen pal on a Braille typewriter.

junk mail, I throw it away and say, 'No mail today.'"

The Sun Citian became a woman of letters when she was 10-year-old Foofie Poket of Daly City, Calif., and found then-9-year-old Jeanne Parks' name in a Sunday School bulletin.

"She lived in Grafton, Ohio, and she wanted a pen pal," Foofie said.

What Jeanne got was a friend for life, but the two didn't meet for decades.

Foofie and Jeanne, now Jeanne Rothgery of De Forest, Wis., met for the first time after Foofie and her husband,

Bud, retired to Arizona in 1973.

It was a blast, she said.

"We had been through everything — babies, sicknesses, kids getting married," Foofie said. "During our growing-up years, we'd only write two or three times a year, on birthdays and Christmas. After we met, though, the letters got fast and furious."

The women still correspond twice a month, and each year when the Sun City Poms perform in Milwaukee, Jeanne comes to the performance. She and Foofie then get their

annual hugs, a chat and perhaps, breakfast.

"What I've enjoyed is just having shared our whole lives," said Jeanne in a phone interview. "We were children and teen-agers together, and told each other everything."

Foofie, who decorates envelopes with cute stickers and spices up her letters with poetry or other little gifts, writes to old and new friends across the states, in Ontario, England, Poland and Australia.

One of her buddies, with whom she has corresponded for seven years via a Braille

See Pen pals, A5

FOOFIE

Pen pals share lifetime of letters

—From A1 typewriter, is Norman Dahlke of Yukon, Okla.

A Braille typist for about 30 years, Foofie types books for a California company that lends books to the blind. Dahlke borrowed a book about seven years ago, and yet another pen pal was born.

"He found my name on the book, since you put your name on it when you type it, and asked the company for my address," Foofie said. "We've been writing since."

Foofie gets to know her pen

pals' families, too: Twice, when friends she met by letter died, members of their families stepped in to replace them.

One of those friends came to Foofie in 1947 through a Harley-Davidson motorcycle publication.

Foofie, who rode Harleys herself from 1947 until 1960, found the name of a man in Australia who wanted to correspond with other Harley riders.

Thirty years later, she finally met the man and his

wife, when the couple came to the United States and stayed with Foofie for a week.

Still other pen pals have come Foofie's way through her appearances as a Pom in magazines and on TV shows.

Some letters come addressed simply to Foofie, Sun City Poms, Sun City, and the Sun City Post Office knows just where they belong.

Foofie not only writes to thank the people for writing, she strikes up friendships that go beyond mere words.

One of Foofie's pen pals

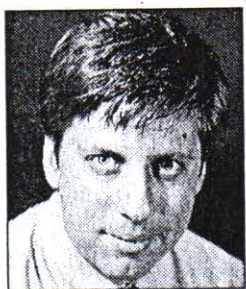
first saw the acrobatic Pom in a Polish newspaper. The woman just happened to have a cousin in Sun City, and wrote to him to ask if he knew Foofie.

"He called and asked me if I'd write to her," Foofie said.

Write? Foofie? You have to be kidding. Foofie not only wrote, she took the woman, who doesn't have a lot of financial resources, to heart.

"Every time I write to her, I send her a little money," she said.

Vantage
point



Michael P. Hegarty

Father Bill offers cure for patients

Father Bill caught a whale last week.

The Rev. Sir William Harnischfeger, M.D. — known to others as "Father Bill," an associate pastor at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish in Sun City (the title "sir" is an honorific of his priestly order) and a former cardiologist at Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital — is a "fisherman" at Boswell, where he now works as a chaplain.

"Jesus told us not to be fisherman, but to fish for souls," Harnischfeger said. "Some people have been out of the church a long time. ... We want them to come back to the church, so I help them."

Last week, Harnischfeger brought religion back to an 83-year-old man who drifted away from the church 65 years ago.

"I give free advice to colleagues and patients," he said.

Earlier this month, he received a Humanitarian Award by the Arizona Medical Association for his "care of the bodies and souls of Arizona's citizens."

"It was a great feeling of gratitude," said Harnischfeger, whose transition from the stethoscope to the rosary was a natural one and a move he had envisioned since he was a youth.

"Religion is medicine in the form of a prayer; medicine is prayer in the form of a deed," Harnischfeger said. "To minister to the sick is to dispense the love of God."

The German native, who was a medic in the German army during World War II and spent six months as an American prisoner, practiced in Chicago and Portsmouth, Va., before moving to Sun City in 1976.

Harnischfeger retired in 1989 to care for his wife, Irene, who was suffering from Alzheimer's disease. After she died the next year, he entered the priesthood, a profession he and his wife had discussed for years.

"It was absolutely the right decision," he said. "Going from medicine to theology is a small step and a very important one."

Each day, Harnischfeger arrives at St. Elizabeth, shares in the rosary, celebrates Mass and then heads over to Boswell, where he spends time with the patients.

"It's one of the wonderful things a priest-doctor can do," Harnischfeger said.

His most gratifying moment came in May 1994, when he returned to his hometown of Bad Soden, Germany, and lived out his childhood dream.

Harnischfeger celebrated Mass in the same church on the hill where he was baptized, made his first confession and received first communion, and where he was married in 1955.

He worshiped behind the altar he donated to the church when it was renovated in 1980.

"It was an indescribable feeling — the whole town celebrated with me with banners and brass bands," Harnischfeger said.

He speaks fondly of his patients, such as a 93-year-old who was scheduled to have surgery on her bronchial tubes.

Harnischfeger spoke to the doctor about the hazards of operating on a woman of her age.

The doctor decided to change her medication instead. Three days later she went home.

"The doctor told me he was so happy I was around, and the patients are, too," said Harnischfeger, who plans on working at Boswell "indefinitely."

"I'll continue as long as the Lord lets me do it," he said.

Staff Writer Mike Hegarty's column is published Tuesdays on the Community page. He may be reached at 977-8351.

MS 6/13/95

HARNISCHFEGER, "Bill"

Retired cardiologist now healer of souls

At 70, Sun City man enters priesthood

By Betty Latty
Special to Community

SUN CITY — At age 70, William Harnischfeger will switch from treating bodies to ministering to souls.

After 35 years of marriage and nearly 40 years as a physician, Harnischfeger, a widower and retired cardiologist, entered the Roman Catholic priesthood.

With the Most Rev. Thomas O'Brien, bishop of Phoenix, officiating, Harnischfeger was ordained on his birthday, Oct. 8, at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, where he will serve as an associate pastor.

The following day at 4 p.m., he celebrated his first Mass, a Mass of Thanksgiving.

"In 38 years (I have seen) many critical situations," he said. "When you can say a patient was saved, and without your help he would have died, that feeling surpasses all else."

"But now, as a priest, when I can stand on an altar and celebrate Mass and I become the mystical link between people of the church and God, that feeling comes,

"In 38 years (I have seen) many critical situations. When you can say a patient was saved, and without your help he would have died, that feeling surpasses all else."

William Harnischfeger

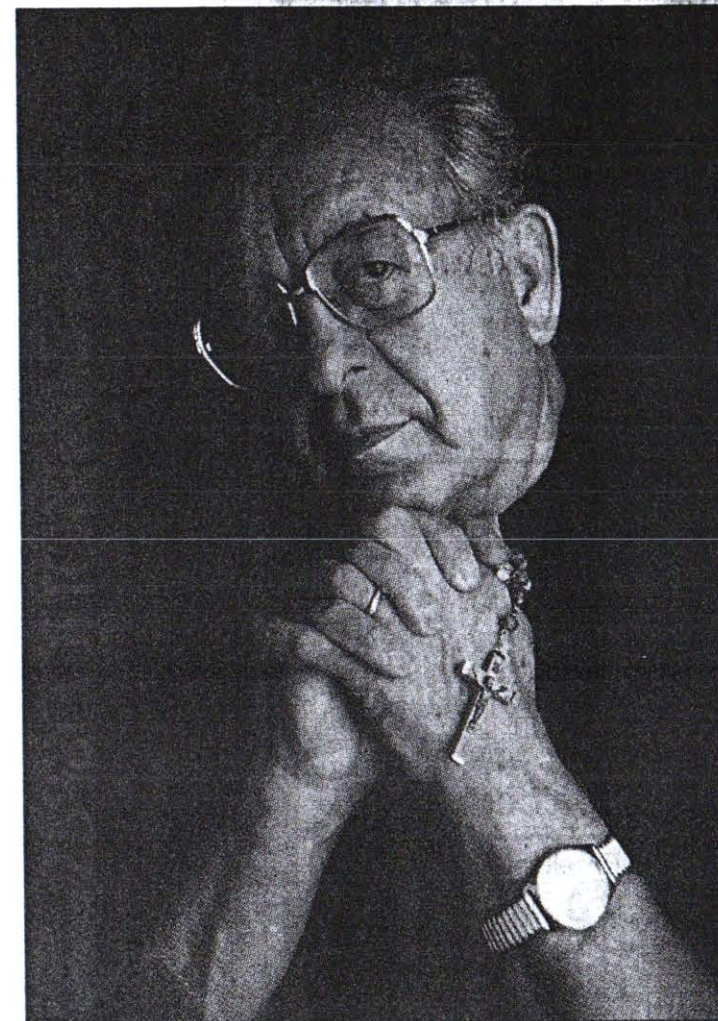
is elevated, to an even higher level."

For Harnischfeger, the transition from physician to priest was not difficult. Nor does he see his two professions as incompatible.

He recalled conversations with his late wife, Irene, in which they speculated what each might do should the other die.

"We would sort of joke; she said she might become a nun, and I said then I would be a priest."

But the calling to his latest vocation
See PRIEST, Page 8



Deirdre Hamill / Staff photographer

The Rev. William Harnischfeger, M.D., was ordained a Roman Catholic priest Oct. 8. He decided to enter seminary after his wife of 35 years died. "I was used to being active in my profession, and I just felt the Lord has not finished with me yet," he said.

PRIEST

From Page 1

was from God.

"I was used to being active in my profession, and I just felt the Lord has not finished with me yet. I want to be useful," he explained.

Besides, he added, he had announced during his childhood in Germany that he wanted to grow up to be a *seelenarzt*, or soul doctor, a feeling that never left.

The physician, who came to America in 1952, credits providence for guiding — even saving — his life to become a healer of bodies and, now, of souls.

As a young man, he planned a medical education, but World War II broke out, and the German army inducted him as a medic.

Two of his four brothers died during the war — both on the same day.

He still marvels at his own close calls.

One was with a wounded Russian soldier in the Caucasus Mountains in southern Russia. The soldier was ready to shoot Harnischfeger. However, the medic was able to explain that he was there to help him.

"It was providence," Harnischfeger said, describing his battlefield rescue of the wounded Russian soldier.

"I was carrying the enemy on my back, about three miles, and I prayed, very hard," he said. The sense that he was given a message of strength and protection has stayed with him throughout his life, he said.

Providence also hovered four weeks later, after a Russian grenade exploded in his bunker, leaving the medic sightless in his right eye, temporarily blinded in the left and with 54 pieces of shrapnel in his head.

A last-minute mix-up at a field hospital kept him out of a Red Cross plane, which later was shot down and all evacuees were killed.

After the war, Harnischfeger entered the only university not bombed out, the University of Heidelberg. He was one of 37 admitted from 13,000 applications. Providence again, he noted.

He served a second internship and residency at Northwestern University's hospital in Evanston, Ill.

From there, with a fellowship in cardiology, he studied at the prestigious Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago.

While he was interning in Evanston, he met his wife, a nurse.

"We were happily married for 35 years," he said.

After serving as a U.S. Navy doctor at Portsmouth Naval Hospital in Norfolk, Va., Harnischfeger practiced diagnostic cardiology in Evanston and also taught at Northwestern before moving to Sun City.

After his wife's death three years ago, the physician first planned to become a permanent deacon but later entered Sacred Heart School of Theology, near Milwaukee.

In his new role, the doctor-turned-priest hopes his pastoral duties will take him to familiar ground, Boswell Memorial Hospital, where he could counsel the medical staff as well as its patients.



Robert Harrison, winner of the Washington School District's Lamp of Learning Award, reads to some first-graders.

"I don't mind doing this because I don't

feel 65. I tell you, being around them, you sure feel younger," he says.

Doyle Sanders/Republic

Retiree helps first-graders love to learn

By VICTORIA M. STEVENS
Arizona Republic Staff

Robert Harrison can't go out on the playground at Sunnyslope Elementary School for fear of getting charged by a throng of children.

"If I do go out on the playground, I don't go out for long," said the 65-year-old retiree, who has volunteered at the school for four years. "They just surround me, hang all over me and smother me."

Don't feel too sorry for Harrison. He has brought this upon himself.

"I enjoy it, or I wouldn't be here," said Harrison, who recently became one of 14 people to receive the district's most prestigious award, the Lamp of Learning.

He was one of two members of the community chosen for the Lamp of Learning, given to those who give outstanding service to the district. Others who received the award were paid district staff members.

More than 50 pupils, parents and teachers wrote to recommend Harrison for the award, said Mary Padilla, district spokeswoman.

"The children need the love and they need the attention," Harrison said, as he finished helping a first-grader with math problems.

Harrison peered over his reading spectacles to make sure the pupil understood a subtraction problem. When the boy answered correctly, he sent him off with a pat on the back and a proud, grandfatherly smile.

"I told the kids if they want to call me grandfather, that's fine," he said. "A lot of them don't have grandparents



Robert Harrison
Volunteers more than 900 hours a year at the school.

adding, "He's a great old guy."

Harrison said his success with the pupils comes naturally, he said.

But the kids give him something in return.

"You know, I don't mind doing this because I don't feel 65," he said. "I tell you, being around them, you sure feel younger."

Violet Pittman, a first-grade teacher who has had Harrison in her classroom since he began, said Harrison volunteers at least 900 hours a year at the school.

"He's here every day, and he comes back after school for programs," she said. "He helps me to be able to individualize more. He helps the slow learners because he can work with them in more depth. He helps the gifted children to go on and

work at their own pace. He gives everyone something."

Because of Harrison's love for math, the kids also have gotten hooked, too, Pittman said.

"He comes in every day and says, 'Oh, good! Math!' And the kids just light up," she said. "Now all they want to do is math all day long."

The first-graders agree that they're stuck on Harrison.

Tara Brown, 7, said she likes Harrison "because he's so sweet."

Melissa Fowler, 7, said, "I love math. So does Mr. Harrison. All of us like math because it's simple and fun."

"I give him hugs every morning when I get to school."

"I'm gonna come back and visit him next year."

nearby.

"It would take all the fun out of it if I got paid. I don't know of anything that I was paid for that was as much fun, that I would enjoy more."

Harrison said when he and his wife, Elizabeth, moved to Phoenix from San Francisco in 1978 to retire, he "fussed and frowned around the house."

Then he saw a sign requesting help in teaching Sunnyslope Elementary children to read. He answered it four years ago and hasn't missed a school day since.

"Mr. Harrison is more reliable than some of my teachers," Principal Harold Dunnagan said.

Even when Harrison went into the hospital for triple-bypass surgery in August, he was back for the first day of school in September, Dunnagan said.

HARRISON, Robert

MAY 9-15, 2001

A Name to Know

Volunteers are an essential part of day-to-day operations in Sun City, a fact of which resident **Jim Hawks** is well aware.

Mr. Hawks moved to the City of Volunteers in 1986 and since then has made a concerted effort to keep the community thriving.



He was elected to the Recreation Centers of Sun City's board of directors in 1989 and in 1991 he served as president.

Mr. Hawks also served in an appointed position with the Maricopa County Planning District for five years.

Other volunteering endeavors include working with the Sun City Foundation, Sun City Taxpayers Association, Rockhounds, Sun City Home Owners Association and Sun City Ambassadors.

More recently Mr. Hawks worked to pull together all the documents, photographs and data that went into the time capsule that was buried next to the recently dedicated volunteers statue at Lakeview Recreation Center.

Mr. Hawks says he volunteers because he is just that type of person.

"I guess it goes back to perspective of life. If you have an opportunity of something that needs to be done, why not do it? I think that you can get up and feel that you've done something," he explained.

He said his favorite part about volunteering is being part of making a better community.

Daily News-Sun • Thursday, May 3, 2001

Hawks receives voluntarism honor

HN SOKOLICH
DAILY NEWS-SUN

With volunteers increasingly difficult to find in Sun City these days, RCSC recently honored one of the community's most active.

James Hawks, former Recreation Centers of Sun City board president, among other volunteer posts he has held, was presented with a plaque for his dedicated volunteer service to the community throughout his retirement. In addition to serving in RCSC, Hawks also served on the Sun City Home Owners Association, the Sun City Taxpayers Association and the

Maricopa County Planning Commission.

"Volunteers are special people," said Marge Murphy of the RCSC board who presented Hawks with the plaque. "Jim Hawks is one of those special people, and the board of directors is pleased to honor him today."

Hawks moved to Sun City in 1986 and three years later was elected to the RCSC board. He became its president in 1991. For the past three years he has been active in the Sun Cities Historical Society where his colleagues consider him one of the best resources about the community's history.

"Jim is always there to tell me what went on before," said Bob Briscoe, RCSC board vice president. "I just want to thank him a lot because he is a very special guy."

Hawks also was instrumental in the restoration of the Sun City Freedom Shrine in the Bell Recreation Center and was an active member of the American Planning Association. Most recently, he contributed countless hours to reviewing and softening through documents to be included in a time capsule, which was buried near the volunteer statue in front of Lakeview Recreation Center.

"There's not a lot I can say after I've been totally exposed," Hawks said after receiving his plaque. "But I would like to thank my wife for her tolerance. And I appreciate this very much."

RCSC director Harold Boudrie said Hawks is a dedicated and hard working resident of Sun City and a person who serves as an example to all people in the community.

"I wish we had more Jim Hawks in the community," he said.

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



Photo by JULI NESSETT/Independent Newspapers

Sun City resident honored

Sun City resident Jim Hawks was honored with a special recognition award from the Recreation Centers of Sun City April 26. Mr. Hawks has served in numerous volunteer capacities around Sun City since moving here in 1986. He served as president of the RCSC board of directors, was appointed to the Maricopa County Planning Commission and served on the Sun City Foundation. He was a member of the Sun City Taxpayers Association, Rockhounds, Sun City Home Owners Association and the Long Range Planning committee of the RCSC and HOA. Mr. Hawks has also been involved with the Sun Cities Historical Society for 13 years. From left, Mr. Hawks stands with Director Marge Murphy, who presented him with the special award.

DOERS PROFILE

Jim Hawks



Hometown: St. Paul, Minn.

Family: Wife of 52 years, Kathleen; four children; eight grandchildren.

Inspiration: Knowledge. "Things I don't know inspire me."

Greatest accomplishment: Raising his family.

Background in planning puts retiree on boards

By TINA SCHADE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Jim Hawks is what most people would consider a dreamer.

As a community planning consultant for 40 years, Hawks constantly peered into the proverbial crystal ball, making recommendations to city councils as to what businesses would make livelihoods more profitable and what services would make neighborhoods more secure.

"You're doing all these things for people, but it's for people who aren't there yet, so you always have to anticipate a little," the Minnesota native said.

Hawks retired to Sun City 14 years ago, and it was soon crystal-clear that his expertise would be in demand. He was appointed to the Maricopa County Planning Commission. On average, he spent 20 hours a week advising the county board of what the sprawling District 4 needed in terms of services and construction.

"I was always asking myself, 'Does it make sense to the neighborhood? Is it good for the neighborhood?'" Hawks said.

One of the projects that received a thumbs-up from Hawks and approval from the county was the softball complex located adjacent to the Sun Bowl just south of Peoria Avenue.

Hawks also advised community leaders about methods for building around Luke Air Force Base that wouldn't jeopardize the base's mission. He was also instrumental in establishing the Sun City West expansion area.

In addition to his work with the county, Hawks served as president of the Recreation Centers of Sun City for three years.

"It isn't a place you go to make a lot of friends, but you go and try to do a good job," he said.

While Hawks was in office, the two-story Sundial Recreation Center saw its first elevator. Under the orders of the Department of Water Resources, the recreation centers also began sealing the lakes at its golf courses.

And it was during Hawks' presidency that the recreation centers made more efficient use of space and cracked down on "weekend industry," a practice where some club members create items with club money and materials to turn around and sell for personal profit.

Hawks' focus today is on Sun City history. After a two-year term as president, Hawks is now serving as vice president of the Sun Cities Historical Society.

The society was formed in 1986 soon after the release of Jubilee, a book commemorating the 25th anniversary of Sun City. The society is located in Sun City's first house, an 852-square-foot home near Oakmont that showcases Sun City's development through pictures, maps and directories.

"We see that a lot of things that people are talking about doing now, people in the past have already tried," Hawks said.

Another trend that Hawks has noticed in his years in Sun City is that people lack the commitment needed to really make a difference in the community.

"You can always find six people to help out, but it's difficult to find someone to say 'The buck stops here,'" he said.

Hawks also sits on the board for the Sun City Foundation, an organization that funnels tax-deductible donations to the recreation centers. He is also a member of the Rockhounds.

"I can't imagine waking up in the morning and wondering 'What should I do?'" Hawks said. "It would be terrible."

To nominate a Doer, please call Tina Schade at 876-2514.

Hawks, James

JAMES HAWKS

for

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY



The Following I Will Try To Influence:

Communication: Improve the flow of information as to how your "Recreation and Leisure Time Facilities" operate. Expand the Communication from you to the Board and from the Board to you. *You have a right to know.*

Planning: Help in developing a comprehensive preventative maintenance program and a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan.

Fiscal Responsibility: Understand and apply a fiscal responsibility which is conservative, but still in the best interest of maintenance and improvements.

Management: Respect the responsibility of the Administrative Staff to fulfill the day to day operational decisions.

Legal: Bring a clear understanding of the legal structure under which the Planning and Policies of the Board are made.

Talent: Sun City has a large concentration of experienced talent which should be utilized.

Integrity: I will bring my experience, honesty and common sense to the Board action. It is important that we maintain the Recreation Centers and Golf Courses at an acceptable level for they are the major elements of our beautiful community and they relate directly to our retirement living and the value of our real estate investment.

1. Moved to Sun City from Winona, Minnesota (Twin City Suburb)
2. Married 41 years, 4 children, 6 grandchildren.
3. Member of Shepherd of Valley Lutheran Church, Phoenix.
4. Business — Was owner and President of Community Planning Consulting firm in Minneapolis. Four offices - was necessary to produce a budget, maintain a staff, manage contracts and personnel and to produce a profit.
5. Degree in Landscape Architecture from Iowa State University.
6. Completed graduate studies in Community and Regional Planning - University of California, Berkeley.
7. 3.5 years with U.S. Navy.

Sun City house still a model for living

Residential demo is now a museum

By Barbara Deters
Staff writer

It's an unassuming home on a quiet street off Grand Avenue. But in its day, it was quite the phenomenon. A two-bedroom, one-bath masonry home with a covered patio selling for \$8,500. Add \$600 for air conditioning and \$1,250 for a golf-course lot.

On New Year's weekend 1960, more than 100,000 people from all over flocked to see the home, one of five models that Del Webb had built for the grand opening of Sun City, the nation's first active-adult retirement community, complete with recreation centers, golf courses and swimming pools.

Today, people still traipse through the house at 10801 Oakmont Ave.,

IF YOU GO

What: Sun Cities Area Historical Society Museum.

Where: 10801 Oakmont Ave., Sun City.

When: Summer hours: 10 a.m. to noon Fridays and Saturdays. Winter hours (beginning Sept. 17): 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

not to see what's new in home interiors and designs, but to remember what's old.

The house, home to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, is now a museum where visitors can learn about the area's history and the roots of Del Webb's Sun City concept, which has grown to 11 communities in five states.

"Most of the other developers thought Webb had flipped," said James Hawks, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society. "Why would anybody want to go six miles past Peoria into a cotton field to live?"

But the homes sold themselves. Del Webb employees took orders for 237 homes on that four-day weekend in 1960. Today, there are 26,000 homes in Sun City.

"What brought the people out here was that

they'd never heard of a home on a golf course at that price," said Albert Foster, the historical society's treasurer.

More than 7,000 people have visited the museum since it opened in 1989. Most of them are winter visitors or new people who have just moved in, Hawks said.

But the museum is becoming a research center for students of architecture and for foreigners, mostly government officials from Japan, Germany, France and South Korea who are looking for ways to house their elderly, he said.

The 662-square-foot house on Lot 1, which backs up to the ninth fairway of the North Golf Course, stayed a model home until 1962. Then N.C. "Jack" and Marie Wagers, who owned a home across the same ninth fairway, bought it as an investment.

The Wagers sold it shortly afterward to their daughter-in-law's parents, Chloe and John MacDonald, who lived in the home until their deaths, in 1971 and 1983, respectively. Jean Painter lived in the home from 1984 to 1988, and the historical society acquired it for \$41,500 in 1989.

But it was the MacDonalds, transplants from Denver, who gave the home character and gen-

erated most of the memories associated with it.

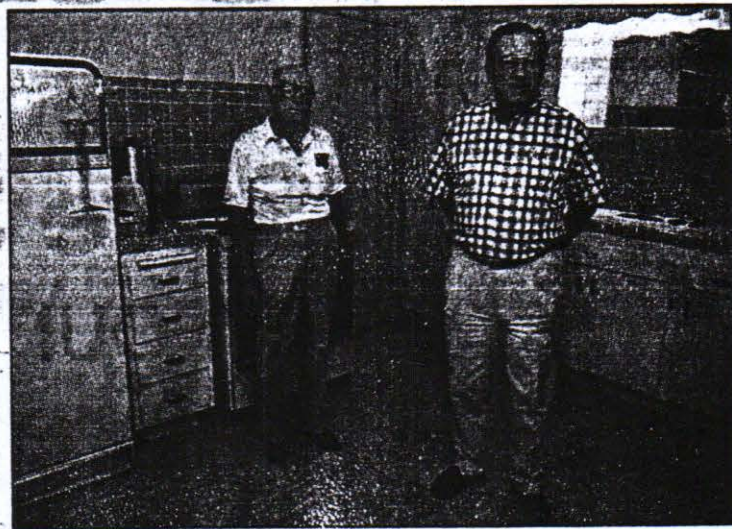
They added a third bedroom and a second bathroom and enclosed the porch as an Arizona room sometime in the 1960s.

"I can remember getting my finger caught in the sliding door (of the Arizona room)," said Susan Miller, one of the MacDonalds' grandchildren, who lives in the Denver area. "It was new to us to have sliding doors."

The MacDonalds also built a small partition in the kitchen to separate the eating area from the stove and the refrigerator with the shiny-pink aluminium accent.



A photograph on display in the museum shows the crowds that flocked to the model house on New Year's Day 1960, when Del Webb opened the Sun City development.



Nancy Engebretson/Staff photographer

Albert Foster (left) and James Hawks, the historical society's treasurer and president, respectively, show the house's kitchen.

DOERS PROFILE

***Jim
Hawks***

- Vita:** Co-owner of community planning and consulting business in Minneapolis.
- Hometown:** Spent childhood in Des Moines, Iowa, 30 some years in Minneapolis.
- Family:** Wife, Kay; four children; seven grandchildren.
- Inspiration:** Having the opportunity to attend a university and be exposed to the dreams that knowledge will open up.
- Self-portrait:** "I hope to maintain a positive view and have a fun life. When the opportunity to be helpful presents itself, I try to take advantage of it."

Resident spreads time, talent

By J.J. McCORMACK
Senior staff writer

About the only thing Jim Hawks hasn't done since walking away from his community planning consulting business is sit down — unless it's to read every newspaper he can get his hands on.

Almost immediately after settling into his Sun City home in 1986, Hawks took an interest in and got involved in regional and local issues he read about. Those issues ranged from the proposed Rio Salado water-storage and park project along the Salt River in the East Valley to a Sun City incorporation drive.

"You need a reason to get up in the morning," Hawks said, explaining why he resisted the temptation to play golf every day.

"Also, you should participate in a community. My wife doesn't think you should as much as I do. But it's important to do something worthwhile when you have a chance."

Hawks' activism and community planning experience earned him an appointment in 1992 to the Maricopa County Planning and Zoning Commission. The commission considers zoning changes, land-use permits and other planning matters and makes recommendations to the county Board of Supervisors.

Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz. Monday, July 8, 1996

Hawks personally visits the sites of planning and zoning cases that affect District 4, or the Northwest Valley portion of the county. He's driven as far as 50 miles to visit an oil field in the far West Valley. More recently, he personally investigated and found numerous zoning problems with a proposed cock-fighting arena in the Southwest Valley.

"It's fun," Hawks said of the 12 to 15 hours a week he devotes to commission business.

Hawks is a former member of the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors. He currently serves on the centers' personnel committee and is a member of the Sun City Foundation board of directors, the fund-raising arm of the recreation centers.

Hawks was an advocate of open communication between the recreation centers board and the membership. He said he learned while serving on the board that "there's a shortage in Sun City, not of people who want to say something, but of listeners."

Sun City resident Les Merydith, who worked with Hawks in a 1989 incorporation drive and in a utility-company watchdog organization called Water Watch, steered Hawks into the folds of the Sun Cities Historical Society.

Hawks has championed the society and its efforts to record and preserve the history of the Sun Cities for seven years. He currently is president of the society's board of directors and is a frequent speaker on historical topics for Sun Cities-area groups.

"The nice thing about history is it has happened, because if it hasn't happened, it isn't history," he said.

The nice thing about the historical society, Hawks said, is the job doesn't require selling ideas to people. That isn't the case with other boards and committees he has served on, he said.

Hawks is a former charter member of the Sun City Ambassadors board of directors and is a regular audience member at Sun City Taxpayers Association meetings.

He does squeeze a golf game in his busy schedule once a week, reserves time for travel and enjoys hiking with the Rockhound Club.

Hawks, James

DOERS PROFILE

Murray Healy

Vita: Worked as a marketing executive for Dow Chemical Co. for 37 years.



Hometown: St. Louis, Mo.

Family: Married to wife, LaVerne, for 55 years.

Self-Portrait: Follows the Golden Rule and is an optimist. "The glass is half-full, not half-empty."

Motto: "Do what has to be done to the best of your ability. If a problem exists, don't complain. Find a solution."

Greatest feat: "Working my way, in-depth, into a hospital environment, an area in which I was totally ignorant."

Inspiration: "My father. He was a man of limited means who had high morals, a ready smile and who in hard times, kept and imparted a positive attitude."

Key to Longevity: "Keep on keeping on. Keep active and maintain an up-beat outlook on life. Tomorrow is the best day of your life."

Volunteer checks in with spirit

By J.J. McCORMACK
Daily News-Sun staff

If you need to get in touch with Murray Healy, check first with Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital.

Healy, who has been volunteering in various capacities at the Sun City medical complex for 16 years, might even answer the phone.

He always looks for recruits and knows exactly how many people are needed to fill volunteer vacancies in hospital nursing units: 48.

"We're in dire need of nursing-unit volunteers," he said.

A former heart patient, Healy volunteers in the cardiac-care unit. His duties include stocking linens and supplies in patient rooms, responding to patient calls for assistance and communicating their needs to the nurses.

Fulfilling those tasks leaves the nurses with more time to spend with patients, Healy said.

"The patients and nurses really like what you do and are very appreciative," he said.

Occasionally, Healy serves on the "Swat Team," whose volunteers wear beepers and respond to calls for help anywhere in the hospital.

"It's a great service ... You keep busy and you satisfy a lot of people," he said. "But the greatest satisfaction is what you get out of it yourself."

In addition to direct aid to hospital staff, Healy and his wife LaVerne work at the hospital's front desk one evening a week and preside at monthly "Neighbor to Neighbor" informational sessions about Sun Health programs and services.

Healy is a former president of the Sun Health Auxiliary and has served on the Sun Health Board of Trustees since 1985. He is vice chairman of the nominating committee and serves on the community-relations committee for the board.

Healy has served on the Sun Health Foundation board of directors since 1989. He also works as chairman of the board's special projects committee and serves on its annual giving committee.

Healy, a founding director of the Volunteer Bureau of the Sun Cities, is vice chairman of the operating board of Sun Health Care Center.

He has chalked up more than 9,000 volunteer hours for Sun Health, the non-profit health care provider that operates Boswell and other medical institutions and services in Sun City and Sun City West.

"People don't realize it, but we have the best-kept secret with regard to geriatric medicine in the country, he said.

"You try to find what we have (in the way of medical facilities) some other place and you're not going to do it."

When Healy, a retired marketing director, began volunteering at Boswell in 1978, he was one of few male volunteers. Today, there are more than 200.

A desire to give back to society instilled a volunteering spirit in Healy. Devotion and pride for hospital operations have kept that spirit from waning over the years.

HEALY, MURRAY

Dow salutes retired worker for SC service

By JACQUE PAPPAS
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Murray Healy never expected to get much more than a pension check after he retired from the company for which he worked 37 years.

After years in the corporate world, he moved to Sun City and got involved in community service.

Eleven years later, Healy's former employer has honored him — not for his many years of service to the company, but for his years of service to the community.

Healy received the 1989 Dow U.S.A. President's Award for Community Service.

Dow Chemical Co. presented eight awards this year: four honoring company retirees for outstanding volunteer activities and four to employees now working for the company.

Healy retired in 1978 as an account manager in Dow's Los Angeles sales office. He worked at company branches in St. Louis and Atlanta as well.

When he moved to Sun City, Healy immediately volunteered at the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital and other Sun Health affiliates.

Healy eventually became president of the Sun Health

Auxiliary, serving in 1986 and 1987, and is the only man who has served in the post in the volunteer group's 18-year history.

"My wife did an awful lot of hospital work in the past, so when we came to Sun City we decided to volunteer at Boswell," Healy said. "It keeps you young. I like being with the people and the work is very satisfying. In fact, I think it may help me more than them."

During Healy's term, he and the auxiliary delivered greetings to the nation from the Boswell Hospital lawn to open a segment of ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" news program.

Healy, who has more than 6,300 hours of volunteer service with the auxiliary, received the William A. Chapman Jr. Award in 1986 for exemplary service as president.

"I think I've done almost everything but sweep the floors. Come to think of it, maybe I've swept a few floors," Healy said. "It's a very interesting job. Of all of the things we have done I would say this is the most interesting and one we would never give up unless I had to."

Dow gave \$1,000 to each award recipient who in turn donated the money to a designated

charity. Healy donated the money to Sun Health's Institute for Biogerontology Research.

Scientists at the non-profit institute, on the Boswell campus, are seeking the causes of and cures for Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, as well as other age-related disorders.

"We have some very close friends who have had Alzheimer's and we have been very impressed with the staff at the institute," Healy said. "It was an easy choice when it came time to donate the money."

Healy is an active member of St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Parish and has served as president of its men's club, parish council and as an acolyte.

He volunteers for St. Vincent de Paul, was one of the founding members of the Volunteer Bureau of the Sun City Area and has coordinated social events for the Senior PGA Tour for several years. He was the Daily News-Sun's Man of the Year for 1981.

Healy also is a member of Sun Health's volunteer board of directors and extended care services.

He works an average of nine hours a week with patient care in the coronary care unit at Boswell and his wife, La Verne, volunteers as a hostess in the



News-Sun photo by Stephen Chernenek

VOLUNTEERS — Sun Health Auxiliary Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital, volunteers Murray and La Verne Healy, of Murray was recently honored by Dow Sun City, work at the reception desk at Chemical Co., his former employer.

family reception area outside surgery.

The couple work one evening each week greeting visitors at the reception desk in the hospital's main lobby.

"We absolutely love this work and it's so nice when we get to volunteer together," La Verne Healy said. "When he was given the award I was so proud be-

cause it is such an honor. It was a beautiful award, but we are actually the lucky ones to have the experiences we have as volunteers."

Healy said a friend, who also is a Dow retiree, nominated him for the award.

"He just asked if he could submit my name and then I heard nothing more until Dow

told me I had won. They flew us to their headquarters (in Midland, Mich.) and drove us around in a big white limousine."

Keith McKennon, president of Dow U.S.A., said Healy's activities along with his enthusiasm and commitment led the company to choose the Sun City resident as one of this year's award recipients.

Daily News-Sun

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 5 and 6, 1999

Man's Manhattan memories not of city

By JEFF OWENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

There's an elegantly designed certificate on the wall of Roy Heath's Sun City home, thanking him for his work in the "Manhattan District."

And yet he never lived or worked in New York.

A closer look at the Aug. 6, 1945 certificate reveals a slice of history: "Roy Heath ... has participated in work essential to the production of the atomic bomb, thereby contributing to the successful conclusion of World War II."

The "Manhattan District" was actually the Manhattan Project, and Heath played a role in it.

A chemistry professor and researcher specializing in uranium at the University of Wisconsin in 1942, Heath was a colleague and friend of Glenn Seaborg, the scientist who discovered plutonium in 1940 and later won a Nobel Peace Prize. It was through Seaborg that Heath was brought aboard a mysterious government war project.

"I went to Chicago in 1943 with five days notice," Heath said. "I went over there and I was a research chemist for the Manhattan Project."

Heath had been called in to help solve a riddle, win a race and finish a war.

The riddle: Scientists working for the the U.S. government were engaged in a feverish struggle to unlock the secrets of a little-understood form of uranium—plutonium—so that it could be produced in quantities sufficient to build a new weapon of unimaginable power—an atom bomb.

But a race was on: The Nazis were working just as feverishly on their own nuclear weapons program.

For the military men and scientists of the top-secret Manhattan Project, Heath said, "Plutonium was a real troublesome deal because they didn't have any. The net result was they were stuck because they couldn't figure out the structure of it. That's why they called me."

During his 15 months with the project at the University of Chicago, he contributed to the basic patents for the preparation of two types of weapons-grade plutonium, PuF3 AND PuF4.

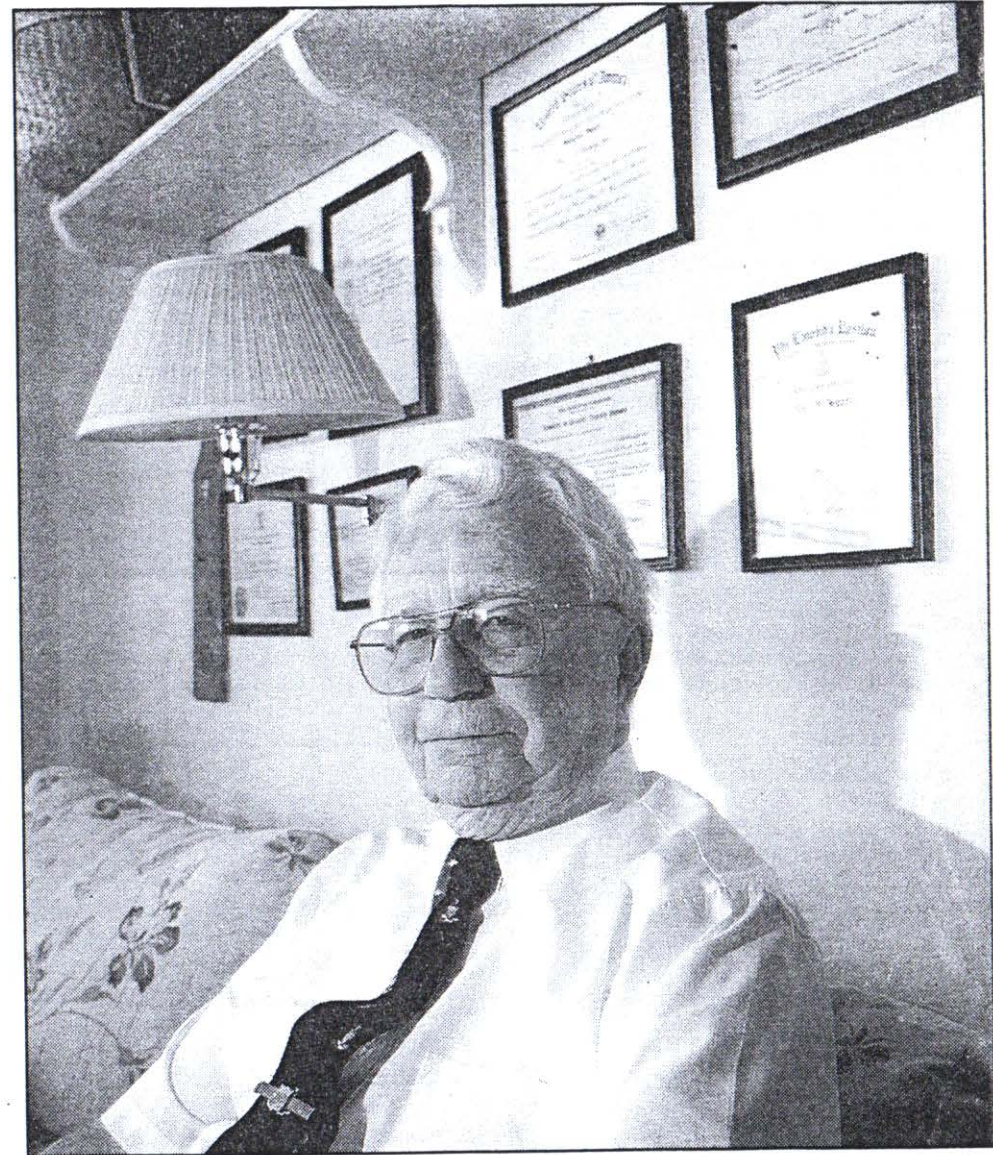
"The problem I had was to go ahead and produce PuF3 and PuF4, take the weight of (them) and determine the chemistry of (them). I helped them understand the basic chemistry of PuF3 and PuF4."

It was certainly an unusual time for Heath and his wife, Anne. They had a new baby, had been sent hurriedly to Chicago on a big wartime project, and were suddenly dealing with military types running in and out of the laboratories.

"That's the only time we lived somewhere and had baby-sitters with Ph.D.s," Heath said, chuckling.

Roy said he and the other researchers were given shots and blood tests every morning to check for radioactivity, and that "We didn't talk to anyone who wasn't involved in the program."

And when Heath recognized one research assistant as the leader of a University of Wisconsin student group supporting communism, he mentioned it to his boss, Seaborg. The very next day, the researcher was "on an airplane to Alaska."



Steve Cherek/Daily News-Sun

Roy Heath of Sun City worked on the Manhattan project during World War II.

Striking the mother lode

Tale of mining town proves popular with all age groups



JANICE TARLETON
Meet Your Neighbor

"I'm not 80 yet," Florence Heine good-naturedly retorts to her husband's quip about Grandma Moses.

This year, the 77-year old published her first book — 20 years after she started it. "It was my lifelong dream to get out one whole book," said the Sun City resident, who "retired" after 17 years of volunteer work, entertaining residents of area convalescent homes, to devote more time to the project.

"Dan really pushed me," said Heine with a smile of appreciation. Seven years ago, following the death of her first husband, Heine met and married Dan Solto, a retired linotype operator. Together, they self-published the book under the name Flo-Sol Publishing.

Since May, Heine has attended book-signings to promote "Secret of the Calico Mines" at her church, the El Mirage library, and she may have found a Glendale bookstore to carry and promote it. Neighbors, who surprised her with a party, were the first to buy copies.

The book, a mystery novel aimed for ages 8 to 13, has been well received by adults, which surprised Heine.

The story, set in 1882 in the dusty, desert mining town of Calico, Calif., centers on 13-year-old Ginny Belmont.

Ginny and her brother make friends with a local prospector, Charlie Hanes, who strikes a rich vein of silver then spends his new-found wealth helping others.

"This is a mechanically sound cover-to-cover read. I could not set it down," wrote reviewer H. Mason Coggin, president of the Arizona Book Publishers Association. "This old-fashioned story with old fashioned morals is a refreshing read for grades six through 12. Adults will like it too. It brings back the values of pioneer life and demonstrates, by its absence, what is missing in ours."

Heine said she's bothered by the lack of moral values in books today. "There's a lot of good writing, but they're just too sure that all kids are involved with sex," she said.

Though Heine said she wasn't thinking about it when she wrote it, her book has the same wholesome values and appeal as the "Little House on the Prairie" series she so

To order a copy of "Secret of the Calico Mines," send \$12.95, plus \$2 for postage, to Flo-Sol Publishing, P.O. Box 1833, Sun City, Ariz., 85372, or call 972-8816. Make checks payable to Florence M. Heine.

enjoys.

Writing has been a lifelong love for Heine, who edited her high school newspaper and wrote a song for a play in her native Cleveland high school. "I used to sing on the radio when I was kid," she explained, a bit embarrassed. "I had a lot of nerve."

Four years of letter writing to a friend's cousin in the Navy, Norman Heine, resulted in a 48-year marriage and five children.

After years of moving where the military sent them, the couple settled in La Puente, Calif., and Heine attended night school to learn the basic rules of writing for publication. With articles published in magazines such as "Christian Herald," "Today's Family" and "All Hands Navy Magazine," she joined the Writer's Club of Whittier (Calif.) where she served two years as president.

"Whether anybody published it or not, I just wrote," said Heine, who finds she does her best work at night.

Through the years, she has written church bulletins, hospital newsletters, a few songs and two three-act plays which she directed when they were performed at a regional meeting of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II, a group her first husband joined.

The idea for the book came 20 years ago when Heine, along with her grown children, made a visit to the old west mining town of Calico, north of Barstow. There they met up with long-time resident Lucy Lane who shared several of her recollections, including a story about two brothers who lived in the underground mine.

"The story appealed to me," Heine

FLORENCE HEINE



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Florence Heine just published her first book after a lifetime of writing.

said. "I thought, 'What if someone were down there and people didn't know about it?'"

Heine began researching the town's history, even managing an hour-long interview with Walter Knott, founder of Knott's Berry Farm and former owner of Calico. "We had such a nice time. He was a wonderful person and he encouraged me to write about Calico," she said.

Sidetracked by the move to Sun City in 1986 and her husband's extended illness and death, Heine put the mostly completed manuscript aside for several years.

Though energetic, enthusiastic and in good health, Heine said she realized age was creeping up on her, and it was time to once again pursue her goal.

Spurred on by the thrill of seeing her first book published, Heine has already completed four chapters on her next book, "Me, My Girl and the Navy (in that order)" based on the love letters she and her first husband wrote during World War II.

She is writing a musical as well, and is proud that her youngest son, a professor of German literature at Vanderbilt University and a part-time playwright, is using one of her songs in a musical he's writing.

Though it's taken most of a lifetime to fulfill her dream, Heine encourages others not to give up. "Just keep going," she said.

If you have a neighbor you'd like us to meet contact Janice Tarleton by e-mail at jtarleton@juno.com or call 878-8868.

Green thumb

Master gardener helps Sun City grow

By **CONNIE STEELE**
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Four years ago, Evelyn and Vincent Helm found the perfect house in Sun City.

It contained a fireplace, bookcases and, out in back, a professionally landscaped Japanese garden, prerequisites for Evelyn, who's an expert in high desert gardening.

Unfortunately, Helm said, their Japanese garden barely survived months of neglect after the previous owners shut off the water. Frequent watering and her own daily attention brought the garden back to life.

Helm, Sun City library's associate librarian, has won two California awards for her native plant garden in the Mojave Desert and is a certified master gardener. She'll share her knowledge of preparing a southwest garden for Fall in a free 1 p.m. seminar, Monday, at Bell Library, 16828 99th Ave.

"I groom the garden every day," Helm said. "The first thing I do every morning is run out to see how its doing."

Grooming means removing dead or faded flowers, dried stalks and walking along every pathway and into every corner to be sure her plant and flower children are doing well. "I know every plant in here," Helm said looking over the backyard filled with shrubs and plants.

For year-around beauty, Helm stocks her garden with native desert plants; herbs for the kitchen; and flowers for the house.

Among her native Arizona plants, Helm said she likes



EXPERT GARDENER — Evelyn Helm will talk to gardeners at 1 p.m. Monday Bell Library.

penstemon, salvia greggii, minilus cardinalus and dalea greggii. The dalea greggii, she said, "doesn't care if it gets water or not. In the spring, it grows a little blue flower."

"People are going to native plants more and more because they don't need as much water," she said.

Because desert soil and water lack acid, Helm said, Southwest garden plants commonly develop iron deficiency. To identify the deficiency, she said to look at the plant's leaves. Leaves on an iron deficient plant will have yellow veins on an otherwise green leaf and should be treated with iron chelate, Helm said.

"Mix the chelate with water and put around the plant or

spray the leaves," she said. "The results are dramatic."

Plants and bulbs who aren't at home in the desert need special care to grow here, Helm said. Tulips, for instance, she said, can't stand hot soil. Bulbs have to be removed after blooming and stored in dry paper bags.

Around October, Helm said, she moves her bulbs into the refrigerator and leaves them until after Christmas. "I usually have a crisper full of bulbs," she laughed. She warned that tulip bulbs cannot stand to be stored near any type of fruit.

Thyme, oregano, lemon balm, germander, mints and lavender thrive out back near the fence and in foundation beds with day lilies, iris, ajuga and festuca.

The Helms' house illustrates the value of trees and shade in desert living. Helm called the heavily shaded walkway from the front drive to the rear of the house as "typically Japanese."

Ordinary Juniper shrubs have been allowed to grow into trees and arch from around 12 feet in front of the house to the roof. Beneath the juniper's branches and green cover, temperatures run around 10 degrees cooler than ordinary outside temperatures, Helm said.

"Most people don't understand the benefit of trees," she said. "Any big tree is equal to five air conditioners running 20 hours a day. And a big tree on any piece of property is worth \$2,000 to \$3,000."

For information on Monday's program, call the Sun City Library, 933-2569.

OVER

HELM, EVELYN



Daily News-Sun photos by Connie Steele

SWEET SOLITUDE — Vincent Helm reads the newspaper on the Helm's perpetually shaded patio.

Gardener extraordinaire

Sun City woman's horticultural quest blooms perennially

By Lori Baker
Staff writer

Sun City

Evelyn Helm figures she inherited her green thumb from her mother.

But she doesn't simply rely on her instincts for gardening. Before she plants a bulb, seedling or sapling, she does extensive research.

"I don't plant anything until I find out what kind of soil condition, watering, temperatures and lighting are needed," said Helm, who has been a librarian since 1955 and works three days a week at the Sun City Library at Bell Recreation Center.

Visitors to the Sun City Library are greeted at the checkout desk by flowers from "Evelyn's garden." A recent display was an arrangement with crinum lilies and pink and green caladium.

Helm will share her knowledge about gardening by offering tips for preparing a Southwest garden for the fall during a free seminar at 1 p.m. Monday at Social Hall No. 1 of the Bell Recreation Center, 16820 N. 99th Ave.

"Gardening takes constant study and you can never stop learning," said Helm, who has won two California state awards for her native plant garden in the Mojave Desert. "There are new plants, new ways to combat pests and diseases."

Aside from study for her master gardener certificate — which is a



Mark Henle / Staff photographer

Evelyn Helm frequently brings home-grown floral arrangements — such as this blend of lilies and caladium leaves — to the Sun City Library.

national program that shows proficiency in gardening — Helm has no formal training in botany or horticulture. She is an example of how love of plants and gardens can be rewarding.

During most of her 77 years, Helm has been growing vegetables and fruits and nurturing flowers, trees and shrubs. Her gardens have differed with the climates and soil conditions where she's lived — Colorado, New York, Florida, Nebraska, California, Oregon, New Mexico and Arizona.

Helm's love for gardening is so strong that it even influenced her plans to get married for the third time. (She had been widowed twice.)

A home with a fenced garden was a requirement she imposed on her husband-to-be, Vincent Helm. Many back yards in Sun City are not fenced.

"I wanted a fence because I didn't want rabbits and other predators eating the garden," said Evelyn Helm, who married Vincent four years ago. "I had a beautiful adobe home and a beautiful

The dirt on gardening

Librarian and gardener Evelyn Helm will offer tips for preparing a Southwest garden for the fall during a free seminar at 1 p.m. Monday at Social Hall No. 1 of the Bell Recreation Center, 16820 N. 99th Ave.

garden in northern California which I was giving up."

Vincent Helm, a retired insurance agent who had lived in Sun City for about 15 years, found a home in Sun City with Japanese gardens that intrigued Evelyn.

"When we bought the house, some of the plants had been neglected because water had been shut off, so we had a lot of cleanup to do," Evelyn Helm said.

Most of the original garden survived. It is lush with a lace bark elm, Brazilian pepper tree, xylosma and a loquat tree that bears fruit similar to apricots.

In the front yard, there are junipers trained as trees, creating a covered arch over a walkway through the garden.

Evelyn Helm enhanced the Japanese garden with lilies, iris and many other plants. She uses tropical climbing plants in combination with Arizona natives. She treats herbs and vegetables as ornamentals.

"I love to have visitors," Evelyn Helm said. "Whenever people are interested in my garden, I bring them to see it."

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lodge volunteer earns gold star

MITCHELL VANTREASE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Dorothy Henderson has sorted and delivered mail at Sun Valley Lodge for more than two decades.

In 1980, the Sun Citian volunteered at the lodge to be closer to her mother and father who lived there. She said she has enjoyed the conversations and pleasant experiences with the residents at the retirement center.

"It's been such a great place to work because it's a very nice environment," she said.

Henderson said she loved Sun Valley Lodge so much that she and her husband, Albert, moved into the community about seven years ago. The couple has continued to volunteer at the center.

"There's nowhere else I'd rather be than right here," Henderson said.

Suzanne Stillion, marketing director for the lodge, said Henderson has been a dedicated and loyal volunteer who fills in for others.

"She's one of our backbones who is right there whenever we need her," she said.

The Hendersons participate in the Sun Valley Lodge Volunteers, known by their gold jackets. They've performed tasks such as delivering the mail, running the thrift shop and writing the in-house newsletters.

"We're always in need of more volunteers to help assist our residents," Stillion said.

Stillion said she hopes to pair new volunteers with current ones to help train them and show them around the center.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Dorothy Henderson of Sun City has volunteered with her husband, Albert, at Sun Valley Lodge since 1980.

Fyi

- **WHAT:** Sun Valley Lodge Auxiliary.
- **WHERE:** 12415 N. 103rd Ave., Sun City.
- **INFO:** Call 933-0137, or visit www.sunvalleylodge.org.

"There are so many different areas of opportunity for any person who wants to get involved with the volunteers," she said.

Albert Henderson's volunteer work has included helping in the thrift store and calling bingo games.

Dorothy said she and Albert

chose to spend the rest of their retirement at Sun Valley Lodge because her mother loved it and because of their experiences as volunteers.

"We've always felt comfortable here," she said. "I get a great satisfaction out of knowing that we're helping others here because I eventually will need help from someone one day."

If you have a community service story to tell, contact Mitchell Vantrease at 876-2526 or mvantrease@aztrib.com.

Bob Herman Helps Boswell Secure the Future



Above: Bob Herman outside his home in Sun City.

Bob Herman, 74, of Sun City keeps busy helping Boswell Hospital raise funds for medical supplies, scholarships and general operating expenses. As president of the Sun Health Auxillary, Bob attends fundraising events and represents the Auxillary at other functions.

Bob grew up in Belvidere, New Jersey and graduated from Lafayette College in Eastern Pennsylvania. With his degree in economics, he joined American Airlines where he did forecasting, worked on the "operating plan," and completed several other odd jobs for the company. He spent 24 of his 26 years at American Airlines in New York City and moved with the company to Dallas, Texas where he spent his last two-and-a-half years. He retired at the age of 53 and has been traveling and enjoying his retirement years.

He bought his first home in Sun City in 1973 with his parents, but wasn't a full-time resident until 1983. Bob decided to move to Sun

City because he wanted to bring his mother back to the town she loved and he has been here ever since. He says, "I thought it was a tremendous place to live. The Rec Centers are a tremendous asset to Sun City ... and the volunteers, such as the PRIDES, have made Sun City a beautiful place to live."

Bob began volunteering for Boswell Hospital in 1983 in the pharmacy. Throughout the years, he has driven the courtesy carts, taken interoffice mail around Sun City as part of the courier service and has aided in administrative duties. He was treasurer of the Sun Health Auxillary in 1995-96 and was asked to be the president for 2005-06. The Auxillary has donated over \$7.3 million to Boswell Hospital since its beginning in 1963 and has donated 9.5 million hours. The Auxillary also gives \$10,000 in scholarships to college-bound high school seniors. The 4,000 men and women of the Sun Health Auxillary are a crucial part to the success of the hospital.

For several weeks during the year, Bob rents property in San Luis Obispo, a college town located north of Santa Barbara. He also volunteers with a hospital in the city and at the courthouse. He mans the information booth as well as aiding in court-related matters, including helping women in divorce cases who may be disadvantaged.

Bob has been an asset to Boswell Hospital for many years and continues to work hard to secure its future.

Sun Health Auxiliary president has tall ambitions for his year in office

By Kim Antoniou

Volunteer Contributor

"No" is not a word commonly found in Bob Herman's vocabulary. Perhaps that is the reason he is this year's Sun Health Auxiliary president and the second man in the auxiliary's 37-year history to occupy that post.

"It's very difficult to say 'no' to Jane (Harker, director of Volunteer Services)," the 74-year-old Sun Citian laughingly noted. "She suggested I might enjoy being president. Actually, I'm pleasantly surprised at how much I'm enjoying it. I knew it was going to be a lot of work, but that's OK."

Work has never been a problem for Mr. Herman. As former director of scheduling for American Airlines, the New Jersey native was used to a grueling and challenging workday, dealing with pilots and mechanics on a regular basis.

"I like working with people, always have — and I'm an organized person," he said. "You can't be in that sort of job and not be organized."

When the company headquarters moved from New York City to Dallas, Mr. Herman followed, retiring in Dallas shortly thereafter. He purchased a home for his parents in Sun City in 1973, moving there himself a decade later.

Almost immediately, he looked for opportunities to volunteer and started at Boswell Memorial Hospital in the pharmacy. Other assignments followed over the years, including driving a courier van, handling mail, auxiliary treasurer, and serving as chairman of hours and awards, which involves keeping track of volunteer hours.

This year's role as president finds him putting in an average of three to four hours each weekday.

"Besides meetings, it's more meetings," he said. "I'm



Submitted photo

Sun Health Auxiliary President Bob Herman invites more men to become involved with the organization. Nearly three of every four Sun Health volunteers are women.

either getting ready for a meeting, going to a meeting, or having to stand up and speak at functions on behalf of the auxiliary board."

No regrets on Mr. Herman's part, though.

"Sun Health has been a godsend; it really has," he said. "It's like having a great job with no stress, no strain, no pain. Sure, there's no money in volunteering, but I do feel appreciated and that's something money can't buy. Sun Health makes a great effort to ensure its volunteers know how well they are valued, and that makes a big difference."

Nearly three of every four Sun Health volunteers are women. Mr. Herman would like to see that change.

"Don't get me wrong, I love being surrounded by the fairer sex," he said, chuckling, "but I'd like to see more men come out and volunteer. The assignments that attract men range from driving the courtesy carts and being hospital greeters to assisting at the Sun Health Research Institute or in the Engineering Department. As

auxiliary president, I certainly want everyone in the community to know that we're here, we need them and we have these great assignments that allow us to give back to our community. But my top priority has to be fund-raising."

Since the auxiliary's inception in 1968, volunteers have raised more than \$7.3 million to purchase medical equipment for Sun Health. During the past few presidencies, new successful money-makers have emerged such as the Southwest Drawing, the Garden Soiree, A Little Night Music and the Holiday Fast Cash Drawing.

There are no additional fund-raisers Mr. Herman can divulge at this point, but the former flight scheduler hastened to add his board members and committee chairmen are "brimming with ideas" that might receive test wings during his presidency.

"The ladies in the auxiliary have had so much experience with fund-raising; they have the background and know which ideas will and won't work," he said. "And of course they've all had a lot of business experience. We men sort of stay in the background."

"It's truly a pleasure working with Bob this year," noted Jane Harker, director of Volunteer Services. "His organizational skills are an inspiration to us all, and his leadership style encourages participation from our many enthusiastic volunteers. We feel blessed to work with Bob and the other outstanding community members who participate in Volunteer Services at Sun Health."

With his can-do attitude and outgoing personality, it seems a pretty sure bet that Mr. Herman won't be "in the background" for very long.

Editor's note: Ms. Antoniou is a spokeswoman for Sun Health.

Meet your neighbor, Paul Herrmann

Name: Paul Herrmann
Age: 61
Town/Neighborhood: Sun City - Phase I

What I like most about living here: It's the only place I can afford to live and still maintain an active fun-filled life that includes very reasonably priced golf.

Changes I'd like to see in this area: More people getting involved in volunteering. We have been known as the "City of Volunteers" for many years. Volunteers have kept Sun City safe, clean, affordable and pleasurable. I like Channel 5 and Fulton Homes' "Power of 5" concept: Volunteer five hours every month to a worthy cause; donate \$5 every week to a local charity; take five minutes tonight to talk to your children about an important social issue. These small steps can make a big impact on the place you live. That's the "Power of 5." That's how you make a difference.

What I'm excited about: Anything done for the good of Sun City and its residents. People who are willing to get involved with solutions, not just complain.

Why?: It's always easier to stand on the sidelines and take potshots, than to get involved and make a contribution. "Time spent criticizing is time that could be spent on better things."

Favorite community cause and why: The Sun City Visitors Center because it fills such a vital role promoting our community nationwide. We have the very best value in retirement living but it needs to be promoted if we are going to continue attracting new retirees.

When and why I moved here: I moved here six years ago as a missionary working to develop a Christian Camp near Lake Pleasant.

Where I lived before: I was born in Chicago, Ill., and have lived in Iowa, Nevada, Kansas, California and Texas.

My family: Nancy is my wife of 22 years and we have four daughters and nine grandchildren. My parents, June and Dick, have been residents of Sun City since 1978.

What I do: I am the executive director of the Sun City Visitors Center.

What I like most about what I do: I enjoy meeting people from around the world who are interested in hearing about the develop-



Paul Herrmann

ment and unique character of Sun City, the first planned active retirement community in the world. I also enjoy working with the different community organization all striving together to maintain Sun City's outstanding reputation.

My interests and hobbies: I have always enjoyed golfing and

having the opportunity to meet people from different walks of life while enjoying the game. I also enjoy woodworking.

My best/worst habits: Best - I have always had the ability to get along with people. Worst - I am terrible at remembering names.

My guiding philosophy: If my Christianity were on display under a glass case, what would people see? Every act of our lives strikes some chord that will vibrate in eternity.

My advice to today's youth: "No generation lives for itself alone, but tomorrow rests upon the shoulders of today, as today rests upon the shoulders of yesterday," ... Sharlot M Hall.

Herrmann, Paul

Community mourns loss of 'Mr. Sun City'

Sam Higginbotham active in many projects

By CHRIS RASMUSSEN
Independent Newspapers

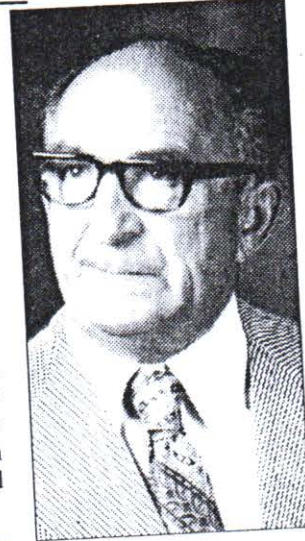
The sun has set on a Sun City icon.

Sam Higginbotham, affectionately dubbed Mr. Sun City for his efforts in developing several community organizations, died Dec. 28 at the age of 89.

He died from a blocked carotid artery in the Arizona Heart Hospital where he

had been for two weeks.

Mr. Sun City is best known for founding the Lions Club recycling program and the construction of the Lions Community Services building on 99th Avenue, which houses organizations such as SCAT and Recording for the Blind and Deaf.



See ■ MR. SUN CITY Page 3 Sam Higginbotham

Eugene Gravlin, who later went on to run the Lions Club recycling program, remembers when Mr. Higginbotham first told of his idea to collect newspapers.

"We were both getting a set of tires changed," Mr. Gravlin said, "and this truck filled with newspapers passed by.

"He said we could collect newspapers, sell it and give the money to needy people."

During its first year of operation in 1985, the Lions Club project pulled in \$175,000 for local charities.

"He developed it from a small club project into a full-scale recycling operation," Mr. Gravlin said.

Today, the project is run as a business with a recycling plant off Grand Avenue in Surprise.

"He was very proud of the recycling program, he would tell anyone around about it," Mr. Gravlin said.

With money earned through the recycling program, Mr. Sun City decided to begin another project, filling a void in the community.

While Sun City had several community organizations such as SCAT, Recording for the Blind and Deaf and the Sun City Community Council, the groups were without buildings.

Mr. Higginbotham, who began mingling with Del Webb Corp. employees, was introduced to company President John Meeker.

Mr. Meeker heard Mr. Higginbotham's idea to construct a community service building and offered a few acres of land off 99th Avenue, south of Peoria Avenue. Mr. Higginbotham put about \$450,000 into the buildings. Today the buildings are worth approxi-

mately \$2 million.

Several nonprofit organizations call the buildings home, paying only \$1 each year for rent.

During the dedication, Mr. Meeker attempted to place a plaque identifying the buildings as Higginbotham Studios.

"Sam was most irritated, he took it down himself," said his wife Evelyn, who married Mr. Higginbotham last year.

"He has never been willing to take credit for anything he did," Mrs. Higginbotham said.

In addition to his efforts on those two projects, he served on several boards of nonprofit organizations including SCAT, Sun City Community Council and the Olive Branch Senior Center.

He is responsible for organizing the Sun City Lions Foundation and has been named "Lion of the Year" five times. He also was named "1980 Man of the Year."

Mr. Higginbotham was chairman of the Del Webb Statue Committee, which erected a statue at the Bell Recreation Center in honor of the community's founder.

He also served on the Recreation Centers of Sun City governing board.

"There are many thinkers out there, but only a few doers. Sam Higginbotham was a doer," Mrs. Higginbotham proclaimed.

Mrs. Higginbotham said her husband regularly helped widows invest their money.

"Sam was the best friend I ever had outside of my husband," said June O'Brien, a former Sun City resident and widower.

Mrs. O'Brien said the caring man used to pick her up and take her around town when she needed

to run errands.

"He was one of the best men around," Mrs. O'Brien said. "He was a good man."

Tom Clewes, Mr. Higginbotham's best friend for 23 years, said Mr. Sun City did more than just drive widows around.

"He would care for five or six people at the same time," Mr. Clewes said. "Many times he would care for them until they died. He helped countless people in Sun City.

"He was one of the finest men I ever knew," Mr. Clewes said.

"He has done so much, it would be impossible to list them all."

Born in Texas, Mr. Higginbotham left home as a teenager and never returned.

He found work at a Pennsylvania oil refinery and ended up supervising a large crew of men.

Because of his welding experience, a skill picked up at the refinery, he was enlisted into America's war effort as a welder.

After World War II, Mr. Higginbotham became a plumber, earning enough money to start a construction business.

Over the next few years he built 20 motels in Reno, Nev.

He was so successful with his construction company he was able to retire at the age of 35.

Mr. Higginbotham married Evelyn Coleman in 1998. Prior to that, he was also married to three other women, including Geraldine and Beryl.

He is survived by his daughter, Barbara Gray, and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Jan. 1.

MR. SUN CITY TAKES A MRS.

Former 'Man of the Year' marries again at the age of 88

BY JULIA DE SIMONE
Independent Newspapers



Photo by JULIA DE SIMONE/Independent Newspapers
Sam Higginbotham proudly displays his numerous awards that earned him the title "Mr. Sun City." His fiancée, Evelyn Coleman, considers her loved one of the most "giving people." The duo were married June 12.

Sam Higginbotham hides his accolades nicely. In a back room, the Sun City resident's many awards stand at attention like dandelions among blades of grass.

They echo past distinctions almost forgotten such as the "1980 Man of the Year," to numerous Lions Club honors.

"Yeah, I've been Lion of the Year four or five times," Mr. Higginbotham said.

One honor, however, remains ageless —

"The Mr. Sun City" moniker.

"To be honest, I don't know how it came about," he said.

But family and friends said the 88-year-old is modest.

Mr. Higginbotham said before retiring, he took the advice of two fellow doctor friends.

"They said, 'We're going to do something for you, Sam,'" he said. "They said 'If you ever retire, don't sit down! Do something!.' It was a good omen."

Although Mr. Higginbotham admits he was eager to enjoy his retirement years when he settled in the City of Volunteers, it never happened.

Instead a friend persuaded him to join the local Lions Club — where the prestigious title was sewn on his vest, positioned over his heart.

His most well-noted accomplishment was the Lion's Club recycling project, which he started in 1967.

Mr. Higginbotham said he read in the *Wall Street Journal* that people could make extra money by recycling newspapers, so he proposed the idea to fellow Lions.

He soon was heading the program in the area.

See ■ MR. SUN CITY, Page 10

The money raised from the project was distributed to local Lions clubs in the Sun Cities for charitable purposes. Money was also used for the construction of buildings, such as the Lions Club and SCAT.

He said John Meeker, president of the Del Webb Corporation at the time, provided them with the land, south of Peoria and 99th avenues.

"I went to his office and told him 'I'd like this and that ... he was always cooperative, and he did a lot for Sun City. People don't realize it," he said.

In addition to the recycling project, Mr. Higginbotham also was the chairman of the Del Webb Statue Committee that oversaw its 1981 erection in a memorial garden at the Bell Recreation Center, 16820 99th Ave., Sun City.

"I think that's what life is all about — helping other people," he said.

Mr. Higginbotham said he credits

*I think that's
what life is all
about —
helping other
people.*

Sam Higginbotham

his great-grandmother for providing him with solid values early in life.

"She sat me down every day and taught me," he said.

Although the Sun City resident said he's not as active as he was in the past, many disagree.

"He's never home ... I have to make an appointment to see him," laughed Evelyn Coleman, his fiancée.

Ms. Coleman said her future husband is "extremely active" in the community, from the local Lions Club to helping widowers with their finances.

"The best part of his life is having fun and enjoying everything he has done in his life. ... I feel like if there was a small fraction of people who contributed the same, we would have a better community as a whole," she said.

Tom Clewes, his best friend for more than 20 years, agreed.

"He's just a wonderful person," Mr. Clewes said. "There's no one more alive — people almost expect it of him."

Mr. Higginbotham and Ms. Coleman were married June 12. They plan to remain living in Sun City.

DOERS PROFILE

Sam
Higginbotham

Vita: Retired contractor, rancher and hotel developer.



Hometown: Raised on a farm in Texas.

Family: Wife, Geraldine; one daughter; two grandchildren.

Self-Portrait: Jokingly describes himself as "poor old Sam. I feel like if you've been lucky enough and the Lord, He's helped you, that you should give something back."

Motto: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Greatest feat: Building three hotels and one apartment complex in Nevada.

Inspiration: No one in particular. "I chased all over the country when I was a kid."

Key to longevity: "Do something. Do it if you do it wrong."

Lion recycles business skills to aid charities

By J.J. McCORMACK
Daily News-Sun staff

Shake hands with Sam Higginbotham of Sun City and you're face to face with a someone whose contributions have shaped a part of Sun City's history.

And to think this successful businessman who retired from hotel developing in 1958 had told himself when he moved to Sun City in 1960 he was not going to join anything.

For a while, he didn't. That is, until the mid-1960s when a friend invited him to a Sun City Host Lions Club meeting.

Several years later, Lion Higginbotham joined in a club discussion of fund-raising opportunities. He told club leaders that he had recently read in The Wall Street Journal that money could be made recycling newspapers. Despite strong skepticism, the Lions recycling program was launched in the early 1970s.

The program proved to be hard work, however, and the disenchanted Lions came close to suspending operations. Higginbotham rescued the program by volunteering to manage it.

"I said I'll take it and run it, if you let me run it like a business," he recalled.

Higginbotham put his business acumen to work for the Lions and turned the recycling program into a lucrative fund-raiser. The program has netted the Lions and club charities \$25,000 to \$30,000 monthly for the the last five years, Higginbotham said.

During the 14½ years that Higginbotham volunteered eight-hour days overseeing the program, it expanded its geographic reach and its volunteer resources.

Today, nearly every Sun Cities-area shopping center has a Lions newspaper depository and all Sun City Lions clubs assist with the program and share the proceeds based on a formula Higginbotham developed. While the host club retains half, clubs share the balance based on their membership.

"I thought that would help them keep up their membership," he said.

The recycling program is not Higginbotham's only legacy. He was successful in getting John Meeker, former head of Del Webb Development Co., to donate the land the Lions used to build the Arizona Recording for the Blind studio on 99th Avenue in Peoria. Later the Lions built a complex to house the offices of local charities, and finally the Sun Cities Area Transit System compound.

The Lions Community Service building saves area charities about \$90,000 a year in rent, Higginbotham said.

In return for Meeker's generosity with the Lions, Higginbotham helped the Webb executive fulfill a wish to leave a monument to Sun City's developer, Del E. Webb.

Using recycling-project proceeds, the Lions commissioned a statue of Webb to be erected on the grounds of Bell Recreation Center. At Higginbotham's urging, a memorial garden was planted around the statue.

During the years he steered the recycling program and the Lions Foundation, Higginbotham was in great demand by other non-profit agencies who sought his expertise for their boards of directors. He obliged many of them, including SCAT. He hasn't kept track of all the boards he's served or when.

After a long hiatus, he recently returned to the SCAT board and got the Lions Foundation and the Host club to finance a paving contract he negotiated for the dial-a-ride service.

'Poor Sam' has a habit

He just can't keep from helping out

By KAREN S. LEONARD
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Successful living requires a formula for Sam Higginbotham.

In 1958, he sat down, figured in inflation and calculated how much money he and his wife would need to live comfortably for years to come.

His calculations ran through 1985, but his financial success will probably outlive him. He still receives monthly checks from property he sold in the 60s and 70s. And he has trust deeds that don't pay off until 2020, he says.

In 1974, after selling apartments, motels and property, he decided to try his hand at the stock market. He invested in some electrical companies because other than food, clothing and other essentials, he knew people would need power.

And there are more than a few people in the Sun Cities who are happy for Higginbotham's foresight. Some are the people who he has financially aided with thousands of dollars.

"If I run into somebody who I think is really down on his luck and needs help, I give him help," Higginbotham says.

One such Sun City West man was confined to a wheelchair and his insurance checks were delayed.

Higginbotham went to the Host Lions and asked the group to loan the man some money. The group loaned him \$2,000, but the man's checks still hadn't arrived. So, Higginbotham started financially supporting the man — to the tune of \$8,400.

When the man's money did come, Higginbotham told him to buy a home and they'd talk later about repayment.

Higginbotham says he settled for \$2,000.

"Money is only good for what it will do for you," he says.

There are several people in the area who he now has befriended. He takes them places, gives them financial advice, and sometimes supports them.

"He's the most liberal and generous man I've ever known," says fellow Lion Milton Jacobsen.

"When anybody has any trouble he goes right to the front for him."

Other Lions members believe likewise and will show Higginbotham so by awarding him the club's "Mr. Humanitarian



News-Sun photos by Mollie J. Hoppes

SAM HIGGINBOTHAM—The Host Lions will recognize their member and friend May 12 with the club's Mr. Humanitarian Award for his service to individuals and to the community. Known by many

for his community concern Higginbotham operated the Lion's newspaper collection bins from 1971 until three years ago. Last year the project earned \$300,000.

Award" May 12.

Friend Robie Chambers has relied on Higginbotham for investment advice. She says she leans on him anytime she has a decision to make.

"There isn't a word big enough for him," she says of Higginbotham.

But "Poor Sam," as he likes to be called, is better known throughout the Sun Cities for his work in operating the newspaper collection bins for the Host Lions club.

Higginbotham took over the responsibility of the bins in 1971. At that time, after five years of operation, they were garnering about \$7,000 a year in recycled newspaper.

"The first year I did \$19,000 and we grew by \$20,000 a year, approximately, until we got up to \$250,000," he says. Last year the newspapers earned the club more than \$300,000.

Three years ago he gave up running the bins but he still helps the Lions' paper committee with the operation.

However, Jacobsen says the committee members are used to

Impressions

Higginbotham's absence when they meet on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, because he's often off helping somebody in need.

"He's the most outstanding man I've ever known. He's always doing something for someone," Jacobsen says.

But Higginbotham says when he left home at age 12½, he was thinking only of himself.

He went from his parent's farm in East Texas to live with his aunt and uncle.

"I didn't think I was getting the education I thought I should be getting. I was one of these kids, I don't know why, I can't explain it, but I wanted to be a lawyer. I'd never seen a lawyer as far as I know, but I still wanted to be a lawyer."

But law wasn't in the cards, and Higginbotham moved around, working several different jobs.

At 17, he owned a hamburger operation. At 21, he was the

superintendent of a company that built pipelines and pump stations for Atlantic Oil Co. in New York.

He went on to work for the Southern Pacific Railroad, buy a ranch in Nevada and own a motel and apartment building also in Nevada.

In 1960, Higginbotham came to Sun City. But his wife's failing health took them back to Nevada for three years.

They returned to Sun City in 1963 and his wife died in 1969.

Two years later, Higginbotham married Geraldine, with whom he shares his sixth Sun City home.

His latest challenge has been getting funds for the memorial gardens and statue of Del E. Webb at the Bell Recreation Center. So far \$32,000 have gone into the gardens, \$4,000 out of his pocket.

"I get pleasure out of this. I think a man like (Del) Webb, maybe I'm overboard, but I think he deserves something like this — something that's real memory."

HIGGINBOTHAM, SAM



Doyle Sanders/The Arizona Republic

Sam Higginbotham organizes the Host Lions Club's annual newspaper fund-raising drive.

Lion delights in joy of giving

— LION, from page Extra A

nizations, was built about 15 years ago after the Sun City Host Lions Club raised \$250,000. Higginbotham said.

While most of the money was raised through the paper drive, Higginbotham persuaded Sun City developer Del Webb to donate the land for the building and obtained \$25,000 from the government.

The 14 organizations lease space for \$1 a year at the building. Higginbotham also helped raise more than \$1 million in 1969 to help fund the initial development of Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City.

Recently, Higginbotham has

Del Webb at the Bell Recreation Center.

Higginbotham has helped raise \$29,000 and has personally donated \$4,000 for the garden.

"Webb had a unique dream of a life style that no one else had the money or the nerve to try and create," he said. "The rose garden is dedicated to the memory of that dream and its fulfillment."

Flora said the Sun Cities are built on volunteer efforts, such as those by Higginbotham.

"These kind of people are what keep Sun City young and going," he said.

Higginbotham said his humani-

By Shelley S. Davidson
Special for The Arizona Republic

As a child, "Poor Sam" Higginbotham roamed the fields of eastern Texas, where he walked 2½ miles to school, and back-breaking farm work was a reality at age 6.

He said he often found himself thinking of higher and more worldly aspirations while he worked in the Texas cornfields and peach orchards.

Today the 79-year-old Sun City resident, surrounded by saguaros and prickly pear cactus, approaches dreams in a different manner.

Some might call him a dream maker. But most might simply call him a kind-hearted man who dreams of — and believes in — helping others.

Higginbotham has been named recipient of the Sun City Host Lion's Club "Mr. Humanitarian Award," an honor designed to

recognize Lions devoted to promoting the welfare of the community.

Joe Flora, first vice president of the club, said Higginbotham has been a key factor in fund raising and community-assistance programs, both as a club member and as an individual.

"If Sam isn't earning money to give to needy people, he's giving his own (money) away," Flora said. "The man's got more money than he knows what to do with."

Higginbotham admitted he donates his monthly Social Security check to assist those in need.

"I simply put it where I see fit," he said. "If I've got a little extra, why not pass on one of God's gifts?"

Higginbotham has been instrumental in the Lions Club paper drive, which averages \$250,000 a year by gathering and recycling paper.

He helped start the paper program in 1966, and by 1971 was running the whole show, Flora

said.

Through the efforts of Higginbotham and other Lions, the paper drive, which earned \$8,000 in 1971, exceeded more than \$330,000 last year.

Higginbotham said the paper drive holds a special place in his heart.

"I joined the Lions in 1965 and have never seen a group more dedicated to helping others, both young and old. (The paper drive) is my way of being of service to the community as a Lion," he said.

All funds raised through the paper drive are earmarked for charities, which include a camp for handicapped children; eye and ear examinations for preschool children in El Mirage and Surprise; the Arizona Lion's Foundation in Phoenix; and the Sun City Lion's Foundation building at 99th and Peoria avenues.

The Foundation building, which houses 14 non-profit orga-

— See LION, page Extra C

And Now Presenting, Phoenix Civic Plaza



Gazette Staff Photo

Crowd of several hundred persons awaits ceremonies to announce name of new downtown convention center—Phoenix Civic Plaza. Nation's First Lady, Mrs. Lyndon

Johnson, had been scheduled to announce name, but her arrival was delayed and Mayor Milton Graham reported name selected by the Phoenix City Council.

Why Civic Plaza Name? The Winner Explains

What prompted Mrs. Atlee Hites to choose Phoenix Civic Plaza as the name for the downtown convention center and concert hall?

"I wanted a name that would wear well," she said. "I felt it should be known, and sound nice, the world over."

AT THIS point, the Sun City resident smiled and added, "And I wanted a name that would dispel any ideas back East of this area still being cowboys and Indians."

Mr. and Mrs. Hites aren't too long from the East themselves. They moved here four years ago from Columbus, Ohio, when Hites retired as an insurance company branch manager.

They love Arizona. "We were a little afraid the summers would be too much," she said, "but we don't feel nearly as uncomfortable as we did from the humidity back East."

Mrs. Hites isn't a enter-every-contest bug. "When I read in The Gazette about the Name The Convention Center contest," she said, "my idea was to try to contribute to the growth of the state and to find a name that would help the growth of Phoenix. It was really a feeling of civic pride about Phoenix."

Obviously, members of the Phoenix City Council believe she succeeded, for they chose her entry from among 10 finalists.

MR. AND MRS. HITES discussed her entry and decided it promised to be known throughout the world, as are St. Mark's Square in Venice, Independence Square in Philadelphia or the Plaza in Mexico City.

Though retired, they keep busy. Mrs. Hites, a soprano, sang frequently in Columbus at churches and civic meetings, and makes occasional appearances here. She also has developed an interest in ceramics. Mr. Hites continues his interest in woodworking and travel. The latter hobby fits in nicely with Mrs. Hites' award for winning the contest — an all-expense trip to Mexico City, with airline accommodations provided by Aeronaves de Mexico.

HITES, ALYS + ATLEE



Gazette Staff Photo by Ziggy Ziegler

THE MOMENT OF UNVEILING

Mrs. Atlee Hites of Sun City and Mayor Milton Graham share the honor of unveiling name of the new downtown convention center: Phoenix Civic Plaza. Entry submitted

by Mrs. Hites was selected from thousands of names in a contest to select most appropriate name for new facility. Crowd of several hundred persons watched event today.



Gazette Staff Photo

Mayor Milton Graham points out site of the new downtown convention center to Mrs. Atlee Hites of Sun City, winner of contest to choose name for the center. Mrs.

Hites' winning name: Phoenix Civic Plaza. Looking on are Edward J. Allen, convention center director, and Oscar Ruiz of Aeronaves de Mexico.

Busier than ever

Sun City pioneer still going strong, helping others

By YOLANDA MUHAMMAD
Sun Cities Independent

Sun Citian

Profile

Portraits Of Our Residents

"I'm off to visit the old folks," she tells her friends; and at 90 years and holding nicely, Beulah Heuer goes to nursing homes and hospitals to keep company with people who are in their 70s and 80s.

This devotion to help those who are lonely began when she went to visit a neighbor who had just moved into a nursing home.

"There are so many people in this situation, and they tell me that nobody else comes to see them, so I think it is worthwhile to visit.

"They tell me they are so delighted just to have somebody to talk to.

"When I leave, they always tell me to come back again."

At some of the homes she has as many as 12 friends that she visits.

"I am always delighted if I can help someone and it makes me happy too, and that's the truth.

"People in this old world get so many hard knocks, you have to do something to help out."

Mrs. Heuer says her mother did the same thing, and she feels she learned to do charitable work by example.

She lost her only child, a son, Stan, three years ago. He was a physician in Rockford, Ill. Died of cancer.

And her beloved husband Albert passed away six years ago.

"I miss them both so much, and I always will," she says with a mixture of strength and melancholy.

From her loneliness, she swung into a steady schedule of community service and activity. "I go to the Dial to swim regularly.

"Since Al is gone I have become busier and I do more things."

She goes to art meetings, demonstrations and belongs to Daughters of the Nile, the branch of the Shriner's wives.

A past president of Daughters

of the Nile, she has been active in projects to sew things and provide gifts for the crippled children.

"They always want me to make some of my chicken finger sandwiches for the meetings," she says with a smile.

Beulah belongs to that exclusive club of residents — she is a Sun City pioneer.

"We used to vacation for a month or two over in Mesa and when Sun City opened up we came over and looked. They had those five models and we came out to look two or three times and bought the big model.

"When we came back in the fall it was supposed to be done. But the workmen were still working and there was a lot of confusion."

There was about two weeks worth of work left on the home, she says, so the salesman and her two nearest neighbors "got into a huddle and said, 'We think we have something worked out for you.'"

They brought over cots and dishes, "and we camped in here for two weeks.

"I made sandwiches and coffee for the workmen and we had a great time," she says with a laugh. "We had a lot of fun."

Beulah says the salesman got such a kick out of it because her husband and written a check for the house and paid in full.

"We met Del Webb personally many times. That was a common thing back then. He used to have meetings and tell us all how happy he was to have us.

"We had quite a beginning, didn't we? And I have seen so many changes, so much growth."

The Heuers retired to Sun City after selling their three pharmacies in Wisconsin -- Heuer's Drug Stores.

Mrs. Heuer says during the years they owned the pharmacies, they ate out a lot, she had her laundry and cleaning done and she worked with her husband at the drug stores.

"I always say I was the pharmacist's flunkie."

She enjoyed being with the public, but when they closed the stores at noon, they always went home and tried to have a nice Sunday dinner.

"And we had Christmas at home, because we had a son and I thought it would be nice for him.

"And at Broadhead we belonged to the country club and it was wonderful for our son when he was growing up because he could go up and play golf and take his friends.

"It was nice, clean living for him."

Beulah has one granddaughter, Beth, who teaches music and will be coming for a visit soon.

Another one of Beulah's interests is painting. "At first there was nothing here," she says of her early days in Sun City, but even without a recreation center, she took classes and has been so successful with her landscapes, that she has five or six shows at the banks around Sun City every year.

"I hung a show in a bank in February, I hang again in May, October, November, December and January. So you see, I am busy."

"Al and I had a happy life. We always said, we not only lived together, we worked together and



BEULAH HEUER, 90, a Sun City pioneer who refuses to slow down, sits in front of one of the many landscapes in demand for shows at local banks.

College and became a playground supervisor in Milwaukee for a while. She says one day when some new equipment came in, she got on and tested it first, riding the toy.

"I heard a 'hahaha,' in the distance and the superintendent of schools came up and said, 'I don't know who has the most fun -- the children or Miss Lee.'"

"I should have been ashamed of myself, but I was enjoying it too much."

When she met Albert, she says he wanted to kiss her right away that first day, but she was not too impressed.

He told a friend, "You know, I think I have met the girl I would like to eat breakfast with 365 days of the year."

It took several more years for him to finish college before they were married.

They had a small wedding, she recalls fondly, at her parent's home, with lots of guests.

"I think half the town came up there to shivaree us, gathering even before the ceremony."

"Albert gave them \$25 and they gave \$20 back to him, telling him he would need it himself."

"They took the \$5 to buy themselves ice cream cones. So you can see what a crazy time I have had!"

She says she is grateful to have had such a good life.

"I am so glad that I can still help somebody and that I have the health to do it. I still drive my own car. If I couldn't do that and I didn't have my health, I couldn't get out and do these things for others, now could I?"

"I just like to see other people happy."

With that she looks over to a portrait of her husband and smiles.

Graceful and loving, Beulah Heuer is one of those angels of mercy who keeps the spirit of the Sun Cities so vital and alive.

we played together."

They enjoyed traveling. "The first ship cruise we went on we were gone almost three months. We went to Japan, the Fiji Islands, Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand."

"Later we flew to Venice and then sailed to North Africa, Yugoslavia, then to Greece," which she says is one of her favorite places.

They made so many friends along the way, that at Christmas when the cards flood in, she "has to rack her brain just to remember them all."

Beulah is active in her church, Faith Presbyterian. "Of course when we first moved here there were no churches. After the rec centers were built, we had services there."

Growing up on a dairy farm of

300 acres, her father began to sell the land off, and the school she attended was built on some of this land near her home.

She says she used to tease her parents that if they hadn't had the school built on their land, she never would have attended school.

"Father always had hired hands, and I was never asked to do any farm work." Neither did her two brothers or her sister.

"My father was so kind, he always hired a man to play Santa Claus at Christmas and a lot of the neighbor's kids would come over too. I think he liked having fun and we had a nice life."

Beulah busied herself with piano lessons, playing for church and at school; and horseback riding, racing her horse, Tony.

She went to LaCross Teacher's

Feats

Marathoner, 78, on comeback trail

By ROBERT BARRETT
Arizona Republic Staff

SUN CITY — At 78, Veallon Hixon is making a comeback.

"I'm the oldest woman marathoner in Arizona," she said.

Just before her 72nd birthday in 1980, Hixon ran in the Fiesta Bowl Marathon. It was her first marathon, and she won the women's age 70-74 category.

In 1983, Hixon again ran — and again won — in the Fiesta Bowl Marathon, turning in her fastest time. She ran the 26 miles, 385 yards in five hours.

In six years, from 1978 to 1983, Hixon established nine national records for the age 70-74 category in marathons, as well as 5-kilometer, 8K, 10K and 15K races. She was named an All-American six times by the Road Runners Club, a national organization.

"Actually, I was 71 when I started running," she said.

She was following the advice of Dr. Art Mollen, a fitness expert who had lectured at a Sun City Fitness Festival in 1978.

"I guess Dr. Mollen is responsible for my running," Hixon said. "I started out because I thought it would be good for me. I liked it."

Before she began running, Hixon said, she never had been athletic. However, she had trotted all over the globe.

"We had been overseas for 20 years," Hixon said.

Hixon, who was born in Altus, Okla., met her husband-to-be, Ephriam, at Oklahoma State University. Ephriam Hixon went to work for the State Department in 1957 and was assigned to India.

"My husband was an adviser to the government of India and set up universities similar to our land-grant colleges," she said.

After eight years in India, they were sent to Nigeria and then Alexandria, Egypt, in 1965.

"We liked Egypt very much," she said. "We were evacuated to Greece during the Egyptian-Israeli War in June of 1967."

They spent three months in Greece before being reassigned to Turkey, "a beautiful country," where they remained



Tom Story/Republic
Veallon Hixon, in a 1985 photo, runs in a 1,500-meter race at the Senior Olympics in Tempe. She hopes to resume racing.

until 1970.

She added that during a vacation in the United States in 1969, they discovered Sun City.

"We were going to the Grand Canyon, and we saw a sign for Sun City," she said. "We bought a home and went back to Turkey."

In 1970, Ephriam Hixon was transferred from Turkey back to India. He retired in 1972, and they settled in Sun City.

"The first summer, we had 116 degrees one day," Veallon Hixon said. "I thought, 'Lord, it's just like India.' Only there's

more dust in India."

"That's true, but don't let anyone kid you," her husband agreed. "When they say monsoon, they mean it."

For the first few years in Sun City, they didn't exercise regularly, Veallon Hixon said. After the Fitness Festival in 1978, they started a running program that gradually grew.

"I ran my first race in Green Valley in 1978," she said. "It was a 2-mile run. I was hesitant about entering, but (I) did. I came in first in my age category."

— Feats, Extra B

Feats

Continued from Extra A

Ephriam Hixon runs several miles every day but doesn't race.

"I run, but not seriously," he said.

His wife got serious. She gradually built her mileage up until she averaged 60 miles a week.

An injury forced her to stop running in 1983.

"I had a stress fracture, and it strained the seventh and eighth vertebrae in my spine," she said. "It could have been from the running, but they don't know. It was diagnosed as osteoarthritis. Everyone in my family has arthritis."

Unable to run, Hixon continued to swim and bicycle until she felt well enough to try running once more.

"I took large doses of calcium and I do yoga and now I feel fine," she said. "I think the running keeps me from developing arthritis."

Hixon has been running lightly — five to six miles daily — for the last few months. If she continues to feel good, she will try a few races this fall.

"I might run another marathon when I'm 80 to see if I can do it," she said.

HIXON, VEALLON

DOERS PROFILE

Estrella
"Essy"
Hobart

Hometown: Moved to Sun City in 1995 from New Jersey.

Family: One son, two grandsons.

Philosophy: "Do unto others as you would want them to do unto you ... My father used to tell me 'America is a vegetable soup and you should be a wooden spoon and help everyone.' "

Motto: "I have time for everyone and everything, I'm always ready to help anybody."

Easterner calls Sun City her Shangri-la

By TINA SCHADE
Staff writer

In two short years, Estrella "Essy" Hobart has immersed herself in the Sun City life-style.

"I love it here. ... This is my Shangri-la," she said.

Her calendar is loaded with activity from service on the boards of directors for Kiwanis and Family Hospice to service to children.

As a Kiwanian, she's volunteered for the Westside Food Bank, packing potatoes and peanut butter and processing mail for the Westside Food Bank in Surprise.

She champions the causes of children by reading to migrant schoolchildren at El Mirage elementary school in Surprise, a method she said helps them learn English.

"My mother was Polish and my father was Russian and we weren't allowed to speak anything but English in our home," Hobart said.

In her native state of New Jersey, her efforts to coordinate a Key Club for high school students school were recognized by a local board of education.

Monday, Nov. 17, 1997 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

"I'm just a person who likes kids," she said.

Hobart easily navigates the retirement trail, whether it's volunteering in the classroom, at the food bank or for her church.

She converted to Lutheranism after many years as a Catholic and likes to participate in activities whenever she can. Recently she assembled 450 decorative napkins and more than 50 centerpieces for a church event.

But navigating wasn't always that easy.

After suffering a stroke in November 1995, Hobart was confined to a wheelchair.

That's when she decided to move to Arizona.

"But I made up my mind to get out of the wheelchair. I did exercises and got a good doctor," she said.

Perhaps Hobart tapped in to the resolve of some her past clients.

For 50 years, Hobart ran a design and clothing store in New Jersey, which specialized in formal wear, including wedding dresses for women who were disabled.

She opened the store because she was moved by something one of her college professors said.

"God was a great designer, but a bad mechanic. He made no one perfect," he said.

"That's why I wanted to have my store," she said.

She designed dresses with special buttons and fasteners so people could move freely and also spruced up assistive devices.

Hobart also designed dresses for people who did not have these concerns and even created the wedding dresses for three generations of women in the same family.

She designed the first of those three dresses 48 years ago and the last three years ago.

"Those are things that bring out happiness in my life," she said.

Her efforts are appreciated. She still receives cards, pictures and books from past clients and has a cabinet full of crystal and dishes, including pieces created by an Italian glass blower.

Today, when she's not performing volunteer duties, Hobart helps her neighbors with the little things, such as sewing on buttons or hemming skirts or pants.

One neighbor even gave Hobart her sewing machine.

"I consider it borrowed, since someday I plan to return it," she said.

To nominate a Doer, call Tina Schade at the Daily News-Sun, 876-2514.

Hobart, Estrella (Essy)

DOERS PROFILE

***Bea and Chuck Hodson*****Hometown:** Batavia, Ill.**Family:** Each other**Philosophy:** *We enjoy meeting people and we are happy when we can help in some way.***Inspiration:** Faith**Greatest feat:** *Working for the church and the Christian fellowship.*

Husband, wife team for number of local services

By TINA SCHADE
Staff writer

Although they're not contortionists and can't run a mile a minute, Chuck and Bea Hodson of Sun City belong in some sort of record book.

Between the two of them, they belong to about half a dozen different organizations and have participated on about 20 boards or committees.

Their energy is matched only by their modesty. And the irony is they were worried they weren't going to have enough to do when they arrived in Sun City 10 years ago.

"I thought we were young enough to get a job, but we got so involved, we didn't have time to work," said Mrs. Hodson.

Involved is an understatement.

Most of their time is spent with the American Lutheran Church.

Both serve on the board for the Young at Hearts social group. They meet with other Young at Heart clubbers about five times a year for social functions and serve as greeters for Sunday morning services.

They also volunteer at the West Valley Lutheran Thrift shop and take on day-manager duties once a week. American Lutheran and other Lutheran churches in the area oversee the thrift store located in the Sun Bowl Plaza at 107th and Peoria avenues.

Proceeds from the store support Lutheran and local causes. A few of the local beneficiaries are the Olive Branch Senior Center, Habitat for Humanity and Interfaith Services.

Parishioners may also recognize Mr. Hodson as the captain of the ushers, the past president of the Men's Group and a member of the Trust Foundation Committee.

The committee provides scholarships to Lutheran colleges and distributes money for special church projects.

While Mr. Hodson is running around attending to his various duties, Mrs. Hodson is involved in her own.

She serves on the altar guild and prepares communion for services and is treasurer of the women's organization. As a former business and accounting instructor, Hodson is a natural for the position.

The Hodsons also answer the phones once a week at Sun City Information and Referral Services, where each has served on the board. Mrs. Hodson has been the treasurer for the organization for the past four years.

One night a week, the Hodsons volunteer at the Boswell Gift Store, where both are buyers. Mr. Hodson buys magazines and Mrs. Hodson buys sundries.

And, the couple are on the refreshment committee for the Sundial Dance Club.

"We go down and buy the refreshments and serve them and put them away," he said.

The Hodsons also volunteered as caregivers for an elderly couple who couldn't take care of themselves because of failing health. For two years, the Hodsons did bookkeeping and grocery shopping.

"And we tried to spend time with them because they had no family. This was very rewarding to us, because we put a little sunshine in their life," Mrs. Hodson said.

Mrs. Hodson also is a member of the Philanthropic Educational Organization. Mr. Hodson is former president of the Sun Cities Shrine Club and is chairman for the organization's annual pancake breakfast.

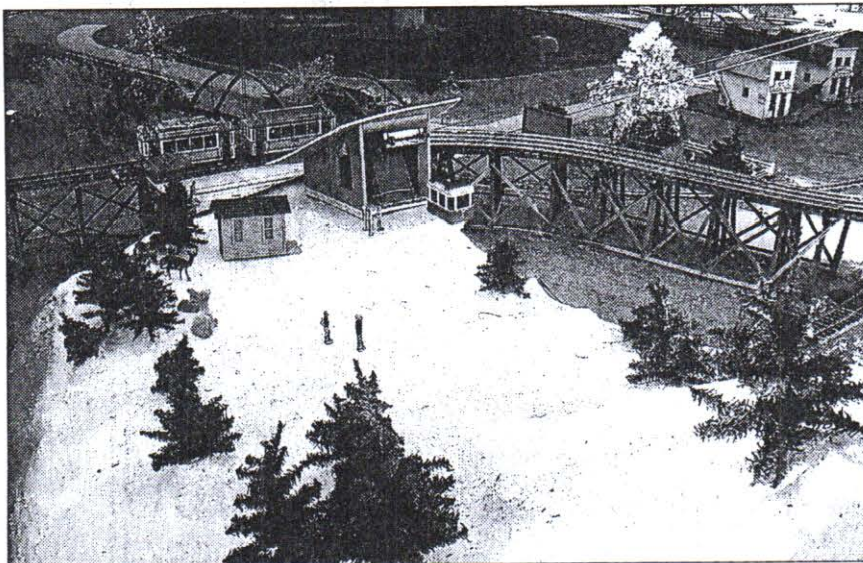
To nominate a Doer, call Tina Schade at the Daily News-Sun, 876-2514.

Hodson, Bea and Chuck

Gee, what a town for a train



E.B. McGOVERN/DAILY NEWS-SUN



E.B. McGOVERN/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Under the orange trees in his Sun City back yard, John Hoffman, above, created an entire train town, equipped with tunnels, mountains and tiny villages. The mini-town has become a holiday spectacle for friends and neighbors. Train tracks criss-cross at the ski lodge of the fictitious town of Gee, left. Hoffman has maintained Gee for the past nine years.

VF PERSONALITIES
(John Hoffman)

over

DEPOT: Miniature village at home in Sun Citian's yard

GINGER SCOTT-EIDEN
DAILY NEWS-SUN

When John Hoffman sounds the whistle on the miniature train chugging along the maze of tracks wound through trees and tiny buildings plotted in his back yard, his neighbors come running.

"It's like I'm home here," said Jackie Goldsmith of Sun City who lives in the home behind Hoffman's.

Goldsmith and other neighbors often gather around Hoffman's backyard during the winter to watch his vast collection of engines and cabooses whiz around the tracks.

For the past nine years, Hoffman has been entertaining people with his pint-sized town.

A small sign posted near the main train depot, or just off Hoffman's back porch, reads "Town of Gee, population 54."

"I named it Gee because that's what people say when they come back and look at it," said Hoffman, who is in his late 80s.

Trains weren't always Hoffman's hobby. He worked in construction for most of his life and never thought about starting up a train collection until his wife, Norma, suggested it might be nice to have a small train circle around their Christmas tree. Now he has more than a dozen miniature passenger and cargo trains, including a replica of Amtrak's newest edition.

A large ski slope sits at the end of his patio with two gondolas that glide on wires carrying pretend miniature visitors up and down the mountain.

There's also a school house, airport and a handful of ranches, complete with herds of cattle, in Hoffman's miniature creation.

The town of Gee even has its own fire department and police force.

And staying true to Sun Cities' tradition, there's a three-hole golf course tucked away on the outskirts of town.

It takes Hoffman a couple of months to assemble the village. He packs it away every summer and starts from scratch in the

fall.

Hoffman starts by laying down thin concrete slabs he makes from molds to support the tracks. Then he said he adds the tracks, buildings, farms, people, lights, street cars and anything else he thinks might fit right in to the small town of Gee.

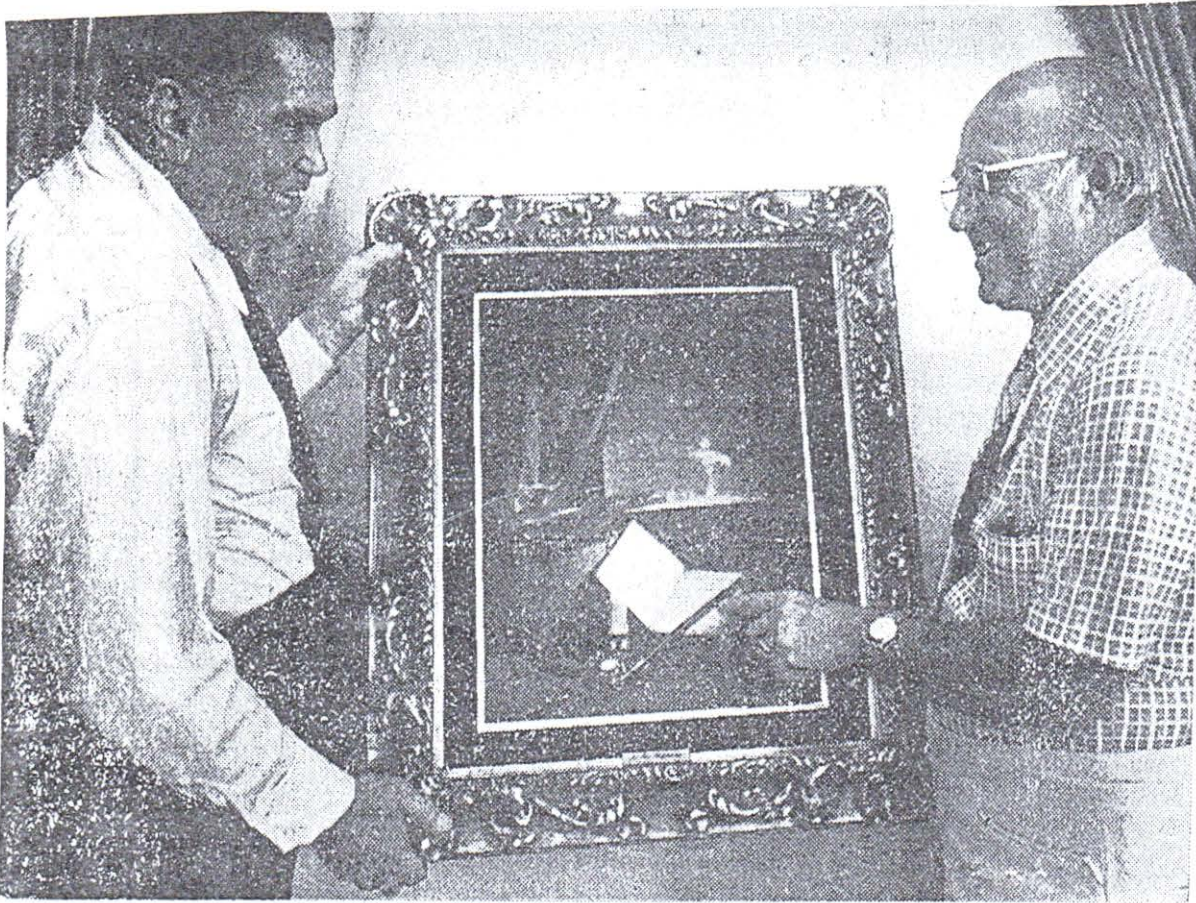
At night, neighbors come to watch the passenger trains light up.

After undergoing open heart surgery about three months ago, Hoffman said had to take a little time off from setting up his trains. But gradually, he started to reassemble things for the winter.

Working on his tiny train world is the perfect therapy, he said.

"People are always surprised when I tell them I never worked on a railroad," he said.

Ginger Scott-Eiden can be reached by e-mail at gscott@aztrib.com or by calling 876-2522.



Republic Photo by Thelma Heatwole

Randy Addington of Sun City, left, and Harry Hollett, a Sun City photographer, look over a picture he produced for the Bicentennial. "At the Beginning — July 4, 1776,"

(By THELMA HEATWOLE

SUN CITY A question asked 21 years ago by a 7-year-old boy has indirectly provided the inspiration for a Bicentennial photograph.

Harry Hollett, a local photographer, was looking for an idea for his entry in the Professional Photographers of America contest for the Bicentennial year.

He found his inspiration in "The Challenge of Freedom," an article written 21 years ago by his friend, Randy Addington. Addington wrote the article when his grandson asked: "Why doesn't someone tell us what's right about America?"

In part, Addington wrote that one should "teach each new generation by showing them the road traveled which gained for them the gifts of

Addington loaned a 100-year-old candleholder but it was too big for modern candles. So, Hollett took off in pursuit of a plumber's candle. Finally, a cashier in a drugstore learned of the search and supplied one from her home.

"The Declaration of Independence was inspired by the Bible: 'Know the truth and the truth shall make you free,'" Hollett quoted. "The makers of the dec-

laration were often admonished to go home and read the Bible."

That gave Hollett an idea for his photograph, "At the Beginning — July 4, 1776."

Hollett said there was a long search for the items needed for the picture: A Bible, fife, drum, candle, Old Glory and a copy of the Declaration of Independence.

"Because of the way things finally fell in place, I believe very firmly that the Lord gave me this idea," Hollett said.

The hunt for a life seemed hopeless until a friend at Hollett's church in Wickenburg heard about the quest and loaned one.

Addington said the picture was designed to show that the roots of this country were established with spiritual drive.

Hollett believes the picture is the best he has done.

"The Lord directed it," he said. "I could not have done it myself."

HOLLETT, HARRY



Republic photo by Thelma Heatwole

Harry Hollett looks over photographs he took of "look alike" of the Twelve Apostles.

REPUBLIC Photographer captures Apostles' faces

By THELMA HEATWOLE

YOUNGTOWN — A studio portrait photographer here has brought the Biblical 12 Apostles into focus.

Harry Hollett, 67, sought faces for three years that he thought fit the characters of the apostles. He photographed them and now calls his selection of color photos "The Chosen 12 Plus One."

The set, including an extra picture of Apostle Paul, is on display at the Arizona Bank, 107th and Peoria avenues in Sun City.

"My hope is that I can tell people through the pictures that the Bible is real, that the people in it were real and that the Bible is not a book of myths and fiction concocted by authors centuries ago," said Hollett.

a Baptist who lives in Peoria.

"The Lord gave me the idea and sent me the faces," he said.

The faces belong to men Hollett ran into at meetings, funerals and other places. Some of the men already had beards while others grew them for the pictures. They are young and old.

Hollett conceived the idea in 1964. But he did not start taking the pictures until three years ago when he ran into a bearded retired minister, the Rev. Howard Blackburn, at a Sun City Rotary Club meeting. Hollett said Blackburn looked the way he pictured the disciple, Thomas.

The second selection was Nat Azasner, a Sun City poet.

"He obviously had to be Matthew, the tax collector. There was no doubt in my mind," Hollett said.

Hollett said everyone he approached agreed to pose except two, who did not think they should model as one of the apostles. He said he thought he would have a difficult time finding someone to pose as Judas.

"Everyone who has done anything on Judas has always shown his treachery. But, Matthew 27:3 says Judas repented. I wanted to portray Judas as remorseful," Hollett said.

He ran into a Scottsdale man, about 30 years old, at a photographers' meeting who he thought looked like the character of Judas. He asked the man if he would pose as a remorseful Judas.

"The man thought about it, smiled, and said, 'Sure. Judas had some good points,'" Hollett said.

Hollett said he hopes the pictures, which will be exhibited in the Valley, will stimulate interest in religion. He said he is considering writing a book about the disciples to accompany the photographs.

HOLLETT, HARRY

APRIL 4-10, 2001

A Name to Know

Sun City resident **Jane Hollingsworth** was recently honored with a 3,000-hour Sun Health volunteer pin for her efforts at Boswell Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Hollingsworth, who moved to Arizona in 1992, has been a Sun Health volunteer for over seven years.

Her efforts are not concentrated to one specific area, Mrs. Hollingsworth works as a SWAT volunteer on Wednesday afternoons, which entails carrying a pager and assisting nursing units without volunteers around the hospital. She also teaches a nursing unit training class every other month, acts as a tour guide for the hospital when needed, is a member of the volunteer recruitment team and is a diplomat for communications.



And if that is not enough, Mrs. Hollingsworth also serves as treasurer of the Sun Health Auxiliary board of directors — a job she has held for the last three years. Prior to her duties as treasurer, Mrs. Hollingsworth served as vice president of the board for two years.

Mrs. Hollingsworth is no stranger to finances, since she spent a career working in accounting.

After serving as vice president, she was asked to become president but held out for the money handling job.

"I've always enjoyed working with finances and money for that matter, even if it's not mine," she said with a laugh.

Mrs. Hollingsworth enjoys her volunteer work not only because she gets a lot out of it, but because of all of the people she meets.

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Reflecting on a former life

By JULIE RIDDLE
Independent Newspapers

As a child of the 1930s and '40s, Angela Holman tried to make sense of what was going around her.

At a time when bombs were exploding throughout Europe and Hitler was increasing his empire, she was able to make it through World War II.

That struggle is now detailed in Mrs. Holman's first book, "Bridging Two Worlds." A native Austrian and transplanted Canadian, she hopes to make an impact on those who read the book.

"There is too much negativism going on in the world," Mrs. Holman said. "The things you see on television and in the movies, they are so fictional and out-of-kilter from real life," she said. Along with several tributes, Mrs. Holman dedicated the book to the young in the preface: "If it were up to me, I would see to it that all our young people were in love with life and filled with positive thoughts about themselves, their parents and teachers, and be able to teach each other by example how to show respect, develop a strong spirit, and extend a loving heart when dealing with others," she said.

Encouraged by the writings of Karl Ebenhoch, author of "Voyage of the Vulcania" and by what she sees as a lack of positive attitude in society, Mrs. Holman put pen to paper two years ago.

"It is a historical life journey," she said. "Writing is my love, to express my thoughts in a positive



Angela Holman recently published her first book, "Bridging Two Worlds," which deals with growing up during World War II. Ms. Holman is a Sun City resident.

Canadian capital of Ottawa.

"It is a very positive book — that is the only way we can live," she said. Interspersed among the stories of life in Europe, Canada and America, are a number of poems, many by the author herself.

Plans are being made for a second book, Mrs. Holman said, though she is not sure what the subject will be.

"I am trying to write another book," she said. "The first one was an introduction. It takes a lot of writing and a lot of tearing up, but I loved it." That book, tentatively entitled "Circle of Life," was

inspired by a statute in Germany that illustrated the process of life.

Next up, Mrs. Holman said, is the silver screen: she hopes to have her story made into a movie.

"Before I go, because we never know when our time is, my dream is to write to Hollywood producers," she said.

Being afraid, Mrs. Holman said, is not something she deals with.

"The word 'fear' should not even exist," she said. "Because if you have trust in your Maker, we have everything. I am still fearless."

Mrs. Holman's book can be purchased for \$7 by calling 972-7288.

way."

Mrs. Holman's journey is one that includes a face-to-face meeting with Hitler, the death of a younger brother to the war and a young mother starting over. In 1953, Mrs. Holman, along with 9-year-old daughter Julie, immigrated to Canada in the hopes of finding a place with more opportunities. It was there that she met her husband, Bruce, and where the couple has lived for 45 years. The Holmans are now Sun City winter residents.

Published by Bencriscutto Press, the book is also a part of the collection at the National Library in the

FEB. 6-12, 2002

Name to Know

Verne A. Hook splits more than his time when he migrates between two communities each year.

Spending half of his year residing in Sun City and the other half in Wausau, Wis., Mr. Hook divides his



charitable and volunteer work between the two communities as well.

A charter member of the Kiwanis Club of the Greater Wausau area for over 39 years, Mr. Hook was recently awarded the George F. Hixon Fellowship Award for his financial contribution toward the Kiwanis International Worldwide Service program's effort to eradicate Iodine Deficiency Disorder in developing nations.

"By our funding ... we're able to correct a lot of those deficiencies," Mr. Hook said.

The award Mr. Hook was presented is one of the highest honors bestowed by the Kiwanis International Foundation.

His work does not stop when he leaves Wisconsin for the winter.

During the winter months in Sun City, Mr. Hook and his wife, Helen, volunteer with Westside Food Bank; something they have done for the last 10 years.

Manager earns Sun Citians' loyalty

By MIKE GARRETT
Financial Editor

How many grocery store managers do you know who have made home deliveries, cashed checks without IDs and can almost always be found at their work station during business hours?

Grand Center Safeway manager Steve Hornacek has done all of the above for his loyal customers. He estimates that some 45-50 area residents have been doing their grocery shopping in his store since he became manager on June 2, 1962.

The store is celebrating its 25th anniversary along with Sun City this year as the first retail outlet in Sun City's first shopping center.

That gives Hornacek the longest continuous tenure of any businessman in the area. During those nearly 23 years, it has been a mutual love affair between Hornacek and Sun Citians.

He has developed a loyal following among his customers, who praise the out-of-his-way service. He in turn can't say enough nice things about his customers.

All this despite the fact that while the store has been remodeled four times (the last in 1972) it has remained a small, neighborhood throwback to the days when many people did their grocery shopping on foot.

Hornacek, who has been with Safeway for 29 years, said he can't say anything bad about the company.

A "nervous" Hornacek had previously managed the old Safeway at 15th Avenue and Van Buren.

"It seemed like we were getting robbed every other week," said Hornacek.

Knowing Hornacek wanted a transfer,

his district manager asked if he would like to take the Sun City position.

"I just loved it out here. These people are terrific," said Hornacek. "I'm not saying I don't get exasperated once in awhile or run out of patience but 99 percent of the time it's good."

Hornacek can recall only about 5-10 bad checks written by a Sun Citian in those 23 years.

"We don't even ask them for an ID. We go ahead and take their checks. Basically speaking, I would trust any of these people 100 percent."

"He also trusts them if they are short a couple dollars when buying their groceries at the counter," added his wife, Ruth.

"Steven would reach in his pocket and get the money out and they would come back and pay him—at least 90 percent of the people did."

Hornacek discovered what his customers thought of him when he had brain surgery in 1964 and was laid up for six months.

Hornacek, who was not expected to live, received hundreds of get-well cards and letters and had prayers and Masses said for him.

While a busy Hornacek doesn't have time anymore to make home deliveries (he even conned Ruth into helping for awhile) for some of his bedridden customers, Ruth said he still helps some of the older ladies load groceries into their cars.

Unlike most grocery stores whose customers duck in and out and just buy groceries, Hornacek's shoppers are more apt to stop by his work station for some socializing and gabbing about the good old days.

"I can remember first coming here and looking out those windows and watching the

crop dusters across Grand Avenue when cotton fields were there, never visualizing that someday I was going to be living on that side of the street," Hornacek recalled.

He also knew all his customers by name when he had the only grocery store in the area. Then Bayless opened its doors in Youngtown in 1965. Shortly, the second Safeway opened at Sun Bowl Plaza, followed by the Lucky's at 99th and Peoria avenues in Peoria.

Hornacek realizes the extra touches are important because his store probably carries only half the items most grocery stores carry. He still offers such things as disposable diapers for his El Mirage and Surprise customers.

"I'm still very happy with the amount of business that we still do in the store and the customer count that we have because they can go to other places. We are thankful for this and appreciate it."

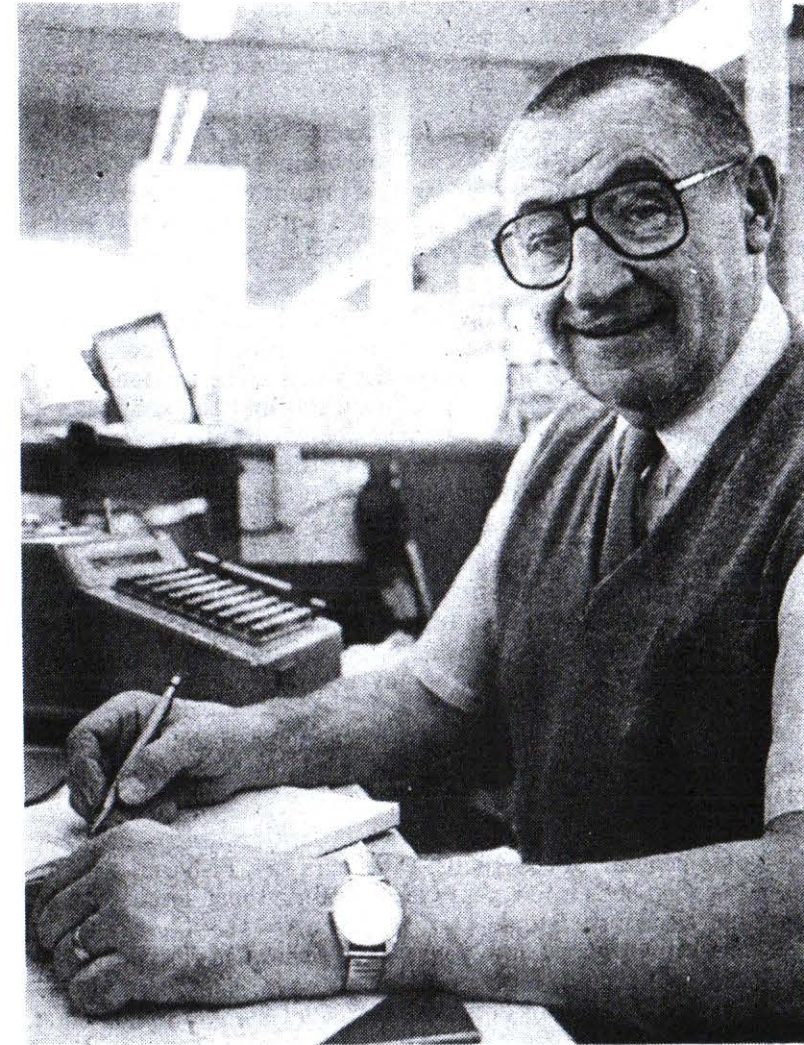
Those same people were largely responsible for keeping the store open when Safeway decided 3½ years ago that the store was too small and wanted to convert it into a "Liquor Barn."

"These people got wind of it and the Safeway office in Tempe got more phone calls, letters and petition signatures from Sun Citians than they could handle," said Hornacek.

"So they backed off. I went to a Safeway meeting and the big boss introduced me as the mayor of Sun City."

Hornacek has had job offers to manage other Safeway stores. But he said this is the place where he wants to retire in a year or so.

"I'm not going to completely retire. I'm going to find something to do."



Steve Hornacek has been manager of the Grand Center Safeway supermarket since 1962. When he retires in a year or so, manager plans to stay in Sun City.

(News-Sun photo by Jim Painter)

'... it was like a big happy family

Pioneers recall early days of SC business community

By PEG KEITH
Sun Cities Independent

Sun City is unique. Take the word of Steve and Ruth Hornacek, long-time residents of the retirement community.

They were employed here in the 1960s, and watched Sun City grow from the ground up, from show homes to units to phases.

Mr. Hornacek came to work at the Safeway store at Grand and 107th avenues on June 2, 1962, as a managerial transfer from the Safeway at 15th Avenue and Van Buren.

"I was tired of having a gun in my face and my back," he says, recalling some harrowing occurrences in that rough Phoenix neighborhood.

For the next few years, this transplant from Connecticut to Arizona commuted daily, driving from Phoenix to his work in Sun City, and back again.

"I remember looking out the store window at Grand Center, and seeing crop dusters across the street," he says. "The scene changed, from dusters to dozers to the hospital going up ... I never realized, then, that I would live out here."

A Pioneer, Mrs. Hornacek came to Sun City in August 1961.

Sun Citian

Profile

Portraits Of Our Residents

She and her first husband, Henry Richlitz, moved from a suburb of Milwaukee.

As a postmaster in Wisconsin, Mr. Richlitz had received a recommendation to become Sun City's first postmaster.

The appointment was made by President Lyndon Johnson, but, unfortunately, Mr. Richlitz died before his nomination was confirmed.

Several years later, Ruth and Steve met, and later were married.

She was an employee of First Federal Savings and Loan and also had learned firsthand about the unique character of the community they were to call home.

Sun City grew fast, says Mr. Hornacek. "There were already 7-8,000 residents here, when I first came. No one expected this place to grow to 50,000. Everything was built small."

Safeway, he says, expanded once, frontward and backward, but there was no space for further enlargement.

The small-town feeling was an advantage, though. Business flourished with the familiarity and feeling of being part of something that was special and

totally different from any other community in the world.

"I got to where I knew so many of the people by their first names and it was like a big, happy family."

"We'd see the people in the store, sometimes several times a week. There was never a person who came through the door that I did not love. I enjoyed all my years out here."

Mrs. Hornacek adds a confirmation to the statement. "He really does love people," she says. "He built so much good will among the customers."

She found the same situation through her work with the financial institution.

In the Youngtown office on 111th Avenue, people came in just to get acquainted, when they changed their residences.

"We learned their life history. They brought their accounts and personal business, and when a spouse died, I was one of the first people they came to see.

"When you were in business in Sun City, the people treated you like family."

-- Ruth Hornacek

"When you were in business in Sun City, the people treated you like family. I thoroughly enjoyed my work. Savings and loans were like a family."

It's different, now, she says. "The Sun City-Youngtown branch was the last to go on computers. We went through three or four systems, and every time we went on a new system, no one went home until everybody balanced."

Mr. Hornacek's retirement began in 1986; he worked his last year in the Safeway in Sun City West. Computers were already making huge changes in grocery stores.

"Now, computers not only work at the check-out counter, they make out the employee schedules, the hours that will be worked, the vacation times and handle office-to-store communications.

"Computers can tell what customers are doing; what every store is doing, what every regis-

ter is doing and what every clerk is doing."

His friendly manner was a familiar welcome to his store. In retirement it remains the same, as he smiles with good will and good wishes for the community.

"My husband will walk down the street and say 'hello,' to everybody," says Mrs. Hornacek.

"It doesn't hurt me to be pleasant, to say hello," is his reply.

"People here can be as happy and busy as they want," he says.

"There are as many facilities as you can think about. We love it. We don't long for anything here, and if you're tired of playing, there's lots of volunteer work."

In Steve Hornacek's opinion, nearly 95 percent of the people out here share his feelings of warmth and love for Sun City.

"But then, some people would not be happy in heaven."

HORNACEK, STEVE & RUTH

Old friend, retiring, will miss 'beautiful people of SC'

By GLENN SANBERG

After 23 years, Steven M. (Steve) Hornacek is retiring from Safeway store management, and with his retirement a lot of poignant Sun City memories will tag along.

"Steve," as he was always known to the thousands who patronized his supermarket at Grand Avenue shopping center, was Mr. Safeway—honest, dependable, friendly, helpful.

Managing the first supermarket in Sun City was a position that called for special understanding and tact in the early 1960s when Sun City was beginning to emerge as a nationally-known retirement community restricted to people at least 50 years old.



RETIRED IN STYLE

Being young himself, he had to adjust to dealing with older people almost exclusively. That he did a grand (no pun intended) job of it is attested by the hundreds of people who still look on Steve as a good friend.

The first business established in the newly developed shopping center was Safeway. It opened on Dec. 31, 1959, a day before the public first viewed Webb's new model homes. With its spacious aisles and shelves laden with a fine selection of staples and fancy groceries, people came from miles around to do their shopping.

Some of the first customers served by the new supermarket were the Webb crews rushing feverishly to complete the various facilities.

By the time Hornacek became

manager a year after it opened, the Safeway Store had become an important social gathering place. People would come in as many as two and three times a day on the pretext of shopping but primarily to meet friends, Hornacek recalls.

As the years went by, Steve became a quiet but vital force among the merchants as the center developed.

"Steve never pushed himself into the limelight," one former member of the business community said, "but you could always count on him to help in any project the merchants sponsored..."

And there were many—Western Days, festivals, potluck suppers, Sun City anniversaries and merchant-sponsored drawings.

Steve was active in the Grand Center Merchants Association and contributed liberally both his time and money to worth-

while community causes, one fellow merchant recalled:

"Steve was always level-headed and diplomatic in his contacts with people," he said. "When Steve said something, you could always depend on it being the truth."

When the supermarket closed in 1985 and was converted to The Liquor Barn, people objected en masse largely because they felt they were losing an old friend.

That a manager could remain in one store for 23 years is itself something of a record.

It never mattered much whether he was helping a lady with a big bag of groceries, passing the time of day with a fellow merchant or throwing strikes in the bowling league for his Rotary Club, Steve always made you feel you were important.

When Steve officially retires on July 1, he and his wife, Ruth,

plan to do some traveling. But they will always gravitate back to Sun City because this is where their friends—whom Steve calls "the beautiful people of Sun City"—live.

It's hard not to like a guy like that.

One of the dividends of working on Sun City's history for the Sun Cities Area Historical Society is sorting out memorabilia that was gathered in connection with the writing of Jubilee.

A picture captioned, "The Biggest Radish in Captivity," dated Feb. 8, 1968, made me take a second look.

In the picture, J.A. Howard is holding up a 6½-pounder harvested from his Sun City Agriculture Club garden plot. The caption explains that the radish was being held together by rubber bands because it had to be split to see if it was solid. It was.

Rev. and Mrs. Leonard Clark of Sun City are riding cloud nine these days.

They have received word that their son, Ray, recently returned from a fact-finding trip to Hanover, Federal Republic of Germany, where he represented the U.S. Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) at the International Symposium on Underground Repositories of Radioactive Wastes.

Clark presented a paper on "Environmental Standards for Disposal of High-Level Waste..."

He reported on his study of Germany's experimental radioactive waste disposal sites on his return.

A graduate of Georgia Institute of Technology in 1974, Clark is employed as a health physicist in EPA's Office of Radiation Programs in Washington, D.C.

Sun Citian recalls softball glory days

By RICH BOLAS
Sports editor

Helen Watkins Howk puts the newspaper clippings, photographs and Hall of Fame plaque into her handbag as smoothly as she used to field ground balls.

Softball

The bag, however, can't hold all the memories the Sun City woman has of an amateur softball career which spanned three decades.

"My favorite memories are the six-week tours we used to take around the country," the 75-year-old Howk said. "It usually started in mid-July and went until the last of August."

"I would have never gotten out of Phoenix if not for softball."

Howk will be one of the softball legends honored next week as part of the festivities surrounding the 1997 Women's Major Fast Pitch Championship.

Games will be played Aug. 13 through Aug. 17 at the Rose Mofford Sports Complex, 9833 N. 25th Ave. in Phoenix. The tournament will also feature a tribute to the Sun City Saints as well as other softball legends at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 15.

Howk played second base, short-stop and third base for the A-One Queens, whose name was derived from a beer produced by its sponsor, a Phoenix brewery.

Teams such as the Queens and Ramblers played for three decades beginning in the 1930s and served as predecessors to the Saints.

"We were groundbreakers," Howk said. "We paved the way for teams like the Saints."

Howk began playing softball as a fifth-grade student in the summer of 1933. Her infield skills quickly caught the attention of various teams, including the Queens, who played their home games at Phoenix Softball Park, a now defunct facility located at 17th Avenue and Roosevelt.

The team's name frequently changed to accommodate new sponsors. One year Howk's team was known as the Cantaloupe Queens. Another year they were affiliated with Denton Tires.

Each summer the team would travel around the country, stopping in such locales as Gallup, N.M., Tulsa, Okla., and Des Moines, Iowa, en route to their final stop, Chicago.

"We had a dress code that was enforced whenever we traveled," the retired school teacher recalled. "I remember we stopped traffic in Chicago dressed in our Western outfits and boots."

The teams traveled a variety of ways on these barnstorming trips, including trains, buses and car caravans.

"One time we drove all night and didn't get to where we going," Howk recalled. "By morning we discovered we had been heading in the wrong direction."

"We turned around and made it to Des Moines just minutes before the game. We dressed in the stadium bathroom and played the



Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

Wednesday, Aug. 6, 1997

Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Helen Watkins Howk has had her softball success chronicled in newspaper articles and photographs. She was inducted into the Arizona Softball Hall of Fame.

If you go

WHAT: Sun City Saints reunion and Legends Game
WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Aug. 15
WHERE: Rose Mofford Sports Complex, 9833 N. 25th Ave. in Phoenix

game before we even checked into our hotel."

Howk was known as a singles hitter, frequently batting second or seventh in the lineup.

It was her fielding that drew acclaim and led to her induction into the Arizona Softball Foundation Hall of Fame in 1978. Hall voters also recognized her part in founding the girls softball program in Fort Bragg, Calif.

The Ramblers and Queens frequently battled for the right to represent Arizona in national softball tournaments.

Howk said her favorite memory is the 1945 national tournament in Cleveland, when the Queens reached the quarterfinals.

Howk stays in frequent contact with her former teammates. They get together once a month.

"There are 12 of us and we get together out at McCormick Ranch in Scottsdale," Howk said. "I still have my cleats, glove and a ball at my house, but I don't get much of a chance to use it."



Submitted photo

Helen Watkins Howk was known as a slick-fielding infielder during her playing days.

CINCINNATI KID

Big Red Machine architect visits Palmbrook

MARC BUCKHOUT
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The last time a National League team repeated as World Series champions the year was 1976.

The architect of those Cincinnati title teams was Sun City's Bob Howsam.

With the 2003 baseball season just weeks away, the former Reds general manager spoke to the breakfast club at Palmbrook Country Club Thursday morning.

The primary topic of Howsam's discussion was the changes the game has seen in the last 30 years, including the financial aspect, and the relationship among teams, players and fans. He also had some suggestions on what can be done to improve the game.

As soon as the floor was opened for questions, though, Howsam was asked for his thoughts on the

possibility of Pete Rose being reinstated to baseball and being inducted into the Hall of Fame.

"I knew I'd be asked that question," said a laughing Howsam, who also won World Series titles with the Reds in 1970 and 1972 along with one as the St. Louis Cardinals GM in 1964. "Quite a few of the players from those Big Red Machine teams have made it into the Hall of Fame — Johnny Bench, Tony Perez, Joe Morgan, our manager, Sparky Anderson, and our announcer, Marty Brennaman. It would be a pleasure to have Pete Rose added to that list under the right circumstances."

What circumstances would be the right ones, though, Howsam declined to make clear.

"Let's just say I know a lot about what went on with Pete's situation," Howsam said.

While he dodged the Rose issue like today's pitchers avoid throwing to Barry Bonds, Howsam threw fastballs down the middle of the plate on some other issues.

"I think (Diamondbacks owner)

Jerry (Colangelo) had a great idea demanding the players sign autographs before games," he said. "Unfortunately, (Players union chief Donald) Fehr is going to step in to make sure the players don't have to sign."

"My dad was a union man, but baseball's players union just has too much power. During my time we had the belief that the most important people in that stadium were the fans. I don't think that's the belief anymore."

Howsam said he took pride in the fact that wherever he went his teams set attendance records.

"The key was we started with the young people," he said. "The 1975 season when we beat the Red Sox in the World Series we had over 600,000 kids as guests. When you have that many that get to go to the games it becomes something the whole family does together."

Howsam said he still enjoys attending games and noted how

See Howsam would, C3



Bob Howsam, center, former general manager of the Cincinnati Reds, talks with members of Palmbrook Country Club Thursday.

JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

HOWSAM, BOB

Howsam would get rid of designated hitter rule

From C1

much he likes the new Cactus League stadium in Surprise.

However, he said he couldn't be a GM today.

"I'd be a failure because I wouldn't want to pay mediocre players all this money. They're pricing themselves out of the market," Howsam said.

"Families can't go because the tickets are so high in order to pay the players' salaries. I saw (Texas shortstop) Alex Rodriguez over at the stadium the other day. He's a wonderful player but the Texas Rangers are paying him \$254 million over 10 years. In four plate appearances, which is one average game, he makes more than I did in my lifetime in baseball. And in his first year there, they finished in last place in their division."

Along with the economics of the game, Howsam said there are other things that could be done to improve the game.

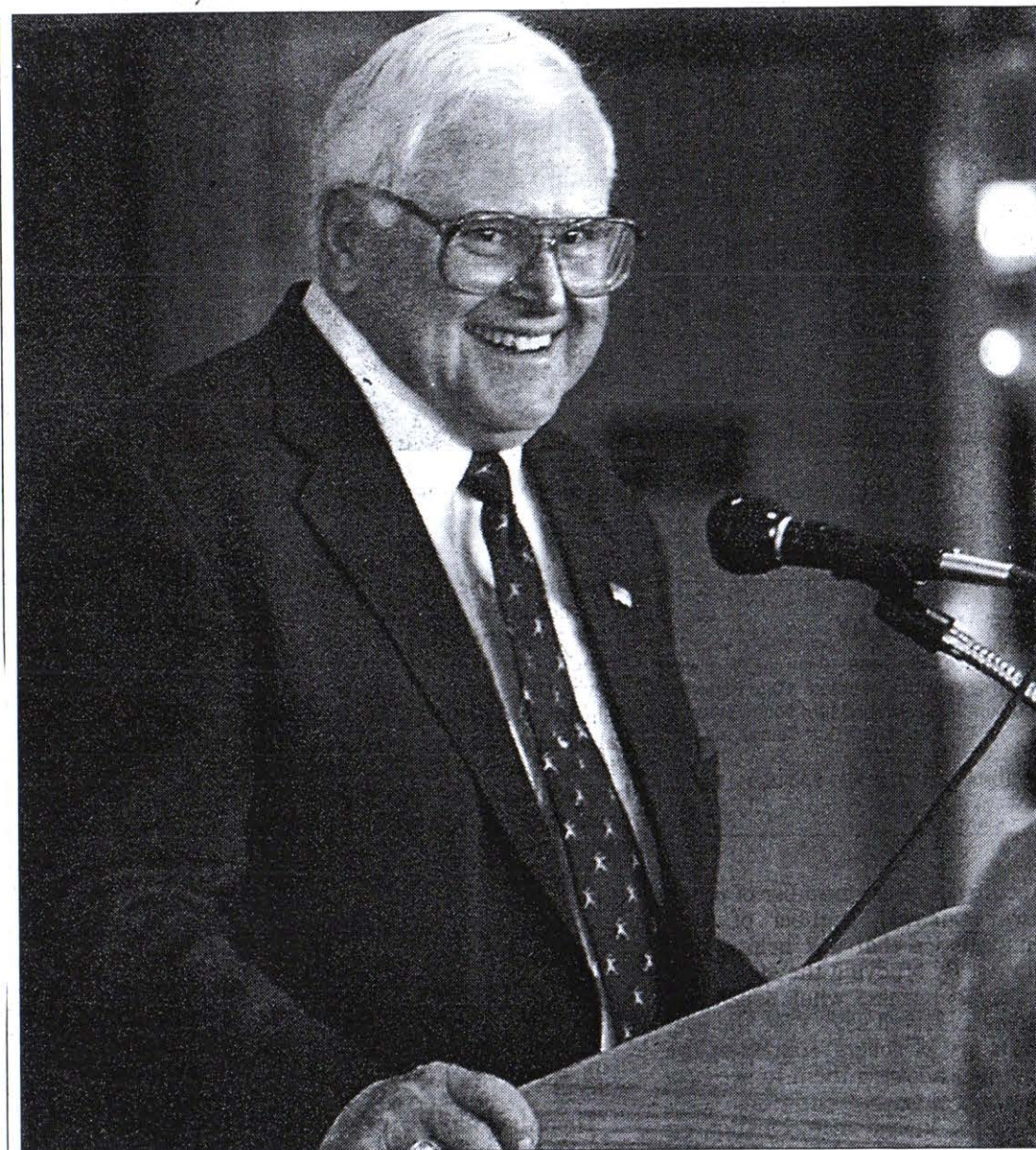
"We had a rule that during exhibition or spring training games there had to be at least five regulars on the field so the fans aren't getting shortchanged," he said. "I

think spring training does great things for Arizona's economy but knowing that they'll see some of the stars play would bring even more out to the games."

"I also would get rid of the designated hitter. The players union won't allow it because it keeps older players around longer, but a lot of those older guys should be retired. The National League game is more interesting because you don't know what's going to happen next. There's more strategy."

And while he wouldn't answer the big question surrounding Rose, Howsam did give fans of Charlie Hustle some insight into the game's all-time hit leader.

"Pete endeared himself to fans because he could hit so well and because he always gave 110 percent, but he fooled people when it came to his speed," Howsam said. "Pete actually wasn't very fast at all but he was a smart guy. When he'd start running after a flyball he'd always hit the bill of his cap with his hand so it would come flying off. It made it look like he was moving real fast even though he really wasn't. On the basepaths the pitchers always thought he was going to try to steal, but he rarely did."



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Bob Howsam, former Cincinnati general manager, was the keynote speaker at the Palmbrook Men's Club breakfast Thursday.

Bob Howsam, Broncos founder, leaves rich legacy

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

Bob Howsam, the man who gave baseball its Big Red Machine and gave Denver its beloved Broncos, died Tuesday in Sun City. He was 89.

Howsam lived at Royal Oaks Lifecare Community in Sun City with his wife, Janet. He would have turned 90 later this month.

He had been having heart problems, said his son, Robert Howsam of Colorado Springs.

Howsam was not just a resident at Royal Oaks. He was a member of the board of trustees and without him, said Executive Director Kendra Eberhart, the community may never have been created.

"When he was the general manager for the Reds, Mr. Howsam invited the founders of Royal Oaks,



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Denver Broncos team founder Bob Howsam poses with a plaque honoring Howsam after ceremonies in Denver on in this Sept. 20, 2002 file photo. Howsam, the man who gave baseball its Big Red Machine and gave Denver its beloved Broncos, died Tuesday in Sun City. He was 89.

Roe Walker and Davis Illingworth, to be guests in his box in 1979," Eberhart said. "It was there that the two men started

talking about building a retirement community in Sun City. We always like to say that without Bob Howsam, none of this

would have happened."

Howsam was active with the Sun Health Foundation as well, serving on the board of trustees for 27 years from 1979-2006. Pamela Meyerhoffer, the foundation's CEO, said Howsam will be greatly missed.

"I got to know him very well during the almost 30 years we worked together, and he was such a generous man," Meyerhoffer said. "He was so humble, too. You would never know how much he accomplished in his life unless someone dragged it out of him. He was beloved by everyone here, and we will miss him very much."

Rae McMillan, former vice president of Northern Trust Bank and trustee emeritus of the Sun Health Foundation,

Howsam well over the years.

"He started working with us in doing advertisements a long time ago, and we became very good friends," McMillan said. "He was so modest and genuine. A superstar of a human being. He contributed so much to the community, but above everything he was a lovely man, and a good friend to a lot of people."

Howsam's career bridged two sports and several leagues, and even his short-time jobs produced success: Between co-founding the Broncos in 1959 and joining the Reds in 1967, he was general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals when they won the 1964 World Series over the New York Yankees.

He built a reputation

SEE HOWSAM, A6

HOWSAM: Sun Citian pioneered use of film to help hitters

FROM A1

as a visionary who pioneered the use of film to hone a hitter's swing, expanded the use of artificial turf and orchestrated blockbuster trades — such as the one that brought Joe Morgan to the Reds in 1971.

"Howsam filmed the hitters in hot streaks and in slumps so they could see the difference in their mechanics, his son said.

But his guiding principle was that the fans came first, his son said.

"He loved the fans. They made his life," his son said.

A Denver native, Howsam started his sports career in 1947 as owner of the Denver Bears of the Single-A Western League, later taking the team to Triple-A as a New York Yankees

affiliate, his son said.

Howsam spearheaded the construction of Bears Stadium, which would later be expanded to become Mile High Stadium, the Broncos' first permanent home.

Howsam helped found the American Football League in 1959 and was principal owner of the Broncos. His co-owners included his brother Lee.

"Without Bob Howsam, the Broncos would not exist, that's all there is to it," Broncos spokesman Jim Saccomano said.

The Howsams sold the team in 1961.

In 1967 he became general manager of the Reds and is credited with building the Big Red Machine, one of the most dominating teams in baseball history.

Led by future Hall of Famers Johnny Bench,

Tony Perez and Morgan, and spurred by Pete Rose, the Big Red Machine won back-to-back World Series in 1975-76. They also captured four NL pennants and won six division titles in the 1970s.

"He put together an organization that became the model for all of baseball," said Bob Castellini, the Reds president and chief executive officer.

"From what I've seen, I think the Big Red Machine could have been the greatest ballclub ever," Howsam said in a 2004 interview. "I know the Yankees compared in the 1920s. We had such great balance."

Howsam had to win over the players union and then-commissioner Bowie Kuhn to install wall-to-wall artificial turf at the new Riverfront Stadium in Cincinnati.

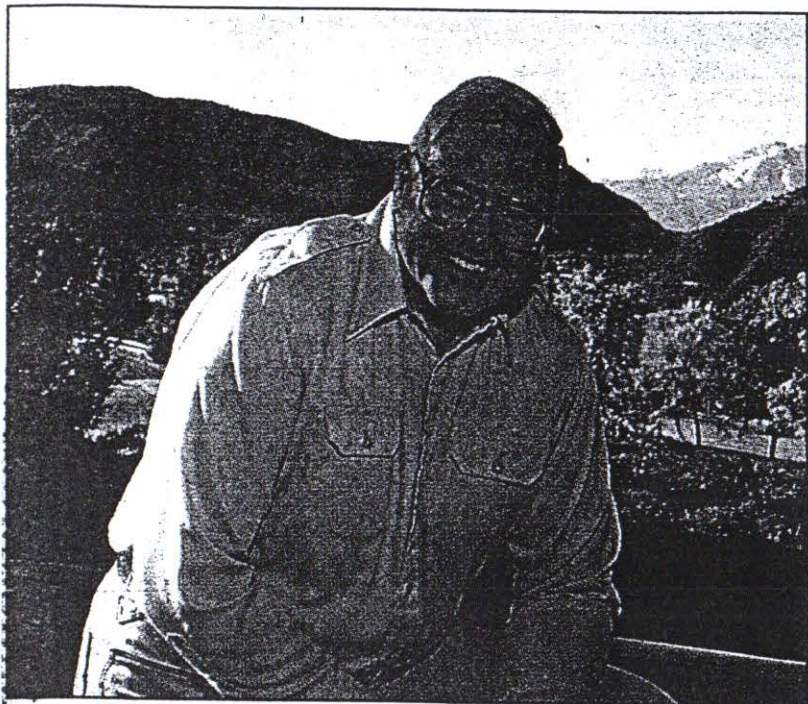
Turf had been introduced in Houston at the Astrodome, but under Howsam's design, the only dirt in the infield was in cutouts around the bases.

Howsam later was a member of the Colorado Baseball Commission, which helped bring the Rockies and major league baseball to Denver.

Howsam was nominated for the Hall of Fame in the executives/pioneers category last year but fell short of the 75 percent of votes required for admission.

Robert Howsam said his father, always the innovator, was trying to convince Royal Oaks to install solar panels to turn the Valley's plentiful sunshine into an emergency backup power supply.

Funeral arrangements are pending.



Special to The Denver Post / Mark Schumann

SEMIRETIREMENT: Robert Howsam Sr. is a man of leisure — some of the time — at his Glenwood Springs home.

Howsam: Builder of the best

By Jerry Crasnick
Denver Post Sports Writer

GLENWOOD SPRINGS — If heaven had a penthouse, the view would look remarkably similar to the sight Bob Howsam encounters when he climbs out of bed every morning.

They don't make postcards this breathtaking. Howsam and Janet, his wife of 53 years, live in a chalet-style home beside a golf course across from a mountain. A *Big Red Mountain*. In light of Howsam's baseball background, that seems only fitting.

When the visitor pulls up the driveway, he finds Bob, clad in a beige denim shirt, work pants and cowboy boots, sweeping away the wind-blown poppies that have congregated on the asphalt. He's a strong, husky man, with a sturdy handshake and an ample supply of white hair.

When Howsam runs down the list of pitfalls to life in this nirvana, they don't seem all that taxing. His front porch lies directly to

the right of the fifth fairway, and it took two shattered windows for him to realize it was time to install a screen. "Every once in a while, a golf ball will roll up the neighbor's driveway," he said. Strawberries and raspberries grow behind the house, and on one recent day, Janet chased 11 deer out of the backyard.

At 75, Howsam is in semiretirement — although he seems more semi than retired these days. He's a senior consultant to Rockies owner Jerry McMorris, and they talk several times a week, either by phone or through a voice mail system. When the Rockies recently had a problem squeezing all those fans through the Mile High Stadium gates, McMorris called Howsam, who suggested the club might be able to scare up a few extra turnstiles from the University of Colorado.

"When you have a problem like that, it's pretty nice to be able to call the guy who built Mile High Stadium," McMorris said.

"Having Bob Howsam around is like having an encyclopedia on professional sports at your disposal."

Howsam, a native Coloradan, has the resumé to end all resumé. In 1947, he helped get the Western League off the ground. He built the Denver Bears into a formidable minor-league franchise and took the Broncos into the American Football League in 1960.

And as general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, he traded for Roger Maris and Orlando Cepeda and moved Mike Shannon to third base. All three moves were pivotal to the Cardinals' World Championship season in 1967.

Howsam's ultimate legacy is Cincinnati. He will go down in history as the architect of the Big Red Machine teams of the 1970s. The Reds won two World Championships in that decade and played in the World Series four times with Howsam quietly pulling the le-

Please see **HOWSAM** on 2E

Friends push Howsam for Hall of Fame induction

HOWSAM from Page 1E

vers.

People who had the pleasure of working with Howsam speak of him in tones bordering on reverence. George Zuraw, who worked under Howsam for years as a scout before leaving for a front-office position in Seattle, still refers to him as "Mr. Howsam." And even the folks who call Howsam "Bob" have the consummate respect for his accomplishments.

"I still don't understand why they won't recognize a man of his stature," said Charlie Metro, who worked for Howsam in Denver, St. Louis and Cincinnati as a manager and scout. "If building a dynasty like he did in Cincinnati doesn't qualify you for Cooperstown, I don't know what does."

If general managers are defined by their trades, here are two that help define Howsam: On May 29, 1971, he traded shortstop Frank Duffy and Vern Geishert to San Francisco for a young outfielder named George Foster.

Six months later to the day, he traded Tommy Helms, Lee May and Jimmy Stewart to Houston for Jack Billingham, Denis Menke, Cesar Geronimo, Ed Armbrister and a little second baseman named Joe Morgan.

Howsam got torched in some quarters for parting with Helms and May, but he was a firm believer in trusting his instincts. And his instincts were, by acclamation, uncanny.

Marty Brennaman, a longtime broadcaster with the Reds, remembers Howsam as a man who'd rather sit in the stands with a stopwatch than put on a coat and tie and schmooze.

"He had an intuitive sense about people and their abilities on the field," Brennaman said. "He could go watch a high-school game, and you'd marvel at his sense of talent — his knowledge at projecting one kid as opposed to another kid of apparently equal ability."

Howsam was a purist in some respects, an innovator in others. He pushed for artificial turf at Riverfront Stadium in Cincinnati, then traded for Morgan so the Reds would have the best pitcher in the



The Denver Post

FAMILY AFFAIR: The Howsams in 1952 at — where else? — a game: from left, Janet, sons Bob and Edwin, and Bob Sr.

ballclub, and it was extremely successful."

Howsam's passions were scouting and player development. In Metro's estimation, he "restored dignity" to the scouting profession. He signed his scouts to multi-year contracts for good money and expressed ultimate faith in their judgment. And when time allowed, Howsam liked nothing more than to pick up and leave Cincinnati for a day or two to check out the minor leaguers in Sioux Falls, Billings or Three Rivers.

Howsam took a clandestine approach to his travels. He would arrive in a minor-league town at night, unannounced, and pick out a seat in the stands.

He'd watch the infield drills, outfield drills and even the stretching to make sure things were done properly. Only after the game was over, and the players were showering, would the manager discover the big club's GM was in town.

The next day, Howsam would take the

interest in a young outfielder named Eric Davis. Davis, a product of a rough neighborhood in Los Angeles, was a mystery to the Reds' development people. He had immense talent, and a reputation for playing only when he felt like it. Howsam, in an attempt to get to know Davis, would have long talks with him in the solitude of the bullpen.

In 1986, the mystery kid from L.A. hit 27 homers and stole 80 bases in Cincinnati. Davis, now with the Dodgers, says he will never forget the interest Howsam showed in his development.

"He always told me, 'Don't worry about anything. You're going to be in the big leagues,'" Davis said. "To have a man of that status say that, it made you feel good. You don't find too many general managers who'll take a young kid in Double-A ball out to dinner."

Or many general managers who would sweep into Waterbury or Wichita, like a ghost, for the simple pleasure of watching

what you really were."

While Reds owner Marge Schott loves to take the credit, Howsam was responsible for bringing Pete Rose back to Cincinnati from Montreal in 1984. Ask Howsam to rank his No. 1 mistake, and he cites his decision to trade Tony Perez to the Expos after the 1976 season.

"It was from the heart and not the head," Howsam said. "Tony wanted to play regularly, and we were trying to work in Danny Driessen at first base. We should have just let them fight it out, and we would have won another World Series in 1977."

Memories of Johnny Bench give Howsam a nice, warm feeling. Bench had so much faith in Howsam's inherent fairness, he once signed a blank contract and told Howsam to fill in the amount. Howsam once traveled to Binger, Okla., a town of 1,000 people, for a banquet in Bench's honor. He was amazed to find 1,400 people in

Pete was the greatest con artist I've ever seen on a field," Howsam said. "When Pete was running to first base, he'd knock his helmet off so it looked like he was really fast. Morgan would get that big lead and steal the base. Pete would jump up and down so people thought he was going to go, but he never strayed very far from the bag. I would have never thrown over to first base. I wouldn't have worried about him."

After retiring in 1978 because of back problems, Howsam came back to run the Reds in the early '80s as a favor to the Williams brothers, the club's owners.

He was around briefly to ease the transition to the new owner, Schott, but their relationship was, in a word, terrible. They were on such acrimonious terms that Schott refused to let Howsam be introduced at an Old-Timers' game in Cincinnati in 1990.

Now Schott is serving a suspension for racial epithets, and Bob Howsam is living a postcard existence. Hip-replacement surgery has cured his back problems, and he and Janet have become regular world travelers.

They have toured Italy, Spain, Greece, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Russia and Poland, and last year they took a trip through the Canadian Rockies.

In some respects though, Howsam's heart never left Cincinnati. He still wears the ring from the Reds' 1975 World Championship season, and he cherishes a silver-and-coral Reds belt buckle that his son, Edwin, had custom-made on an Indian reservation in New Mexico.

The buckle, in contrast to the Reds' image, is untarnished. Rose is banned from baseball for life for misconduct related to gambling. Lou Piniella and Rob Dibble wrestled on the clubhouse floor in front of a national TV audience. The town nearly imploded in May when Perez was fired as manager after 44 games. And of course, there's Marge.

When Howsam contemplates Cincinnati's litany of despair, it is with a profound sense of sadness for what once was.

"I have great memories and respect and feeling toward Cincinnati," Howsam said. "It was a very important part of my life, and to see what has happened is hard to take."

"The Reds organization had such pride and respect all over the world — as far away as Japan — it's hard to see that deteriorate to where it's a laughingstock not only of baseball, but period. I don't think the people of Cincinnati realize what this has done to their image."

Sun City man built baseball dynasty

By RICH BOLAS
Sports Editor

SUN CITY — Step into Bob Howsam's office and enter a baseball time machine.

It's the 1970s and everything in the room is a reminder of the Cincinnati Reds' decade of dominance in the National League.

A collage of pictures dominates one wall, everything from President Nixon throwing out the first pitch on Opening Day to a championship celebration in downtown



Howsam

Baseball

Cincinnati.

A replica World Series trophy sets atop a bookcase. There's even two decorative pillows made from game uniforms worn by Johnny Bench and Pete Rose.

"If you've got pitching and defense you can get by," Howsam said. "The Big Red Machine had it all."

Howsam should know. The 75-year-old Sun City resident served as the architect for those Cincinnati teams which won four National League titles and two world championships during that decade.

"The reason I went to Cincinnati

(in 1967) was they gave me a three-year contract and I ran everything when it came to baseball," said Howsam. He stayed much longer than three years and at various times served as the team's president, chief executive officer and general manager.

"We believed in having a plan and working from that plan and that's exactly what we did."

The Colorado Rockies hope Howsam still retains that baseball wizardry. The former Navy test pilot will serve as a senior consultant this year to Jerry McMorris, chief executive officer of the Colorado Rockies, one of two National League expansion teams.

"I have nothing to do with hiring and personnel, nothing with the players," Howsam said. "What I do is advise him, give him background and suggestions ... I'm feeding him a baseball background to the best of my ability."

That background is extensive and began in Colorado nearly 50 years ago when Howsam took over as general manager of the Denver Bears in the now-defunct Western League.

He credits much of his success to a pair of front-office greats, Branch Rickey of the Dodgers and George Weiss of the New York Yankees.

"Mr. Weiss ran a fine operation

See Rockies hire, B2

OVER

Rockies hire Howsam as consultant

— From B1

where Mr. Rickey was more concerned about the talent on the field," Howsam said. "Weiss was strict about what went on in his stadium and he knew how to read his scouts (for information). Rickey was the best judge of talent I ever knew."

Howsam borrowed from both men's reservoir of knowledge and developed his own reputation through his years in St. Louis and Cincinnati.

On the field, Howsam became known as a ruthless trader with an uncanny knack of unloading aging veterans just before their careers took a slide. That cleared the way for promising youngsters.

"Mr. Howsam put a lot of stock in putting good talent in the minors and providing the players with quality coaching," said Ken Griffey Sr., a former Cincinnati Reds star and now a batting coach with the Seattle Mariners. "Everything I'm doing now as a coach I incorporated from my days in Cincinnati."

Two of Howsam's biggest trades involved the acquisitions of Hall of Fame second

baseman Joe Morgan and outfielder George Foster.

Morgan arrived in 1972 from the Houston Astros in exchange for popular Cincinnati stars Lee May and Tommy Helms.

"I've been hung in effigy twice, once in St. Louis when I traded three players and when I traded May in Cincinnati," Howsam said. "I actually told my people that I had just given Houston the pennant ... but fortunately we won that year."

Morgan had been a steady but unspectacular player in Houston. But he blossomed with the Reds, being named the league's most valuable player in 1975 and 1976.

Foster was in the minor leagues when Howsam acquired him in 1971 from the San Francisco Giants for shortstop Frank Duffy and pitcher Vern Geishert.

"I always believed that if I knew more than you do about a ballplayer, I'd have an advantage in trades," Howsam said. "We found out Foster hadn't played much baseball and hadn't fully developed as a ballplayer."

Foster couldn't hit a cur-

veball when Howsam made the deal. He learned under the tutelage of Cincinnati's staff and twice led the league in homers, hitting 52 in 1977.

Howsam took chances off the field as well.

He once used red, white and blue bases to help fans distinguish the spots on the diamond and once had pitchers warm up between innings to quicken the game's pace.

Howsam experimented with orange baseballs — 20 years before Charles O. Finley of the Oakland A's.

"He got on the cover of Time magazine because of it, but we found out it wouldn't work 20 years before," Howsam said. "The orange ball would mix with the brown dirt and batters couldn't see the ball. It was dangerous."

Some of his experiments bordered on the bizarre.

Howsam had a Denver company try to recreate the oven-fresh bakery smell and have it permeate Mile High Stadium. They couldn't do it.

On another occasion, Howsam decided his players needed a better understanding of the strike zone. He had uniforms personalized

with the strike zones of each player emblazoned across the front of the jerseys.

"People laughed but we had about six guys hit above .300 that year," Howsam said. "I was considered very conservative in baseball, but I was willing to try anything to improve the game."

Portrait of Arizona pioneer presented to Pioneer Museum

A highlight of the Sun Cities Women in Partnership's luncheon Saturday to celebrate "Women of the West Valley" was the presentation of Virginia Emmons' portrait of Sun Citian Dorothy Hubbell, Arizona pioneer, to Pioneer Museum.

Mrs. Hubbell, 86, who lived many years on the trading post founded by her father-in-law, Don Lorenzo Hubbell, came from Indiana to teach the children at the trading post, and later was married to Roman Hubbell.

She became an expert in purchasing rugs from the Indians and helped to build the Navajo economy by selling the rugs to Fred Harvey and other dealers. She continued after her husband's death. When she retired, the U.S. government made the home and the trading post a National Historic Site.

Her portrait will hang in the Pioneer Arizona Museum for a year, then will be taken to the Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site.

Virginia Emmons, a Sun City resident, is a graduate of Pratt Institute, studied in Kyoto, Japan, and most recently in New England. She is a member of Vanguard Artists and New Eng-

land Guild Artists, and has painted portraits of Mahatma Ghandi, Nelson Rockefeller and Col. Samuel Osgood, first U.S. postmaster general.

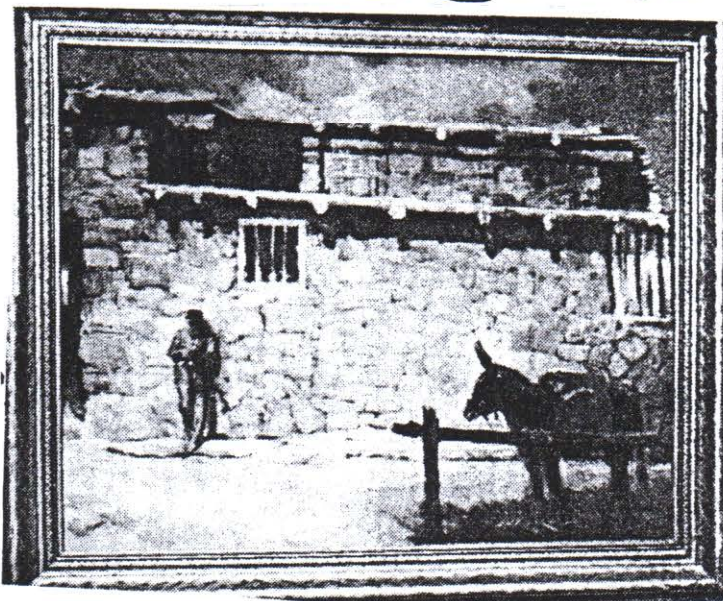
Dr. Betty Dietz served as master of ceremonies and welcomed guests; Dr. Gammage was introduced by Mary Girard. Rev. Ralph Gerber gave the invocation and Elinor Gerber provided music before lunch.

A song recital after lunch featured Thelma Young, mezzo-soprano, accompanied by Alma Linder. Mrs. Young, a Sun City Wester, is a member of the Sun Cities Symphony Chorus, also choir director and soloist at Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church. Mrs. Linder is the church organist, and accompanist for Westernaires Cho-

rus of Sun City West and for Sundome Variety Show soloists.

Committee workers for SCWiP were Jean Achtenberg, Pauline Bartels, Marianne Brecher, Rose Brock, Robert Cochran, Evelyn Conlin, Dorothy Cooper, Betty Dietz, Quillian Ditto, Dudie Eberhardt, Virginia Emmons, Peg Figland, Jane Freeman, Ursula Freireich, Elinor Gerber, Mary Girard, Jean Harling, Peggy Harman, Arlene Heath, Lois Holler.

And Dorothy Hubbell, Betty Joachim, Rose Larsen, Flora Levine, Ann Linder, Gerda Linstad, Ann Loos, Dolores Lowe, Dorothy Martin, Dee Parsons, Birdie Peterson, Rutheda Pretzell, Marie Scotti, Dean Swayze, Lillian Tamis, Betty Van Freidenberg, Helen Warren, Thelma Young and Irma Zillessen.



SUN CITIAN Dorothy Smith Hubbell has been selected for a distinguished award in the "Women Who Work" category of the 31 Year of the Arizona Women / Arizona Women's Partnership contest, a tribute to outstanding women. Hubbell stands beside a painting of the barn portion of her family's trading post. The J.L. Trading Post is now a National Historic Site



OVER

HUBBELL, DOROTHY

She was a teacher, a piano player, a wife, a widow and a trading post operator.

Now, as a resident of Sun City, Dorothy Smith Hubbell will be one of three Sun City women who will be honored by Arizona Women in Partnership for their past achievements and contributions to the state of Arizona.

Hubbell and 77 other Arizona women will be recognized at a special reception Dec. 7 at the Regency Ballroom in Phoenix.

Governor Bruce Babitt and other dignitaries will be on hand to pay tribute to the award recipients.

The honorees, representing women who care, create, educate, communicate, govern and work were selected from more than 1,200 nominations from throughout the state.

Hubbell will receive her award in the "Women Who Work" category.

Earlier in the year, Gov. Babitt declared 1985 as the "Year for All Arizona Women."

Cities and towns throughout the state developed local programs to salute Arizona women in the six categories.

A Sun Cities Women in Partnership organization was formed to help celebrate the year and bring attention to Sun Cities women.

Among the list of others to be honored are Carole Carpenter, District 4 supervisor and Margaret Hance, former mayor of Phoenix.

Along with Hubbell, Sun Citians Amelia D. Lewis and Helen Fairbanks will receive awards.

"I came to Arizona in 1920 from Indiana as a private teacher to four children. They were grandchildren of J.L. Hubbell, who operated a trading post in Ganado," she says.

For 6 1/2 years Hubbell taught the children until it was time for them to enter school.

"I didn't plan to stay long in Arizona. I came out to the Southwest because I thought it would be interesting," she says.

Interested in trading, she stayed on and soon became the wife of Roman Hubbell, the younger son of J.L.

After her husband passed away in 1957, Hubbell began operating the trading post herself. She continued to own and operate the post for the next 10 years.

Along the way, she learned to speak enough Navajo "to get by" in the operation of the business.

The trading post is now a NA-

Program honors local women

By LAURIE HURD

tional Historic Site under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.

Hubbell went to Scottsdale and then made her move to Sun City in 1970.

After leaving the post, she was a member of the Ganado School Board for nine years as well as serving as a board member for the Reading is Fundamental Program, a program which educated Navajo and Hopi Indian children.

The Sun Citian is also the past president of PEO, the Philosophic Educational Organization. She is now a member of the Questors, a group established to study antiques and restore historical sites.

Hubbell believes her contributions to education are the reasons behind her selection for the award.

"I was most certainly complimented, but there seems to be too much publicity. I feel a little overwhelmed," she says.

Even more overwhelming to Hubbell, is the fact that the youngest Hubbell boy, John, whom she taught back in the 1920s, plans to attend the awards ceremony.

"John will be there Dec. 7. It's so hard to realize that little fellow is old enough to be retired. It's been so many years."

Emphasis on people

NEWS-SUN
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1985

B7

YEAR FOR WOMEN



Dorothy Smith Hubbell:

She headed West—into Arizona history

Gov. Bruce Babbitt has proclaimed 1985 the Year for All Arizona Women. The News-Sun during the year is featuring local people who embody goals of a consortium of this state's women: a partnership of women who care, communicate, create, educate, govern and work.



Living on a remote Indian trading post for nearly five decades saw Dorothy Smith Hubbell relying on her own ingenuity. During this period the notable Arizonan carved the bedroom furniture that today occupies her Sun City bedroom. (News-Sun photo by M.J. Hoppes)

OVER

HUBBELL, DOROTHY

By A.J. FLICK
Staff Writer

Summoned out into the Arizona desert to teach a group of youngsters the fundamentals of education, Dorothy Smith Hubbell soon found herself learning a thing or two about life, a life that made the Sun Citian part of Arizona history.

For most of her 86 years, Mrs. Hubbell lived in eastern Arizona on a remote trading post founded by her father-in-law, Don Lorenzo Hubbell.

Trained in education, the Indiana woman arrived in Ganado in the 1920s to teach four children who lived at the post—one of whom was to become her stepson.

Although at first the desert landscape came as a shock to the 21-year-old Hoosier, she soon began to love it.

"When my father came out here to visit me he said, 'Why don't they fix it up with some fences, put some farms in?' He was from Indiana, see. I said to him, 'That's not what the West is.'"

The fact that she even left her Midwestern life seems to puzzle her occasionally.

"I've had an interesting life. ... I'm so glad I came. Why I did I don't know."

A graduate of Indiana University, the young schoolteacher heard about the job on the trading post through Albert Teaching Academy, a Chicago firm that matched teachers with jobs.

"My father started talking about going to the Northwest—Portland, Ore., that area. I had already been teaching two years in a public school. I said, 'Well, if my family is moving, I'm not staying here.'"

Upon hearing about the Arizona job, Miss Smith wired the Hubbell family about details, despite protestations from her own family.

Unfortunately, Miss Smith's sister took ill and her father decided to remain in Indiana. The schoolteacher wired the Hubbells to decline the job.

"Then an aunt told me: 'You're young, you don't get sick, you're 21, why don't you go see what it's all about?'"

She wired the Hubbells once again. One train and one wagon ride later, she arrived in Ganado.

"I found out much later that ... they only delivered the mail on horseback then, and all three of my wires had arrived on the same day. So they didn't really know what was going on with me."

Her first dinner with the Hubbells gave her a taste of what her new life was to become.

An archaeologist who was conducting a dig in nearby Canyon de Chelly was supping with the family and entertained her with tales of mummies and feather headdresses.

"There were not very many dinner times that

we did not have dinner guests," she said.

Dinner guests often turned into overnight guests.

Don Lorenzo Hubbell's philosophy was "What I have I will share," she explained. "That way, if he didn't charge them, they could make no demands of him."

Over the years, guests included many writers, artists, archaeologists, geologists and even Theodore Roosevelt, a friend of Don Lorenzo's who visited before Mrs. Hubbell arrived.

The visitors provided a steady stream of entertainment at the remote trading post. In addition, the household enjoyed a well-stocked library, played the piano and listened to the Victrola.

Friendships developed, especially between the schoolteacher and Roman Hubbell, who was Don Lorenzo's son and the father of John and Roman Jr., then 3 and 6. The boys' mother had died in 1918.

Dorothy and Roman were married on July 11, 1921.

While she taught Roman Jr., Roman Sr. taught his second wife how to run a trading post.

With their years of experience, Don Lorenzo, a transplant from Connecticut, and Roman were experts at trading Indian rugs. But to the new Mrs. Hubbell, one rug looked pretty much like the rest.

She would get confused when the men would turn a Navajo weaver away with a rug that looked perfectly fine to her. But Don Lorenzo and Roman would see the difference—an inconsistent gray, the wrong color background.

Dorothy used to tag along when the men bartered for rugs.

"Roman gave me a piece of paper and said, 'You write down what you think the rugs we see are worth and the day you come within \$1 of what I say they are, then I'll let you trade rugs.'"

That day came soon enough and she became

very skilled at buying rugs.

But Mrs. Hubbell still had some things to learn about these Arizona folk who lived in the country and only had a glimmer of life outside.

One day, she heard one of her students call a burro "Caruso."

"I asked him why would you name a burro Caruso? He said, 'Lady'—they always called me that and they still do—every time we listen to our Victrola record with Caruso, it sounds just like the burro."

If she had minor problems understanding her charges, she had an even bigger struggle with the Indians.

Although she has picked up quite a grasp of the Navajo language, even she admits, "I was never fluent, but I could get by."

Her nickname in Navajo became "Sannez," or Tall Woman, but she never saw it written down: Navajo is still largely a spoken language.

One day, she recalled, she asked one of the Indians to do her a favor.

"I am Sannez," she said in their tongue. "Would you bring me some wood?"

The wood was brought to her, but she found that the joke was also on her.

Mrs. Hubbell learned from this that every syllable counts in Navajo. From then on, she referred to herself as Asannez, Tall Woman, and not Sannez, Mule.

Many things have changed since Mrs. Hubbell lived in Ganado.

Roman Sr. died in 1957. World War II claimed the life of Roman Jr. John Hubbell works at Pierce College in Los Angeles, where he teaches French and Spanish.

Dorothy Smith Hubbell ran the trading post until 1967, when she retired and moved to Scottsdale and later Sun City.

The trading post, meanwhile, became a national historic site. However, it remains more to Dorothy Smith Hubbell than a red-lettered mark on the Arizona map.

It's a place where she came of age, where she married, where her husband is buried, where she met many influential people and where she influenced many people herself.

It wasn't an easy decision to hand over the post, she said. At the time, she thought: "Here the family had worked so long and so hard and here I am giving it all up."

But with the family's support, she handed it over to the government.

Yet she shares her family history with strangers—by lecturing extensively, by visiting the post occasionally and by helping the University of Arizona compile the post's records.

She said the Hubbell Room at the University of Arizona library in Tucson gives her a chance to carry on the family tradition in a small way.

"I'm the last one in the family, so I felt the responsibility to do this for them."

Memories: At left, looking almost as it appeared in its early history, is the general merchandise section of the J.L. Hubbell Trading Post at Ganado. The Arizona trading post has been designated a national historic site. Appearing second from right in this old photo is J. Hubbell Parker, grandson of the trading post founder. (Santa Fe News Bureau photo)



HUBBELL, DOROTHY

Trading post

Sun Citian who lived years in one
recalls traditions of Arizona landmark

By VAL BEMBENEK

The Hubbell Trading Post on Arizona's Navajo reservation was always filled with busy activity—grown up things like trading with countless Indians for handwoven rugs and turquoise and silver jewelry... scheduling freight wagons to 14 separate trading outposts... hosting important visitors such as the president of the United States as well as writers, missionaries, archeologists, artists.

But at Christmastime the Hubbell family did several special things—children things.

MRS. ROMAN HUBBELL, the last proprietor of the post before it became a National Historic Site in 1967, recalls holiday preparations.

"Sometime before Christmas the four grandchildren of Don Lorenzo Hubbell (who began trading in the area in 1876) would sit in front of the massive fireplace in the home in back of the post and write their letters to Santa Claus."

"Signed and sealed, they would toss them up the fireplace chimney and the updraft would carry them out—this was how the letters were 'delivered,'" related Mrs. Hubbell, wife of the youngest Hubbell son.

NOTHING WAS decorated until after the children were in bed on Christmas Eve, she said. Then the family would bring in a freshly cut tree whose top touched the hewn-log rafters of the living room and decorated it with precious glass ornaments collected over the years by the family.

The rooms smelled crisp with cedar boughs, and mistletoe, which grew nearby, hung everywhere. There were wreaths made of pine cones and evergreen trimmings. Don (actually John) Hubbell's wife was of Spanish descent, so holiday meals followed her influence.

"BUT ON Christmas morning, there was always a vision of amazement above and beyond the tree. Late in the evening, Mr. Hubbell would climb up to the snow-dusted rooftop and drop little sprigs of hay. Then he would make footprints with a goat's hoof so it looked like Santa and his reindeer had indeed made their annual visit," Mrs. Hubbell recalled.

"And every year on Christmas morning, the children would scramble up—there are several outbuildings whose roofs made 'steps'—and delight at what they found."

Mrs. Hubbell, who has lived in Sun City since 1969, often speaks before local groups. "I usually talk informally about my experiences on the post—the oldest continuously operating post on the Navajo Reservation."

IT ALL began in 1920 when she was the schoolteacher from Indiana hired by the family to teach their children. A year later she married Roman. Ten years later, Roman's father died. He had been the man whom Teddy Roosevelt had called "Lorenzo the Magnificent" because of his hospitality, fairness in dealing with the Indians, methods in establishing a trading empire in a remote area, and his political activities.

During the ten years following her own husband's death in 1957, Mrs. Hubbell handled the trading post by herself, heading a staff of devoted Indians and whites alike, and striving to maintain the reputation of the post as a guide and influence for the Navajos as modern life began touching their traditional existence.

IN 1967 the post was taken over by the National Park Service. It is still a trading center and store, and the historically significant grounds and Hubbell home are open to the public.

-OVER-

HUBBELL, DOROTHY

A visit there is considered as much a "must" as the Grand Canyon for everyone who calls Arizona his home.

Located a mile west of Ganado, the home and post have to be viewed personally to gain an appreciation for them.

The home has a warmth beyond description—the strikingly patterned Navajo rugs on the floors and beds and walls . . . the large kitchen ("they removed my gas stove so it would look more primitive" said Mrs. Hubbell) . . . the family portraits, memorabilia and ~~emphatic~~ Indian paintings on the walls . . . the rows of Indian baskets nailed to ceiling beams . . . the sparkling crystal in the dining room . . . the shelves of leather-bound books of 'earliest editions—they all speak highly of the family and how self-sufficient they had to be when the nearest town was miles away, and by horse-drawn wagon.

SOMETHING a casual tourist might miss is the guest hogan. It was erected by Roman Hubbell as a memorial to his father, who is buried nearby across the Ganado Wash. The pine front door was carved by Mrs. Roman Hubbell.

She developed an interest in wood carving and has carved several pieces of furniture, including the headboard, dresser and a desk, which she enjoys in her home at 10214 Pineridge Drive. She is also a member of the Town Hall Center Art Club.

What is it like to go back to a place like the Hubbell home after living there 47 years and find it crowded with sightseers?

"I STILL feel it is my home. All the things I loved over the years are there; I brought nothing with me to the Valley except my personal property. I am glad to see so many people have an interest in this important part of the growth of the Southwest," she said.

"I would only hope that people going through give as much consideration to the Hubbell collections as they would the things in their own homes."

The philosophy of the elder Hubbell is noteworthy in light of the recent inquiries into trading post operation.

"IT WAS very difficult to place a value on a rug, for example. But I recall hearing Mr. Hubbell telling Indian women to make the border more even, or the design match perfectly, or the colors uniform shades throughout. And he promised if she brought him the same size rug, with these improvements, he would pay her such-and-such more for it.

"In this way he was greatly influential in developing the quality of Navajo craftsmanship and assuring the Indians they were getting true value for their work," she explained.

In her talks before groups, she has found people to be curious about Navajos and their way of life.

"I USUALLY tell them about Navajo superstitions and cultural patterns, as this goes hand in hand with understanding them as a people.

"People ask: 'Are they trustworthy?' And I tell them the doors of the trading post were never locked."

Most people will admit they make rash judgments about other people—especially cultural or ethnic groups of people—without really taking time for personal investigation, or even the slightest attempt at understanding.

"This has been true of Indian people ever since we began 'sharing' their lands.

"What I believe is needed is for us as individuals to take the time to know them as individuals," said Mrs. Hubbell.



OCCASIONAL speaker before local groups, Mrs. and petrified wood table, accent 25-year-old 13 by 6 foot
an Hubbell enjoys natural beauty of Arizona and its Navajo rug in her living room.
le. A cedar knot she polished and had made into lamp,

(News-Sun Staff Photo)

HUBBELL, DOROTHY

-OVER

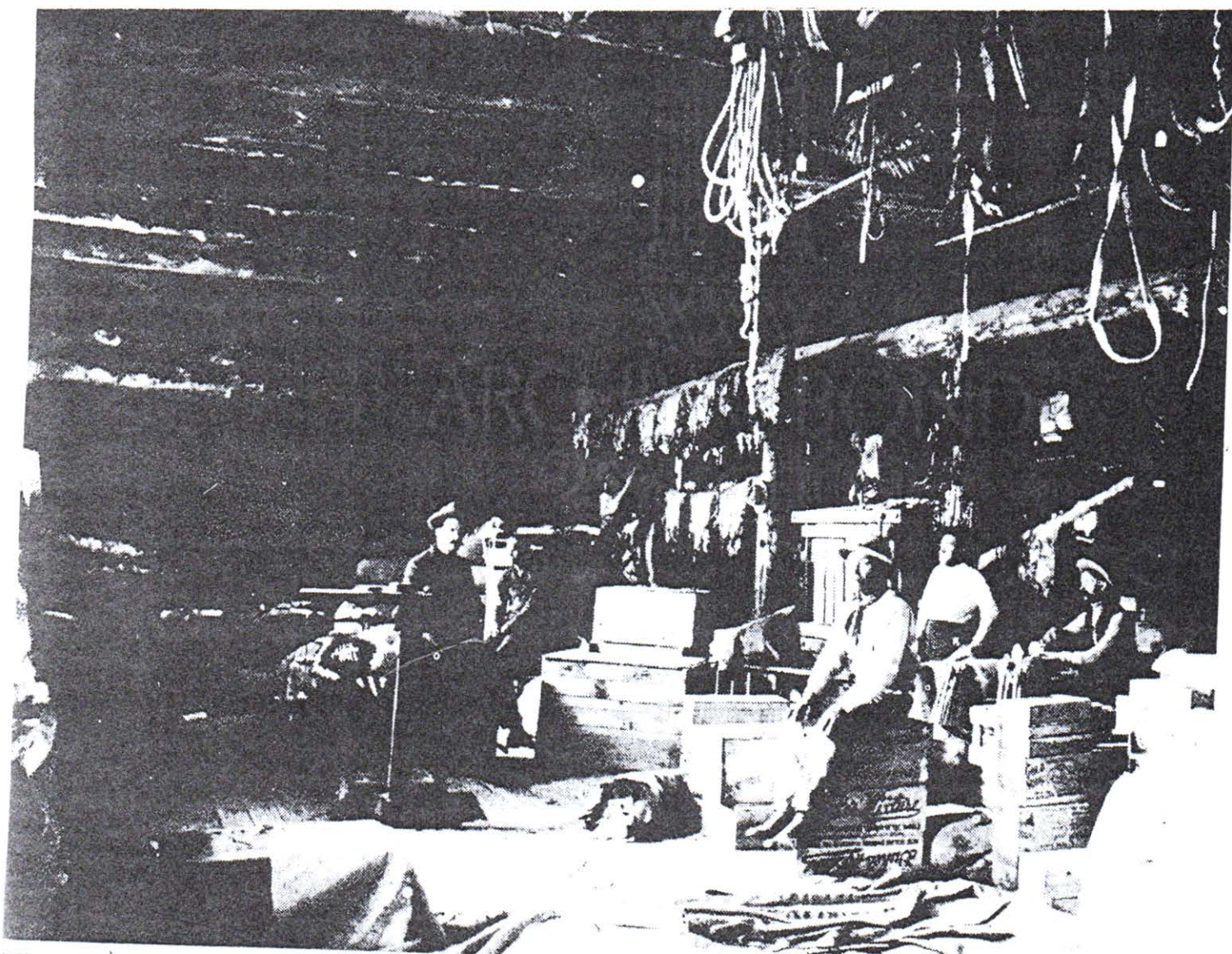
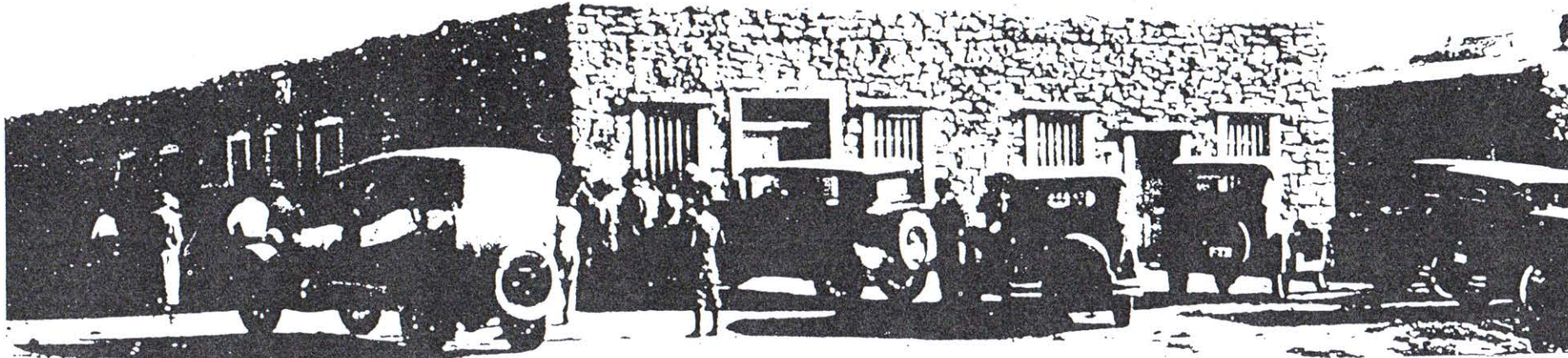


PHOTO TAKEN in storeroom in 1890s reflects trading post function, with its skins, woven blankets, boxes of tobacco, coffee, flour and other staples. Founder of post, Don

Lorenzo Hubbell, Mrs. Hubbell's father-in-law, stands behind scales at left center.



EVEN AS AUTOMOBILES came to Hubbell Trading Post in Ganado, just south of Canyon de Chelly, buildings remained essentially unchanged, and appear that way today at what is now National Historic Site.

Illinois names amphitheater for Fred Huber

By CONNIE STEELE
Daily News-Sun staff

PEORIA, Ill. — Sun City winter resident Fred Huber will be recognized for 37 years of service to his hometown of Peoria, Ill., July 3 when the city renames Peoria's outdoor concert amphitheater the Fred Huber Amphitheater.

During the past 14 years, Huber has divided his time between Peoria and Sun City. In the winter, he is assistant principal viola player and personnel director for the Sun Cities Symphony Orchestra.

In the summer, he conducts Peoria Symphony Orchestra's summer concert series. Peorians take a serious view of music. They attend concerts performed in a municipally-owned amphitheater and support their symphony through taxes incorporated into the city's budget.

For 54 years, Huber has been instrumental in bringing music to the Illinois city of 130,000 people. He began playing with Peoria's 50-piece municipal concert band in 1937, the year Peoria voters approved a municipal band tax.

"Peoria has a good strong symphony," the conductor said Tuesday in a telephone interview from Illinois. For 21 years, he directed the Grace Evangelical United Brethren church choir and was assistant conductor and principal violist with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra.

Huber is listed in "Who's Who in Music" as a music educator, guest conductor and adjudicator. He was Peoria Symphony Orchestra's third conductor.

Since 1961, Huber has conducted a summer series of 32 concerts in the 20,000-seat

For 54 years, Huber has been instrumental in bringing music to the Illinois city of 130,000 people. He began playing with Peoria's 50-piece municipal concert band in 1937, the year Peoria voters approved a municipal band tax.

amphitheater that will bear his name. The city plans to dedicate the Huber Ampitheater during its July 3 concert. The facility was formerly known as Glen Oak Park Amphitheater.



Submitted photo

Fred Huber

The honor is given in appreciation of Huber's 37 years spent teaching instrumental

music in Peoria schools and 50 years with the city's symphony orchestra, 15 of which, he served as the orchestra's assistant conductor.

Under Huber's tutelage, Peoria school bands appeared in and won competitions in Chicagoland Music Festivals. They were "Band of the Day" at the Seattle World's Fair in 1962.

"We took high school and

Since 1961, Huber has conducted a summer series of 32 concerts in the 20,000-seat amphitheater that will bear his name.

college bands all over the world, to Europe, England, all over," Huber said. "We always raised our own money."

Huber said his Austrian-born father wanted him to become a violinist the way some fathers want their sons to become major league baseball players.

In 1928, Huber attended the First National Music Academy in Interlocken, Michigan. "That sealed my fate," he said. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois and received a master's degree from Illinois Wesleyan in Bloomington.

Last year, Huber and another classmate attended their class reunion at the music academy in Interlocken. The reunion was their 62nd anniversary. "We were the fossils," he said, laughing.

Arizona Republic - WEST EXTRA

Trailblazer

Sun City leader is credit to her gender; tackled politics like a high-speed blender

By THELMA HEATWOLE
Special for The Republic

Women of retirement age have been conditioned for years in a world led by men to stay in the shadow of their husbands.

But like everywhere else, more women are assuming leadership positions in Sun City, following the lead of May Huber.

In 1976, Huber became the first woman president of the Sun City Home Owners Association, which then had 20,000 members.

"Brains and dedication have no sex," Huber said at the time she was picked for a post that long had been the domain of males. "I think women who go into government and politics tend to be a little reticent about pushing themselves forward."

"They wait for lightning to strike and put them in a position of leadership. Sometimes, it skips right over."

During a recent interview, Huber qualified those remarks.

"That was true then. Today, women who wish to be elected do a very fine job of campaigning," she said.

Huber was elected to a three-year term on the association board of directors in 1973 and selected as president during her last year.

There were problems and triumphs during her tenure as president of the Home Owners' Association, which serves as liaison for this unincorporated retirement community with Maricopa County officials and state legislators.

Some issues that she confronted then were outside Sun City. There was a cement plant planned on Olive Avenue that could have created an air-pollution problem. There were sewage holding tanks south of Olive and east of 90th Avenue.

Huber said a bus was chartered to take association members to a hearing with the Glendale City Council concerning sewer rates.

"It was the first time we ever took a group of Sun Citians to a hearing outside the city," she said.

"Today, I can see no problems on the outside that residents have to meet. Their community is practically complete. They don't have to man the walls to fight off problems from the outside, but there are problems within the community," he added.

Huber cited transportation problems, which are being

worked on by Sun Cities Area Transit.

Medical facilities are adequate, she said, if people have enough money.

"Economically, people who came here originally, I am sure, have problems as far as meeting costs," Huber said. "Our community fund is helping out in this respect."

"How we house our older people when they get to the stage they need help, cannot shop and need some form of assistance in their home, is a growing problem. There are steps being taken here for home health-care assistance."

"We have our newer residential home-care campuses. We still need one or two more facilities that are less elaborate and less costly."

Concerning the issue of incorporation, Huber said, "I think the majority of people in Sun City still do not believe that incorporation is necessary to provide the services they need."

"However, many people feel that Sun City should not change, but recently we have seen many changes here. You just can't hide any more in the closet from the fact that Sun City is changing."

Huber said she believes Sun City has good leadership.

"I think they are spread a little thin, because many people don't feel they want to get involved in giving that much volunteer time," she said.

Huber and her husband, Fred, moved to Sun City in May 1971.

A native of Scotland, May Huber lived most her life in Detroit, where she worked 10 years in insurance underwriting and bookkeeping.

In Michigan, Huber was appointed four times to the Wayne County Board of Supervisors for one-year terms. She also served on the Detroit Committee on Conservation and Improved Housing and the Michigan Constitutional Convention Citizens Advisory Committee on Education.

Among other Sun City activities, Huber was editor of a genealogical society quarterly and served as finance secretary for the Church of the Palms. Recently, she was nominated to the Sun City Community Fund board.

While she was president of the homeowners' group, Sun City entered a contest to win the title of "America's Votingest City." There was a good chance of winning. Voting statistics already were impressive.

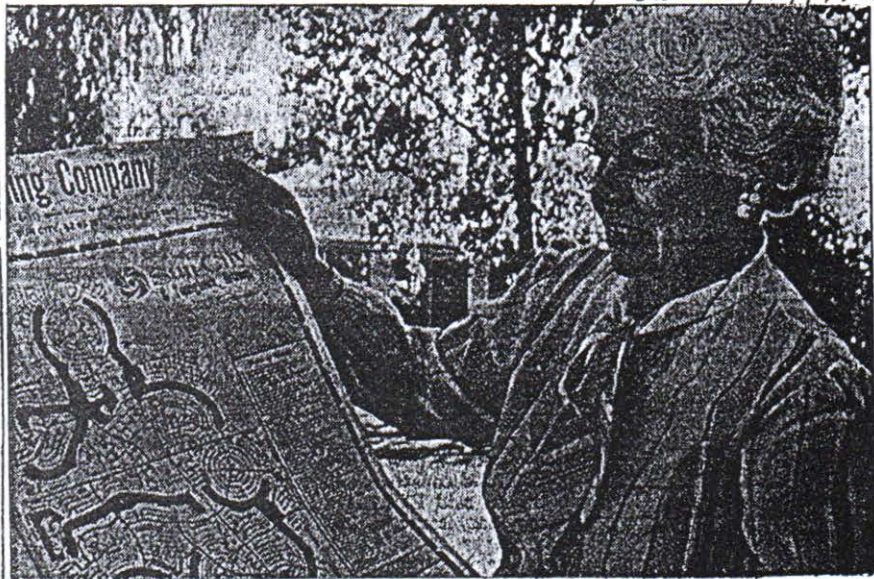
In the 1974 election, the 21,496 Sun City residents who voted represented 74.7 percent of the community's estimated voting population.

Sun City won in finals over Edina, Minn.

"With the participation that you get in Sun City in elections, there is no question about the turnout," Huber said. "Voting is one of our recreations."

"We wagered a box of oranges against some of their wild rice. It was long after I left my desk that I received a 2-pound package of wild rice from Minnesota."

Monday January 21, 1985



Roy Conway

In 1976, May Huber became the first woman president of Sun City Home Owners Association.

HUBER, MAY

Sun Citian swims across country from own home

By BRET McKEAND

Sun Citian Al Huesing has swum from Sun City to New York City.

And, even more amazing, he

didn't even leave Sun City to do it.

Huesing accomplished the feat by swimming 15 laps — one-quarter of a mile — each day for

the past 10 years. Now 78 years old, he recently completed 2,500 miles of swimming — enough to cover the distance from Sun City to his hometown, New York.

"I'm in a lot better shape now than I was when I started," claims Huesing. "I could hardly swim the length of the pool when I first came to Sun City."

Huesing says he was never an avid swimmer before coming to Sun City more than a decade ago. Upon a visit to one of the local pools, he met up with a member of the Sun City Swim Club who encouraged him to join up.

With help from other members of the club, he slowly built up his strength and endurance. Within a few years Huesing was able to swim 27 laps nonstop each day.

Because of arthritis in his shoulders, Huesing has had to cut back his daily workout at Bell Center Pool to his present 15 laps.

"Swimming helps all-around physical fitness," says Huesing. "It helps your muscle strength as well as improving your respiratory."

Huesing says the regular exercise helps keep him trim and flexible. In fact, he says, he is five pounds under the required weight for a man his age and height.

Rain or shine, each morning finds Huesing and a group of two dozen others swimming the length of Bell Pool. A few years ago Huesing started keeping track of the distance he swam. His goal was to swim enough miles to cover the distance to New York City.

"It took me quite awhile. I don't know if I'll live long enough to swim the distance back," jokes Huesing.

Huesing recommends swimming as the perfect exercise to help seniors stay fit. For those just starting out, he suggests joining a swim club or class to help get started.

"Take it slow and steady. Don't do more than you can, but try to swim on a regular basis."



Photo by Bret McKeand

KEEPING FIT. Sun Citian Al Huesing finds swimming the best way to keep slim and trim. Huesing has started every day for the past 10 years by swimming a quarter of a mile.

Huesing, Al

Community mourns loss of 'Mr. Sun City'

Sam Higginbotham active in many projects

By CHRIS RASMUSSEN
Independent Newspapers

The sun has set on a Sun City icon. Sam Higginbotham, affectionately dubbed Mr. Sun City for his efforts in developing several community organizations, died Dec. 28 at the age of 89.

He died from a blocked carotid artery in the Arizona Heart Hospital where he

had been for two weeks.

Mr. Sun City is best known for founding the Lions Club recycling program and the construction of the Lions Community Services building on 99th Avenue, which houses organizations such as SCAT and Recording for the Blind and Deaf.



See ■ MR. SUN CITY Page 3

Sam Higginbotham

Eugene Gravlin, who later went on to run the Lions Club recycling program, remembers when Mr. Higginbotham first told of his idea to collect newspapers.

"We were both getting a set of tires changed," Mr. Gravlin said, "and this truck filled with newspapers passed by."

"He said we could collect newspapers, sell it and give the money to needy people."

During its first year of operation in 1985, the Lions Club project pulled in \$175,000 for local charities.

"He developed it from a small club project into a full-scale recycling operation," Mr. Gravlin said.

Today, the project is run as a business with a recycling plant off Grand Avenue in Surprise.

"He was very proud of the recycling program, he would tell anyone around about it," Mr. Gravlin said.

With money earned through the recycling program, Mr. Sun City decided to begin another project, filling a void in the community.

While Sun City had several community organizations such as SCAT, Recording for the Blind and Deaf and the Sun City Community Council, the groups were without buildings.

Mr. Higginbotham, who began mingling with Del Webb Corp. employees, was introduced to company President John Meeker.

Mr. Meeker heard Mr. Higginbotham's idea to construct a community service building and offered a few acres of land off 99th Avenue, south of Peoria Avenue. Mr. Higginbotham put about

mately \$2 million.

Several nonprofit organizations call the buildings home, paying only \$1 each year for rent.

During the dedication, Mr. Meeker attempted to place a plaque identifying the buildings as Higginbotham Studios.

"Sam was most irritated, he took it down himself," said his wife Evelyn, who married Mr. Higginbotham last year.

"He has never been willing to take credit for anything he did," Mrs. Higginbotham said.

In addition to his efforts on those two projects, he served on several boards of nonprofit organizations including SCAT, Sun City Community Council and the Olive Branch Senior Center.

He is responsible for organizing the Sun City Lions Foundation and has been named "Lion of the Year" five times. He also was named "1980 Man of the Year."

Mr. Higginbotham was chairman of the Del Webb Statue Committee, which erected a statue at the Bell Recreation Center in honor of the community's founder.

He also served on the Recreation Centers of Sun City governing board.

"There are many thinkers out there, but only a few doers. Sam Higginbotham was a doer," Mrs. Higginbotham proclaimed.

Mrs. Higginbotham said her husband regularly helped widows invest their money.

"Sam was the best friend I ever had outside of my husband," said June O'Brien, a former Sun City resident and widow.

Mrs. O'Brien said the caring

to run errands.

"He was one of the best men around," Mrs. O'Brien said. "He was a good man."

Tom Clewes, Mr. Higginbotham's best friend for 23 years, said Mr. Sun City did more than just drive widows around.

"He would care for five or six people at the same time," Mr. Clewes said. "Many times he would care for them until they died. He helped countless people in Sun City."

"He was one of the finest men I ever knew," Mr. Clewes said.

"He has done so much, it would be impossible to list them all."

Born in Texas, Mr. Higginbotham left home as a teenager and never returned.

He found work at a Pennsylvania oil refinery and ended up supervising a large crew of men.

Because of his welding experience, a skill picked up at the refinery, he was enlisted into America's war effort as a welder.

After World War II, Mr. Higginbotham became a plumber, earning enough money to start a construction business.

Over the next few years he built 20 motels in Reno, Nev.

He was so successful with his construction company he was able to retire at the age of 35.

Mr. Higginbotham married Evelyn Coleman in 1998. Prior to that, he was also married to three other women, including Geraldine and Beryl.

He is survived by his daughter, Barbara Gray, and two grandchildren.