

## RUNNERS



Runners hit the trail during a recent 5K race in Sun City West. Recreation centers of Sun City West officials are looking for entrants in another race to be part of the 40th anniversary celebration. [Submitted photo]

# RCSCW officials seek race participants

## Event part of 40th anniversary

By Diana Weners  
SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT  
NEWSMEDIA

Recreation Centers of Sun City West officials still have

openings for entrants in a 5K race that will be part of the community's 40th anniversary celebration.

In February, Sun City West will mark its 40th anniversary. As part of a week-long celebration, RCSCW officials are planning a 40th Anniver-

sary 5K walk/run beginning 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018 — Sun City West-40 Years and Running.

A link to registration can be found online at [www.scwaz.com](http://www.scwaz.com). The 40th anniversary 5K is open to resi-

» See Runners on page 24

## Runners

» From page 4

dents of all communities and will be a rain-or-shine event. Cost is \$30 for adults 18 and older until the end of January. Late registration — Feb. 1 and after — is \$35. Day of the event registration is \$40.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association. Millions of Americans live with heart disease, stroke or a cardiovascular condition. Proceeds of this 5K will go toward saving and improving their lives with research, education and emergency care.

A celebration of the vic-

tories and participation will take place immediately following the race with an awards ceremony. All registered participants, 18-and-older, will receive a free race T-shirt, race bib, timing chip and post-race snacks.

Children 17 and younger are free in the 5K with a paying adult, but they will not receive a T-shirt or timing chip. Parents must sign a waiver for participating children.

The race will be part of a day with a festival-like atmosphere. Runners and walkers will begin and end on the front 9 at Stardust Golf Course, 12702 W. Stardust

Blvd., Sun City West. Participants will travel a golf course route.

Packet pick-up will be 4-5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16 in the parking lot at Stardust Golf Course. Late packet pick-up is 7-7:45 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17 at Stardust and the race begins at 8 a.m.

Awards will be presented to the top male and female racers in a variety of age brackets. Children 17 and under are not included in awards consideration.

Participants should wear comfortable walking or running shoes and sun protection. No pets will be allowed to participate in the race or

in the park. Water stations and restrooms will be available on the course. Spectators are welcome along the route.

There will be no parking at Stardust Golf Course. Participants are asked to park at Beardsley Recreation Center, 12755 W. Beardsley Road, where a shuttle will be available.

Call Julie Shawcross, RCSCW recreation events assistant manager recreation, at 623-544-6583 or email [julie.shawcross@suncitywest.com](mailto:julie.shawcross@suncitywest.com).

Editor's Note: Ms. Weners is RCSCW multimedia specialist.

January 3, 2018  
SC Independent  
VF SCW Anniversaries

VF SCW Anniversary

**RUNNING**



Runners begin their jaunt during a 5K run in Sun City West. A similar race is planned next year to help celebrate the community's 40th anniversary. [Submitted photo]

# Race planned for SCW 40th anniversary

## Part of proceeds to go to American Heart Association

By Diane Weners

SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

A 5K race will be part of the activities to celebrate Sun City West's 40th year of existence early next year.

Sun City West will mark its 40th anniversary in February 2018. As part of the planned week-long celebration, Recreation Centers of Sun City West officials are planning a 40th Anniversary 5K walk/run beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018.

A link to registration can be found online at [www.scwaz.com](http://www.scwaz.com). The 40th anniversary 5K is open to residents of all communities and will be a rain-or-shine event. Cost is \$30 for adults 18 and older until the end of January; late registration — Feb. 1 and after — is \$35. Day of the event registration is \$40.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association. Millions of Americans live with heart disease, stroke or a cardiovascular condition. Proceeds of this 5K will go toward saving and improving their lives with research, education and emergency care.

A celebration of the victories and participation will take place immediately following the race with an awards ceremony. All registered participants, 18-and-older, will receive a free race T-shirt, race bib, timing chip and post-race snacks.

Children 17 and younger are free in the 5K with a paying adult, but they will not receive a T-shirt or timing chip. Parents must sign a waiver for participating children.

Runners and walkers will begin and end on the front 9 at Stardust Golf Course, 12702 W. Stardust Blvd.

The race schedule is 4-5:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 16, packet pickup at Stardust Golf

Course parking lot; 7:45 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, late packet pickup at Stardust Golf Course parking lot; 8 a.m., race begins.

Awards will be presented to the top male and female racers in a variety of age brackets. Children 17 and under are not included in awards consideration.

Runners should wear comfortable walking or running shoes and sun protection. No pets will be allowed to participate in the race or in the park. Water stations and restrooms will be available on the course. Spectators are welcome along the route.

There will be no parking at Stardust Golf Course. Participants are asked to park at Beardsley Recreation Center, 12755 W. Beardsley Road, where a shuttle will be available.

Call 623-544-6583 or email [Julie.shawcross@suncitywest.com](mailto:Julie.shawcross@suncitywest.com).

**Editor's Note: Ms. Weners is RCSCW multimedia specialist.**



Sun City West residents dance at the community's seventh birthday celebration. They were told that the community has

filled out to 12,500 people, half of its projected final size. (The sign is inaccurate; it should read 12,500.)

Mike Rynearson, *The Phoenix Gazette*,

# Sun City West celebrates halfway mark

*Gazette Northwest Bureau*

**SUN CITY WEST** — At age 7, this retirement community is half-grown.

The Del E. Webb Development Co. threw Sun City West a seventh birthday party last Wednesday that included notice that the community is halfway toward its final size of 25,000.

Howard and Liz Leonard, who moved to the

community recently from Sacramento, Calif., received a plaque and dinner for four for being the 12,500th residents of Sun City West. Their selection was based on housing sale information.

DevCo.'s original plans for Sun City West called for a community of more than 50,000, but competition from resale homes in Sun City West and Sun City prompted the company to sell

Phase II of Sun City West to another developer.

DevCo. President Paul Tatz said the company is devoted to completing the first phase of Sun City West.

"I want you to know we will remain committed to Sun City West during the second half of its development," he told the 1,200 residents who attended the party.

DAVE

## Sun City West—thriving community



### Library

Ribbon-cutting ceremony signaled opening of the Sun City West Library. Joining in the cutting this morning were from left, Mr. and Mrs. Luman Wick, Evelyn Cornish, librarian; Mike Britt,

DEVCO vice president; Bill Woodyard, general manager of the SCWest rec centers; and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Uhl.

(News-Sun Photo by Jim Painter)

# SCW's future plans

Plans in Sun City West for the near future are:

— Nine holes of Stardust golf course scheduled to open in winter.

— The Camino Del Sol shopping center with a Safeway, Walgreen's furniture decorator store, coffee shop and 17 other retail shops to open the first of 1980.

— Construction of a second shopping center will begin early 1980 at 128th and Beardsley with a Lucky grocery store and a Longs drugstore included.

— Mobil service stations will begin construction at Camino Del Sol and Johnson Boulevard and at

Johnson and Meeker Boulevards.

— Briarwood Country Club, a private club, will begin construction soon.

— Studies are being made for a PORA building on the west side of Camino Del Sol.

— APS power substation called "Spanish Gardens" will be constructed near Camino Del Sol and Johnson Boulevard.

— Guadalharry's Restaurant is planned for a site at Johnson and Meeker Boulevards.

— Valley National, Greater Arizona Savings, and Canyon Savings will front the Camino Del Sol

shopping plaza.

— Other banks setting up permanent buildings soon will be United Bank, Southwest, Home Federal Savings, Saguaro Savings, Surety Savings, First Federal, Western Savings, Arizona Bank, and First National Bank of Arizona.

— The Sundome is scheduled for completion the end of the 1980 winter season.

— LPGA tournament, the Sun City Classic, is scheduled for the Hillcrest golf course Feb. 27 - Mar. 2.

— Jogging track and Parcourse to be open by the end of October.

2A NEWS-SUN Tuesday, October 16, 1979

# Sun City West celebrates

## first birthday

### *Big bash set for Westers on Saturday*

Sun City West will celebrate its first birthday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday at the Johnson Recreation Center.

Coffee, cookies and entertainment will be provided for celebrating Westers. The Statesmen will entertain at the Crestview Restaurant and the Arizonans will play at the Rec Center Social Hall as residents dance from 8 - 11 p.m. Cake and coffee will be served at 9:30 p.m.

The celebration, sponsored by the Del Webb Development Corp., also marks the grand opening of the rec center in Sun City West. Bowling and billiards demonstrations are featured.

10-16-79 NEWS SUN



Sun City West—thriving community



# ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

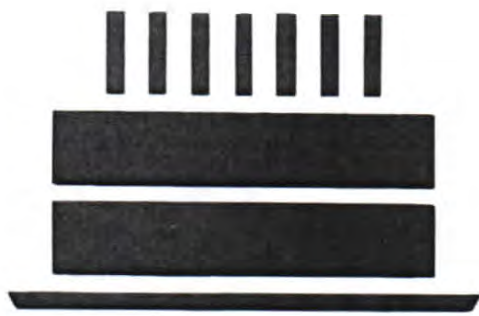
DEL WEBB CORPORATION • POST OFFICE BOX 1705 • SUN CITY WEST, ARIZONA 85375

HOMES SINCE INCEPTION - 8,906      HOMES SOLD IN 1988 (thru 8/31) — 372      POPULATION — 17,140      OCTOBER, 1988

## *Celebrate Sun City West's 10th Birthday*

Sun City West turns ten years old this month, marking a decade of exciting growth. Del Webb invites all Sun City West residents and visitors to help us celebrate this grand occasion at Hillcrest Golf Course.

Sun City West's 10th birthday bash will be held Oct. 13, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Festivities will include a community picnic, entertainment and lots of birthday cake. Everyone should bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets on which to sit, as seating will not be provided.



Port-A-Pit catering will provide picnic dinners featuring barbecued chicken wingettes, fruit cups, hot dogs, and potato chips. Dinner tickets must be purchased by Oct. 3 at the Del Webb Administration Building, 13950 Meeker Blvd. The cost is \$4 per person. Del Webb will provide the cake, refreshments and entertainment.

People are welcome to join the fun even without partaking in the catered dinner. Get together a big group of friends, neighbors or club members and meet at Hillcrest Golf Course for a late afternoon celebration.

## GREAT SUN CITY WEST GARAGE SALE SET FOR OCTOBER 29

It's the time of the year to clear out the old treasures to make room for new ones, and the Great Sun City West Garage Sale will provide the perfect opportunity to turn those collectibles into cash.

All Sun Cities residents may register for a selling space. The entry form has already appeared in the local newspaper, but additional copies are available at the Del Webb Administration Building front lobby, 13950 Meeker Blvd. Entry deadline is Oct. 20.

While there is no charge for the selling space, a contribution to the Make-A-Wish Foundation is requested with the completed entry form. This special organization grants wishes to terminally ill children of central and southern Arizona.

Shoppers and sellers alike also will have the opportunity to participate in the Make-A-Wish raffle. Simply buy a chance to win one of a number of prizes



*An estimated 23,000 people came to shop at last year's Great Sun City West Garage Sale, turning the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center parking lot into a sea of people.*

donated by Valley businesses and you'll be helping Make-A-Wish at the same time. The sale will be held in the R.H.

Johnson Recreation Center parking lot from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 29. Shopping is open to the general public.



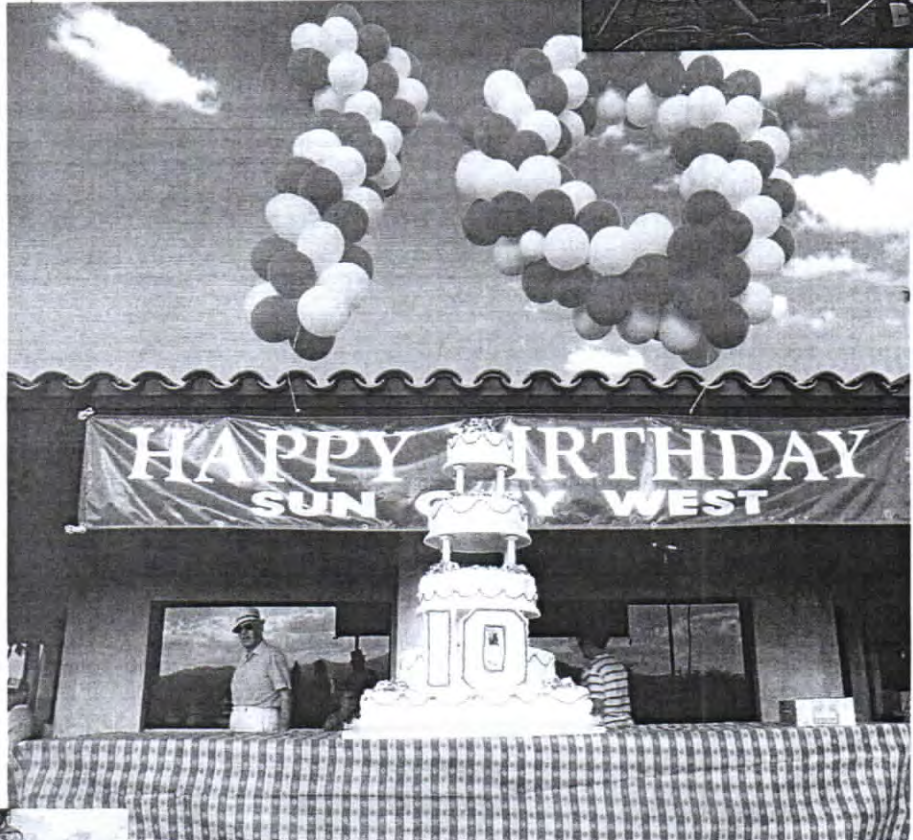
# Sun City West 10th Birthday Review

Sun City West is a decade old. A grand celebration at Hillcrest Golf Club was held in honor of this momentous occasion.

KTSP, Channel 10, broadcast its entire 5 p.m. newscast live from the party site. News anchors Claren Scott and Bill Close, along with sports anchor Fred Kalil, seemed to enjoy the festivities almost as much as the Westers did.

Entertainment was provided by Igor's Cowboy Jazz Band, the Nani Komohana Tutu's and the Encore Round Dancers. Also, a very special thank you to all the resident groups who made the event a true success — the Model Railroad Club, the Jazzettes, the Women's Social Club, the Prides and the Posse.

*Above left to right: The Nani Komohana Tutu's (pretty western grandmas) were a colorful addition to the festivities. Bill Close and Claren Scott of Channel 10 News broadcast their 5 p.m. newscast from the party site.*



*From Left: Chuck Roach, SCW general manager, Paul Tatz, pres. Del Webb Communities and Bill Woodward, Recreation Centers general manager take the official knife to the cake.*



*Several thousand residents enjoyed the 10th birthday celebration.*



*The Encore Round Dancers, one of the featured entertainment groups, is always looking for new members. Singles and partners alike are welcome.*

# Political climate threatens harmony

Third in a series  
By JANICE TARLETON  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Since the creation of Sun City West, residents of the retirement community and the Dysart Unified School District haven't seen eye to eye.

Twenty years have passed, but it appears little has changed. Then and now, retirees called district bond issues unnecessary, said board members mismanaged funds and criticized the education Dysart offers its students.

Then and now, newly elected board members vowed to bring harmony to the district.

Yet despite the political climate, retirement community residents have faithfully volunteered in Dysart classrooms. At the end of the 1997-98 school year, there were 101. A count hasn't been complete yet this year, but more are expected after the holidays.

Within five years, predicted a 1978 committee of future Sun City West residents, the community would enjoy lower school taxes than their sister Sun Citians, while remaining part of one of the richest school districts in the state.

Maybe those predictions were right, but angered by what they claimed were unnecessary bond issues, Sun City West retirees followed the lead of the first Sun City and in 1981, successfully

Saluting  
SUN CITY WEST'S  
20<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

deannexed from the school district.

"If you think there's antagonism now, it was much worse 20 years ago," said Gene Wilson, a member of that committee and founder of the Property Owners and Residents Association.

The bud of controversy then was a \$26-million bond issue. The district passed the bond issue, though \$7 million was left unspent from a previous one, because "they thought when the retirees moved in they would vote down any bond issues," Wilson said. "Basically that bond issue is the reason we got together and formed PORA."

Retired professors, superintendents and other Sun City residents who planned to move to the yet-to-be-constructed Sun City West spent two to three days a week for months looking into the needs of the district, Wilson said.

Though changes came about — like construction of a woodshop and relocation of the bus stop off Dysart Road — residents decided the \$26 million wasn't needed and voted to rescind the bond is-



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Shirley Frasier helps Alvaro Campos, a sixth-grader at El Mirage Elementary. Frasier, a Sun City West retiree, volunteers every Wednesday.

sue. "We were the first in the state to do such a thing, but it was legal," said Wilson, who spent a brief time on the school board.

Eventually, a Sun City West majority was elected to the board, and things calmed down for a while, Wilson said.

But the final straw was disagreement over the kinder-

garten through 12th grade bilingual program. "We felt there was too much bilingual education. That if these students learned to cope with English earlier they would be more successful in life," said Wilson, adding that it led to the retirement community's deannexation from the district.

Sounds similar to 1997-98,

the tumultuous years when retirees from the Sun City West expansion area suffered a failed attempt to deannex from the district, but managed to take control of the district's governing board. Three residents were elected in November 1997 and another two last month.

Two-thirds of the Sun City West expansion area, a 1,257-acre project that broke ground in August 1992, is in the Dysart Unified School District. The remaining third is in the Peoria Unified School District.

"These people have lots to offer with their expertise and backgrounds both in and outside education," observed Al Northen, Dysart's superintendent in 1978. Wilson agreed. "Everyone that worked out there was a highly qualified person," he said.

Likewise, that observation has been made this year, though retiree control of the board has not been welcomed. Board President Robert Koch is a retired lawyer; Eleanor Nelson, a former Chicago Tribune reporter; Rose Parker, a former school teacher; Nancy Harrower, a paralegal with extensive business experience; and board member-elect Leonard Guy, a business executive with a Fortune 500 company.

◀ From A1

Members of that 1978 committee put blame on district administrators and school board members for "Dysart's financial mismanagement" and "poor educational and career planning," according to a front-page article on Nov. 3.

This year newly elected board retiree board members and a contingent of supporters from the Sun City West expansion area blamed previous board members and the superintendent for financial malfeasance.

There are still questions about the viability of the bilingual program.

"Our most important task for the near future will be to integrate the communities of Sun City West, El Mirage and Surprise," said school board member-elect Sam Openshaw in November 1978.

And said Nancy Harrower in November 1998, a Sun City West expansion area resident elected to the board this year: "For too long it's been Sun City West vs. Dysart. It's time to stop that."

▶ See Then and now, A5

Del Webb Corporation

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE

# 17th ANNIVERSARY FUN WALK & PARTY!



## This Monday!

October 16, 9:00 a.m.

Beardsley Recreation Center • The Gazebo

Join the 1.5 mile walk  
to celebrate

Sun City West's 17th Birthday

The walk leaves at 9:00 a.m. from the Gazebo  
with cake, punch, the Wester/Jesters  
and the Harmonicares to follow.

**This is a FREE event!**

Any Questions?

Call Carol at Del Webb's Public Relations Office  
546-5108

Del Webb Corporation

**YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!****SUN CITY WEST RESIDENT APPRECIATION MONTH**

This October marks the seventeenth anniversary of Del Webb's Sun City West and we want to thank our residents. From our first pioneers to our newest residents, you have made Sun City West a very special place to live. Your active involvement and concern for this community and selfless volunteering has not gone unnoticed. The Del Webb Corporation wants to show you our appreciation and invite you to attend any of the free events listed below throughout the month of October.

Free tickets for the Symphony Brass Quintet, Tanya Griffith, Igor's Jazz Cowboys and the Trinidad Calypso Band will be distributed in the lobby of the Sundome from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on the same day of each performance. Tickets for the Hillcrest Golf Clinic and Halloween Film Festival will be available in the lobby of the Sundome from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. the same day of these events. Residents will be issued a maximum of two tickets with their recreation center card and the tickets will be on a first come, first serve basis. No tickets are needed for the 17th Anniversary Fun Walk or the Ice Cream/Barbershop Social.

**DEL WEBB'S RESIDENT APPRECIATION MONTH  
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- October 2** **SUN CITIES SYMPHONY BRASS QUINTET (1,000 seats available)**  
7:00 p.m. • Palm Ridge Recreation Center • The Summit Hall  
The Brass Quintet is comprised of the first-chair players of the brass sections within the Sun Cities Symphony Orchestra and consists of 2 trumpets, french horn, trombone and tuba. Free tickets are available the day of the show in the Sundome Lobby from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- October 5** **TANYA GRIFFITH AS ELEANOR ROOSEVELT (1,000 seats available)**  
7:00 p.m. • Palm Ridge Recreation Center • The Summit Hall  
Nationally-acclaimed performer Tanya Griffith portrays Eleanor Roosevelt in a riveting one woman show. Free tickets are available the day of the performance in the Sundome Lobby from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- October 12** **IGOR'S JAZZ COWBOYS (1,000 seats available)**  
7:00 p.m. • Palm Ridge Recreation Center • The Summit Hall  
Igor is a high-energy entertainer who cracks jokes, sings beyond 3 octaves, looks like Yosemite Sam and plays an upright string bass. He and his Jazz Cowboys have appeared on Johnny Carson and with Jim Stafford at Branson. Free tickets are available the day of the show in the Sundome Lobby from 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.
- October 16** **17TH BIRTHDAY FUN WALK & PARTY**  
9:00 a.m. • Beardsley Recreation Center • The Gazebo  
Join the 1.5 mile walk to celebrate Sun City West's 17th Birthday. The walk leaves at 9:00 a.m. from the Gazebo with cake, punch, the Wester/Jesters and Harmonicares to follow.
- October 18** **HILLCREST GOLF CLINIC (500 openings)**  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. • Hillcrest Golf Course  
Join Gary Balliet, Tony Contresceri and Kevin Reagan, the Hillcrest Golf Pros, for three, half-hour golf seminars on driving, putting and chipping. Free tickets are available in the lobby of the Sundome from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- October 23** **ICE CREAM SOCIAL/BARBERSHOP QUARTET (Ice cream for 1,500)**  
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Beardsley Recreation Center • The Gazebo  
Bring your lawn chairs and drinks and join the Just 4 Fun 4 Barbershop Quartet and Harmony High for some musical fun. Ice cream will be served to the first 1,500 participants.
- October 26** **TRINIDAD CALYPSO CONCERT (1,000 seats available)**  
7:00 p.m. • Palm Ridge Recreation Center • The Summit Hall  
Enjoy Calypso music? Come see a Phoenix favorite, Trinidad Calypso as they perform at Palm Ridge. Free tickets are available the day of the show in the Sundome Lobby from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- October 31** **HALLOWEEN FILM FESTIVAL (250 seats each show)**  
Crestview Banquet Hall  
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. • Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho"  
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. • Alfred Hitchcock's "Vertigo"  
Enjoy a suspenseful Halloween afternoon with two Alfred Hitchcock classics. Free tickets are available the day of the show in the Sundome Lobby from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Prizes will be raffled off at each event. Additionally, we will be raffling off a seven-day cruise compliments of **Holland America Line at the Trinidad Calypso Performance.**

Admission tickets from each of the events will be used to draw a winner.

## Sun City West anniversary events continue

The Del Webb Corp. continues its celebration of the 17th anniversary of Sun City West with the following upcoming activities:

Oct. 5 — Tanya Griffith portrays Eleanor Roosevelt 7 p.m. at Palm Ridge Recreation Center. Free tickets are available 1-4 p.m. the day of the concert in the lobby of the Sundome Center.

Oct. 12 — Igor's Jazz Cowboys

perform 7 p.m. at Palm Ridge Recreation Center. Free tickets are available 1-4 p.m. the day of the concert in the lobby of the Sundome Center.

Oct. 16 — Birthday fun walk and party, 9 a.m. at Beardsley Park Recreation Center. Walk begins at 9 a.m. from the gazebo.

Oct. 18 — Golf clinic, 2-4 p.m. at Hillcrest Golf Course. Free tickets

are available 9 a.m.-noon the day of the event in the lobby of the Sundome.

Oct. 23 — Ice cream social and barbershop quartet concert, 2 p.m. at Beardsley Park Center.

Oct. 26 — Trinidad Calypso concert, 7 p.m. at Palm Ridge Recreation Center. Free tickets are available 1-4 p.m. the day of the concert at the Sundome Center.

# More Events Scheduled For Sun City West 15th Birthday

To help celebrate the 15th birthday of Sun City West, the following activities have been scheduled:

**October 15-17**, several area churches will hold volunteer recognition events during "Hope, Health and Hospitals" Weekend. The event is being sponsored by the Sun Cities Ministerial Association and the Sun Health Foundation, with valuable assistance from Sun Health Auxiliary volunteers.

**October 15 and 27, 9-10 a.m.**, SCW's Property Owners and Resident Association is hosting open houses for elected officials who represent the local community. Oct. 15, PORA hosts Maricopa County Supervisor Ed King, representing District 4.

**Oct. 27**, PORA hosts three District 15 legislators, Senator Austin Turner, Representative Ned King and Representative Jerry

Overton. PORA is located at 13851 Camino Del Sol, Sun City West.

**Oct 16. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.** Rhythm Tappers Kick-Off Celebration Show at Stardust Theater, Kuentz Rec Center, 14401 R. H. Johnson Blvd.

**1 p.m.** Official cake cutting ceremony with General Manager Chuck Roach and SCW Rec Ctr Governing Board President Al Spanjer, R. H. Johnson Rec Center Arts & Crafts village, 19803 R. H. Johnson Blvd., with Starlighters dance band.

**1-3 p.m.** Cake, punch and entertainment at:

- Beardsley Park ramadas, 12755 Beardsley Dr., Canyon State Western Band.

- Fred Kuentz Rec Center courtyard, 14401 R. H. Johnson Blvd., 1 p.m. Theatre West: duet Barbara Paripovich & Bill Burke; Pat Young; Verne Stout.



Bill Woodyard, first manager of SCW's new R.H. Johnson Recreation Center, is shown (circa 1979) with freshly planted palm trees still tied at the top.

**1:30 p.m.** Organ & Keyboard Club: June Clark; Winfred Bailey. **2 p.m.** Musicians Club: quartet Carl Easterbrook, Harriet We-

ber, Ruth Conrad and Gordon Mason; singer Doris Pierret with accompanist Pat Admundson. **2:30 p.m.** Westernaires Chorus: accompanists Adele Applin and Janet Hochstatter. **3-5 p.m.** Dr. Sasparilla's Red Hot Jazz Band, Kuentz swimming pool.

**Oct. 17 2-4 p.m.** Opening reception for artist Dr. Eugene Tsai's one month exhibit in the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital lobby, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd.

**Oct 18 7:45 - 8:45 a.m.** Energetic Exercise, R. H. Johnson Social Hall. **9 a.m. - 12 p.m.** Agriculture Club Open House, learn how to have a garden patch, Aleppo Dr. to 137th Dr. and turn south (near Grandview Golf Course). **6 p.m.** Get Acquainted with Square Dancing, free dancing & refreshments courtesy of

**More Events Scheduled**  
Continued on Page 2

## More Events

Continued from Page 1

the Westerners Square Dancing Club, R. H. Johnson Social Hall.

**Oct. 19 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.** Silvercraft Open House, R. H. Johnson Rec Ctr. **9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** Weaver West Guild Open House, view rugs being made or try using a table loom, Kuentz Rec Ctr. **7 p.m.** Photography West Slide Critique...bring your own slides, Johnson Lecture Hall.

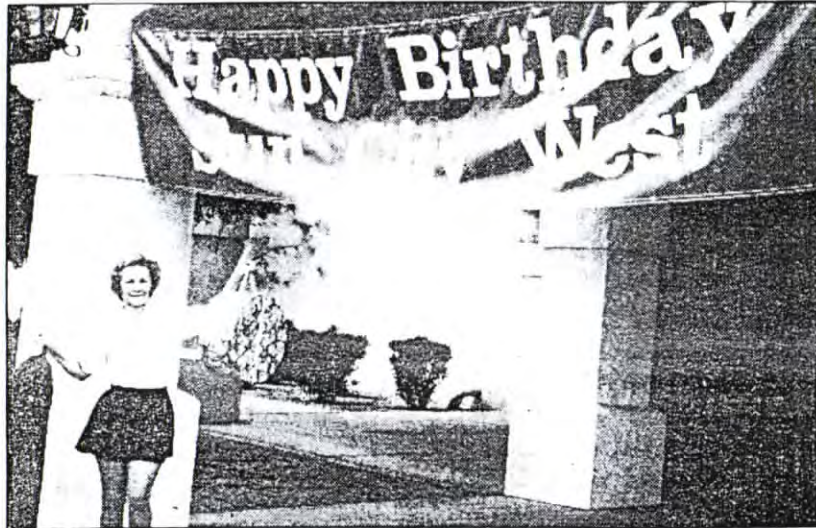
**Oct. 20 7:45-8:45 a.m.** Energetic Exercise, R. H. Johnson Social Hall.

# SCW 15th Birthday Events Continue

To help celebrate the 15th birthday of Sun City West, the following activities have been scheduled:

Oct. 21, 8:30-11 a.m., MacCro Knit Club display and sale, Kuentz Rec Ctr craft room 3. 9 a.m. -12 p.m., Agriculture Club Open House, Learn how to have a garden patch, Aleppo Dr. to 137th Dr. and turn South (near Grandview Golf Course). 9 a.m.-4 p.m., SCW Women's Social Club Open House, refreshments and membership information, Kuentz Rec Ctr.

Oct. 22, 7:45-8:45 a.m., Energetic Exercise at Johnson Social Hall. 8-11 a.m., Sun Health Ageless Athlete, talks by Dr. Foerster, Lisa Sauer, M. D., and James Scheuring, P. T., Desert



The Rhythm Tappers started the 15th Anniversary program at the Stardust Theatre, Oct. 16 at 11 a.m. Lee Vades was there at 8 a.m. pointing to banner and getting ready.

Photo, Stan Steciak

Palms Presbyterian Church, Stardust Theater. Oct. 23, 8 a.m. -4 p.m., Photography West Open Meeting, 135th Ave & Stardust. 10 a.m., Kiwanis Club of SCW 12th An-

nual Yard Sale at Sundome Plaza, Camino del Sol and R. H. Johnson Blvd. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce Better Living Expo, Sundome. 8 a.m., Race to Health 10K run, 5K walk, 2 mile fun run and walk, Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd.

Oct. 24, 2 - 4:30 p.m., Sheriff's Posse of SCW Open House, refreshments and guided tours, 20450 Stardust Blvd.

Oct. 25, 7:45 -8:45 a.m., Energetic Exercise at Johnson Social Hall. 9:30 a.m., Interfaith Day Care Center hosts speaker AZ Attorney General Grant Woods on "Senior Advocacy Program," 14465 R. H. Johnson. 6 pm., Get Acquainted with Square Danc-

ing, free dancing & refreshments courtesy of the Westerners Square Dancing Club, R. H. Johnson Social Hall. 7:30 p.m., Photography West Video Group Open Meeting, Lecture Hall.

Oct 25-29, SCW Thrift Store Open House, drawing for \$100 shopping spree held Friday, Oct 29 at 3 p.m., SCW Community Services Bldg.

Oct 26, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Weavers West Guild Open House, view rugs being made or try using a table loom, Kuentz Rec Center. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Copper Enamelists, China Painting, Stained Glass, Clay Club and Photography West Open Houses,

**15th Birthday**  
Continued on Page 6

## 15th Birthday

### Events

Continued from Page 1

Beardsley Rec Ctr. 12:30 - 4 p.m., Arthritis Foundation Expo, Johnson Social Hall East

Oct. 27, 7:45 - 8:45 a.m., Energetic Exercise, R. H. Johnson Social Hall. 8 a.m., Arthritis Foundation Aquatic Program, demonstrations of water exercises, Beardsley swimming pool. 6 - 9 p.m., SCW Bocce Club Open House, Del Webb Corp vs. Rec Center Bocce Tournament and instruction, Johnson Bocce courts.

# Sun City West 15th anniversary

## New community sprouts from desert

SCW

### SCW pioneers recall early days

By ROSA De SIMONE  
Daily News-Sun staff

It may not have been the Wild West, but Luman and Mary Wick were pioneers in their own right — they were among the first settlers of Sun City West.

The Wicks, leaving Topeka, Kan., behind, were one of the first couples to move into Sun City West on Oct. 16, 1978.

"I can remember driving out on Bell Road west of Sun City and looking over where Sun City West was to be located and it was a cattle feed lot," Luman said. "I told the (Realtor) who was with me that 'no way do I want to live out there' and he assured me the cattle feed lot would be taken away."

Although the community was somewhat deserted then, Luman knew that would not last.

"We were informed that Sun City West would be larger than Sun City, which was then 45,000," Luman said.

"I knew that the city was supposed to be bigger than it is now, but I didn't know it would be north of here," he said referring to the community's expansion north of Deer Valley Drive.

Whether the expansion, referred to as Phase II, was a go-ahead at the original site south of Grand Avenue or north of Deer Valley Drive, Luman said he had no gripes then or now.



Luman and Mary Wick moved from Topeka, Kan., to be among the first residents of Sun City West.

### Sister city helps propel community

By MIKE GARRETT  
Daily News-Sun staff

**SUN CITY WEST** — The idea to build Sun City West across the Agua Fria River from Sun City was born out of Sun City's success.

But its birth was premature by nearly two years.

"We really had planned to open Sun City West in 1980," said John Meeker, Del E. Webb Development Co. (Devco) president and chief executive officer from 1965 to 1981.

"In 1977 we had a tremendous increase in (Sun City) sales. We sold 3,485 units in the first seven months in Sun City and really sold out all the lots we had."

Devco had been averaging 1,700 to 1,800 Sun City home sales a year to that point.

"In 1977 we started to take reservations for Sun City West from our Sun City models," Meeker said. "We could only take reservations and not make any sales because we didn't have plat (lot) approval."

The idea of building a second Sun City retirement community was born much earlier. Meeker said Devco started buying land to possibly develop a second Sun City as early as late 1971.

At that time, Webb purchased some of the original Sun City West Phase I acreage, known as Lizard Acres, from Charlie Wetzler.

Meeker said other parcels comprising the 5,700 acres in Phase I were later purchased from the James G. Boswell family, who had owned the cotton fields on which Sun City had been built.

Webb bought another 7,000 acres south of Grand Avenue for Sun City West Phase II. That land had been part of the Boswell family's Santa Fe Ranch.

Plat approval in early 1978 allowed Devco to finally begin Sun City West



Stephen Chermek/Daily News-Sun

The R.H. Johnson Recreation Center in Sun City West bears the name of Del Webb Corp.'s former chief executive officer.

sales.

"We sold 2,850 homes that first year in Sun City West," said Meeker, who is researching community history for the 15-year celebration.

The developer also sold the last 225 of its 25,751 Sun City lots in 1978.

"Then the recession hit in 1979 and sales dropped to 1,272 in Sun City West and less than 1,000 in 1980 and thereafter," Meeker said.

It wasn't until fiscal year 1992-93, ending June 30, when 1,034 homes were sold that Sun City West again hit the 1,000 mark.

Meeker said the company's vision for Sun City West was to follow what it had learned in building Sun City but to build it bigger and better.

He said the 7,000-seat Sundome Center for the Performing Arts, built in 1981, was born out of the Sun

See Company struggles, D4

OVER



# Company struggles through lean sales

—From D1

Bowl, built in 1967.

Meeker said resident comments prompted Webb to build a separate community, rather than a fourth phase in Sun City.

He said his top priority after taking over as Devco president was to unite all Sun City recreation centers so every resident could use them and close the communication gap that had existed between company and residents.

"At the time we began talking about building Sun City West, there was a bunch of self-appointed crusaders who didn't want anybody else to use their rec centers and other facilities," Meeker said. "We decided to separate them, hoping that one day we could meld the two together."

At first, Sun City West was a natural extension of Sun City.

"But we always had a few problems that cropped up in both Sun Cities we felt we had to deal with at the time," Meeker said in a telephone interview from his Phoenix home.

Tom Ryan, Devco's execu-

tive vice president of land development from 1970 to 1987 and a 26-year Webb employee, also remembers those early days.

That's when 15 to 20 percent interest rates caused the bottom to fall out of the retirement housing market.

"We were able to sell (in 1983) the 7,000 acres south of Bell Road for considerably more than we paid for it in 1972 and utilized those funds to help bail the company out," Ryan said. "Now here we are buying it back again."

Ryan said one of the biggest problems in planning Sun City West was ensuring an adequate water supply and providing adequate sewage treatment for the project.

Ryan said the 1976-79 transition period between the Sun Cities extended Devco to its absolute limits after home sales started coming back after the 1974 oil embargo.

"It seemed like the closer we got to the end of Sun City, the more sales accelerated," Ryan said.

## Couple embraces SCW lifestyle

—From D1

look into a new community to be called Sun City West.

"We made a commitment here before we even considered selling our place in (Alameda) California because we clearly saw the future," Edward said.

They sold their Alameda home and settled into Sun City West to live that vision.

"I saw a new lifestyle — a good future for working people because they could now afford a new home in a new community," Edward said.

It was the opportunity to live in a "new community" that attracted the Uhls, Clar-

ice said.

Their first home was house No. 6, the last of Del Webb Corp.'s first half-dozen built in Sun City West on Desert Glen Drive.

During the building, the Uhls lived in Sun City — close enough for them to visit the construction site.

"You had to go over huge ruts and sometimes you couldn't make it because there were no roads," Edward said.

"Our view out of the back window was a dirt pile, which later turned out to be R.H. Johnson Boulevard," Edward recalled.

SCW

## Community's 2nd family hails SCW as No. 1

By ROSA De SIMONE  
Daily News-Sun staff

"No regrets."

After almost 15 years in Sun City West, Clarice and Edward Uhl said they can honestly claim complete satisfaction.

"I wouldn't live anywhere else but

here," Clarice said.

The Uhls were one of the first two couples to move to Sun City West Oct. 16, 1978 — but even back then, before the community had a recreation center, they knew it was for them.

They had been visiting the Sun

Cities area since 1962, to see Clarice's mother and aunt who lived in Youngtown.

While in the area, they generally stayed at the Kings Inn. But one year the inn had no vacancies — a predicament that motivated the Uhls to

See Couple embraces, D4

### Couple embraces SCW lifestyle

—From D1

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# Sun City West celebrates 15 years

## First homeowners take pride in development

By Lori Baker  
Staff writer

### Sun City West

**F**ifteen years ago, the world's first test-tube baby was born, the New York Yankees won the World Series, and the Bee Gees won a Grammy award for "Saturday Night Fever."

It also was the year that the first homeowners moved into Sun City West.

Not only were tastes in music different then, so were plans for Sun City West.

When construction began in Sun City West in 1978, the 13,000-acre community was projected to have houses for 64,000 residents, three recreation centers and five golf courses.

It was envisioned to be a larger version of Del Webb's original retirement community — Sun City — which started in 1960.

But the recession in the early 1980s prompted Webb officials to reduce those plans. The developer sold more than half of the land planned for Sun City West, leaving 5,700 acres for 25,000 residents.

It wasn't until 1992 that Webb bought more land to add to Sun City West. Another 1,300 acres to accommodate about 6,100 residents was purchased north of Deer Valley

Drive.

To Ed and Clarice Uhl, Sun City West has been a paradise.

"I don't want to ever live any place else," said Clarice Uhl. "Everything looks so new. The people are so friendly and nice."

The Uhls and Luman and Mary Wick were the first residents. They received keys to their homes on Oct. 16, 1978. One year later, the community had 1,200 residents. Homes ranged from \$53,000 to \$102,000.

Today, 23,000 residents call Sun City West home. When the community is completed, there will be about 32,000 residents in 17,000 homes. Home prices have increased to between \$80,000 and \$215,000.

There are three recreation centers and a fourth center will open in April. The community's sixth golf course will open later this fall, and a seventh course is being planned.

Although Sun City West follows the Sun City concept of an active lifestyle, there are some differences between communities.

The biggest difference is that Sun City was built using neighborhood themes. Each neighborhood has its shopping and recreation area.

In Sun City West, there is a central core of recreation  
See PRIDE, Page 3



Deirdre Hamill / Staff photographer  
"I don't want to ever live any place else," says Clarice Uhl of Sun City West. "The people are so friendly and nice." Uhl and her husband, Ed, were among the first residents of the development when it opened in 1978.

# PRIDE

From Page 1

and commercial centers with satellite centers in neighborhoods.

Stucco and tile roofs are the norm in Sun City West as opposed to more brick and asphalt shingle roofs in Sun City.

As new homes have gone up in Sun City West, the Uhls have been enticed to move. They've bought several homes over the years.

Their latest home, which they moved into in January, is on the 17th hole of the Hillcrest Golf Course. The house was partially customized by Ed Uhl, a retired fraud investigator, who redesigned the kitchen, den and both bedrooms.

John Meeker, who was president of Del Webb Development Co. from 1966 to 1981, said he's proud of the success of Sun City and Sun City West.

"We must be doing something right because we're selling a lot of homes," said Meeker, who has a street named for him in Sun City West.

+ Sun City West led Webb's home sales in the 1992-93 fiscal year with 1,031 sales.

To celebrate Sun City West's birthday, 15 days of festivities are planned. Cake-cutting ceremonies will be at 1 p.m. at the R.H. Johnson, Kuentz and Beardsley recreation centers.

The Voice of Sun City West

# THE WESTER

"Every community, no matter how large or small, needs its own voice." Ann.

Vol. 9 No. 41

SUN CITY WEST, ARIZONA

Oct. 7-13, 1993

# Happy 15th Sun City West!

## The Aging Of Sun City West: 15 Years Later

By Jack Hawn

The date was Oct. 16, 1978, a special day in a mostly barren patch of desert 14 miles north-west of Phoenix.

As the rising sun slowly turned night into day, early signs of construction were silhouetted against the sky, but evidence of man's labors was skimpy, and roaming people were scarce.

Still, it was time to haul out the record books, to mark the official entry, ready or not.

And so, the unveiling took place. A sprawling parcel of weed-infested land once known as Lizard Acres officially became Sun City West, the newest adult community under the banner of the Del E. Webb Development Co.

There were no bands, no parade, no open houses. All of that would come later. But for company Pres. John Meeker, Recreation Center Pres. Bill Woodyard and the first residents of Sun City West, it was a day to be remembered.

Prominent in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were the first homeowners, Luman Wick and his wife Mary and Clarice Uhl. Her husband Edward was unable to attend because of recent foot surgery.

Envisioning the potential growth of Sun City West and the residents' expected lifestyle, patterned after that of Sun City homeowners, two miles to the East, Meeker delivered a glowing speech about the community's

future.

"For several months we have been developing facilities," he said. "Now this new community will begin developing personality because people make the community."

Webb officials predicted a SCW population of 30 by the end of the month and gave a progress report on construction of houses and apartments, projecting that 900 units would be finished by the end of 1978.

Presumably, the quotas were met.

Also under construction at the time: Johnson Recreation Center, the 7,169-seat Sundome, 19 model homes, the Crestview Restaurant and two golf courses.

"The growth of the community and the recreation centers has been amazing," Woodyard commented the other day. "At the time, I didn't think we would have six rec center golf courses and I didn't foresee a rec center like Palm Ridge (under construction) with that kind of elegance, that kind of grandeur."

"Two indoor swimming pools and one outdoor pool with an air-conditioned walking track surrounding them, that's kind of big."

Through the years, Webb fact sheets seemingly have listed every turn of a shovel, every fresh blueprint, in charting the remarkable growth of SCW.

Some early numbers:

--Phase I, a 5,697 tract will include approximately 17,000

housing units and about 32,500 residents.

- Six 18-hole golf courses.
- Three recreation centers
- A central shopping center.
- A fire station.
- At least 10 churches.
- The 7,169-seat Sundome.
- Medical facilities.

--The library with its six-story bell tower "that will become a major Arizona landmark."

The list of amenities described in detail what residents could expect and approximately when they would materialize.

"Construction costs, including all facilities, are expected to exceed \$1 billion," according to one publicity handout. "The community is expected to create approximately 55,880 jobs for 15 Years Later"

Continued on Page 2



Ken Meade

SCW NEWS

# The Aging of Sun City West: 15 Years Later

Continued from Page 1

Valley residents, income from those jobs exceeding \$706 million."

Whether those figures proved accurate is difficult to determine, but, clearly, 15 years and 4,475 sunrises later, give or take a few, the numbers definitely have changed dramatically in some instances.

And the building boom continues as the population swells, now reported at 22,000 plus.

About 13,000 houses have been built in the 7,100-acre community. When the project is completed near the turn of the century, it's expected 31,000 residents will occupy 17,000 housing units.

As has been well-documented, SCW's eighth golf course is scheduled to open within a few

months and the fourth recreation center, Palm Ridge, is expected to open in April.

The Phoenix Diocese has purchased land to build another Catholic church, and funds have been approved for a new post office as well.

Meanwhile, home sales are booming.

According to a recent published report, during the first six months of this year, SCW accounted for almost 70% of new-home sales among the top five retirement projects in the West Valley.

The report further stated that during that period, Del Webb sold 454 new homes, 354 more than its closest competitor.

Prices of new homes in SCW range from \$75,200 to \$214,900,

with residential square footage of 1,100 to 2,900. Golf-course homesite prices vary, some exceeding \$100,000.

Compare these figures with 1978 prices:

A model called the Apomatox, with two bedrooms, one bath and a patio, sold for \$52,990. The highest priced house, the Dauphine, with three bedrooms, two baths, dining room, Arizona room and a covered lanai, went for \$101,990. An "A" lot on a golf course in 1978 was listed at \$15,990.

The least expensive garden apartment was a one-bedroom, one-bath unit with a covered lanai for \$53,490.

"Model homes have become more upscale," said Ken Meade, a SCW resident and former Del

Webb employee who now heads Ken Meade Realty in the Sun Cities. "In 1978 most all had shingled roofs. Now, I believe, almost all have tile roofs.

"Vaulted ceilings were virtually not there in '78, and Webb has become much more environmentally conscious."

Meade said resale prices have held up "very well" in Sun City West, despite an excess of inventory three years ago.

Meade, who worked for the Del Webb company from 1974 to 1982, said only 175 single-family homes and only 40 duplexes are currently on the resale market in SCW. The average time listed before being sold: 84 days.

"It was almost six months three years ago," he said. "It's a good market now. They sell relatively close to the asking price."

Meade, who lives on recently resurfaced Meeker Boulevard, said he is a "staunch supporter of Webb," but he has one criticism about the community, its streets.

"They're bumpy. They're terrible," he said. "Other than the streets, the place is fantastic.

## Events set for SCW anniversary

SUN CITY WEST — Fifteen days of special events are planned in celebration of Sun City West's 15th birthday.

The Rhythm Tappers will kick off the festivities at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Stardust Theater, 14401 R.H. Johnson Blvd. Dancers clad in colorful costumes will perform 22 numbers. Doors open at 10 a.m., and seating is on space available basis.

A cake-cutting ceremony will be at 1 p.m. at the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center arts and crafts village, 19803 R.H. Johnson Blvd. Chuck Roach, Del Webb Corp. executive vice president, and Al Spanjer, Sun City West governing board president, will be on hand.

From 1 to 3 p.m., Sun City West's three recreation centers will offer cake, punch and entertainment compliments of Del Webb.

At the Kuentz Recreation Center, entertainment will be provided by Theatre West, the Organ and Keyboard Club, the Musicians Club and the Westernaires Chorus. Dr. Sasparilla's Red Hot Jazz Band will play by the Kuentz pool from 3 to 5 p.m.

At the Beardsley Recreation Center ramadas, 12755 Beardsley Drive., crowds will be entertained by the Canyon State Western Band.

The Starlighters dance band will play at the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center from 1 to 3 p.m.

Various Sun City West community clubs and organizations will join the celebration by sponsoring special events and open houses Sunday through Oct. 30.

Highlights include:

■ Several churches will hold volunteer recognition events during Hope, Health and Hospitals weekend. The event is sponsored by the Sun Cities Ministerial Association, the Sun Health Foundation and Sun Health Auxiliary volunteers.

■ Sun City West Property Owners and Residents Association, 13851 Camino del Sol Blvd., is hosting open houses for residents to meet elected officials. County Supervisor Ed King will be available from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday. Sen. Austin Turner, R-Waddell; Rep. Ned King, R-Litchfield Park; and Rep. Jerry Overton, R-Litchfield Park, will talk to residents from 9 to 10 a.m. Oct. 27.

■ Arizona Attorney General Grant Woods will speak at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 25 about the "senior advocacy program" at the Interfaith Day Care Center, 14465 R.H. Johnson Blvd.

■ The opening reception for artist Eugene Tsasi will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday in Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's lobby where his works are displayed.

■ Energetic exercise will be demonstrated at 7:45 a.m. Monday, Oct. 22, Oct. 25 and Oct. 29 at the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center's social hall.

■ Sun City West Foundations' Coney Island Hot Dog Day will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 28. It will benefit the Nadaburg School District. Cost is \$2.50. Canned goods and sports goods to donate also are requested.

A special anniversary salute

# Sun City West celebrates 15 years

## 1978-1993

### Residents recall original development Plans called for community north and south of Grand Avenue

By ANNE RYMAN  
Sun Cities Independent

**INDEPENDENT**

September 29, 1993

**Inside**



- Anniversary events planned.....Page B2
- Pioneers recall early days.....Page B1
- History of Rec Centers.....Page B6
- Sun City West Club News.....Page B4
- SC West Calendar.....Page B7

#### News briefs

##### SCW Posse sponsors Block Watch

The Sun City West Posse will hold a Block Watch organizational meeting 2 p.m. Oct. 7 at the Sun City West Posse building, 20450 Stardust Blvd.

Call 584-5808.

The majority of the community's residents do not participate in a Block Watch program.

When Roger and Althea Curfman moved to Sun City West 14 years ago from California, R.H. Johnson Boulevard was a two-lane road, they had one neighbor on Whispering Oaks Drive and coyotes were a common site in their yard.

Early settlers such as Mr. Curfman, considered 'pioneers' by community standards, have plenty of memories of the development that is now one of the country's largest retirement communities.

Many pioneers remember Sun City West when its main attractions — the recreation centers and golf courses — still were under construction and not open to residents.

"Johnson Pool was open but there was no place to shop. Bell Road was a lot thinner then and there wasn't much on it until you got to 107th and Bell, which is where we got groceries," Mr. Curfman recalls.

The commercial core along R.H. Johnson Boulevard, Meeker Boulevard and Camino del Sol was desert and Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, now a familiar landmark to residents and visitors, had yet to be built.

"I moved here when Johnson Rec Center was started but not completed. It was very desert-looking," says Ann O'Connor, who moved to the community in 1979

community. With an estimated 22,666 residents and 12,500 homes, the community with the recent addition of an a 1,320-acre expansion will have about 17,000 homes and 32,000 people upon completion later this century.

By now, the Sun City West expansion is a familiar site to residents in the community.

Acres of desert along what used to be the northern edge of the community have been replaced by palm trees, filled with lakes and dotted with developing homes.

The expansion site near Deer

Valley Drive between 131st and 151st avenues is expected to add 3,400 homes and 6,000 residents to the community by 1998.

The expansion will include the championship Deer Valley Golf Course, an as-yet-unnamed executive golf course located in the western portion of the expansion area and the Palm Ridge Recreation Center, a 51,000 square foot facility that will include two indoor pools, an outdoor resort-style pool, indoor jogging track and fitness center.

Ever since Del Webb officials

announced plans for expansion in 1991, the project has met mixed reviews from residents. Some residents, concerned the additional residents will overcrowd recreation centers and golf courses in the existing community, formed the watchdog organization Citizens Alert Group to look into the concerns. In addition, some people complained they were told when they moved to the community it would be limited to 25,000 people.

Original plans for Sun City West called for a much larger community than today's projected 32,000

population. In addition to the 5,700 acres north of Bell Road and east of Grand Avenue, Del Webb owned 7,300 acres of land southwest of Grand Avenue for a planned Phase II.

Between 1983 and 1986, however, the company sold off Phase II in a series of land transactions to raise cash for its Sun City developments in Tucson and Las Vegas. Had the company proceeded with original plans, the community would range from 50,000 to 70,000 people.

Since 1978, much has changed. Following is a look back at a few of the significant events in Sun City West's history.

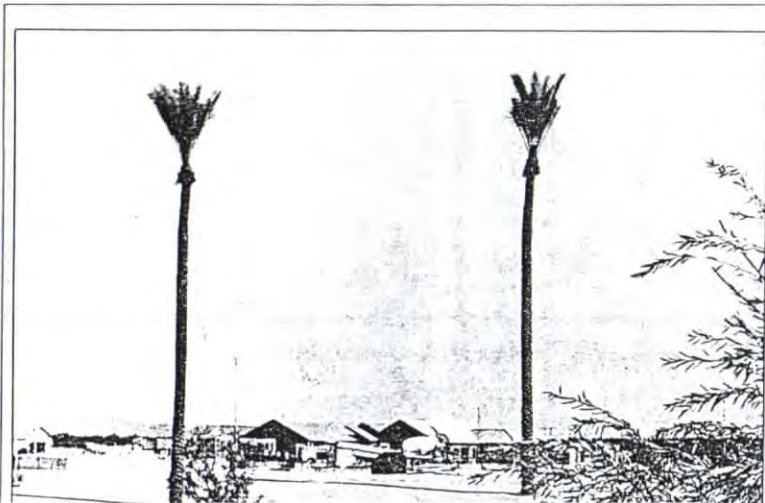
Oct. 16, 1978- Sun City West opens.

John Meeker, Del E. Webb Development Co. president, serves as master of ceremonies.

He tells a crowd of 500 that attitudes toward senior citizens have changed.

"Society is taking a new, fresh look at the elderly. Sun City's message is getting through" about an active new way of life where retirees can "enjoy life to the fullest."

Del Webb officials estimate the population of Sun City West will reach 30 by the month's end, although construction still continues in the area. Under construction in Phase I are 1,191 homes, 302 garden apartments and 326 vacation apartments. Workers





10,385 do not have such a program in their neighborhoods.

### PORA slates

#### October meeting

The Property Owners and Residents Association will meet 9 a.m. Oct. 5 in the PORA building, 13815 Camino del Sol. Meetings are open to residents.

### SCW Foundation seeks new directors

The Sun City West Foundation is looking for candidates to serve three-year terms on its board of directors.

Anyone interested should contact Pat Duros at 584-5096 for information.

The foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of charitable and educational volunteer agencies in the community.

It built and maintains the Community Services Center at 14465 R.H. Johnson Blvd.

### R.H. Johnson Pool to close in October

The R.H. Johnson Swimming Pool will be closed from Oct. 4 for fiberglass application. The pool is expected to re-open Oct. 29.

### Outdoor concerts resume at Beardsley

The Recreation Centers of Sun City West, Inc. will resume its open-air concert series this fall with a performance by Affinity.

The five-piece band will perform favorites from the '50's, '60's and '70's during a program planned 7 p.m. Oct. 5 at Beardsley Park Recreation Center.

Those who attend are asked to bring their own chair or blanket.

Admission is free. Call 584-2052.

here to visit they were sort of disappointed by the looks of the place. It was so desolate. We had plantings in the front yard, but they were very small. Then when they came back three years later, everything was green and looked nice."

As well as the landscape of the community, the makeup of the people was different as well, with many of the residents forming a close-knit small community.

"There were only a few hundred people here and we knew everyone. We met at the Johnson Pool every day and had a great time," says Mort Leeper, a community activist who moved to Sun City West from Ohio in 1979.

Early resident had to travel two miles west to Sun City for shopping, gas and medical services. Like other residents who came after them, they had to become accustomed to the sister community's winding streets.

"A month after we arrived my husband had to be in Boswell Hospital. I said I know how to get here, but I don't know how to get home so the nurse drew a diagram," Ms. O'Connor says.

Perhaps best known for its variety of social, recreational activities and clubs today, this wasn't always so, says Sol Robinson, who along with his wife, Florence, was one of the first 50 families to move to Sun City West in 1978.

He helped organize clubs that are still in existence today — the Sun City West Pioneers club, the Jewish Social Club and the Crestview Riders, a bicycle club.

It is these recreational and social activities Mr. Robinson finds so appealing about the retirement community today.

"There's a lot to do and the activities offered here are tremendous. I play tennis, belong to the bike club, lapidary, silver craft, and I've been through other clubs also. The activities are great and you can choose which ones you want. And if you don't want to do anything, you don't."

Mr. Robinson says he only has one other wish: cooler summers.

But hot summers have not stopped people from moving to the

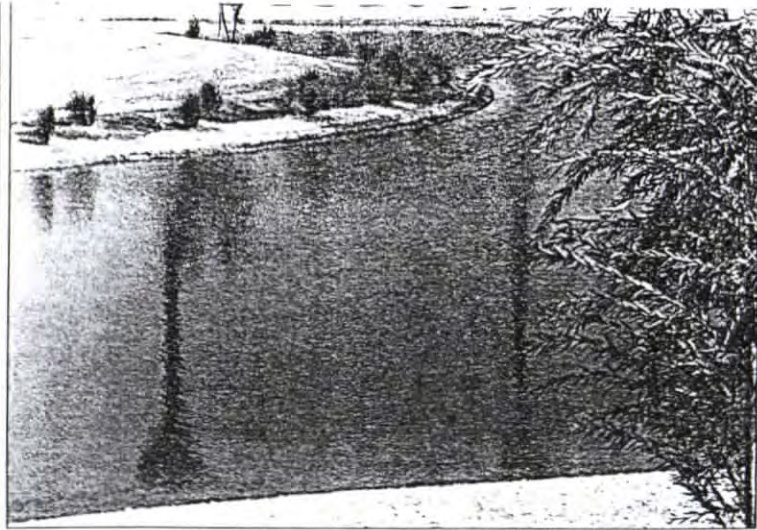


Photo by TYSON KUHRIT/Sun City West Independent

## Fifteen years old and still growing strong

Del Webb Corp has sold 269 homes in the Sun City West expansion, a 1,320-acre piece of land near Deer Valley Drive between 135th and 151st avenues, with development expected to last until 1998. The first residents moved into their homes in early August.

# Early settlers

## Pioneers look back at first days of Sun City West

By ANNE RYMAN  
Sun Cities Independent

They may not have traveled in covered wagons, cooked their dinner over fires or built their homes out of logs, but a small group of Sun City West residents are considered pioneers nonetheless.

Like the early pioneers of the Old West, they had few neighbors, no nearby shopping and were sometimes dubbed "crazy" by relatives for leaving their homes to live in the middle of the desert.

It is these early experiences that bring 586 residents together three times a year to remember the early development of what is now one of the largest retirement communities in the country.

The Sun City West Pioneers club is made up of residents who moved to the community

during its beginning stages of growth — Oct. 16, 1978 through Dec. 31 1979.

The club, whose membership once swelled to 700, was established in 1984 by Sun City West resident Mildred Toldrian. Ms. Toldrian, a former Sun City resident, also is credited with organizing a similar club in Sun City, the Sun City Pioneers.

The idea was an instant success, with 400 people showing up for the first meeting at the Sundome Center for the Performing Arts.

"It's basically a social group. We're interested in everything that's going on. We've been talking about (President) Clinton's health care proposal, but on the whole, it's social. We stay out of politics," Club President Richard Hymes says.

Members meet twice a year for luncheons and once a year for an organized coffee hour.

"It's general conversation. We talk about

those who aren't here anymore but also about the progress of the community," says member Ann O'Connor, who moved to the community in 1979 from Connecticut.

What was once a few hundred people inhabiting a rather remote desert area has swelled to an established community of 22,666 residents with an estimated population of 32,000 before the end of the century.

Far more people may be eligible for the Sun City West Pioneers, but club organizers decided to close membership two years ago and limit the club to a manageable size. The membership has decreased slightly as some of the early pioneers die or move elsewhere.

Along with Mr. Hymes, the club has a board that includes Frieda Schwartz as secretary, Virginia Kelso as vice president, Helen Daniel as treasurer, Catherine Holst as historian and Emma Koos as publicity director.

1978- The Property Owners and Residents Association was established as a volunteer membership group to look out for the community's interests.

1979- The Del Webb-owned Hillcrest Golf Course officially opens for play in February.

The Sheriff's Posse of Sun City West was founded as a non-profit organization to be the "eyes and ears" of the sheriff.

1980- Sundome Center for the Performing Arts, a 7,169-seat indoor venue opens. It remains the largest single-level theater in the United States.

PORA starts a consumer service division.

1982- Sun City West's first fire station at 19001 Camino del Sol is dedicated. Del Webb establishes a 'rumor control center' to respond to residents' concerns.

1983- Del Webb Corp. begins  
See ■ SUN CITY WEST, P. B2

# SUN CITY WEST

From Page 1

selling land south of Grand Avenue originally intended for a Phase II of Sun City West.

A Church-building boom begins.

1984- Grandview Golf Course opens for play. Del Webb donates the Sundome to Arizona State University. Work begins on Briarwood Golf Course.

1985- Beardsley Park Recreation Center, the community's second recreation center, opens in June. Nearby Sun City celebrates its 25th Anniversary. Ground is broken for the Del Webb Hospital. First two women elected as PORA directors. Del Webb donates land for a future Community Services Building and Sheriff's Posse of Sun City West building.

1986- The Madison House retirement complex is under construction.

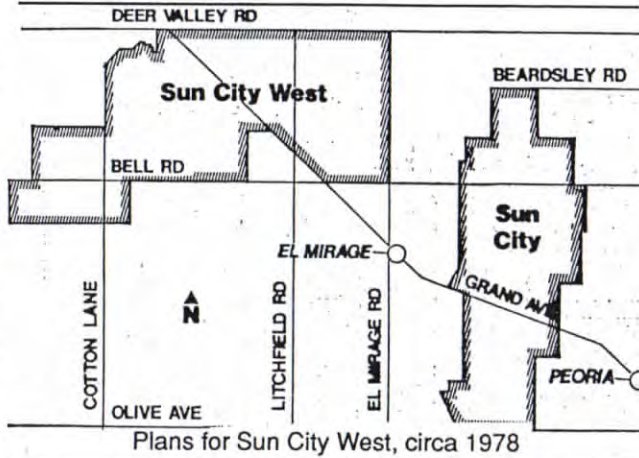
Echo Mesa Golf Course opens.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society forms to chronicle the development of Sun City and Sun City West.

1987- The Sun City West Foundation builds a 10,000-square-foot building at 14465 R.H. Johnson Boulevard to house the Lending Hands.

1988- The Sun City West Foundation adds a 10,000-square-foot addition containing meeting rooms space, space for Sun City West Prides and the Sun City West Thrift Shop.

1989- The Fred P. Kuentz Recreation Center opened in January 1989, named after former Del Webb Development Co. chairman.



An incorporation drive begins in the community and an incorporation effort later fails when put to a community vote.

1990- Target date of December 1992 established for residents to take control of the Recreation Centers of Sun City West. Groundbreaking held for Stardust Fire Station, the community's second fire station.

1991-Del Webb Corp. announces plans for an expansion along the northern boundary of the community.

The Sun City West Foundation expands another 10,000 square feet for the Community Fund, Volunteer Bureau of the Sun Cities and Interfaith Services Adult Day Health Center.

1992- Del Webb Corp. breaks ground for a 1,320-acre expansion of the community in August. R.H. Johnson and Kuentz recreation centers undergo additions and remodeling in preparation for the expansion.

Congress allocates \$5 million for a Sun City West Post Office, ending a long campaign by the Property Owners and Residents Association for a separate, full-service facility. Shuffleboard players protest the cut of five indoor courts.

1993- The Sun City West Fire District decides to drop Rural/Metro Corp. and establish its own fire department and ambulance service effective July 1, 1994. Del Webb gives the fire district \$500,000 for a third fire station in the expansion area of the community.

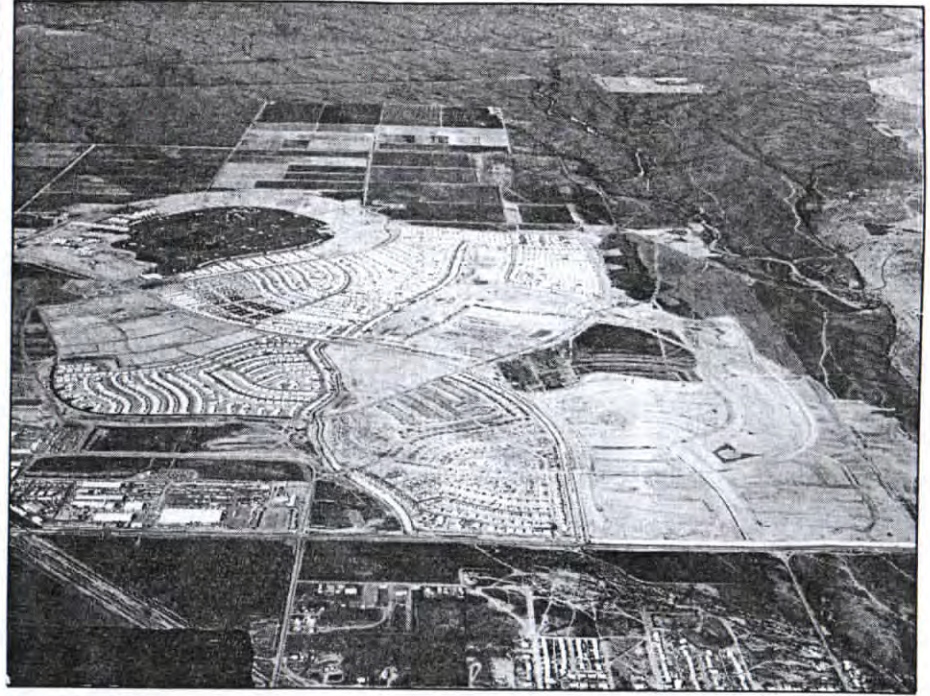
## Fire, police protection provided to community

Sun City West is patrolled by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. A group of volunteers, the Sheriff's Posse of Sun City West, serve as "eyes and ears" of the sheriff, directing traffic, patrolling the community and reporting suspicious activity to deputies.

The community is now served by Rural/Metro Corp. for its fire and ambulance service.

As of July 1, 1994, however, it will establish its own department and ambulance services. Fire

## In the beginning ..



Shots taken from the air clearly document the progress Sun City West has made from 1979 to the present. Dirt fields developed into hundreds of homes and facilities.

A location for the future Sun City West Post office is established at the corner of Camino del Sol and Meeker Boulevard.

Smoking is banned inside recreation centers.

The resident-elected Advisory Board takes over: the Governing Board, the decision-making body of the association.

1994- Palm Ridge Recreation Center, the community's fourth recreation center, will open in

April and the Deer Valley Golf Course will open this year as well.

1995- Sun City West Post Office expected to open by February.

Board officials made the decision to have a separate department earlier this year, citing increased costs of providing service to the community.

The community has two fire stations and a third is planned for the expansion area.

As part of the agreement to add Del Webb Corp.'s 1,320-acre expansion area to the district, Del Webb agreed to give the district \$500,000 for a new fire station and two acres of land.

# Westers gather to celebrate area's 10th birthday

By CHRISTINE SELIGA  
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY WEST — More than 1,000 people gathered at Hillcrest Golf Course Thursday afternoon to celebrate the 10th birthday of Sun City West.

From 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Westers were treated to birthday cake, entertainment and a live broadcast of the Channel 10 news from the scene of the party.

The crowd also was addressed by Del Webb Communities Inc. executives.

"We're very proud of what's been accomplished here in Sun City West. Very few companies can boast that they built the 8,906 homes here in Sun City West," said Paul Tatz, president

and chief executive officer of Del Webb Communities.

Chuck Roach, general manager of Sun City West, told the people there are still 3,500 homes left to build in the community.

"We're going to build every one of them and we'll still be out here for years to come," he said.

Some Westers reminisced

about the early days of the community, which was built on land that used to be known as Lizard Gulch. Acres

Marcellina Markunas and her husband moved to Sun City West in January of 1979 after trying Tucson and Sun City.

"We were looking for a Del Webb-type of community, a retirement type of community and it had everything required for a comfortable lifestyle," Markunas said.

Back then there were few roads, no stores and the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center was still being built.

Markunas said the original settlers bore the inconveniences because they knew "Del Webb always gets the job done rapidly."

Markunas said the climate is excellent for her hobby, growing flowers.

"I think I'm satisfied here for the rest of my life," she said.

Jeanne Szel moved from Ohio to Sun City West nine years ago with her husband and mother.

"I used to drive the icy streets and I don't miss that one bit," she said.

The first year the Szels were in Sun City West, they stayed one month and they were the only people living on their street. Szel said Webb compensated for the lack of amenities by providing special activities for early residents.

Wester Ralph Estrem also attended the party. He moved to Sun City West six years ago from Minnesota and said he now wouldn't think about living anywhere else.

"You should try asking me what I don't like and I wouldn't

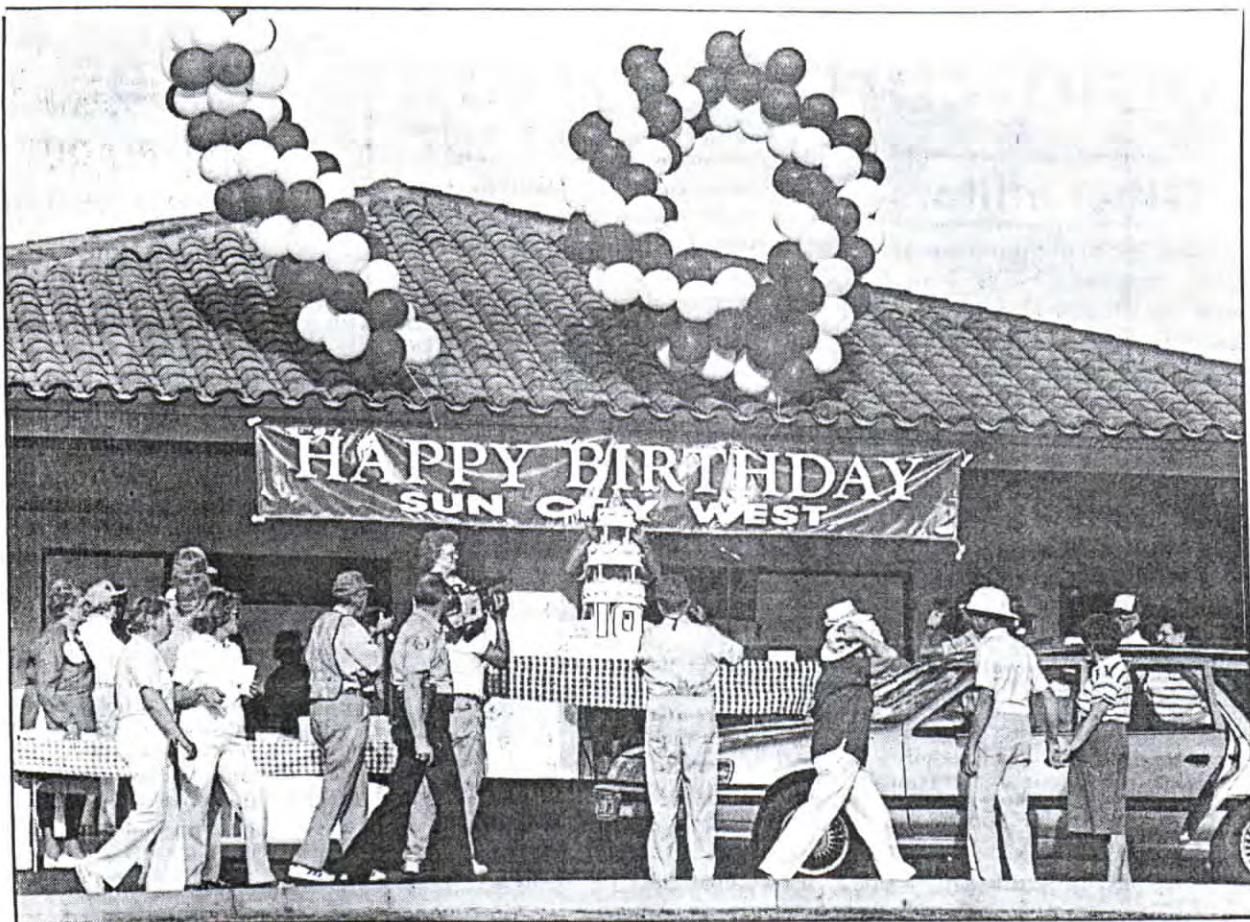
have much to say," Estrem said.

Jan Thomas, president of the Sun City West Jazzettes, moved to Sun City West four years ago from Wyoming.

She said she was attracted by

the neatness and tidiness of the community and the fact the Sundome with its great entertainment is so close.

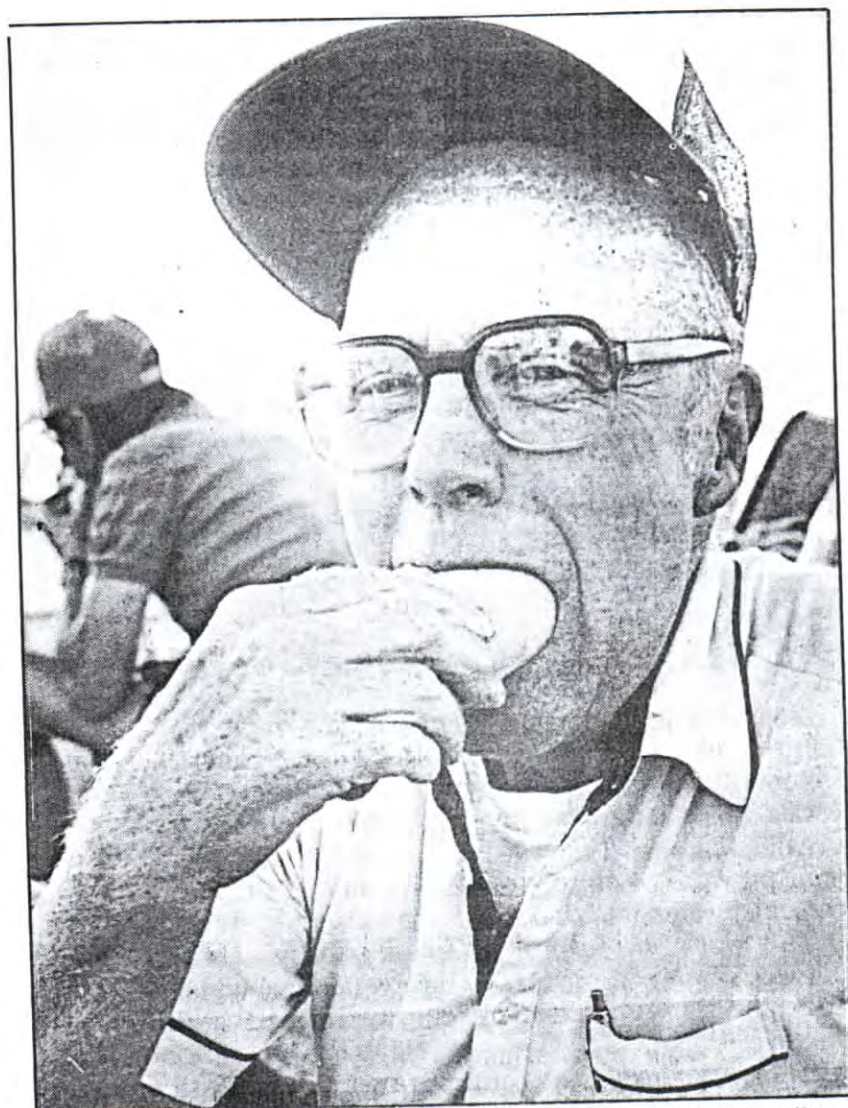
"And it beats Wyoming in the wintertime," Thomas said.



News-Sun photo by Mollie J. Hoppes

**CELEBRATING** — Photographers break out the cameras with the unveiling of the 10th anniversary cake at Hillcrest Golf

Course Thursday afternoon. An estimated crowd of 5,000 folks gathered to eat, drink, and dance.



News-Sun photo by Mollie J. Hoppes

**UM UM GOOD** — Vern Johnson of Sun City West enjoys a hot dog before the entertainment begins.

SCW

# SCW turns 10

By **CHRISTINE SELIGA**  
News-Sun staff

**SUN CITY WEST** — The second of the Del Webb Corporation's planned recreation retirement communities, Sun City West, can boast strong home sales at a time when the housing market in the Valley is in a lull.

The community opened in October, 1978. It is 12 ½ miles west of I-17 on Bell Road. It is just west of its sister community Sun City. There are entrances to the community on Bell Road, El Mirage Road and Grand Avenue.

When the community is completed there will be about 13,000 houses and duplexes on 5,705 acres of land and a population of 25,000. Development costs will exceed \$1 billion. Currently 9,100 units have been built and the population is about 17,500.

The community is patterned after the active retirement lifestyle developed in Sun City, said Del Webb Communities spokesperson Martha Moyer.

"Basically it's an unparalleled lifestyle. There are few other developers that are willing to put the money into a community that Del Webb does," she said.

People from all over the country and the world are attracted to the community because of its quality of life and the reputation of Webb as a builder, Moyer said.

Because of the diverse nature of the people who come to live in Sun City West it's like a melting pot and they are all very friendly, she said.

## **PORA: Unified voice of SCW**

The Property Owners and Residents Association is the largest homeowners group in the community with about 7,000 members.

"At this point we're the only unified voice in the community," said past PORA president Sandy Goldstein.

Twelve religious organizations meet in their own house of worship or in community rooms. Sun City West has a library, two recreation centers and six golf courses. A third recreation center and seventh golf course are still being built.

The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital with a 203 bed capacity opened in the community in January 1988.

Residents can join Briarwood Country Club.

Many community groups like the Sun City West Prides and the Sun City West Posse help keep Sun City West clean and safe.

There are over 150 clubs in the community that people can join to learn how to weave or reminisce with people from their native state. And there are numerous opportunities for volunteers.

Sun City West's Sundome—the largest single-level theater in the country—seats over 7,000 people and features performers like Wayne Newton, travel lectures and concerts by local performing groups.

## **Webb board governs**

**SUN CITY WEST** — The Recreation Centers of Sun City West control 82 clubs, two swimming pools, 23 tennis courts and four golf courses, four lawn bowling greens, two mini-golf courses

and a 24-lane bowling alley. And the recreation centers will be adding another recreation center and golf course this year.

The centers became a non-profit organization in 1979. It's purpose is to acquire, construct, manage and maintain property for the benefit of the residents. It fits into the overall plan of Del E. Webb for a recreational retirement community.

Association management is split into three division: golf, bowling and recreation centers divisions.

Members pay a \$96 annual membership fee. Annual golf permits are \$545. A \$1 per round golf reserve fund fee and \$1 per round fee to offset operational expenses are also charged. Bowling costs \$1.10 per line.

Policies for operating the centers are established by a three-member governing board of Del Webb officials. The governing board now consists of Ken Parker, senior vice president of residential sales, John McGee, Sun City West assistant general manager and Al Fahey, administration director.

The policies set are followed by the recreation centers general manager Bill Woodyard and his staff of 119 full-time and 109 part-time workers who work for the centers.

"Fundamentally we are here to serve the interests of the residents," said Woodyard.

## **Resident advisory board**

The Recreation Centers Advisory Board is a group of nine residents who are elected to three year terms and work with the governing board on issues of running the recreation centers. Elections for three new board members are held every year in December.

**The Sun City West Recreation Centers Advisory Board members are:**

Virginia Ritson, president.  
Allen Powell, vice president.  
Tom Cunningham, treasurer.  
Jack Greenstein, secretary.  
Bill Bain.  
John Canning.  
Jesse Hall.  
Keith Hook.  
Thomas McIver.

Advisory board member Jesse Hall said that as Webb prepares for its eventual departure from the community, it is giving more responsibilities and duties to the advisory board.

"It's (the advisory board) getting more and more important all the time," said Hall.

The advisory board has helped the governing board with planning for the Kuentz recreation center for example. The board also has committees which keep track of different aspects of the recreation centers such as the golf committee and the swimming pool committee.

## **What happens after Del Webb?**

When Del Webb finishes building the community, the governing board will resign and the advisory board will become the governing board.

Until Webb leaves it will pay the recreation center association the difference between revenues and costs of operating the centers.

Because of laws in California and Webb's advertising in that state, the association had a vote in November 1988 and will have a vote in 1990 and 1992 on whether or not to keep Del Webb as manager of the recreation center. The November vote was overwhelmingly in favor of retaining Webb.

## **Asset replacement fund**

**The centers have an asset replacement fund.** It is money held in escrow for the future use of members of the recreation centers to pay for any unforeseen expenses and it can't be used until Webb relinquishes control of the recreation centers.

Webb contributes \$2 per year to the fund for each association member listed as of the end of its fiscal year, June, 30. Webb will do this until the fund reaches \$1,250,000. Eight dollars of the annual membership fee also goes into the asset replacement fund.

# HAPPY 8th BIRTHDAY SUN CITY WEST



FROM L — Del E. Webb Communities, Inc. President and CEO, **Paul Tatz**; former Chairman of the Board, **Fred Kuentz** and Recreation Centers General Manager, **Bill Woodyard** take knife to the cake at last year's birthday party.

Sun City West has come a long way since 1978, the year of its birth. It is now home to roughly 14,000 residents from all around the United States and the globe.

Join your friends and neighbors on Thursday, October 16 from 2 till 5 p.m. at the Johnson Recreation Center to celebrate Sun City West's 8th birthday.

Three bands will be on hand for your listening and dancing pleasure. A seven-piece "big band" group will perform in the Social Hall, a five-piece country and western band will play in the courtyard, and a

jazz quartet will be poolside.

Mid-afternoon, the Sun City West Synchronettes will display their grace and finesse during a water ballet performance, the Laugh-In Club will tickle your funny bones with jokes and comedic routines and members of the Sun City West Jazzercise Club will kick up their heels with vigor and vitality as part of the festivities.

And what's a party without cake and refreshments — there will be plenty for everyone. So, mark your datebook and make an afternoon of it!

# SCW marks 6th birthday

By HELEN ALLEN  
Staff Writer

Sun City West may be the kid on the block, compared to Youngtown or Sun City, but residents still had a great time Thursday celebrating the community's sixth birthday.

About a third of Sun City West's residents turned out for the party, thrown by the Del E. Webb Development Co. (Devco) at Johnson Center.

There were three parts to the affair, spread out through the social hall, patio and poolside.

Couples were doing the two-step and jitterbug, but no disco, to dance band music in the social hall and there were also those sitting it out, watching, from chairs around the walls.

On the patio, there were groups of neighbors and friends talking while a country-western group performed in the background.

More residents gathered poolside, where a jazz band was playing, but a few decided to ignore the whole thing

while sunning themselves in lounge chairs.

Devco chairman Fred Kuentz had the honor of cutting into a five-tier anniversary cake, but Westers didn't have to wait long for service. There were 30 other birthday cakes, to make sure everyone got a piece.

Recreation Centers manager Bill Woodyard told the crowd that two residents received the first home keys in October 1978 and now the community has about 6,000 homes and close to 11,000 people.

"All of us at Devco," said the firm's president, Paul Tatz, "are proud of the progress and what the future holds for Sun City West."

Tatz also announced that "home sales are good" and a celebration opening a new edition of model homes is slated Nov. 3-4.

Two more birthday celebrations are scheduled for the near future. Youngtown will be 30 years old next month and Sun City 25 in January.



Del E. Webb Development Co. chairman Fred Kuentz, right, gets a helping hand from Recreation Centers Advisory Board chairman John Roberts in cutting Sun City West's birthday cake.  
(News-Sun photo by M.J. Hoppes)

# Activities Calendar



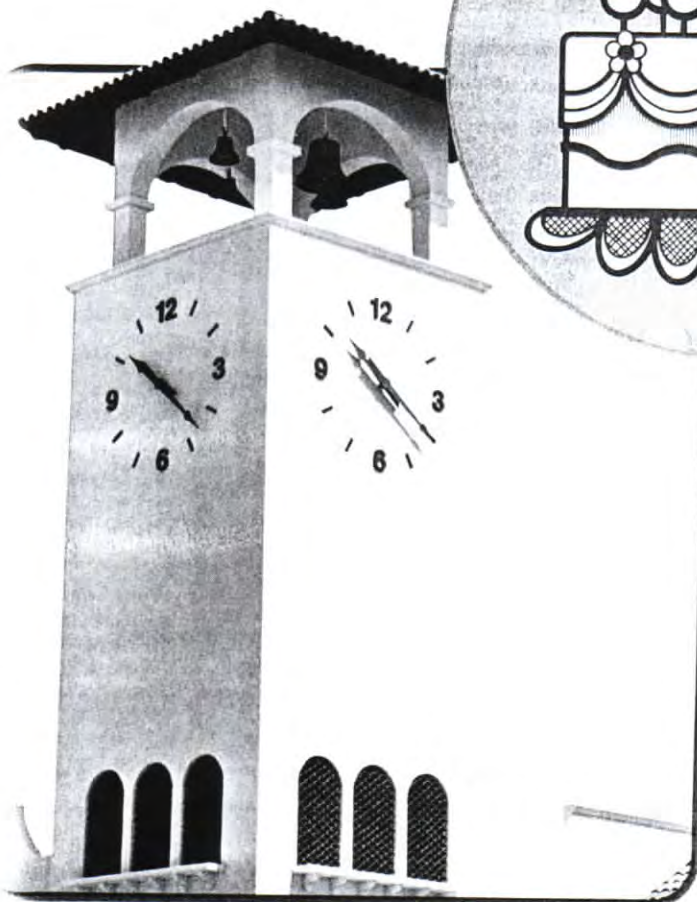
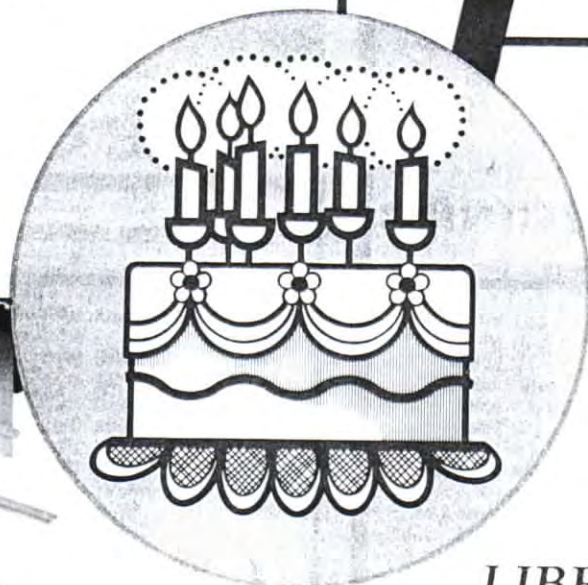
DEL E. WEBB DEVELOPMENT CO. ★ PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPT. ★ POST OFFICE BOX 1705 ★ SUN CITY WEST, ARIZONA 85372 ★ OCTOBER 1984  
 HOMES SINCE INCEPTION -- 6,005 HOMES SOLD THIS YEAR -- 598 POPULATION -- 10,869

## SCW TO CELEBRATE SIXTH BIRTHDAY OCT. 18

Sun City West's sixth birthday celebration has been set for Thursday, October 18 from 2 to 5 PM at R. H. Johnson Recreation Center. Three musical bands, birthday cake and free soft drinks are the ingredients that make this year's party a must!

The afternoon's assortment of music is sure to suit practically any taste. In the Social Hall, dancing is on the menu with a six-piece big band playing favorites from the 30's and 40's. On the patio, country and western is the specialty for all the "Nashville" folks in the crowd. At poolside, a jazz ensemble is certain to delight with the best of rhythm and blues.

This year's party is one gala you won't want to miss. We'll see you there!



## LIBRARY HOSTS SPECIAL PARTY OCT. 21

Since opening in the fall of 1979, the Sun City West Library has continued to bring residents many hours of reading pleasure. On Sunday, October 21 from 2 to 4 PM in the recreation center's Social Hall, the Sun City West Friends of the Library will host a special meeting/party in celebration of the library's fifth anniversary.

The afternoon will feature special guests from the State and Maricopa County Libraries, as well as DEVCO's donation of a \$2000 reading magnifier.

The social hour will begin at 3 PM with cake, punch and coffee being served. The afternoon's music will be provided by the Sun City West Organ and Keyboard Club.

Everyone is invited to attend.



# SCW has happy birthday this year

By HELEN ALLEN  
Staff Writer

Sun City West, stunted in growth the past couple of years because of poor economic conditions around the country, is picking up steam again as it approaches its fifth birthday celebration Saturday.

The population of the neat looking community west of the Agua Fria River has grown to about 9,500 and home construction is booming.

Plans are being made for a second recreation center, a fifth golf course, a community services center and more shopping facilities.

Five years ago, as people began moving into homes that sprung out of a former cattle feed lot, the picture was slightly different.

"It was a mess," Harry Pappas declared. "We thought, oh God, what did we get into?"

"I cried a lot," his wife, Doris, remarked.

"We greeted one another very warmly as people moved in," said Mary Wick, who with her husband, Luman, became the community's first residents.

"We thought we might be the only ones here and it will be like living in a disaster area," commented Marie Kamys. "When vans came in, we would run out and greet everyone as they moved in."

"I never saw dust blow as  
\* Westers recall, A8



Luman and Mary Wick check anniversary headlines. (News-Sun photo)

# \* Westers recall

—From A1  
much as it did the day we moved in," said Elynor Stoffer. "I told the movers to take everything back out again because I couldn't take it."

Her husband, Glen, however, suggested the furniture stay put.

"It was roughing it," said Clarice Uhl.

JOHNSON Boulevard, at the time, consisted of a single paved lane with residents having to fight construction trucks for a portion of the road.

"The streets weren't cut through and we had to drive over a mound to get home," said Pappas.

Pappas mentioned that when he was driving home one evening a security guard stopped him and announced, "no one lives here."

"HE HAD to follow me home for proof," the Sun City West pioneer remarked.

There were no sidewalks, street lights, telephones, walls, recreation facilities, golf courses or stores and very few people who were quickly learning about caliche.

Pappas recalled: "It was dirty and dusty with a lot of construction going on and no landscaping."

NIGHTS WERE remembered as "very dark" and "a little scary."

To add to the inconveniences, heavy rains washed out Bell Road during the community's first winter.

A story in the Oct. 17, 1978, edition of the News-Sun notes the Del E. Webb Development Co. was ex-

pecting Sun City West's population to reach 30 by the end of the month.

THE SAME story reported that house keys were turned over to the community's first residents—Mr. and Mrs. Luman Wick and Clarice Uhl—the previous day, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Leonard Uhl, who was recuperating from a foot operation, couldn't attend the ceremony. The surgery also delayed the couple's move from Sun City to Sun City West for about three months.

On the day the two keys were turned over, there were 1,191 homes, 302 garden apartments and 326 vacation apartments under construction. Work was also started on Johnson Center, the Sundome, Crestview Restaurant and two golf courses.

PEBBLEBROOK, the community's first golf course, opened in August 1979. Johnson Center was completed in October 1979.

The first homes went up on Maplewood, Desert Glen and Copperwood.

For amusement, the Pappases, who moved

here from California, said they did a lot of sightseeing around the state while also getting their home settled and the landscaping in.

THE WICKS, who came from Kansas, also took short trips and visited nearby relatives.

Edward Kamys did a lot of sidewalk supervising at building sites while his wife, Marie, greeted newcomers to the community. The former Chicago residents also got a kick out of counting homes under construction.

The Stoffers, who came from Missouri, helped start an interim church with a tiny congregation of 15. Services were conducted by visiting Sun City ministers.

TO HELP make up for a lack of activities, Devco arranged coffees, holiday parties, short trips around the state and transportation to Phoenix Suns basketball games.

While looking back at the pioneering days with a little fondness now, all said they enjoyed watching the community grow.

"It's absolutely amazing what has been accomplished in five years," Mrs. Uhl remarked.

OVER

# Early settlers <sup>BCH</sup>



GLEN, ELEANOR STOFFER



LEONARD, CLARICE UHL



HARRY, DORIS PAPPAS



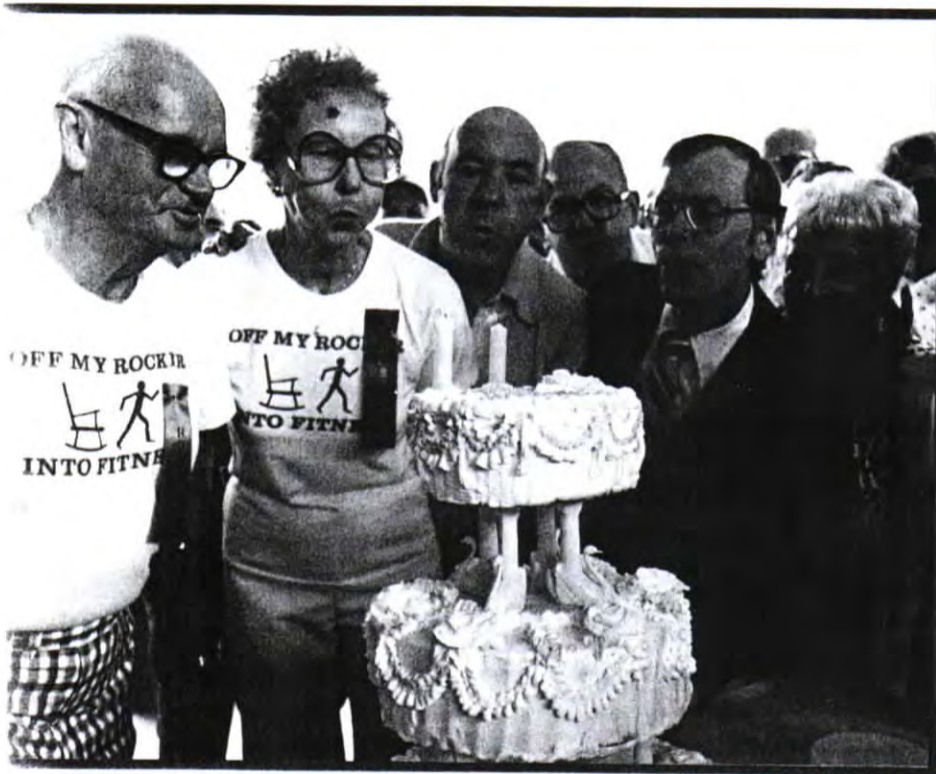
EDWARD, MARIE KAMYS

# Sun City West

## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

© E. Webb Development Co. ★ Public Relations Dept. ★ P.O. Box 1705 ★ Sun City, Arizona 85372 ★ November, 1980

### Happy 2nd Birthday Westers!



*Hundreds of Sun City Westers turned out for the festivities marking the second birthday of the community on Saturday, October 18. Amidst the strolling mariachis by the pool, or the Desert City Six jazz band, the two big candles got blown out and all shared in the cake... most ate it, but some found wearing it more fun!*



# Sun City West celebrates first birthday



Sun City West—thriving community

## ***Big bash set for Westers on Saturday***

Sun City West will celebrate its first birthday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday at the Johnson Recreation Center.

Coffee, cookies and entertainment will be provided for celebrating Westers. The Statesmen will entertain at the Crestview Restaurant and the Arizonans will play at the Rec Center Social Hall as residents dance from 8 - 11 p.m. Cake and coffee will be served at 9:30 p.m.

The celebration, sponsored by the Del Webb Development Corp., also marks the grand opening of the rec center in Sun City West. Bowling and billiards demonstrations are featured.

Turn to pages 4,5C for a nostalgic look at Sun City West's first year of existence.

POPULATION REACHES 3,100 IN ONE YEAR

# Sun City West thrives on desert scene

By KATHIE PRICE  
Staff Writer

Since its inception on paper in 1976, Sun City West has blossomed from 31,000 acres of desert, cotton fields, and cow pastures into a community of close to 3,100 active retired people.

Sun City West residents will be celebrating the community's first birthday this week. It's been one year since the first residents moved into new homes. But it was much earlier that Sun Citians first heard of their newest neighbors.

John Meeker, president of Del Webb Development Corp., presented master plans for the community west of Sun City at a December 1976 meeting of the Sun City-Lakeview Rotary club. At the time he looked toward beginning front end site work in summer 1977.

IN JUNE 1977 maps were being prepared for county approval, but Webb had a pretty fair idea of what would be built. Meeker said Sun City West water would come from 10 wells on the site. The wells were being used for irrigation at the time. Meeker also anticipated the recreation association in SCW would own and operate the golf courses "from the very outset."

The projected opening of the SunDome was to be the grand opening day of Sun City West.

In October 1977, with 60 homes being completed weekly in Sun City, Meeker announced he hoped to be

building 100 units a week in Sun City West—a weekly income of \$5 million for the corporation. Even at that time Meeker had targeted October 1978 for first occupancy in the new homes.

January 1979 was proposed for the opening of the first shopping center and fall 1978 was planned for the recreation center. But by October Webb had pushed the shopping center date back to fall 1979. The SunDome was rescheduled for the last quarter of 1979 completion.

AFTER several months of studies and discussions, the Maricopa Board of Supervisors approved Webb's master plan for Sun City West on Dec. 5, 1977. The proposal included a sewage treatment plant to be completed in December 1979. Estimated cost of Phase I was \$817 million.

By February 1978 Webb was seeking zoning changes for the project, asking for residential zoning for 616.7 acres plus zoning for a shopping area, the SunDome and two restaurants.

Maps and drawings turned into spades, shovels and huge caterpillar tractors in mid-February. Ground-breaking ceremonies were Feb. 15. Webb officials and more than 6,000 couples who had purchased Sun City West homes participated in the community's first grand opening.

Throughout March the land was leveled, filled, scraped, graded and surveyed. In April 1978 Webb ask-

ed Sun City residents to submit names for streets in the new western community. By May 3500 names had been received by the company. The county disallows duplicate street names. One county official suggested street names not be proper names, personal names or have unusual spellings. (Despite the suggestion, someone sneaked in a Meeker Boulevard, R. H. Johnson Boulevard and a Pyracantha Drive.) Most of the streets took on the names of flowers, reflected desert living, Spanish neighbors or streets back East. A few numbered streets were tossed in to keep residents from getting lost in the new community.

BY THE BEGINNING of June 1978 stakes were down and foundations were being poured. The walls on the \$1.9 million Crestview facility were going up. Phase I was approaching a total of 17,000 housing units. Sixty-five percent of the now estimated \$1 billion phase would become single family homes while 35 percent would be condominiums.

For the first time in the sales policies of Webb property, property deeds were including age restrictions. No one under 18 is to live in Sun City West and there must be at least one person over 50 years of age in each home. The enforcement of the policy would be delegated to a homeowners association when it was formed.

The community's first controversy came about in June 1978. The Dysart School District voted 190-126 for a

OVER



## Sundome center nears completion

The top of the new Sundome will soon be shining as tiles are put into place. The Center will seat 6,800 and it's audio system should provide each customer with front

row sound Devco said. No announcement has been made on who is being booked to perform.  
(News-Sun photo by Rick Smith)

Oct 16, 1978 NEWS-SUN

\$27.55 million school bond issue. West residents would be part of the Dysart district and the bond issue would affect their property taxes.

Construction on the \$6 million R.H. Johnson Recreation Center began in June 1978. One of the features to be built was "an obstacle course." The center was designed by Hawkins, Lindsey, Wilson Associates of Phoenix and Los Angeles.

**WEBB ANNOUNCED** June 21 that the company would build its own sewage treatment plant in Sun City West. The permanent plant would be located on the east side of the Agua Fria, 1/2 mile north of Beardsley Drive and 3/4 mile west of 107th Avenue. The plant's first phase was projected for use in early 1980.

The idea of a hospital came on the western scene June 30 when Boswell Memorial made an application that included a 175-bed Sun City West hospital. Boswell projected a September 1983 opening. ABC-HMO had filed an application to build a 120-bed facility in SCW.

In July 1978 Dysart school bond issue brought talk from prospective Sun City West owners of forming an organization to deal with such problems. W. A. Meiter and William Stewart were the Sun Citians looking into the issue.

On the subject of forming a Sun City West posse, Sgt. Don Blankenship of the County Sheriff's office said in  
(Continued on Page 5C)



# Sun City West thrives...

(Continued from Page 4C)

July: "The matter is a long way off."

**WEBB REPORTED** there were about 800 Sun Citians who had signed letters of intent to buy in Sun City West. That was 10 percent of the 8,000 letters signed through July 1978.

~~In~~ August 1978 work began on the Pebblebrook golf course. But September brought a bit of a shock to prospective Westers. They learned they'd be paying 50 percent more for recreation center memberships than residents of Sun City. Renewals, announced a Webb attorney, would be at the mercy of the Consumer Price Index. Initial fee would be \$60.

The pioneers also found they'd be paying out more in water and sewage rates. An October 1978 survey of water rates showed Sun City West residents paying more than any other surrounding community. Westers would pay \$21 for 10,000 gallons compared to the next highest in the area, at \$12. Compared to Sun City's \$7.35 sewer rate, the new community would be faced with a \$16 per month rate. The raise in rates was attributed to increased material and labor costs as well as the fact private utilities pay state and federal taxes.

Also in October, Webb reported 80 units a week were being completed in Sun City West. Construction costs of Phase I would now be in excess of \$1 billion but completion, originally thought to take up to nine years, was revised to five years.

**AS RESIDENTS** moved in, the corporation hosted potlucks and picnics for getting acquainted. The first Sun City West Newcomers Coffee was in November 1978.

The year ended with flood waters crushing the nearby community of El Mirage. Temperatures dipped into the low teens at night in Sun City West. But residents, estimated to be 80 percent out-of-staters, appreciated a snowless landscape. Population was estimated at 750.

The Crestview Restaurant and vacation facilities opening crowned the new year. The restaurant has 265 seats in the dining room and 320-seat capacity in the banquet hall. Finishing touches were being put on the fairways of the Hillcrest golf course.

Residents in Sun City West received a new phone number in January, from a 583 exchange to 584. The population had grown to an estimated 1,000.

**FEBRUARY 1979** became a red letter month for the new community. Residents formed the Property Owners and Residents Association. A steering committee of Gene Wilson, Bill Stewart and Irma Halfter okayed 18 interim board members at a standing-room-only Feb. 12 meeting.

Two more services opened up in the Valentine month. The 6,960 yards of the Hillcrest golf course were christened by eager golfers. A bookmobile arrived for the more studious residents.

Arizona Secretary of State Rose Mofford announced in February the purchase of her retirement home on Maplewood Drive in SCW. She added she was not planning retirement soon.

February also brought the layoff of 225 construction workers on the SCW project. Webb blamed the layoff on bad weather, saying it was not related to home sales.

**PORA INAUGURATED** the new rec center Social Hall in a March 12 meeting. The association immediately got into a discussion of the bonds elections and taxation in the Dysart Unified School District.

Construction of three miles of 69,000-volt sub-transmission line (underground power lines) were completed in Sun City West in March 1979.

Religion took form in Sun City West in April. The In-

OVER

terim Chapel was created by Lutherans, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists and the United Church of Christ. The denominations would meet together for Sunday morning services until each could manage to survive alone.

Ground was broken in April for the Camino Del Sol Shopping Center. The Sun City West Posse, thought of as only a very distant possibility nine months earlier, now had 19 men training in Sun City and two women had just signed up, according to Cmdr. John Maciak.

Constitutional by-laws prepared by Bill Stewart were approved by PORA in April. Jake Knapp, PORA elections committee chairman, announced there were 343 registered voters in SCW as of April 7.

PORA CONTINUED to watch out for citizens in May 1979. The board of directors was authorized to formally object to Peoria's plan to annex a 310-acre strip of land north of Bell Road. A nominating committee was chosen to screen candidates for the board of directors fall election.

The population rose to 1600 by June as 836 homes received mail in Sun City West. Handball, shuffleboard, therapy pool, arts and crafts, table tennis, game, billiards and woodworking rooms, opened in June at the Johnson Center. Bowlers took to the lanes in July.

PORA won a major tax dispute in July 1979 when the state board of property tax appeals resolved the problem with an equalization order. The appeals board had taken the unprecedented case under advisement when earlier assessment made by the county tax assessor were nullified by the board of supervisors.

The appraise board assessed Webb property previously left off the rolls and equalized valuations on SCW homes largely along PORA's recommended lines.

By August of this year Webb reported completing 40 homes a week in Sun City West. The population had soared to an estimated 2,300 and Pebblebrook golf course opened Aug. 24.

PORA members learned from Webb president Meeker that residents 10 years hence would decide if Hillcrest golf course would be made a private club or turned over to the SCW rec centers. Meeker spoke at a Sept. 17 PORA meeting before a crowd of approximately 800.

HE ALSO ANNOUNCED the Johnson rec center facilities would continue to be operated by Webb for a year and a half or until the population reached 15,000. The facilities would then be turned over to residents and operated on a "break even basis."

Also at the September PORA meeting was Bill Stewart's charge that the assessor's office made "punitive overevaluation of Sun City West property in relation to the rest of Maricopa County." He hoped PORA would continue to work on "correcting the situation."

Les Perril, education committee chairman calmed residents some when he reported Dysart officials promised not to use any of the \$27.75 bond authorization money until enrollment reached 3800.

By the beginning of October, one year after the first residents settled into Sun City West, 30 citizens were applying to be nominated for the PORA board of directors election. *clubs*

An estimated 30 clubs and organizations are in early formation stages and 10 have actual charters, according to Johnson Center officials.

The population, at last estimate, has reached 3,100. Webb's estimated Phase I population is 32,500.



A view of the Johnson Recreation Center pool, landscaped and quite swim-able.

(News-Sun Photo)

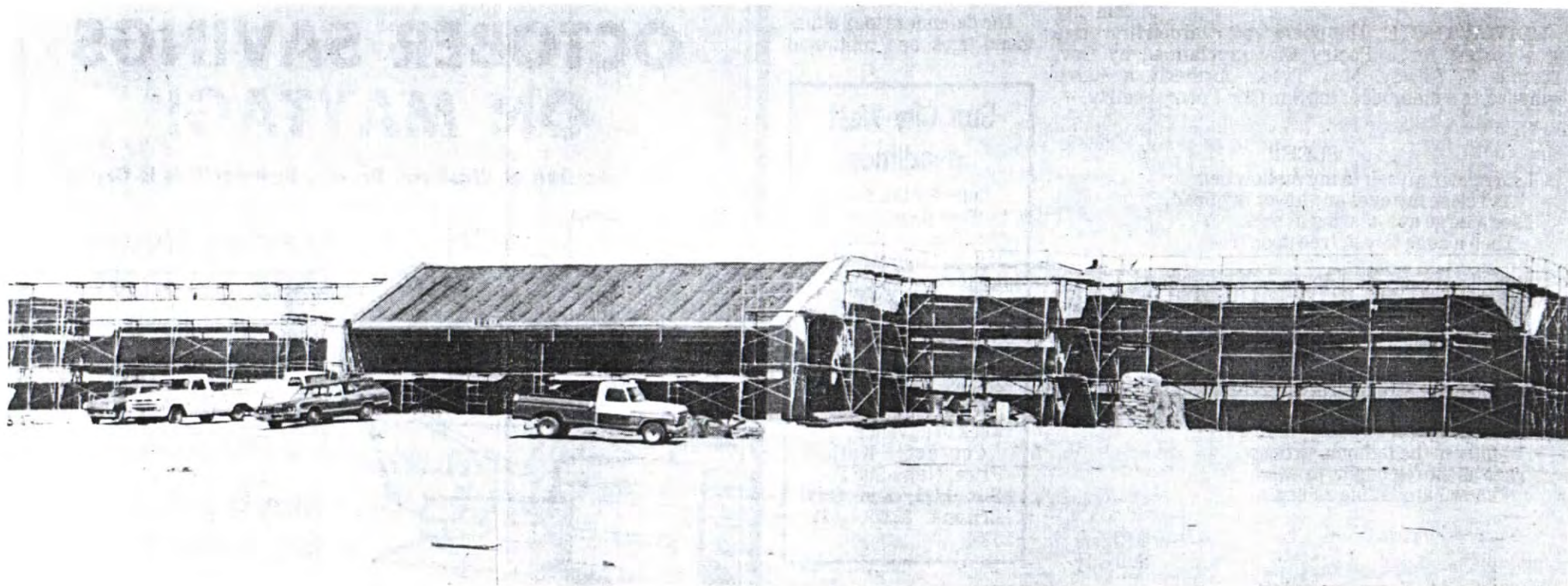
ECW



## ***Johnson breezeway under construction***

The breezeway of the Johnson Recreation Center was still under construction this past spring.  
(News-Sun photo)

SCW



**Crestview during early days of construction**

**(News-Sun Photo)**



## What a difference a year makes!

Two aerial photographs of Sun City West — one taken in July 1978, the other in July 1979 — illustrate the phenomenal growth of the community. The 1978 scene shows only the initial phases of construction of Crestview Restaurant and R.H. Johnson Recreation Center along

with several dozen concrete slabs for future houses. The 1979 view includes more than 1,600 completed homes. And between the now completed Crestview and Rec Center a close look reveals progress on the Sundome Center for the Performing Arts.



**First Anniversary of Construction**  
**FROM BARREN LAND TO BLOSSOMING CITY**  
**February 15, 1978 — February 15, 1979**

One year ago — February 15, 1978 — Sun City West was born.

On that bright winter day some 200 civic and business leaders turned out to shovel soil and set into motion the construction of the Del E. Webb Development Co.'s new 13,000-acre resort-retirement community.

During the past year Sun City West has been transformed from a barren piece of ground to a community some 1,000 persons now call home. More than 1,200 homes have been built in the new community, along with 326 vacation apartments, \$1.9 million restaurant and banquet facility, a par-72 championship golf course, a giant

*(Continued on Page 2)*



SCW

# Sun City

## is ON

### ONE year old...

Ground was broken on the 13,000-acre Sun City West townsite on February 15, 1978

### ONE of Arizona's major tourist attractions...

ENCORE, the Sun City West Model Home Exposition opened in January, 1979 and attendance figures have already exceeded 65,000!

### ONE of the truly delightful places in the Valley to dine...

Sun City West's new Crestview Restaurant has, in just two months, achieved a Valley-wide reputation for its beauty, its excellent food, its hospitable service and its panoramic view of the Bradshaw Mountains. For reservations call 584-2031.

### ONE of the most exciting places in Arizona for golfers...

2½ million yards of earth were moved to make Sun City West's Hillcrest Golf Course a scenic masterpiece, and one of the most challenging 18-hole layouts in the golfing world. Hillcrest opened for public play by reservation only last month. For greens fees and reservations call 584-1500.

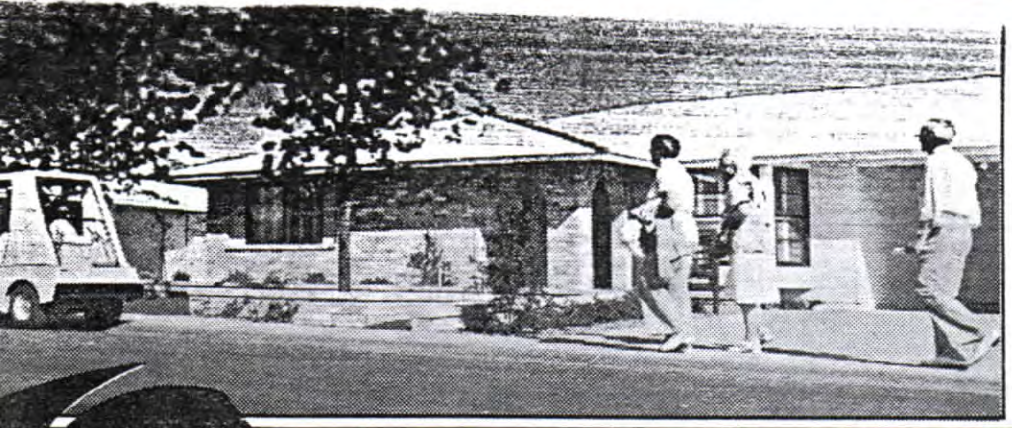
### ONE of the fastest growing broad communities in history...

- In just one year over 3,349 homes
- To keep pace, residential construction averaged 76 per week.
- The population is already over
- 15 sites have been sold for fine buildings.

### LOOK AT THE DELIGHTS IN STORE FOR SUN CITY WESTERNERS

- R. H. Johnson Recreation Center completion early in the Summer. The largest private complex of recreational sports and arts & crafts in the Valley.
- The Sundome, scheduled for completion for the 1980 Winter Season. A 6,800 seat center for the performance of the finest theatre building ever built in the Valley.
- A Private Dining and Social Club completion in 1980. Similar to the Sun Lakes Club with the added features of a dining theatre and a stage-view

**STANDARD OF THE WORLD IN RE**



# West

# ENCORE

and new  
homes have been sold.  
Construction starts have

1,200.  
Financial institution

E FOR  
center, scheduled for  
of 1979.  
facilities for recrea-  
the entire Southwest.  
completion during  
farming arts—the larg-  
Arizona.  
Club, scheduled for  
Sun City's prestigious  
features of a terraced  
cocktail lounge.

- Three Neighborhood Shopping Plazas, the first scheduled for completion in the Spring of 1980.

### ...AND AS THE POPULATION INCREASES

- Five more 18-hole golf courses
- Two satellite recreational centers
- Houses of worship for many faiths

FOR A PERSONAL PREVIEW OF THE PLEASURES OF LIVING IN THIS EXCITING NEW CITY VISIT ENCORE, THE SUN CITY WEST MODEL HOME EXPOSITION, AND ASK FOR A COPY OF THE BROCHURE TITLED... A NEW SUN IS RISING IN THE WEST

Encore Models are open every day from 9 AM until 6 PM. Basic prices for built-to-order homes range from \$52,990 to \$101,990 (Subject to change without notice.)

ALSO ASK ABOUT THE OUTSTANDING VARIETY OF HOMES WE HAVE COMPLETED IN ADVANCE FOR PEOPLE DESIRING IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY.

From Black Canyon Hwy (I-17) take Bell Rd. west 12½ miles.

 DEL E. WEBB DEVELOPMENT CO.  
A DIVISION OF  
DEL E. WEBB CORPORATION   
Equal Housing Opportunity Developer

## RESORT-RETIREMENT LIVING



**THE NEWSLETTER**

JOHN E. SMITH

# Sun City West



Del E. Webb Development Co. ★ Public Relations Dept. ★ P.O. Box 1705 ★ Sun City, Arizona 85372 ★ February, 1979



First Anniversary of Construction  
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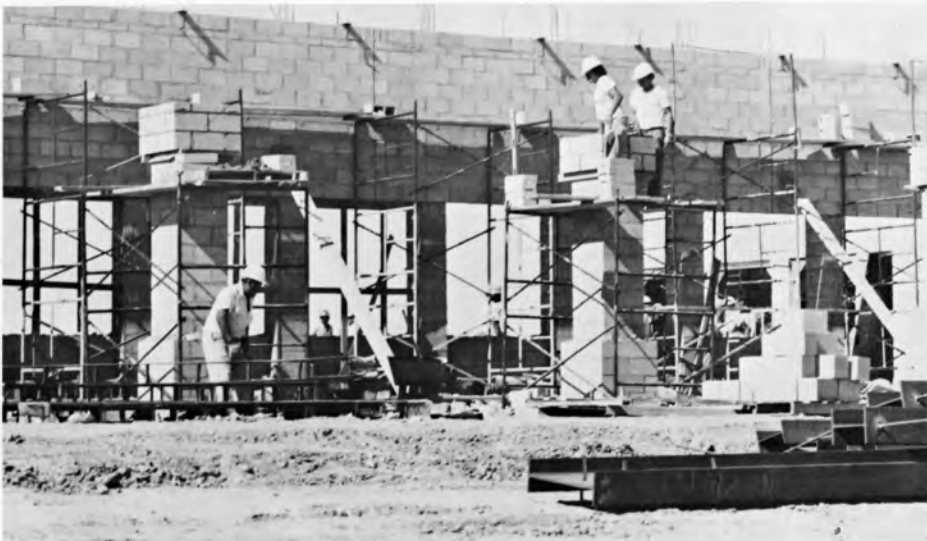
*(Continued on Page 2)*



APRIL 1978 — Sun City West site development begins with graders leveling the land.



APRIL 1978 — Giant earth-moving equipment scrape and grade in what will be the core area of the community's 5,700-acre first phase.



JUNE 1978 — Brick masons raise columns as construction of the \$6.4 million R. H. Johnson Recreation Center begins.



MAY 1978 — Surveyors gaze past their transit during the initial stages of construction of Crestview Restaurant.



AUGUST 1978 — The construction of several hundred homes and a golf course.

JUNE

JUNE  
foot a



The outlines of future residential streets and the 20-acre lake at the center of Hillcrest Golf Course are prominent as Sun City West starts to take shape.



Nearly-finished walls begin to define Crestview's 30,000-square-foot facility's construction cost: \$1.9 million.



Partments has begun and site work has started on Phase I's second



JUNE 1978 — Standing on scaffold supports, brick masons build the exterior walls of Crestview. The masons are among some 1,000 Development Company field personnel.



NOVEMBER 1978 — Sun City West's vacation apartments move toward completion. For \$150, visitors enjoy a one-week stay (two weeks in summer) that includes golf, recreation, a breakfast and tour, a Chuckwagon dinner and lots of sunshine.



JANUARY 1979 - Crestview, with dining room seating for 265 people, lies an unobstructed view of Hillcrest's lush green fairways.



JANUARY 1979 — A sparkling chandelier greets people in the foyer of Crestview Restaurant. The facility also features a visitor information center, a television lounge, a beauty salon, a gift shop and an Avis Rent-A-Car office.



FEBRUARY 1979 — Hillcrest Golf Course opens for play. The 6,960-yard course plays to par 72 for men and 75 for women. It features 78 sand traps and water comes into play on 14 holes.



NOVEMBER 1978 — of shadows as a car Sun City West home



DECEMBER 1978 month. Homes feat



JANUARY 1979 — As the new year dawned, Sun City West was beginning to look the part of a real community. Nearly 1,000 persons already were calling it "home." Phase I population is expected to soar to 32,000.



s and banquet facilities for 320, opens its doors. Through its back window



OCTOBER 1978 — As more and more homes are completed, site preparation begins for new residential sections south toward Bell Road. Water fills Hillcrest's primary lake. Bell Housing Components is at lower left.



late afternoon sun creates a pattern  
er aligns the roof trusses on a future



JANUARY 1979 — Johnson Rec Center, Arizona's largest private facility for recreational and creative activities, moves toward a second-quarter 1979 opening. The center's 40,000-volume library is in the foreground.



NOVEMBER 1978 — Construction continues on the crafts and ceramics rooms of Johnson Rec Center as steel I-beam girders and roof trusses are erected.



core," the Sun City West Model Home Show, opens in mid-energy efficiency package that includes a solar water heater

as standard, an industry first in Arizona. Some 50,000 persons will tour the homes during "Encore's" first month.

(Continued from Page 1)

model home show and a nearly-completed \$6.2 million recreation complex.

Sun City West Phase I, a 5,700-acre tract, will include six full-length golf courses, three recreation centers and approximately 17,000 housing units. Expected Phase I population is 32,500, with 80 percent of the residents coming from other states.

As is evident from the community's progress, the one-year interim since groundbreaking has been characterized by heavy-scale construction.

At the center of the community's 5,700-acre first phase is Hillcrest Golf Course, a 6,960-yard challenge that is now open for public play. The course features three lakes — one of them 20

acres in size — that come into play on 14 holes. In addition, 78 well-positioned sand traps dot the layout. Hillcrest is the first of six courses in Phase I.

Crestview Restaurant opened in January and it has served thousands of residents, visitors and vacationers in its 265-seat dining area and 320-seat banquet room.

Encore, the Sun City West Model Home Show, opened in mid-December and more than 65,000 persons have toured the homes to date. The Encore homes feature a comprehensive energy saving package that includes a solar water heater as standard, a first for the industry in Arizona. Encore highlights 20 different floorplans — 10 of them single-family homes, four duplexes, four garden apartments and two patio apartments.

The social hall of Johnson Recreation Center will open in March, the center's 15 tennis courts shortly thereafter and the remainder of the center in the second quarter of this year. Johnson will be Arizona's largest private facility for recreational and creative activities. It will include such things as a 24-lane bowling alley, a ¼-mile running track and a penny arcade.

Construction of the 6,800-seat Sun Dome Center for the Performing Arts has begun and completion is set for 1980.

Including all facilities, construction costs of Sun City West Phase I are in excess of \$1 billion. In terms of economic impact on the Phoenix Metropolitan area, Phase I construction will provide jobs for approximately 55,000 workers over the projected seven-to-nine year development period, with incomes from those jobs exceeding \$706 million.

In addition, Sun City West will create a need for approximately 2,100 persons in retail and service employment and another 350 in administrative and professional fields.

With its projected population of 32,500, Phase I's impact on county and state retail sales alone is expected to top \$124 million.

And what about the people who plan to make Sun City West their home? Well, they are people from all parts of the U.S. and some foreign lands; people who want to share a unique life style with friendly, interesting peers in a city of beauty of which they can be proud.



*Luman and Mary Wick, formerly of Topeka, Kansas, became Sun City West's first residents October 16, 1978. When asked why they chose Sun City West as their retirement home, Luman mentioned that he could play golf all winter long and Mary said she liked the area's friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Joining the Wicks as initial residents were Edward and Clarice Uhl of Alameda, California.*

A letter from Morris Weingarten of 10013 Woodland Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland, states the Weingartens are looking forward to completion of their Sun City West home at 12906 Skyview Drive. And until they can settle there, he requests a street map "so your Newsletter would be more meaningful" and so he could "identify places" and the location of neighbors. So we sent him a copy of the brand new Sun City West brochure which includes a map of the first phase of the new city. We plan to include a map in a future issue of our Newsletter. It will help you locate friends and neighbors you will be meeting upon arrival and while settling down. Of course, no need to wait, start corresponding ahead of time (postage rates will never be lower).

And what about those already residing in Sun City West? Well, THEY'RE BUSY. A lively activities schedule planned by our Public Relations people — namely our affable Don Tufts who directs tours, and busy Dave Samp who is always behind the camera for pictures such as you'll find in this issue — have been keeping Westers meeting with neighbors, participating in a variety of community events, and doing considerable traveling around the Valley to see the sights of such cities as Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe and others. Included in their own home town activities has been everything from square dancing to wine tasting to attending an Erma Bombeck television show taping, as well as visits to Luke Air Force Base for guided tours of one of the largest air fighter bases in the free world. A Sun City West bridge club has been formed to meet each Tuesday, and square dancing, with caller Alex Nagy providing instruction, is held each Monday at Crestview Restaurant. Westers joined in a weekend arts and crafts fair at the Sun City Sun Bowl and others participated in a Bike for Health Ride, a special event of the Sun City Fitness Festival. Westers began to gain acquaintance with other Valley communities on bus trips and guided tours of the Phoenix Metropolitan area, also visiting Paradise Valley, Scottsdale's Fifth Avenue Shops and the Arizona State University campus.

Meanwhile, the mail brings other news of future Sun City West residents. Mrs. John W. Senften of Mansfield, Ohio, writes to report that about the first of March she and Jack should be moving to their new Sun City West home at 13403 Castle Rock Drive. Jack is taking early retirement from the Ohio Brass Co. in Mansfield where he has worked as a development engineer the past 15 years. They visited Sun City two years ago this



*The first Sun City West Get-Acquainted Newcomers Coffee was conducted in November 1978. After about an hour of socializing over coffee and sweet rolls, a drawing for door prizes produced these delighted and delightful winners.*

summer "and liked everything and everyone." Their salesman and his wife, Ed and Dorothy Ragatz, were former neighbors in Columbus, Neb., and Ginny adds she and Jack are looking forward to "throwing away the snow shovel and getting rid of the lawn mower." They "hack" at golf, do a little bowling, and enjoy dancing.

To keep the Sun City West Newsletter interesting to our readers, we're requesting *more letters* from you, and you, and YOU ALL! We'd appreciate hearing from WESTERS who plan to move to Sun City West during 1979, or anytime in the future! Please write and tell us where you're from, how long you've resided in your home state, something about your lives, your accomplishments and your dreams, what both of you (husband and wife) do for a living, something about your family, your schools, etc., etc. And, incidentally, what led you to select Sun City West for retirement? Was it a "spur of the moment" choice, or a decision made after careful consideration? Tell us anything newsworthy that would make for interesting reading. It's two-way correspondence that will cultivate immediate friendships. I, for one, will immediately become your friend if you comply . . . so get busy, please write!

Sincerely,

*Jerry McLain*  
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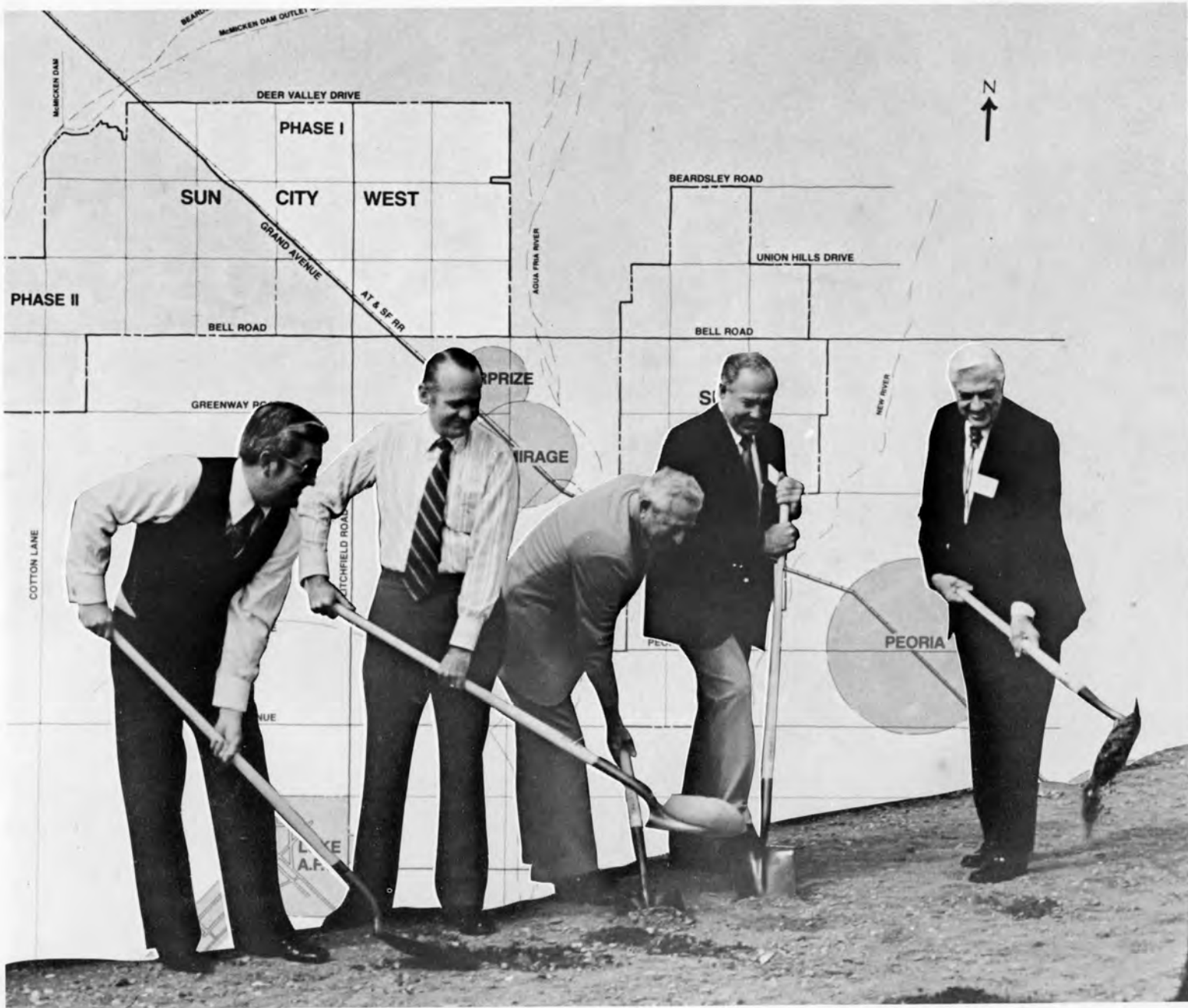
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Sincerely,

*Jerry McLain*  
Jerry McLain





The February 15, 1978 Sun City West ground-breaking ceremonies saw a special quintet with shovels in their hands. Digging, from left, were Del E. Webb Development Co. President John W. Meeker, U.S. Senator Dennis DeConcini, J.G. Boswell Co. Vice President Hank Raymond, Webb Corporation Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Robert H. Johnson and the late Governor Wesley Bolin. Eight months later the Sun City West First Move-Ins Ceremony was conducted. Assisting in the ribbon cutting were, from left, DEVCO Executive Vice President Joe Aubin, resident Clarice Uhl, DEVCO President John Meeker, residents Mary and Luman Wick, DEVCO Vice President and Operations Manager Bob Cannon and DEVCO Senior Vice President and Engineering Manager Tom Ryan.

# Sun City West celebrates

# 1978-

**INDEPENDENT**

September 29, 1993

## Inside



- Anniversary events planned.....Page B2
- Pioneers recall early days.....Page B1
- History of Rec Centers.....Page B6
- Sun City West Club News.....Page B4
- SC West Calendar.....Page B7

## News briefs

### SCW Posse sponsors Block Watch

The Sun City West Posse will hold a Block Watch organizational meeting 2 p.m. Oct. 7 at the Sun City West Posse building, 20450 Stardust Blvd.

Call 584-5808.

The majority of the community's residents do not participate in a Block Watch program.

# Residents recall Plans called for communi

By ANNE RYMAN  
Sun Cities Independent

When Roger and Althea Curfman moved to Sun City West 14 years ago from California, R.H. Johnson Boulevard was a two-lane road, they had one neighbor on Whispering Oaks Drive and coyotes were a common site in their yard.

Early settlers such as Mr. Curfman, considered 'pioneers' by community standards, have plenty of memories of the development that is now one of the country's largest retirement communities.

Many pioneers remember Sun City West when its main attractions — the recreation centers and golf courses — still were under construction and not open to residents.

"Johnson Pool was open but there was no place to shop. Bell Road was a lot thinner then and there wasn't much on it until you got to 107th and Bell, which is where we got groceries," Mr. Curfman recalls.

The commercial core along R.H. Johnson Boulevard, Meeker Boulevard and Camino del Sol was desert and Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, now a familiar landmark to residents and visitors, had yet to be built.

"I moved here when Johnson Rec Center was started but not completed. It was very desert-looking," says Ann O'Connor, who

community. With an estimated 22,666 residents and 12,500 homes, the community with the recent addition of an a 1,320-acre expansion will have about 17,000 homes and 32,000 people upon completion later this century.

By now, the Sun City West expansion is a familiar site to residents in the community.

Acres of desert along what used to be the northern edge of the community have been replaced by palm trees, filled with lakes and dotted with developing homes.

The expansion site near Deer



# celebrates 15 years

1993

## original development y north and south of Grand Avenue

lley Drive between 131st and  
1st avenues is expected to add  
00 homes and 6,000 residents to  
community by 1998.

The expansion will include the  
ampionship Deer Valley Golf  
course, an as-yet-unnamed  
ecutive golf course located in the  
stern portion of the expansion  
and the Palm Ridge Recreation  
center, a 51,000 square foot  
ility that will include two indoor  
ols, an outdoor resort-style pool,  
loor jogging track and fitness  
ter.

Ever since Del Webb officials

announced plans for expansion in  
1991, the project has met mixed  
reviews from residents. Some  
residents, concerned the additional  
residents will overcrowd recreation  
centers and golf courses in the  
existing community, formed the  
watchdog organization Citizens  
Alert Group to look into the  
concerns. In addition, some people  
complained they were told when  
they moved to the community it  
would be limited to 25,000 people.

Original plans for Sun City West  
called for a much larger community  
than today's projected 32,000

population. In addition to the  
5,700 acres north of Bell Road and  
east of Grand Avenue, Del Webb  
owned 7,300 acres of land  
southwest of Grand Avenue for a  
planned Phase II.

Between 1983 and 1986,  
however, the company sold off  
Phase II in a series of land  
transactions to raise cash for its  
Sun City developments in Tucson  
and Las Vegas. Had the company  
proceeded with original plans, the  
community would range from  
50,000 to 70,000 people.

Since 1978, much has changed.  
Following is a look back at a few  
of the significant events in Sun  
City West's history.

**Oct. 16, 1978-** Sun City West  
opens.

John Meeker, Del E. Webb  
Development Co. president, serves  
as master of ceremonies.

He tells a crowd of 500 that  
attitudes toward senior citizens  
have changed.

"Society is taking a new, fresh  
look at the elderly. Sun City's  
message is getting through" about  
an active new way of life where  
retirees can "enjoy life to the  
fullest."

Del Webb officials estimate the  
population of Sun City West will  
reach 30 by the month's end,  
although construction still  
continues in the area. Under  
construction in Phase I are 1,191  
homes, 302 garden apartments and  
326 vacation apartments. Workers



program in their neighborhoods.

## **PORA slates October meeting**

The Property Owners and Residents Association will meet 9 a.m. Oct. 5 in the PORA building, 13815 Camino del Sol. Meetings are open to residents.

## **SCW Foundation seeks new directors**

The Sun City West Foundation is looking for candidates to serve three-year terms on its board of directors.

Anyone interested should contact Pat Duros at 584-5096 for information.

The foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support of charitable and educational volunteer agencies in the community.

It built and maintains the Community Services Center at 14465 R.H. Johnson Blvd.

## **R.H. Johnson Pool to close in October**

The R.H. Johnson Swimming Pool will be closed from Oct. 4 for fiberglass application. The pool is expected to re-open Oct. 29.

## **Outdoor concerts resume at Beardsley**

The Recreation Centers of Sun City West, Inc. will resume its open-air concert series this fall with a performance by Affinity.

The five-piece band will perform favorites from the '50's, '60's and '70's during a program planned 7 p.m. Oct. 5 at Beardsley Park Recreation Center.

Those who attend are asked to bring their own chair or blanket.

Admission is free. Call 584-2052.

here to visit they were sort of disappointed by the looks of the place. It was so desolate. We had plantings in the front yard, but they were very small. Then when they came back three years later, everything was green and looked nice."

As well as the landscape of the community, the makeup of the people was different as well, with many of the residents forming a close-knit small community.

"There were only a few hundred people here and we knew everyone. We met at the Johnson Pool every day and had a great time," says Mort Leeper, a community activist who moved to Sun City West from Ohio in 1979.

Early resident had to travel two miles west to Sun City for shopping, gas and medical services. Like other residents who came after them, they had to become accustomed to the sister community's winding streets.

"A month after we arrived my husband had to be in Boswell Hospital. I said I know how to get here, but I don't know how to get home so the nurse drew a diagram," Ms. O'Connor says.

Perhaps best known for its variety of social, recreational activities and clubs today, this wasn't always so, says Sol Robinson, who along with his wife, Florence, was one of the first 50 families to move to Sun City West in 1978.

He helped organize clubs that are still in existence today — the Sun City West Pioneers club, the Jewish Social Club and the Crestview Riders, a bicycle club.

It is these recreational and social activities Mr. Robinson finds so appealing about the retirement community today.

"There's a lot to do and the activities offered here are tremendous. I play tennis, belong to the bike club, lapidary, silver craft, and I've been through other clubs also. The actives are great and you can chose which ones you want. And if you don't want to do anything, you don't."

Mr. Robinson says he only has one other wish: cooler summers.

But hot summers have not stopped people from moving to the



## **Fifteen years**

Del Webb Corp has sold 269 home Valley Drive between 135th and 1st residents moved into their homes in

# **Early Pioneers look**

By ANNE RYMAN  
Sun Cities Independent

They may not have traveled in wagons, cooked their dinner over fire, or built their homes out of logs, but a small number of Sun City West residents are considered pioneers nonetheless.

Like the early pioneers of the Old West, they had few neighbors, no nearby shops, and were sometimes dubbed "crazy" by those who left their homes to live in the middle of the desert.

It is these early experiences that have brought Sun City West residents together three times over. They remember the early development of what is now one of the largest retirement communities in the country.

The Sun City West Pioneers club is a group of residents who moved to the c



Photo by TYSON KUHRT/Sun City West Independent

## Old and still growing strong

the Sun City West expansion, a 1,320-acre piece of land near Deer avenues, with development expected to last until 1998. The first by August.

# settlers

## back at first days of Sun City West

during its beginning stages of growth — Oct. 16, 1978 through Dec. 31 1979.

The club, whose membership once swelled to 700, was established in 1984 by Sun City West resident Mildred Toldrian. Ms. Toldrian, a former Sun City resident, also is credited with organizing a similar club in Sun City, the Sun City Pioneers.

The idea was an instant success, with 400 people showing up for the first meeting at the Sundome Center for the Performing Arts.

"It's basically a social group. We're interested in everything that's going on. We've been talking about (President) Clinton's health care proposal, but on the whole, it's social. We stay out of politics," Club President Richard Hymes says.

Members meet twice a year for luncheons and once a year for an organized coffee hour.

"It's general conversation. We talk about

those who aren't here anymore but also about the progress of the community," says member Ann O'Connor, who moved to the community in 1979 from Connecticut.

What was once a few hundred people inhabiting a rather remote desert area has swelled to an established community of 22,666 residents with an estimated population of 32,000 before the end of the century.

Far more people may be eligible for the Sun City West Pioneers, but club organizers decided to close membership two years ago and limit the club to a manageable size. The membership has decreased slightly as some of the early pioneers die or move elsewhere.

Along with Mr. Hymes, the club has a board that includes Frieda Schwartz as secretary, Virginia Kelso as vice president, Helen Daniel as treasurer, Catherine Holst as historian and Emma Koos as publicity director.

1978- The Property Owners and Residents Association was established as a volunteer membership group to look out for the community's interests.

1979- The Del Webb-owned Hillcrest Golf Course officially opens for play in February.

The Sheriff's Posse of Sun City West was founded as a non-profit organization to be the "eyes and ears" of the sheriff.

1980- Sundome Center for the Performing Arts, a 7,169-seat indoor venue opens. It remains the largest single-level theater in the United States.

PORA starts a consumer service division.

1982- Sun City West's first fire station at 19001 Camino del Sol is dedicated. Del Webb establishes a 'rumor control center' to respond to residents' concerns.

1983- Del Webb Corp. begins

See ■ SUN CITY WEST, P. B2

# Sun City West 15th B

## Oct. 16

11-noon Rhythm Tappers Kick-Off Celebration Show at Stardust Theatre.

Cake, punch and entertainment at:

R.H. Johnson Rec Center Arts &

Crafts courtyard

Starlighters

Beardsley Park ramadas

Canyon State Western Band

Fred Kuentz Rec Center courtyard

1 p.m. Theatre West

1:30 p.m. Organ & Keyboard Club

2 p.m. Musicians Club

2:30 p.m. Westernaires Chorus

3-5 p.m. Dr. Sasparilla's Red Hot

Jazz Band

## Oct. 17

2-4 p.m. Sun Health will sponsor an opening reception for artist Dr. Eugene

Tsai in the lobby of the Del Webb

Hospital. His works will be on display there.

## Oct. 18

7:45-8:45 Energetic Exercise at

Johnson Social Hall

## Oct. 19

9-4 Silvercraft Open House

9-3 Weaver's Guild Open House-

Kuentz Rec Center

## Oct. 20

7:45-8:45 Energetic Exercise at

Johnson Social Hall

## Oct. 21

8:30-11 MacCro Knit Club display at

Kuentz

9-4 SCW Women's Social Club Open

House at Kuentz

## Oct. 22

7:45-8:45 Energetic Exercise at

Johnson Social Hall

8-11 a.m. Sun Health Ageless Athlete at Desert Palms Presbyterian Church

10 a.m. Photography West Open

Meeting, Stardust Theatre

## Oct. 23

8-4 Kiwanis Club of SCW 12th

Annual Yard Sale at Sundome Plaza

8-4 Northwest Valley Chamber

of Commerce Better Living Expo

8 a.m. Race To Health, Del E. Webb

Memorial Hospital

## Oct. 24

2-4:30 Sheriff's Posse of Sun City

West Open House

## Oct. 25

7:45-8:45 Energetic Exercise at

Johnson Social Hall

7:30 p.m. Photography West Video

Group Open Meeting, Lecture Hall

# Birthdays Events Calendar

## Oct. 25-29

SCW Thrift Store Open House- win \$100 shopping spree

## Oct. 26

9-3 Weaver's Guild Open House, Kuentz Rec Center

12:30-4 Arthritis Foundation Expo at Johnson Social Hall East

9-3 Copper Enamelists and China Painting are sponsoring Open Houses in their rooms at the Beardsley Recreation Center.

## Oct. 27

8 a.m. Arthritis Foundation Aquatic Program at Beardsley

6-9 p.m. SCW Bocce Club Open House, Johnson Bocce Courts

## Oct. 28

8:30-11 MacCro Knit Club display at Kuentz

11-2 p.m. SCW Foundation "Coney Island Hot Dog Day" to benefit Nadaburg School District. Bring canned goods and sporting goods to donate.

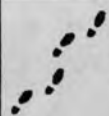
## Oct. 29

7:45-8:45 Energetic Exercise at Johnson Social Hall

10 a.m. Photography West Open House, Stardust Theater



Del Webb Corp. broke ground on its Sun City West expansion Aug. 7, 1992. An archeological study revealed the property was farmed by a Peoria resident named Orval Robertson from 1911 to 1939. Actor Alan Prewitt recreated the Orval Robertson character for the ground-breaking ceremony and reminisced about his early farming days. Dennis Zwagerman, Maricopa County Planning and Development director, Mr. Prewitt and Chuck Roach, Del Webb's Sun City West vice president and general manager turn the first shovel of dirt.



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# ■ SUN CITY WEST

From P

selling land south of Grand Avenue originally intended for a Phase II of Sun City West.

A Church-building boom begins.

**1984-** Grandview Golf Course opens for play. Del Webb donates the Sundome to Arizona State University. Work begins on Briarwood Golf Course.

**1985-** Beardsley Park Recreation Center, the community's second recreation center, opens in June. Nearby Sun City celebrates its 25th Anniversary. Ground is broken for the Del Webb Hospital. First two women elected as PORA directors. Del Webb donates land for a future Community Services Building and Sheriff's Posse of Sun City West building.

**1986-** The Madison House retirement complex is under construction.

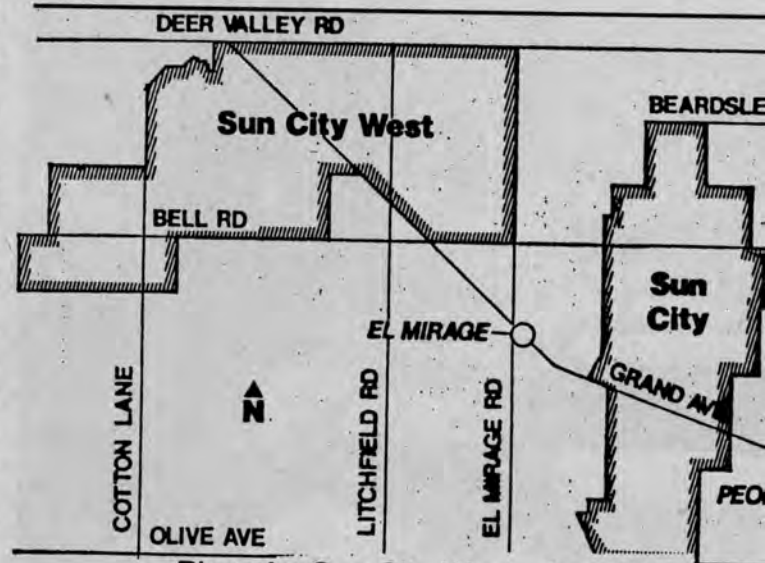
Echo Mesa Golf Course opens.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society forms to chronicle the development of Sun City and Sun City West.

**1987-** The Sun City West Foundation builds a 10,000-square-foot building at 14465 R.H. Johnson Boulevard to house the Lending Hands.

**1988-** The Sun City West Foundation adds a 10,000-square-foot addition containing meeting rooms space, space for Sun City West Prides and the Sun City West Thrift Shop.

**1989-** The Fred P. Kuentz Recreation Center opened in January 1989, named after former Del Webb Development Co. chairman.



Plans for Sun City West, circa 1978

An incorporation drive begins in the community and an incorporation effort later fails when put to a community vote.

**1990-** Target date of December 1992 established for residents to take control of the Recreation Centers of Sun City West. Groundbreaking held for Stardust Fire Station, the community's second fire station.

**1991-** Del Webb Corp. announces plans for an expansion along the northern boundary of the community.

The Sun City West Foundation expands another 10,000 square feet for the Community Fund, Volunteer Bureau of the Sun Cities and Interfaith Services Adult Day Health Center.

**1992-** Del Webb Corp. breaks ground for a 1,320-acre expansion of the community in August. R.H. Johnson and Kuentz recreation centers undergo additions and remodeling in preparation for the expansion.

Congress allocates \$5 million for a Sun City West Post Office, ending a long campaign by Property Owners and Residents Association for a separate, service facility. Shuffleboard players protest the cut of indoor courts.

**1993-** The Sun City West District decides to drop El Mirage/Metro Corp. and establish its own fire department ambulance service effective 1, 1994. Del Webb gives the district \$500,000 for a third station in the expansion area of the community.

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Fire police protection...

# In the beginning ..



Shots taken from the air clearly document the progress Sun City West has made from 1979 to the present. Dirt fields developed into hundreds of homes and facilities.

A location for the future Sun City West Post office is established at the corner of Camino del Sol and Meeker Boulevard.

Smoking is banned inside rec centers.

The resident-elected Advisory Board takes over the Governing Board, the decision-making body of the association.

1994- Palm Ridge Recreation Center, the community's fourth recreation center, will open in

April and the Deer Valley Golf Course will open this year as well.

1995- Sun City West Post Office expected to open by February.



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# Fire, police protection provided to community

Sun City West is patrolled by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. A group of volunteers, the Sheriff's Posse of Sun City West, serve as "eyes and ears" of the sheriff, directing traffic, patrolling the community and reporting suspicious activity to deputies.

The community is now served by Rural/Metro Corp. for its fire and ambulance service.

As of July 1, 1994, however, it will establish its own department and ambulance services. Fire

Board officials made the decision to have a separate department earlier this year, citing increased costs of providing service to the community.

The community has two fire stations and a third is planned for the expansion area.

As part of the agreement to add Del Webb Corp.'s 1,320-acre expansion area to the district, Del Webb agreed to give the district \$500,000 for a new fire station and two acres of land.



## WE WANT YOUR NEWS!

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Also, this wrong idea develops when a person in the forty-plus age group first puts on glasses. Close vision is naturally getting more difficult about this time. Since it appears to do so all of a sudden, spectacles often get the blame for this.

In actuality, the greatest preventive against "ruining eyesight" at any age is getting professional care when it is first needed. Postponement jeopardizes comfort, efficiency and even one's own safety. You cannot keep your eyes



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# Sun City West Club News

**Hillcrest Dance Club of Sun City West** is offering eight lessons in country-western dance noon-2 p.m. beginning Oct. 6 at the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center, 19803 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West.

The club also will offer eight tango lessons noon-2 p.m. beginning Oct. 7.

Cost of each series of lessons is \$20 for members and \$25 for sponsored guests. Lesson registration will be held 11:30 a.m. Oct. 6 and 7 in the R.H. Johnson Center Social Hall. Call 584-0804.

...

## Sunday Singles Bowling

**League of Sun City West** is seeking bowlers for its 1993-94 season.

Any single resident of Sun City West is eligible to bowl in the league at the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center lanes, 19803 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. The league bowls at 5:45 p.m. Sundays. Call 584-1687.

...

**Sun West Art Club** members will exhibit paintings in various locations throughout October.

Those exhibiting include: Phyllis Best, Citibank; Dorothy Heller, First Interstate Bank at the Crossroads Center; Nancy

Hawes, First Interstate Bank on R.H. Johnson Boulevard; Hazel Hartman, Top Hat Car Wash; Edna Jenner, Caliber Bank; Ruth Vandermez, Bank One; Roma Harton, Sun Country Credit Union; Bruce Trutty, Adult Day Health Center; Hazel Hartman and Gar Witherspoon, Stardust Theatre; Inka Muller, Interfaith Services; Marilyn Johansen, Del Webb Administration Building; Lyn Arenz, R.H. Johnson Library; Blanka Schuster, Kuentz Center Women's Club; Shirley Chandler, Lending Hands; Shirley Peterson and Emmy Reno, the Property Owners and

See ■ CLUB NEWS, Page B5

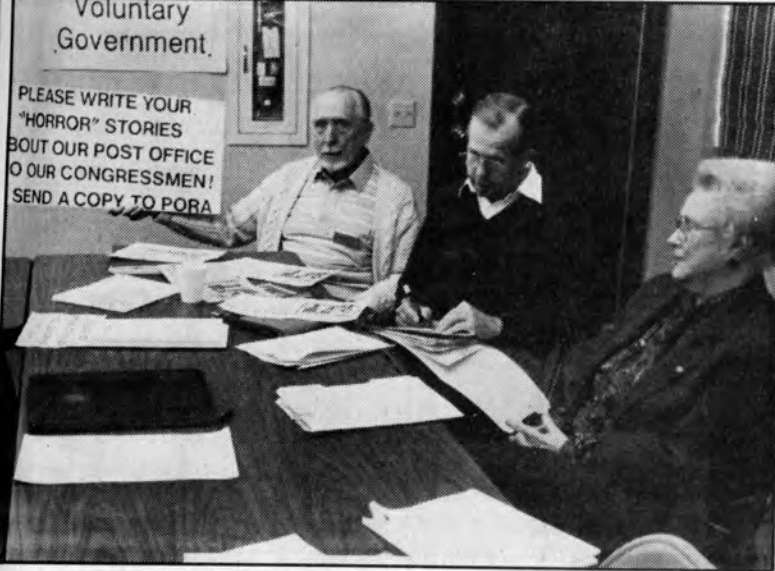


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## Community fights for post office

After several years of lobbying political officials for a separate, full-service post office, Congress appropriated \$5 million for such a facility. Scheduled opening is February 1994. At left, some of the residents instrumental in gathering petition signatures: Former PORA President Morey Jensen, Sun City West resident and former Congresswoman Virginia Smith and former PORA Publicity Director

File Photo



# SIDEWALK

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WED., SEPT. 29th thru

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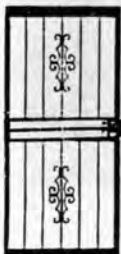
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# Sun City West Club News

Residents Association building.

...

**Calligraphy West** will offer beginning and intermediate italic calligraphy classes Oct. 4, 11 and 18, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29 and Dec. 6 in Room 5 at the Fred P. Kuentz Recreation Center, 14401 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West. Call 546-1502.

...

**The Property Owners and Residents Association** is sponsoring "Sun City West West Day" at the Sun Cities Stadium on Oct. 20.

The Sun Cities Solar Sox will take on Scottsdale in an Arizona Fall League game at 1:35 p.m.

Tickets are \$3.50 and

individuals must provide their own transportation. Sign up in the PORA by Oct. 15.

...

**The Ohio Club of Sun City West** will hold a "Welcome Home Luncheon" at noon Oct. 19 at Rancho de Los Caballeros in Wickenburg.

Cost of a buffet lunch is \$12.50 for members; \$14.50 for non-members. Call 546-8114 by Oct. 11.

...

**Sun City West Copper Enamelists** will offer a beginning enameling class 8 a.m.-noon or noon-4 p.m. Mondays, Oct. 11-Nov. 1.

The class will be held at the club's studio in the Beardsley Park Recreation Center.

The studio is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 584-4331 or 584-6037 by Oct. 7.

...

**Echo Mesa Women's Golf Club** will sponsor a picnic 10 a.m. Oct. 13 at Beardsley Park Recreation Center. Activities include miniature golf at 10 a.m., social hour at 11:30 a.m. and a catered lunch.

Cost is \$7 for members. Call 546-1711 or 546-1450 by Oct. 9.

...

**The Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce** will sponsor a "country street dance" 7-



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10 p.m. Oct. 2 at the Sundome Center for Performing Arts in Sun City West.

The Ron Privett Band, a four-piece combo featuring a variety of instruments and award-winning fiddler Ron Privett, will provide musical entertainment.

A canned food donation to the Westside Food Bank is the cost of admission. Call 583-0692.

...

The Sun Cities TV Production Club will present the following programs Sept. 29:

- "Fun Over Fifty," a seniors dating show, 5 p.m.
- Singer Monti Procopio performs at 5:30 p.m.
- "Let's Talk to our Senator," featuring District 19 State Sen. Jan

Brewer, 6 p.m.

- "Legislature Working for You," 6:30 p.m.

The programs, available only to Dimension Cable subscribers, will be shown on Channel 22.

...

The Sun Cities Symphony Guild will hold a "Picnic Without Ants" from 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Happy Trails Golf Resort, 17200 W. Bell Road, Surprise. Cost of the event is \$15 per person.

All funds will be donated to the Sun Cities Symphony Orchestra. Call 972-6409.

...

Tickets for Theatre West's fall production, "The Foreigner," are now on sale at the Stardust Theatre Box Office in the Kuentz

Recreation Center.

Rehearsals for the production, which stars George Edlin, Dick Muncie, Rosemary Campbell, Emory Green and Pat Young, began earlier this month. The play is directed by Mike Tarr and produced by Doris Klag.

The show will open Oct. 28. Tickets are available at the 10 a.m.-noon Mondays through Friday.

...

The Recreation Centers of Sun City West, Inc. will resume its open-air concert series this fall with a performance by Affinity.

The five-piece band will perform favorites from the '50's, '60's and '70's during a program planned 7 p.m. Oct. 5 at Beardsley Park Recreation Center.

## Stop By And Enjoy The Food & Fun!

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

- INDIAN FRY BREAD
- GUNS FOR HIRE
- OLD TYME PHOTOS TAKEN  
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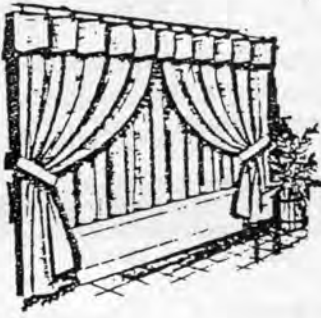
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10 Packs. Assorted Types.

Sale Price **1.00**  
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Big Roll. 99¢ Ea. Value. New Economy Size Roll 50% More!

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39 Oz. Powder Or 32 Oz. Liquid. Sale Price **1.00**  
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# Three Centers offer recre Palm Ridge Rec Center in expansion scheduled for opening April 1, 1994

## Three rec centers now operating

Sun City West has three recreation centers available for residents.

R.H. Johnson Recreation Center, the first, largest and probably best known center, features a swimming pool with diving area and Jacuzzi, therapy pools and an exercise room.

It also includes:

- Shuffleboard courts
- Lawn bowling greens
- Thirty bowling lanes
- A billiard room with 30 tables.
- A 1/4 mile running track with synthetic surface.
- An 18-hole miniature golf course, surrounded by palms and desert landscaping.
- Fifteen regulation tennis courts and eight platform tennis court.
- Handball, racquetball and squash courts
- Dog walking park
- Arts and crafts rooms featuring ceramics, lapidary, silver craft and sewing.
- A library with shelf space for 40,000 volumes and periodical section
- An arcade offering electronic games and pinball machines.
- A 1,200-seat social hall for meetings, dances and other activities

- Card-playing rooms
- Meeting rooms
- Children's playground

## Beardsley Park Recreation Center

Beardsley Park opened in June 1985 and features an indoor-outdoor pool for year-round use. It also has a therapy spa, card rooms, exercise room, men's club, music room and craft rooms for stained glass, china painting, pottery, photography and copper enameling.

The center also includes horseshoe pits, miniature golf and a park area with bandstand, ramadas and charcoal grills.

## Fred P. Kuentz Recreation Center

This center opened in January 1989 and features the 300-seat Stardust Theatre, crafts rooms for metal, woodworking, art and weaving.

It also is home to the Sun City West Women's Social Club, fitness center, softball field and heated indoor pool.

## Seven 18-hole golf courses

The Recreation Centers of Sun City West own five golf courses — Pebblebrook, Stardust, Grandview, Echo Mesa and Trail Ridge. Stardust and Echo Mesa

are executive-length courses.

A sixth course, Deer Valley Golf Course, has been completed in the expansion area of the community and will be turned over to the association in 1994.

Plans also call for an 18-hole executive golf course in the western portion of the expansion area which will be ready for play in 1995.

Briarwood is a private course and the Del Webb-owned Hillcrest is the community's only public course.

## Model Home Center

Currently displayed are 18 floor plans featuring single-family homes, classics and casitas. They range in price from 70,000 to more than 200,000.

## Sundome is entertainment center

A 7,169-seat indoor theater built by Del Webb Corp. and now owned and operated by Arizona State University. It opened in September, 1980 and is the largest single-level theater in the country.

## Medical Services

Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital services the community and offers a variety of medical services, complementing those offered by its sister hospital, Walter O. Boswell Memorial, in Sun City.

## That's entertainment



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customers to drop in and  
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# ational, social activities



The expansion area will include the championship Deer Valley Golf Course, an as-yet-unnamed executive golf course located in the western portion of the expansion and the Palm Ridge Recreation Center, a 51,000 square foot facility that will include two indoor pools, an outdoor resort-style pool, indoor jogging track and fitness center.

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Happy 15th Birthday Sun City West!  
and a special "THANKS" for our success



*De Grazia*



The Sundome Center for the Performing Arts is a 7,169-seat indoor theater built by Del Webb Corp. and now owned and operated by Arizona State University. It opened in September 1980 and is the largest single-level theater in the country.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY SUN CITY WEST!



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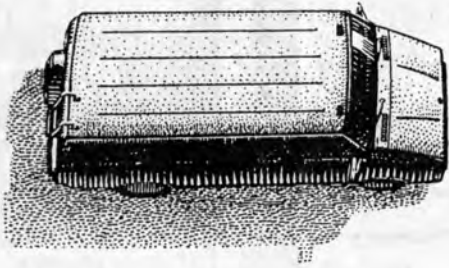
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The Sundome Center for the Performing Arts is a 7,169-seat indoor theater built by Del Webb Corp. and now owned and operated by Arizona State University. It opened in September 1980 and is the largest single-level theater in the country.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY SUN CITY WEST!



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Pedicures &  
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Chair Available for Lease

**583-8846**

16065 NW Grand Ave  
Surprise

Tues. - Sat. 8am-5pm

# Sun City West Club Calendar

## Wednesday

**SCW WOMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Kuentz Center. Card playing. Call 546-4236.

**CRESTVIEW RIDERS CLUB** bikes 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday from Echo Mesa Golf Course parking lot, 20349 Echo Mesa Drive. Group 1 rides 10-12 miles; Group 2 rides 8-10 miles; Group 3 rides 6-8 miles. Call 584-8347.

**HARMONICA SAINTS**, 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays, The Madison. Weekly rehearsal. Public invited. Call 974-9056.

**SCW ONE-PARTNER BRIDGE CLUB**, 6:45 p.m. Wednesdays, Beardsley Park Center.

**SCW DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB**, 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Mondays and 6:45 p.m. Fridays and Tuesdays, Beardsley Park Center, Rooms 1, 2, 3 and 4. Call 584-6191.

**STRETCH AND TONE**, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Friday and Monday in the R.H. Johnson Social Hall. Call 584-5911.

**SUN WEST ART CLUB**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, Kuentz Center. Open art. Call 584-1750.

**JAZZERCISE**, 9:15 a.m. Wednesdays, Fridays, Mondays at Johnson Social Hall. Aerobics for men and women. Call 546-1415.

**SCW COPPER ENAMELISTS**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, Beardsley Park Center. Call 584-6037 or 584-4331.

**ENERGETIC EXERCISE**, 8-9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, R.H. Johnson Social Hall.

**RIP & SEW CLUB OF SCW**, 9 a.m. Wednesday, R.H. Johnson Center. Traveler dress class until 4 p.m. Club also meets 1 p.m. Sept. 30 for board meeting.

**CREATIVE SILK FLOWER CLUB OF SCW**, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sept. 29, Kuentz Center Room 5. Open house; sign up for classes 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 584-7613.

**SCW ENCORE ROUND DANCE CLUB**, 1-9:15 p.m. Wednesdays, R.H. Johnson Social Hall. Phases IV, V 1-3 p.m.; Phases III, IV 5:15-7:15 p.m.; Phases V, VI 7:15-9:15 p.m. Call 546-0143 or 972-8560.

**ALTRUSA CLUB OF THE SUN CITIES**, 7:30 a.m. Oct. 6, Lou's Tivoli Gardens. Pat Young, district

7:45 p.m.; plus level dancing 7:45-9:30 p.m. Club also dances Mondays. Call 584-1292 or 584-0251.

**SUN CITY CIRCLE DANCERS**, 6 p.m. Thursdays, Bell Social Hall. Round dancing. Easy dancing 6-7 p.m.; intermediate 7-8 p.m.; both levels 8-9 p.m. Call 933-5610 or 584-4074.

**SCW WESTERNAIRES CHORUS**, 8 a.m. Thursdays, Stardust Theatre at Kuentz Center. Rehearsal. Call 584-6965.

**NEW YORK STATE CLUB OF SCW**, 10 a.m. Oct. 7, Community Services Building. Open meeting. Discussion of future plans. Nora Godley, a massage therapist, will talk about the benefits of massage. Call 584-1449 or 546-1918.

**SCW CERAMICS CLUB**, 10 a.m. Oct. 7, Johnson Social Hall East. Monthly meeting and luncheon.

**TELEPHONE PIONEERS OF AMERICA SUN CITY LIFE MEMBER CLUB**, 11 a.m. Oct. 7, Sun City Country Club. Dottie Masek will entertain. Cost \$8.50 members, \$11 guests. Call 584-0260 by noon Oct. 4.

## Friday

**SCW ROTARY CLUB**, noon Fridays, Crestview Restaurant.

**RIP & SEW CLUB OF SCW**, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Fridays, R.H. Johnson Center. Sewing for needy children. Sewing assistance available every Monday and Friday. Club also meets 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 2 for quilt-in-a-day class and 9 a.m.-noon Oct. 4 for quilted place mat class.

**SUN COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE CLUB**, 6-9 p.m. Fridays, Sundial Center. Call 977-4762, 974-6946.

**MACS WEST — MACINTOSH USERS' GROUP**, 1 p.m. Oct. 1, Beardsley Center Computer Room. Business meeting and library demonstration. Call 584-9279 or 584-3642.

**WEAVERS WEST**, 9 a.m. Oct. 1, Kuentz Center. Monthly membership meeting. Peggy Crews Simmons will talk about rug weaving techniques.

**UNIVERSITY CLUB OF THE SUN CITIES AREA**, 9:30 a.m. Oct. 7, First Presbyterian Church. Monthly meeting. Dr. Ernest B.

Grundy will talk about "How Literary Critics Work."

**ONEG SHABBAT**, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 1, Community Services Building. Keyboard artist Bobby Freeman entertains.

## Weekend

**SCW DUPLICATE BRIDGE**, 12:30 p.m. Saturdays, Beardsley Park Center. Call 584-6191.

**SCW LADIES CONTRACT BRIDGE**, 12:15 p.m. Saturdays, Beardsley Park Center. Call 584-7921.

**HILLCREST DANCE CLUB**, 8-11 p.m. Saturdays, R.H. Johnson Social Hall. Ballroom dancing. Music by Ric Woolley. Jackets required, BYOB. Singles welcome. Cost \$1 members; \$3 guests.

**SOLITAIRES, INC.**, 8 p.m. Saturdays, Johnson Social Hall. Dancing to live music. Club also meets 6:30 p.m. Sundays, Crestview Restaurant for dancing to live music.

**SCW COUNTRY WESTERN DANCERS**, 6:30 p.m. Oct. 3, R.H. Johnson Social Hall. New season. Rich and Jinna Mitch instruct Arizona two-step. Call 546-1920.

**ALPHA DELTA KAPPA, FIDELIS ALPHA CHAPTER**, 8 a.m. Oct. 2, Crown Sterling Suites, Biltmore Fashion Park, Phoenix. Central District Founders' Day meeting, observing 46th anniversary. Call 972-8390 or 584-4735 for reservations.

**SCW REPUBLICAN CLUB**, 2-4 p.m. Oct. 3, Sun City West Foundation. Cost \$2.50. Meet Republican officials. Call 584-6699.

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI CLUB OF THE SUN CITIES**, 11 a.m. Oct. 16, Briarwood Country Club. Luncheon to honor Johnny Orr, a University of Michigan coach who is now head coach at Iowa State University. Mr. Orr is also the guest speaker. Cost \$14. Call 584-0563 or 584-9341 by Oct. 9.

## Monday

**PIONEER LIONS CLUB**, noon Mondays, Crestview Restaurant.

**SCW DESERT WRITER'S GUILD**, 1 p.m. first and third Monday, Shepherd of the Hills Methodist Church library. Open to authors, published or not. Call 584-7613.

**SCW PINOCHLE CLUB**, noon-4 p.m. Mondays, Beardsley Park Center Room 4. Newcomers welcome.

**CRIBBAGE CLUB OF SCW**, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays, Kuentz Center, Room 2. Games vs. nine opponents; ACC rules. Call 584-4510.

**CALLIGRAPHY WEST**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays, Kuentz Center Room 5. Beginning and intermediate italic classes meet October, November and December. Call 546-1502.

**PI BETA PHI ALUMNA GROUP**, 11:30 a.m. Oct. 4, El Dorado of Sun City. Luncheon, bridge. Cost \$8.50. Call 584-1023 or 972-5750 by Sept. 30.

**BACKGAMMON CLUB OF NORTHWEST VALLEY**, 1 p.m. Mondays, R.H. Johnson Center. Tournament-style backgammon competition. Call 974-5355 or 546-8734.

**ALPHA GAMMA DELTA**, 10 a.m. Oct. 4, Crestview Restaurant. Brunch. Call 974-0571 or 584-9062 for reservations.

**SCW LINE DANCERS**, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1:30-3 p.m. Saturdays, Johnson Social Hall.

**Tuesday**

**SCW CONTRACT BRIDGE**, 12:15 p.m. Tuesdays, Beardsley Park Center. Contract bridge.

**SCW KIWANIS OCOTILLO**, 11:45 a.m. Tuesdays, Crestview Restaurant. Luncheon meeting. Cost \$7.

**KIWANIS CLUB OF SCW**, 8 a.m. Tuesdays, Community Services Building.

**SURPRISE GRAND-BELL ROTARY CLUB**, 6:45 a.m. Tuesdays, Two Guys Family Restaurant, 16551 N. Dysart Road. Call 942-0902 or 930-4048.

**SCW ENCORE ROUND DANCE CLUB**, 6:30-9:15 p.m. Tuesdays, R.H. Johnson Social Hall. Phases II, III, IV and V. Beginner's class in two-step round

dance basics, 4:30-6:15 p.m. Call 546-6509.

**HARMONICARES HARMONICA BAND**, noon Tuesdays, Camino del Sol Funeral Chapel. Call 584-2217 or 972-4674.

**SCW WOMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB**, 12:45 p.m. Tuesdays, Kuentz Center. Party (progressive) bridge. Call 546-4236.

**SCW GARDEN CLUB**, 9 a.m. Oct. 5, R.H. Johnson Lecture Hall. A panel of master gardeners will answer questions for 20 minutes. Rita Joe Anthony will discuss wildflowers.

**CLUB ESPAÑOL**, 8:30 a.m. Oct. 5, Kuentz Center. Fall registration for all levels of Spanish classes. Call 584-8320 or 546-1814.

**SUN CITIES SCOTS**, 5 p.m. Oct. 5, Crestview Banquet Room. Dinner meeting. Dolores Williamson, a ventriloquist, and "Chester" will talk about "Learning Scottish Lingo." Call 546-6714 by Oct. 2.

**CLUB SCANDINAVIA**, noon Oct. 5, Crestview Restaurant. Accordion player Joanne Waite will perform. Cost \$10. Call 584-3612 by Oct. 1.

**MACS WEST — MACINTOSH USERS' GROUP**, 1 p.m. Oct. 5, Beardsley Center Computer Room. Bill Unger will talk about Macintosh basic software. Call 584-6631.

**RETIRED INSURANCE EXECUTIVES CLUB**, noon Oct. 12, Lakes Club. Luncheon meeting. Guest speaker is Kevin Willey, political columnist for the *Arizona Republic*. Open to all former associates of Property/Casualty, Life, A & H and Claims. Call 933-1537.

**Club Travels**

**ROADRUNNER'S TRAVEL CLUB** is sponsoring a four-day tour to Yuma, Lake Havasu and Laughlin, Nev., Nov. 9-12. Cost \$322 double. Call 584-5212 by Nov. 3.

**JOHNNIE & CONNIE'S LOW ROLLERS** is sponsoring a trip to Laughlin Oct. 18-20. Trip will include Octoberfest celebration at Riverside Resort. Cost \$72 double; \$82 single. Call 977-1904.





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#101  
In Sun City West

504-1000

director from Tucson, pays visit to club.

**LAUGH-IN CLUB**, 1 p.m. Oct. 6, Great American Bank on Johnson Boulevard, Sun City West. Public welcome to come hear or tell jokes. Call 584-5769.

## Thursday

**AQUAMOTION-SPLASH**, 7:45 a.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays, Beardsley Park Pool. Water aerobics for men and women. Call 546-1415.

**SUNRISE LIONS CLUB**, 7:30 a.m. Thursdays, Crestview Restaurant. Buffet breakfast. Call 584-7347.

**SCW MAH JONGG CLUB**, 11:30 a.m.-3:40 p.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays, Beardsley Park Center. Call 584-5781.

**SCW PAN SOCIAL CLUB**, 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Beardsley Park. New members welcome. Free instructions to members only.

**SCW PALO VERDE PATCHERS**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays, Kuentz Center Room 5. Open quilting. Business meeting 9:30 a.m. followed by program every second Tuesday. Call 584-9016, 584-6767.

**SCW MAC-CRO-KNIT**, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Thursdays, Kuentz Center Room 3.

**WESTERNERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB OF SCW**, 6-9:30 p.m. Thursdays R.H. Johnson Social Hall. Mainstream dancing 6-



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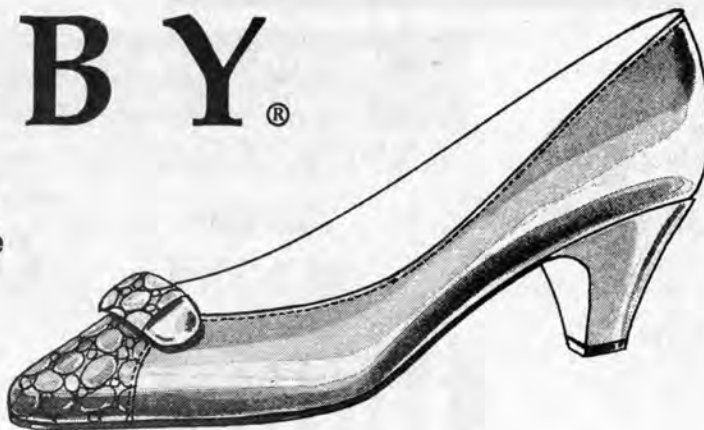
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## Kyle SHOES

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Sun City West!

546-8000

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Includes Soup & Egg Roll

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Choose from 14 combinations.  
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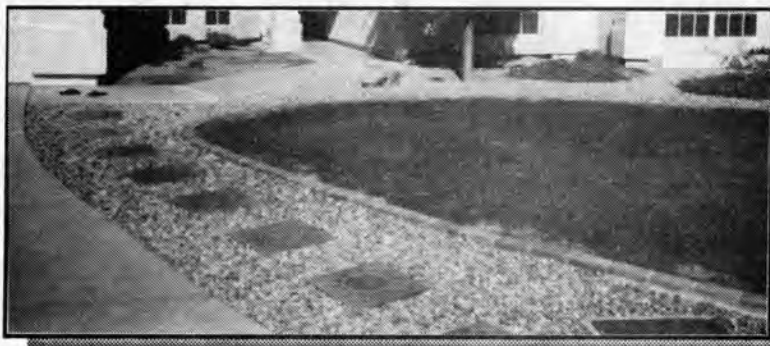
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North Phoenix

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Cave Creek & Union Hills



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DISPLAY

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West Valley

233-2971

59th Ave & Broadway

# Sun City West Home Sales

Early homes in Sun City West cost \$52,990 to \$101,000. Recent home sales show how times have changed.

## Sun City West — 85375

The following is a partial list of home sales in Sun City West during June and July:

**13201 Castlebar Drive;** buyer: Bernard L. Esperance; seller: Duane Nickel; price: \$109,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,486; year built: 1981

**21027 125th Ave.;** buyer: Oma M. Bishop, Trustee; seller: Wanda K. Chermak; price: \$105,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,020; year built: 1983

**12424 Aurora Drive;** buyer: Marci Fogelson; seller: Wynn Breen; price: \$90,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,565; year built: 1983

**12758 Ballard Drive;** buyer: Herman Vandestraat; seller: Frederick Coulson, trustee; price: \$113,000; property type: condominium; sq. ft.: 1,419; year built: 1983

**12746 Gable Hill Drive;** buyer: Robert E. Beatty; seller: Chester C. Anderson; price: \$83,500; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,122; year built: 1983

**13307 Ballard Drive;** buyer: James C. Vanderlip; seller: Florence Gallivan, trustee;

price: \$185,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,519; year built: 1984

**14411 Yosemite Drive;** buyer: John J. Bajor; seller: Ruben Dodds; price: \$75,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,228; year built: 1987

**14110 White Rock Drive;** buyer: Elisabe McNeill; seller: Lester M. Larson; price: \$86,500; property type: condominium; sq. ft.: 1,411; year built: 1987

**13114 Paintbrush Drive;** buyer: Doris A. Fuller; seller: Jeanne S. Anderson, revocable trust; price: \$155,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,319; year built: 1983

**21209 132nd Drive;** buyer: Lester M. Whearty; seller: Ross B. Robinson; price: \$93,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,953; year built: 1983

**13235 Stardust Blvd.;** buyer: Herbert R. Creely; seller: Thomas J. Furlan; price: \$163,900; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,251; year built: 1984

**21030 124th Ave.;** buyer: Anthony L. Dibiasio; seller: James M. Rowe; price: \$185,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,235; year built: 1985

**12327 Firebird Drive;** buyer: Julia Chalanyca; seller: Lorette E. Eby; price: \$103,900; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,853; year built: 1985

**13640 Aleppo Drive;** buyer: Miriam E.

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Harris; seller: J.D. Headington; price: \$89,900; property type: condominium; sq. ft.: 1,150; year built: 1987

**13647 Bolero Drive**; buyer: Katherine A. Pedersen; seller: Shirley E. Anderson; price: \$86,000; property type: condominium; sq. ft.: 1,377; year built: 1987

**14107 Gable Hill Drive**; buyer: Mary A. Ingram; seller: Frankie Nappier; price: \$85,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,208; year built: 1987

**14103 Gable Hill Drive**; buyer: Winston A. Morris; seller: John I. Trenaman; price: \$90,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,411; year built: 1987

**20627 142nd Ave.**; buyer: Gerald Debrow; seller: George R. Bertram; price: \$165,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1987

**21043 Desert Sands Drive**; buyer: Alfred J. Morris; seller: Regina M. Dunn; price: \$207,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,550; year built: 1988

**13710 Gable Hill Drive**; buyer: Donald C. Huke; seller: Donald L. Fisher; price: \$120,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,677; year built: 1987

**18021 Hyacinth Drive**; buyer: Jacquelyn Layford; seller: Dorothy Adler; price: \$88,300; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,391; year built: 1986

**18818 Suncrest Court**; buyer: Janis D. Grange; seller: Gaile M. Schirmer; price: \$149,000; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,103; year built: 1986

**19010 143rd Ave.**; buyer: L.D. Hardesty; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$142,547; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,528; year built: 1985

**19010 Aloe Court**; buyer: Twila B. Guss; seller: Marjorie Jungbluth; price: \$159,500; property type: single family residence; price: \$159,500; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,103; year built: 1985

**14711 Calumet Drive**; buyer: Ronald C. Sovetskis; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$143,240; property type: vacant residential

**15044 Yosemite Drive**; buyer: James L. Read; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$149,172; property type: vacant residential

**15012 Yosemite Drive**; buyer: Maxine L. Jones; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$97,514; property type: vacant residential

**15017 Yosemite Drive**; buyer: Robert H. Kosal, trustee; seller: George T. Seymour; price: \$134,000; property type: vacant residential

**14938 Buttonwood Drive**; buyer: Louis B. Meyer; seller: Del E. Webb Development

Co.; price: \$108,473; property type: vacant residential

**14950 Buttonwood Drive**; buyer: Epraim E. Umphreyes; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$94,745; property type: vacant residential.

**15002 Buttonwood Drive**; buyer: Lawrence A. Skye; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$91,380; property type: vacant residential.

**20419 Tanglewood Drive**; buyer: Eugene C. Wilson; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$154,434; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 2,182; year built: 1992

**14923 Aloha Drive**; buyer: Shirley J. Magnuson; seller: Louise Sinclair; price: \$86,500; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,176; year built: 1991

**14911 Ravenswood Drive**; buyer: Robert N. Bump; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$149,041; property type: single family residence; sq. ft.: 1,816; year built: 1992

**20404 Tanglewood Drive**; buyer: Lee A. Barnes; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$114,474; property type: vacant residential

**20408 Tanglewood Drive**; buyer: Wayne C. Bicknase; seller: Del E. Webb Development Co.; price: \$113,964; property type: vacant residential



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- Orthopedic Work
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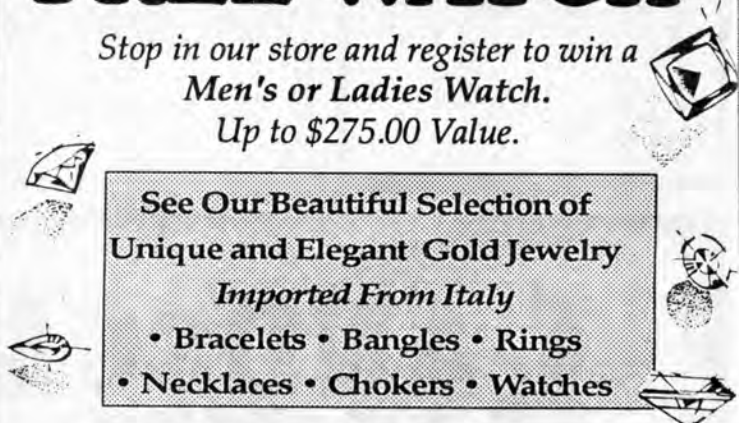
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Sleeve alterations included

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**Now**

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