
SUN CITY INDEPENDENT

November 23, 2016

**Visitors
Center to
get remodel**

Recreation Centers of Sun City officials are gearing to remodel the Visitors Center, 16824 N. 99th Ave.

Asbestos testing was completed and both Sun City Fire and Medical department and Maricopa County building permits have been secured. The project was out for bid at

the beginning of the month with three contractors and a permit application for a temporary office location was submitted.

VF SC Visitor's Center

INDEPENDENT

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VF SC Visitors Center

Center

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of us," said Jan Ek, RCSC general manager. "SCVC has always provided a fantastic service and this allows us to have direct lines of communication so that information vital to visitors and new residents is timely and accurate."

The move has been in negotiations for several months.

Mr. Herrmann, a Sun City resident and the only paid staffer at the Visitors Center, believes the time is right for this change.

"As RCSC takes a bigger role in the marketing of this great community, it's only natural for them to incorporate this organization into the bigger picture," he said. "Down the road, there needs to be fewer organizations seeking donations, while still providing information and services to our residents more easily."

News Editor Rusty Bradshaw can be reached at 623-445-2725 or rbradshaw@newszap.com.

Visitors Center to be taken in by RCSC

By Rusty Bradshaw
Independent Newspapers

The Sun City Visitors Center will no longer be a standalone entity.

The Visitors Center, located in an office at Bell Recreation Center, 16820 N. 99th Ave., directly across from the Maricopa County Library branch, will be incorporated into the Recreation Centers of Sun City operations beginning Jan. 1, 2015. Paul Herrmann, Visitors Center director, will continue to oversee the volunteer staff that provides the "first face" for many Sun City visitors and guests.



Paul Herrmann

The Visitors Center will remain at its current location.

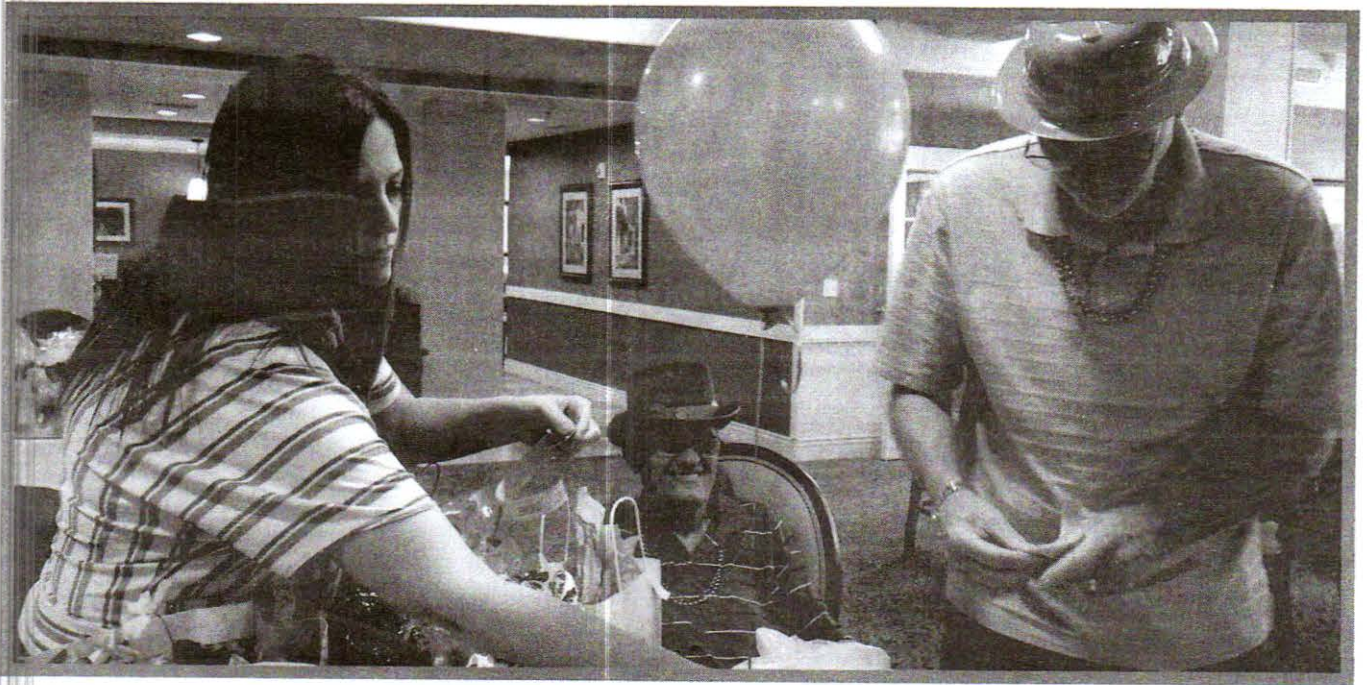
For years the Visitors Center in Sun City was a standalone entity operated by a separate board of directors, unlike Sun City West. In that community, the Visitors Center is part of PORA, Sun City West's homeowners association.

The Sun City Visitors Center board of directors will be disbanded when the center is incorporated into RCSC.

The Visitors Center provides information about restaurants, hotels, area attractions and Sun City in general. The center also sponsored twice yearly expos at Sundial Recreation Center, 14801 N. 103rd Ave., and assisted in annual new resident orientation sessions put on by RCSC.

"This is an exciting venture for all

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Penny Karle of Adultcare Assistance Homecare, Chuck Strange, Sun City Visitors Center board member, and Paul Herrmann, executive director, prepare raffle items for volunteers at the annual volunteer appreciation luncheon hosted at Palos Verdes Senior Living, 18441 N. 87th Ave., Peoria.

Tours of Sun City — an early success!

By Paul Herrmann
Sun City Visitors Center
Executive Director

Our Sun City Tours have been received extremely well.

In February, we had seven tours with a total of 78 passengers. March had eight tours scheduled and they too are averaging about 10 passengers per trip. Later this month, I will be taking a group of Realtors on the tour so each of them can learn about the great value Sun City can offer their clients.

I want to take a moment to thank our Tours of Sun City bus sponsors:

**APS ~ Benevilla ~ EPCOR
~ Sunshine Service**

Their financial assistance is greatly appreciated and I encourage everyone dealing with any of our sponsors to let them know how much they are appreciated.

As April and the summer months approach, we will determine how many months

tour will be offered, but for now tours are every Wednesday and Thursday. Signup online at www.suncityaz.org or call the Visitors Center at 623-977-5000. Tours are free, but we do have a donation jar to help offset the cost of gasoline.

The Visitors Center was closed on St. Patrick's Day for our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Our host was Palos Verdes Senior Living located at 18441 N 87th Ave., Peoria. JoAnn Greeney, Palos Verdes Outreach Coordinator and member of the Sun City Visitors Center Board of Directors, puts on a lovely luncheon each year. I'd also like to thank Adultcare Assistance Homecare and the Recreation Centers of Sun City for their contributions.

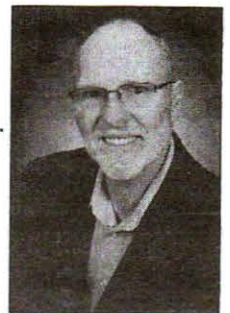
With Cactus League Baseball in full swing, I know many of you seasonal residents might be thinking about heading back to your other residence. I want to remind you to stop in the Visitors Center and pick up some

friends. You are our best advertisement; happy residents. We have a supply of the 2013-14 annual magazines, along with other information sheets. Stop in and pick some up before you leave.

Three other things I want to stress to every Sun City resident:

Shop Locally ~ Volunteer Locally ~ Donate Locally

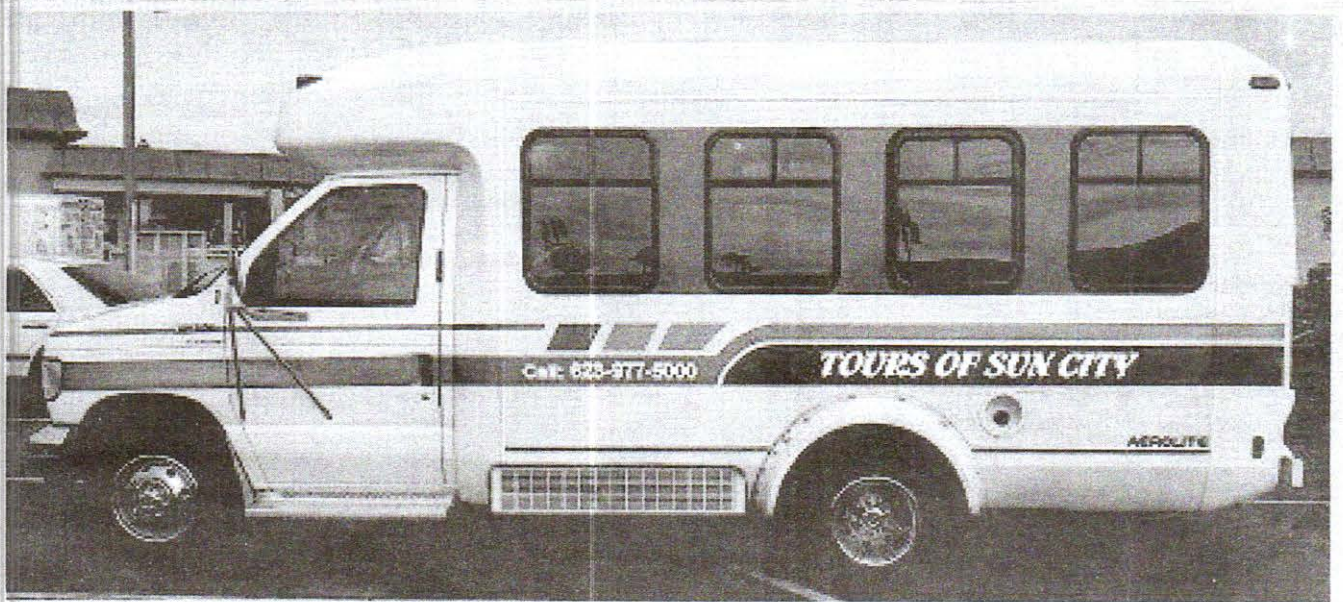
Keep Small Business Saturdays in mind when you are shopping. These businesses offer some unique items and have very reasonable prices. Many of our organization will be looking for volunteers over the summer as seasonal residents leave and all of the organization need your financial support. Shopping, volunteering, and donating locally are all vital to Sun City.



Paul Herrmann

VF SC Visitors Center

Sun City Spotlight January 2014



The Sun City Visitors Center purchased a bus to give tours fo potential residents

Visitors center director talks Sun City tours

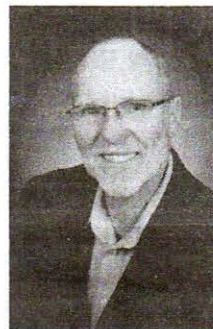
By Paul Herrmann
Executive Director
Sun City Visitors Center

The holiday season is in full swing at the Visitors Center. Special holiday treats have been brought in for the volunteers and last week we had our annual Holiday Party. I truly believe a good time is being had by all.

Our Board of Directors even gave me permission to buy a Christmas gift to be used for the good of Sun City. Drive by the Bell Recreation Center and you will see our new **Tours of Sun City** bus.

Throughout my many years at the Visitors Center I've come to realize that many of you bought homes in Sun City but haven't a real good understanding of all our community has to offer. Some have lived here many years and don't know about Sunshine Service. Others see Sheriff Patrol cars but don't know all our Sun City

much more than lunch. PRIDES, the people who keep our roads looking so neat, is an acronym standing for: Proud Residents Donating Essential Service. Do you know where the two branches of the Maricopa Library are located? There are so many things I'd like each of you to learn.



These are just a few of the things you will learn about on the Sun City Tour. You will also get to all 7 Recreation Centers, walking through four. The Sun Bowl has some pretty impressive entertainment on Sunday evenings in the fall and spring. Do you know how to get tickets for the overnight trips sponsored by the RCSC? What about volunteering? Do you know how to get involved?

Sun City our

of the sum of its parts. Those parts include the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. (RCSC), Sun City Home Owners Association (SCHOA), Sun City Condominium Association (SCCOA), Sun City Community Assistance Network (SCCAN), Sun City Fire Department, Banner Boswell Medical Center, and I knew as soon as I started writing this list I'd be leaving someone out so please accept my apology.

I better stop now or you won't need the tour, you'll know everything.

Let me end with, in February we will be publishing our schedule of tours. Visitors Center volunteers will be conducting the tours. We will soon finalize the route and time frame so watch the local newspapers ~ there's more to come.

By the way, politically incorrect or not — Merry Christmas and Happy New

VFSC VISITOR'S CENTER

Visitors Center bus gears up for tours

By **Rusty Bradshaw**
Independent Newspapers

The Sun City Visitors Center will soon offer tours of the community to allow people to get acquainted with Sun City and what it has to offer residents.

The center's board of directors approved the purchase Nov. 21 of a 13-passenger Arrowlite El Dorado National bus for the tours. Center staff hopes to have the bus ready for tours after the first of the year, according to Paul Herrmann, Sun City Visitors Center executive director.

"We will take people to all the rec centers and some of the other highlights of Sun City," he said.

In addition to people visiting the community as prospective home buyers, the tours will be available for residents, new and old alike, who do not know all that is available to them.

"We get a lot of people who are residents that come in and ask us questions about the community that they should already know, but they don't," Mr. Herrmann explained.

The bus will be available on a set schedule, but frequency will depend on demand, according to Mr. Herrmann. He hopes to



Independent Newspapers/Charlene Bisson
Paul Herrmann, Sun City Visitors Center director, shows the tour bus purchased by the organization. It will be used to give community tours to prospective home buyers who come to the Visitors Center for information.

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What a concept. Only in the current federal government!

Now let's see what that means, get hired by government to do nonessential work, then, when there is not enough funds due to a budget crisis, go home and expect full pay for not even showing up for work as soon as government reopens.

Can you guess what would happen to the CEO of a company who devised the above scheme? If you ran a company would you do this? For those who would, be aware that when a business has no cash and lots of debt it goes bankrupt, ceases to exist and the workers lose their jobs and benefits. We are starting to see this as cities with bad management go bankrupt.

There is a plain and simple lesson here. Government is not a business, and politicians are free to spend taxpayers' money with no restraint. It follows that when politicians continue to do stupid things that waste money they need to be held accountable and voted out of office. So, why not try any other candidate next election or support any new group that promises to do better? Why are politician's dying in office. Why are they getting elected time after time? Doesn't anyone care?

DO YOU HAVE INSTRUMENTS?

While visiting a local music store recently, I met a young man who brings music to the K-8 grades at a charter school near the airbase.

Among his students are military children and children who did not make it on other schools, most of them strangers to music. In our conversation I found that he has a few percussion instruments and nothing else. He was a very sincere young father who goes to garage sales looking for instruments for the Heritage School students to learn on, as he believes in the importance of music in their lives.

I'm hoping some Sun City residents may have any old musical instruments they care to donate to what I feel is a worthy cause, since without music, I wouldn't have made it to me graduation.

The school has a tax-deduction form, which I will e-mail or send if you can donate an instrument. I can be contacted at 623-466-0816 if you're willing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Shirley Veit
Sun City



Best kept secret!

Dave Japhet, Linda Vaughn and Lou Sniderman represented the Retirement Community Association of Sun City at the Sun City Visitors Center annual fire expo. Mr. Sniderman, president, said they promote safety and security to everyone in Sun City. Membership is \$5 and includes installation of one fire detector. Call 623-374-3316.

Photo by Charlene Bisson

Visitors center promoting spectacular stuff

By Paul Herrmann

Executive Director
Sun City Visitors Center

We've reached our true Chamber of Commerce weather.

This is the time of year that brought each of us to the Valley of the Sun and Sun City in particular. Please take every opportunity to tell your friends



back home (your old home) how much you are enjoying the nations No. 1 Active Retirement Community.

The Visitors Center and the RCSC Marketing Committee do national advertising via magazines and the internet but our best marketing comes from you, our happy residents.

If you'll be traveling, over the holidays, please stop in the Visitors Center and pick up some of my business cards to hand out to your friends and other people you meet along the way. Our website is listed on the card giving them the opportunity to do additional research online. It just might reinforce your stories of Sun City.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES are always available in Sun City.

Top 10 Reasons to Volunteer

- #10: It's good for you
- #9: It saves resources
- # 8: Why not

- #7: It brings people together
- #6: It promotes personal growth and self esteem
- #5: Volunteering strengthens your community
- #4: You can learn a lot
- #3: You get a chance to give back
- #2: Volunteering encourages civic responsibility
- #1: You make a difference

FIRE PREVENTION EXPO — deemed a success.

More than 100 vendors and non-profit organizations were present as 500 plus area residents came to this year's October business expo sponsored by Sunshine Service and presented by the Sun City Fire Department and Visitors Center kicking off National Fire Prevention Week.

This year we put the Fire Department to work. They bandaged a hand injury and responded to our DJ Robert Wilson's heart attack. Both people are Sun City residents and both are doing very well. Each October the Fire Department is at the expo to tell residents about all of their community programs and this year they were pressed into service. Hopefully the service part won't be part of the 2014 Expo.

WEEKLY FARMER'S MARKET — 8 a.m.-noon each Thursday at the Bell Recreation Center. *Fresh fruits and vegetables*

- Grass-fed beef and specialty cheeses, cage-free eggs
- Locally produced honey, jams, jellies, hummus & salsa
- Fresh baked goods
- RCSC Clubs
- Specials at Memo's Bistro beginning at 7:00am

SUN BOWL SHOWS — Sunday evenings

This season has started off with some great entertainment and there's more to come.

- Gourmet vendor food trucks available 1-1/2 hour prior to show time
- Free to RCSC Cardholders and their invited guests
- Bring your lawn chairs or blanket

You moved to Sun City for the entertainment and activities so make sure you don't miss out. Read the SunViews, subscribe to the Sun City Independent or check our online Calendar at www.suncityaz.org.

Sun City Where You Live the Life You Only Imagined

See you next month. Paul



Independent Newspapers/Rusty Bradshaw

Marketing Sun City

Paul Herrmann, Sun City Visitors Center director, explains to Agua Fria Kiwanis Club members the marketing approaches the center is using to attract new residents. He said the focus moved from promoting locally to marketing the community on a national — and even worldwide — scale.

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Sun City: Still the one

Intrigued Boomers flock to Visitors Center

JEFF DEMPSEY
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun City enthusiasts, when asked what makes their town so wonderful, often say the same thing: Sun City is the greatest retirement community in the world.

Lofty statements like that would usually be dismissed as hyperbole, but Paul Herrmann, executive director of the Sun City Visitors Center, said he is pretty sure it is true.

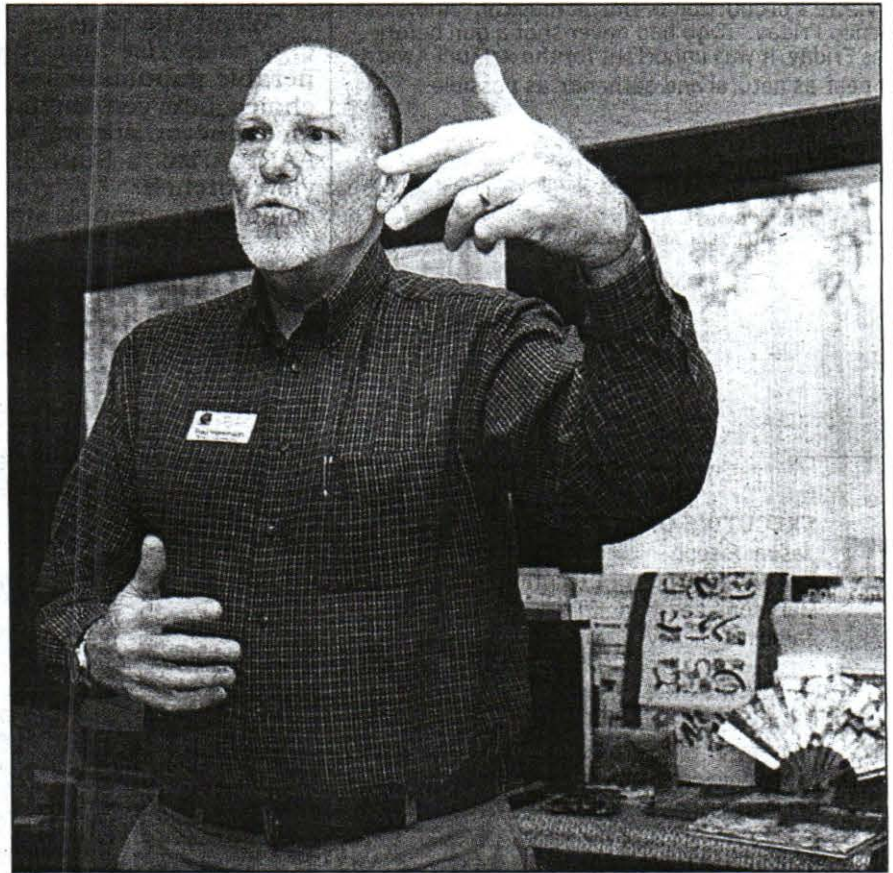
"Sun City was way ahead of its time when it was built, and I believe it is still the best today," Herrmann said.

Why does Herrmann think that? Because his phone never stops ringing, and the calls are coming from all over the globe.

"Just recently, I've given tours to groups from Korea, Japan, the Netherlands, Germany and France," Herrmann said. "They're all here because they want to learn about some aspect of what has made Sun City such a success."

The tours are not a new phenomenon. Herrmann said they have been going on for just about as long as Sun City has been open. They have, however, increased in frequency by quite a bit over the past few years, and Herrmann said he thinks he knows why.

"It's the Baby Boomer generation," Herrmann said.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Paul Herrmann, director of the Sun City Visitor's Center, has hosted many Asian groups who want to start retirement communities in their homeland but need more information, specifically concerning Sun City.

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VISITORS

FROM A1

"The Boomer phenomenon isn't just an American thing, it's a generational thing across the world. The Boomers are reaching retirement age and countries all over are trying to figure out what to do with them."

Different countries are interested in different things. Herrmann said Korea seems to be where America was when Sun City was created.

"They still have what we would have called old folks homes," Herrmann said. "They don't know about the whole 'active lifestyle' movement. Many of the groups I talk to from Korea are simply trying to get a handle on what services they need to offer to create an active retirement community."

For the Japanese groups he works with, Herrmann said there is a cultural difference that has to be addressed.

"I've learned from my experience that the concept of volunteerism is not very popular in Japan," Herrmann said. "There, if you work you get paid, and that's that. What I'm having to explain to them is that a community like Sun City will never work without the effort of volunteers."

Last summer alone, Herrmann said he gave tours to eight groups from Japan. Herrmann said typically he will be told in advance what the group is interested in, and will tailor their visit accordingly.

"Recently I had a group of doctors and nurses from Korea who were interested in the healthcare aspect," Herrmann said. "So I got them into Royal Oaks (Lifecare Community) to

meet with the staff there and get their questions answered. If they don't tell me ahead of time what they want, I give them just a general tour of Sun City."

Herrmann said the interest Sun City receives from around the world is a testament to the superb planning of the community.

"I think it's a great testament to what was created here that after all these years, people around the globe still look to us," Herrmann said.

Herrmann said he has another tour scheduled for Feb. 16, this time with another group from Japan.

For information, call the Sun City Visitors Center at 623-977-5000 or visit www.suncityaz.org.

Jeff Dempsey may be reached at 623-876-2531 or jdempsey@yourwestvalley.com.