

# Banner Del E. Webb Hospital unveils \$10.9M progressive care unit

TAUNTON, Mass. (AP) — A woman who encouraged her suicidal boyfriend to kill himself in dozens of text messages and told him to "get back in" a truck filled with toxic gas was sentenced Thursday to 15 months in jail for involuntary manslaughter.

July 31, 2017 *Health & Fitness, News*



From left, Progressive Care

Unit Director Mary Smith, Banner Del E. Webb Chief Executive Officer Debbie Flores and Sun Health President and Chief Executive Officer Ronald Guziak prepare to cut the ribbon to celebrate the completion of the new progressive care unit at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. [Submitted photo]

**By Caitlin Wendt**

*Special to Independent Newsmedia*

Officials celebrated the completion on July 20 of a new \$10.9 million progressive care unit at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. The new unit will open to patients Tuesday, Aug. 1.

The hospital converted a 22,952-square-foot shelled space on the fifth floor of the "D" tower into a new unit to treat patients with a variety of conditions, including congestive heart failure, renal disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and diabetes.

Physicians typically send patients to a progressive care unit who have a history of heart problems and require close heart monitoring during their stay. The unit also serves as a stepping stone for patients well enough to leave the intensive care unit, but who require a higher level of monitoring than what is provided in the hospital's medical-surgical units.

The new 28-bed all-private-room unit not only increases the bed count for the facility to 394, but enhances the 30-year-old hospital's capabilities. In the unit, there is a large central telemetry monitoring room that will service the entire hospital, as well as Wickenburg Community Hospital.

The room houses technicians who continually monitor vital signs and heart rhythms of patients via a bank of monitors and other specialized equipment. Other features of the unit include a familywaiting area, a conference room and a private consult room for clinicians to meet with families.

Banner Health and Sun Health Foundation committed \$5.9 million to the \$10.9 million expansion and the foundation continues to work with community donors to raise the remaining \$5 million. Sun Health Foundation is the philanthropic partner of Banner Del E Webb Medical Center, Banner Boswell Medical Center and the Banner Sun Health Research Institute.

Visit [www.BannerHealth.com/Webb](http://www.BannerHealth.com/Webb).

*Editor's Note: Caitlin Wendt is a public relations specialist for Banner Health.*

# 25 Years of Making a Difference 1988-2013



Banner Del E. Webb  
Medical Center

## Interesting Facts and milestones

In the planning stages the hospital was referred to as “The Sun City West Hospital” or “Boswell West”

October 7, 1985 – Groundbreaking ceremony for the proposed hospital. Baseball Hall of Fame slugger Mickey Mantle takes part in ceremony. (Del E. Webb was a part-owner of the Yankees during Mantle’s tenure)

January 4, 1988 – Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital opens built by the Del E. Webb Corporation

The SAGE Unit is the first in-patient medical psychiatric unit in Arizona

First year numbers:

- 1,363 Admissions
- 3,799 Emergency department visits
- 230 physicians on staff
- 38,000 volunteer hours
- \$1 million in cash donations raised by Sun Health Foundation

The names of 650 “Founders” appear on plaques on the “Founders Fountain” outside the East entrance

1989 – the hospital wins three year Joint Commission accreditation

July 1989 – Tom Dickson (currently CEO of Banner Thunderbird) is named Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. He eventually assumed the position of Executive Vice President and CEO of the hospital

1991 – Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) installed making Boswell and Webb the first hospitals in the world to use this system. Made possible through \$2.2 million raised by the Sun Health Foundation

# 25 Years of Making a Difference 1988-2013



Banner Del E. Webb  
Medical Center

1991- Marcia Wallace, actress famous for her role as Carol Kester on the Bob Newhart Show shared her experience with cancer at one of a series of "Cast Your Vote for Healthy Choices" seminars.

Feb. 2, 2002 -- Opening of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health designed to meet the healthcare needs of adult women of all ages from diagnostics to obstetrics. First deliveries in The Nesting Place Obstetrical Suites-- twins!

826 babies were delivered at Del E. Webb by the end of the 1988

March 18, 2002 -- the 1,000<sup>th</sup> baby is delivered

"Women building for women" was the motto for the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health because several key roles from fundraising to construction manager were held by women.

Louisa Kellam is a famed violinist. She and her husband Birt helped the Sun Health Foundation raise millions of dollars toward the expansion of the center. They also provided a generous private donation.

2007 -- The Nesting Place Obstetrical Suites hits a milestone with the delivery of the 10,000<sup>th</sup> baby

September 2008 -- Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital becomes Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center with merger between Banner Health and Sun Health.

February 17, 2009 -- D-Tower opens to first patients. The 175,000 square foot addition brings total beds to 404, expands the Emergency department and has shelled space for an additional 92 beds.

September 2009 -- Digital mammography offered for first time

March 2010 -- 12-lead, digital EKG, started through a pilot program with Surprise Fire, allows first responders to transmit digital EKG to emergency department and even to physician's smart phones!

# 25 Years of Making a Difference 1988-2013



Banner Del E. Webb  
Medical Center

May 2010 – Introduction of Breast Specific Gamma Imaging (BSGI) offers another diagnostic tool for detecting breast cancer.

May 2011 – Banner CORE Center for Orthopedics, a joint venture between the CORE Institute and Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center is formed.

At the Banner CORE Center for Orthopedics grand opening, Cincinnati Reds, Hall of Fame catcher Johnny Bench delivers Keynote

November 2011—daVinci robot welcomed to surgical team

February 2012 – New cardiac catheterization lab opens

July 2013 – SAGE Unit refurbished to give patients a more pleasant environment

February 2013 – New state of the art endoscopy suite opens

Present day Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center by the numbers for 2012:

- 404 beds
- 1,750 employees
- 650 physicians
- 1,200 volunteers providing 176,533 hours
- 20,131 in-patient visits
- 57,153 out-patient visits
- 55,821 Emergency department visits
- 1,712 babies delivered
- 1,727 employees

Since 1988 our volunteers have given more than 4,500,000 volunteer hours!!

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center is a major employer in the Northwest Valley

## Heart wall unveiled to recognize donors supporting patient care

Community support for superior health care was celebrated recently at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center with the unveiling of a Donor Recognition Wall on the new 5D Progressive Care Unit (PCU). Debbie Flores, hospital CEO, and Joe LaRue, Sun Health President/CEO, personally thanked donors who supported construction of the state-of-the-art PCU complete with 28 private rooms. Sun Health Foundation is the exclusive fundraising partner for the hospital. Together with community support, they ensure West Valley residents have access to the best in medical care and wellness programs.

## Donors contribute to superior health care

In show of heartfelt appreciation to donors, a Donor Recognition Wall was unveiled recently on Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center's 5D Progressive Care Unit (PCU). Debbie Flores, hospital CEO, and Joe LaRue, Sun Health President/CEO, personally thanked donors who supported construction of the state-of-the-art PCU complete with 28 private rooms. Sun Health Foundation is the exclusive philanthropic partner for the hospital. Together with community support, they ensure West Valley residents have access to the best in medical care and wellness programs.

## Donors recognized with heart wall unveiling at BDWMC (Facebook)

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# Community News

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Got a tip? Contact News Editor Rusty Bradshaw at rbradshaw@newszap.com

## HEALTH

# Banner to host free injury prevention event



Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center will host the Banner Traveling Safety Town event 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 in the auditorium at the hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. [Submitted photo]

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, people 65 years of age and older are most susceptible to pedestrian injuries and death.

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center will educate the public on how to prevent those injuries and others during its Banner Traveling Safety Town event 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 in the auditorium at the hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West.

In addition to learning to prevent pedestrian injuries, attendees will have the opportunity to learn

about safety hazards in the house, as well as all-terrain vehicle and bike safety.

The Banner Traveling Safety Town event will also offer free: balance

evaluations; assessments for proper usage of assistive devices; education re-

» See Health on page 3

## Health

» From page 2

guarding safe disposal and storage of medications; car seat safety information for infants and children; first aid and fire safety tips; orthopedic resources education; urgent care services education; and trauma program and emergency department services education.

“Unfortunately we see

too many people coming into our Emergency Room because of injuries they may have sustained either at home or while they were having fun,” said Matthew Lynch, MD, trauma medical director at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center. “We hope this event teaches them how to prevent these injuries, and also provides them with valuable resources for the types of services we offer

here at the hospital should they ever need us.”

The event will also feature light refreshments and is free to the public.

Call 602-230-2273 to register.

Supporting Banner Del E. Webb’s mission is Sun Health Foundation, which encourages charitable giving to enhance health care delivery.

Visit [www.BannerHealth.com/Webb](http://www.BannerHealth.com/Webb).

VF scw Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital

# Community News

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## HEALTH

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[ CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE • 1988-2013 ]



**Banner Del E. Webb**  
Medical Center

## **Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center *celebrating special anniversary***

**T**WENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, a small hospital opened in Sun City West. It was a sister hospital to the then-named Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City and was also built by Sun Health and the Del E. Webb Corporation. These hospitals were the centerpieces of the two Sun City communities and ensured that residents would have access to the best health care available in the region.

This hospital, which began life as Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, was built largely using dollars generously donated by residents and businesses in the community, who understood the importance of having access to high quality health care. The new hospital opened its doors for the first time on Jan. 4, 1988.

The hospital started with 120 beds housed in two five-story patient towers serving the approximately 16,000 residents living in Sun City West at the time. Many of the staff that worked at Boswell also worked at Webb and some transferred to help open the facility. A number of staff, volunteers and physicians still remain dedicated to working for the hospital to this day.

By the end of its first year, Banner Del E. Webb had seen 1,363 inpatients, performed 553 surgeries and treated 3,799 patients in its Emergency department. The hospital's volunteers generously donated more than 38,000 hours of service. There were 230 physicians on staff and by the next year the medical staff grew to 315. Banner Del E. Webb became a major employer in the community with nearly 300 staff, the majority of which came from the Northwest Valley. ■

***"Our nonprofit hospital is a true community hospital in every sense of the word and it is because of your continued commitment, dedication and support."***



## OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

*While no one knows what the future may bring, one thing is certain: Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center will continue to grow and respond to the needs to the community. Presently, the nonprofit hospital boasts 404 beds, more than 1,700 employees and 1,200 volunteers.*

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 2, Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center invites the community to come to an **open house** celebrating its 25-year history and learn what is available now and what the future has in store. A health lecture featuring the hospital's new spine surgeon, Dr. Mark Dekutowski, will be followed by a health fair, activities and refreshments.

The event will be 80s themed with lots of memorabilia and even a photo booth where you can go back to the 80s and take home a memento of the event.

### RESERVE YOUR SPACE

To reserve your space please call 602-230-CARE (2273) or visit [www.bannerhealth.com/230CARE](http://www.bannerhealth.com/230CARE) to register online.



*"This is truly a remarkable financial commitment by both organizations," said Ron Guziak, President and CEO of Sun Health. "These dollars would simply not have been available without the wisdom of the Sun Health Board to merge assets with Banner."*

## THANK YOU FOR 25 YEARS OF SUPPORT



Debbie Flores, CEO

**A**s CEO at Banner Del E. Webb it is my privilege to recognize this milestone anniversary year and usher in the next quarter century and beyond. Our nonprofit hospital is a true community hospital in every sense of the word and it is because of your continued commitment, dedication and support.

Do you know that we have 1,200 volunteers who last year alone gave 176,533 hours of service to this hospital and since we opened in 1988 have given us more than 4.5 million hours? Added to this wonderful group of volunteers are our physicians, clinical and support staff members who go above and beyond every day to help us fulfill Banner Health's mission of "making a difference in

people's lives through excellent patient care." I cannot begin to thank them enough. Together, we have built a reputation for excellence specializing in cardiac services, women's health, stroke care and orthopedics, to name just a few.

Recently we earned Joint Commission accreditation both as a hospital and as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center. *Phoenix Business Journal* has also listed us as one of America's Top 50 Hospitals as designated by HealthGrades. We were also named in the top 14 of all hospitals in the metro-Phoenix area along with five other Banner facilities by US News & World Report.

As we look toward the next 25 years, I want to thank you for your continued support. Come help us celebrate our 25th anniversary at a special community open house and lecture to be held from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. March 2 at the hospital. You'll have the chance to meet our staff, learn more about our services and enjoy free refreshments! I look forward to seeing you!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Flores".

Debbie Flores, CEO  
Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center

# MILESTONES IN CARE

[ 1988 ]

## SAGE unit distinguishes Banner Del E. Webb in Valley

While the two hospitals offered similar services for the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of a primarily adult population, Sun Health introduced Arizona's first inpatient, critical-care medical/psychiatric program. The SAGE (Support, Adaptation, Growth and Enrichment) unit provides medical care to seniors with reduced mental function.

[ 2002 ]

## Community growth spurred expansion

Del E. Webb continued to grow with the community and to reflect the changes of that burgeoning populace. By the turn of the century, young working class families were moving into the area and the hospital realized the need to expand its services.

On Feb. 2, 2002, The Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, a \$46 million expansion, generously funded by Sun Health Foundation and donors Birt and Louisa Kellam, opened to provide expanded gynecologic imaging and diagnostic services for women of all ages and the Nesting Place Obstetrical Suites. The new addition opened just in time; the first babies born were twins! The center celebrated the birth of its 10,000th baby in March 2007.

## The following are some of the recent enhancements to the facility's services:

**May 2011**

Banner CORE Center for Orthopedics formed



**November 2011**

daVinci robot welcomed to surgical team



**February 2012**

New cardiac catheterization lab opens



**July 2012**

SAGE Unit refurbishing



**February 2013**

New state-of-the-art Endoscopy Suite opens



[ 2008 ]

## Merger with Banner Health

In 2008, Sun Health and Banner Health joined forces when the two systems merged, naming the hospitals Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center and Banner Boswell Medical Center. Throughout its 25-year history Sun Health has supported nonprofit Banner Del E. Webb from both a managerial and philanthropic level through the Sun Health Foundation. Sun Health Foundation continues to support both community medical centers through its philanthropic work.

[ 2009 ]

In 2009, a new 175,000-square-foot, six-story tower opened, making Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center the eighth largest hospital in the Valley and one of the Northwest Valley's largest employers. This \$86 million investment is further testament to the value Sun Health Foundation and its donors place on this hospital. The addition expanded the Emergency department and added 74 licensed beds, bringing the total licensed beds at the facility to 404.

## Banner Del E. Webb and Sun Health: 25 years of giving and growing



As Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center celebrates 25 years, Sun Health reflects on a rich history and pauses to thank a giving community for its generosity and vision for local superior

health care. Developed by Sun Health and supported by committed residents who wanted their own medical center in Sun City West, Banner Del E. Webb has grown to become a nationally recognized hospital that boasts top care and service that reaches beyond local boundaries.

A decade ago, Sun Health broadened the scope of services to include obstetrics to reflect the needs of the area. The birth of twins on Feb. 2, 2002 launched the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health. Named after longtime Sun Health Foundation donors Birt and Louisa Kellam, the center expanded services for women in every stage of life.

Persistent determination and vision enabled Sun Health's Board of Directors to identify an operating partner four years ago who shared Sun Health's mission. Since Banner Health purchased the two Sun Health hospitals, more than \$150 million of capital has been invested with approximately \$42 million coming from Sun Health.

"This is truly a remarkable financial commitment by both organizations," said Ron Guziak, President and CEO of Sun Health. "These dollars would simply not have been available without the wisdom of the Sun Health Board to merge assets with Banner."

This partnership was further solidified with the creation of the Sun Health Care Transitions program, funded through Sun Health. The program provides free special transition services to patients with chronic disease in their home following a hospital stay. To date nearly 400 patients are participating in the program and only four percent have been readmitted to the hospital within 30 days of discharge, far exceeding the Medicare national average of 20 percent.

The Sun Health Foundation continues as the fundraising arm for Banner Boswell and Banner Del E. Webb medical centers, and Banner Sun Health Research Institute. To date more than \$310 million has been raised for the local community; support critical to the continued success of these entities. Thanks to the generosity of the community, superior health and health living programs will flourish in the Northwest Valley - now and for future generations to come. ■

# Webb hospital marks 25th anniversary

**TINA GAMEZ**

DAILY NEWS-SUN

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center in Sun City West celebrated its 25th anniversary with an open house Saturday.

The event included speakers, a health fair and food.

There was a presentation by Dr. Mark Dekutowski from CORE Institute and the medical center's new spine surgeon.

At the health fair, Marissa Johnson, an outpatient physical therapist, led interactive activities to help determine a person's ability to keep their balance. She used a shuttle balance machine, which she

described as "a wonderful machine just so we can retest your balance and see kind of what you have difficulties with. If it's just the single-leg stance, lifting one leg up in the air or if it's not using your hands or if it's with closing your eyes. Just to kind of help retrain that whole neuromuscular system."

Johnson also had a timed-up-and-go test, which determines fall risk. She placed a bottle several feet away from a chair and participants were asked to get up, walk at a normal pace around the bottle, then go back and sit down.

Approximately 300 people attended the open house.



JAROD OPPERMAN/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center celebrates its 25th anniversary Saturday with an open house in Sun City West.

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also available online at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)*



## Webb Medical Center marks 25th anniversary

STAFF REPORT

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center in Sun City West will celebrate its 25th anniversary with an open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 2.

The event will begin with a special program from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the auditorium near the Women's Center en-

trance with special guests Debbie Flores, CEO; Kathy Bollinger, president, Arizona West Region; and Ron Guziak, president and CEO, Sun Health; and a special health presentation by Banner Del E. Webb's new spine surgeon, Dr. Mark Dekutowski.

The program will be followed by a health fair, 1980s-themed

activities and food in the Healing Garden and D Tower Lobby.

To reserve a space, call 602-230-2273 or visit [www.banner-health.com/230CARE](http://www.banner-health.com/230CARE) to register online.

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center is at 14502 W. Meeker Blvd.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

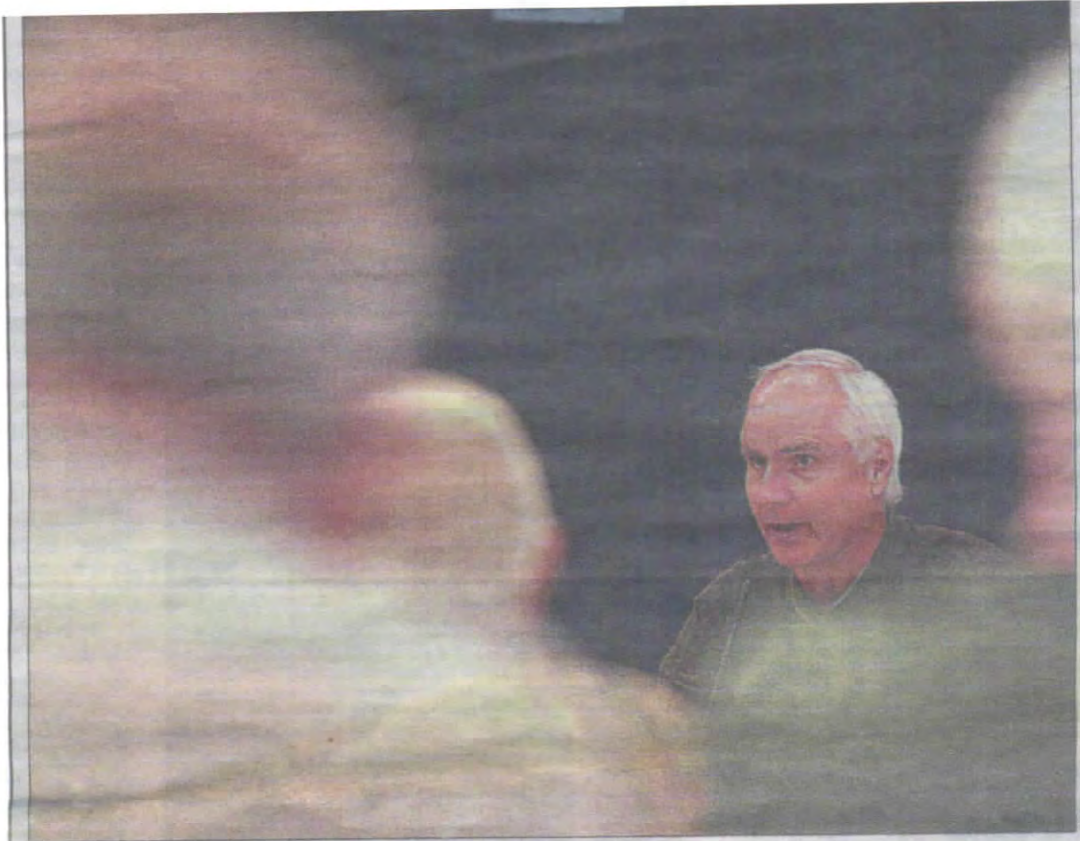
Registered nurse Kurt Fretz trains on Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center's new daVinci surgical robot.





PARENTS: MARCUS & TAMMY Kennedy  
Twins SCOTT & GRANT  
COREY - age 9 "big brother"  
1st babies born DEWMH  
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DAVE MARTINEZ/DAILY NEWS-SUN

RCSCW Governing Board President Dave Moeller is seen through the crowd during Thursday's meeting at the R. H. Johnson Recreation Center.

## RCSCW nixes costly room

**MITCHELL VANTREASE**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The debate about a \$3.5 million multipurpose room in Sun City West is over.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City West governing board voted Thursday against pursuing the idea, which generated a good deal of heat, particularly from those who thought the project would be a waste of money. The vote was 7-1.

Board President Dave Moeller said he's happy the vote brings to an end a debate that he said has kept

RCSCW directors from doing their jobs.

Patricia Tomlin, another board member, said she didn't realize the proposed project would bring so much attention.

Before she was elected to the board, Tomlin said she sat in a meeting where former directors turned down a proposal to set aside \$100,000 for an eventual gym.

"I thought the issue was over then," Tomlin said.

For two months, residents have voiced their concerns over the building,

which would have replaced a fenced-in patio area at Beardsley Recreation Center. The proposal was the idea of a few residents and had to be explored as an option according to RCSCW bylaws.

Director Pat Canfield said she's had reservations about the gym from the beginning.

"I just don't think that we can be all things to all people," Canfield said. "If basketball players here are looking for a facility like

**SEE MULTIPURPOSE, A5**

## Webb unveils valet service

### STAFF REPORT

Halloween will bring a new treat for patients visiting the Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center women's center and day-surgery.

The nonprofit hospital in Sun City West is launching a pilot valet service program beginning Oct. 31 at the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health entrance. American Valet will serve that entrance 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. The service is free for patients.

While the service is offered, about 20-30 spaces in the Women's Center lot will be used to park the vehicles of those patients choosing to use the valet parking, hospital officials said.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for us to show our patients how much we care," said Diane Krienitz, Banner Del E. Webb's safety and security director.

The valet pilot program is expected to last until April 2012, when the hospital's administration will evaluate it and decide if it showed enough benefit to patients to make it a permanent fixture at Banner Del E. Webb, 11502 W. Meeker Blvd.

Friday, October 28, 2011

www.yourwestvalle



DAVE MARTINEZ/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A resident who identified himself as John Pike speaks to the Sun City West Governing Board during a meeting at the R. H. Johnson Recreation Center on Thursday.

## MULTIPURPOSE

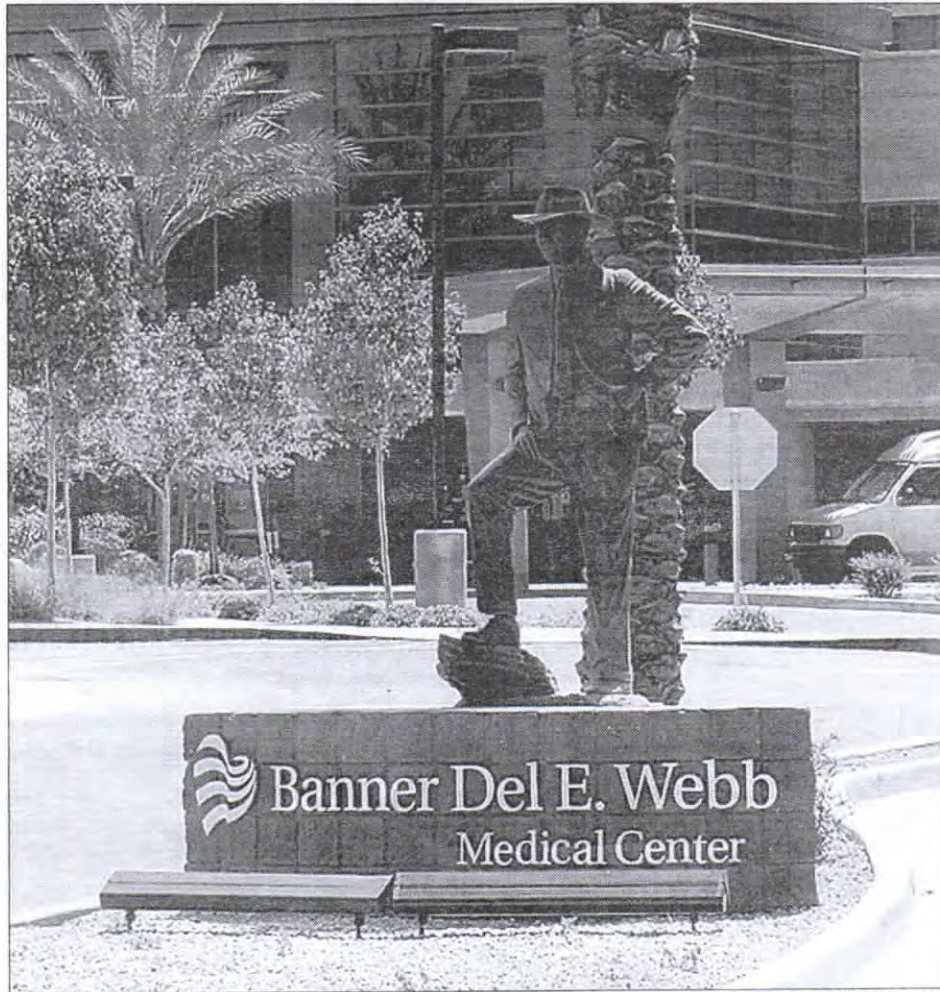
FROM A1

this, then there are surrounding communities who have underutilized gyms where they can go if they're looking for indoor play."

Lake Westphal, the lone member who voted in favor of the project, said he still believes the gym is essential to Sun City West, especially with the changing demographics.

And he hopes they could revisit the idea in the future. Westphal was a part of a committee that studied the idea of the multipurpose gym.

"I felt like this was important from beginning, and I still believe it is," Westphal said. "And hopefully, this will come around again for us."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The statue of Del Webb has been relocated from the east entrance of Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center to the front of the newly constructed tower off of Granite Valley Drive, which serves as the hospital's new entrance.

## Del Webb statue relocates to hospital's new entrance

STAFF REPORT

Hospital visitors will notice a difference at the entrances to Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center in Sun City West.

The statue of Del Webb isn't at the east entrance on Meeker Boulevard anymore. It's been moved in front of the newly constructed tower off of Granite Valley Drive, which serves as the new entrance.

Known as Tower D, the new building houses the Emergency Department, surgery suites, D-tower patient rooms, recovery and outpatient rooms and surgery waiting area.

Del Webb's old entrance is still being used by those needing to go to medical imaging, visiting patients in the A or B towers, as well as for admitting, outpatient cardiac rehabilitation and the lab.

Those going to the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, Women's Diagnostic Center and orthopedic floor should enter by the first left on Granite Valley before the main entrance.

Hospital officials said no matter where someone enters the campus, the Volunteer Courtesy Cart drivers will take visitors and patients wherever they need to go.

# Arizona Donor Quilt on display at Banner Del E. Webb

By Candace Hoffmann

Special to the Independent

The squares of the Arizona Donor Quilts

Each fabric selected, each thread stitched and each intricate design remembers family members who had the wisdom and kindness to ensure their organs, tissue or corneas would be donated at the time of their deaths so that others could live. Organ donation could be considered the last selfless act we as human beings can do. To celebrate Organ Donor Awareness Month, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Submitted Photo  
 Tuesday, April 19, Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center will have one of the Arizona Donor Quilts on display for the community to view.

The quilt will be on display in the corridor between the Louisa Kellam Women's Center and the Cafeteria of the nonprofit hospital located at 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. Banner Del E. Webb kicked off the month with a flag raising April 1 and will fly the Donor Network flag all month.

Donor families and donor recipients will be on hand to discuss the Donor Network of Arizona and provide an opportunity for people to sign donor cards or register at the on-site kiosk, pledging their organs, tissue

or corneas upon death. Visitors will also be able to view the inspirational quilt.

"The importance of organ donation cannot be underscored enough," said Michelle Winters, CNO, for Banner Del E. Webb. "This is a wonderful opportunity for our community to see one of the beautiful organ donor quilts and to learn about organ donation."

The hospital will also host a private, invitation-only remembrance ceremony April 22 for donor families. In Arizona, more than 1,700 people are waiting for an organ transplant and according to donor network, one organ or tissue donor can help as many as 50 people. Every 12 minutes some-

one adds their name to a waiting list for organ transplants and each day, 18 people die because there are not enough organs for everyone who needs a transplant.

The organization notes: "90 percent of Americans say they support organ donation, but only 30 percent know the essential steps to take to be a donor."

Visit [www.bannerhealth.com/webb](http://www.bannerhealth.com/webb).

*Editor's Note: Candace Hoffmann is PR specialist for Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center.*



Submitted Photo  
 One of the Arizona Donor Quilts stitched by family members to remember a loved one who was an organ donor. Banner Del E. Webb will have a quilt on display 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, April 19 near the cafeteria.



# MOVING DAY

The Del E. Webb statue at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center has a new home after workers used a crane to lift the life-size bronze statue from the east side of the hospital to a new location at the main entrance near the north tower.

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PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SCHEENNUM/THE REPUBLIC



Jeff Bane of Laveen moves the Del E. Webb statue at the Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center east entrance in Surprise.

MICHAEL SCHENNUM/  
THE REPUBLIC

## Del E. Webb gets new home at medical center

Employees, patients and visitors glimpsed an unusual sight at the Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center last week — workers using a crane to lift a life-size bronze statue of Del E. Webb from the Healing Garden at the east entrance. Here's what happened:

— Lesley Wright, *The Republic/azcentral.com*

### DEL E. WEBB SCULPTURE

The Del E. Webb statue has been facing the medical center's east entrance since Sept. 24, 1999, when the Del E. Webb Foundation marked the 100th birthday of the famous developer. The bronze, crafted by sculptor Mike McFarland, captures the Sun City founder with his right leg resting on a rock pile and his left hand on his hip, signature fedora on his head. The medical center opened in Sun City West in 1988.

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF DEL E. WEBB

Born Delbert Eugene Webb in Fresno, Calif., on May 17, 1899, Webb envisioned and developed the Sun Cities in Arizona. The concept of an "active living" retirement community has been emulated around the nation and the world. He migrated to Phoenix in 1928 and launched his career working for a small contractor on a new grocery store. His paycheck bounced and the contractor disappeared. The grocer asked Webb to take over the job. The Del E. Webb Construction Co. was born. A semipro baseball player in his younger years, Webb at one time was co-owner of the New York Yankees. He died July 4, 1974.

### WEBB'S NEW HOME AT DEL E. WEBB

Webb's statue was placed near the hospital's north tower wing, which opened in 2009. The opening of the wing also brought the construction of a new main entrance for the medical center on Granite Valley Drive. The Healing Garden at the east entrance remains open for patients and their family members.





Submitted Photo

Catherine Tiwald, Terry Emrick and Caitlyn Tiwald are shown with the nine midwives who attended training in El Narango, Honduras.

## Banner OB nurse treks to Honduras to help teach safe birthing practices

By Candace Hoffmann  
Special to the Independent

Living in the United States we take safe birthing practices for granted. But in other parts of the world, women are often on their own with little help beyond their extended families or other villagers to help bring their babies into the world. With a desire to help women in need, Terry Emrick, an OB nurse in Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center's The Nesting Place, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, trekked to Honduras recently to help teach safer birthing practices.

She was joined by Catherine Tiwald, an instructor at the Banner Mesa Boswell School of Nursing and Catherine's daughter, Caitlyn. The three women stayed in the city of La Esperanza and traveled to remote villages, which were two-three hours drive from the city. The villages have no electricity or running water and no hospitals. While some of the villages had midwives (most of whom had no formal training), one had no midwives or medical people at all. The closest hospital was about 1 ½ hours away by car but the residents do not own cars and there is no public transportation so the pregnant women rely on friends and family to assist during childbirth.

"The most memorable experience for me was the village of El Narango," said Ms. Emrick. "These people were so appreciative of any information we could give them. They had 16 men that came to the training. That is almost unheard of as men in this culture do not participate in birth and they were eager to learn whatever they could to help their community. The people in this

village were farthest from any medical help and many of them walked two- three hours to get to our training."

Due to the generosity of BDWMC employees, the PureHeart Christian Fellowship, which sponsored the trip in conjunction with Helping Mothers and Babies, Inc., and donations from Banner Mesa Boswell School of Nursing students and Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center, Ms. Emrick collected enough donations to make 300 birthing and midwife kits

Each birthing kit included one yard of light cotton fabric, a razor blade, two pieces of gauze, soap, one nail stick, one meter square plastic sheet, a baby receiving blanket, a baby gown or T-shirt and umbilical cord tape. The midwife kits included an apron, fetoscope, stethoscope, blood pressure cuff, gloves, medical scissors and a thermometer.

"We also included a text book published in Spanish from Helping Mothers and Babies, inc for each of the midwives who could read," Ms. Emrick said.

Banner Del E. Webb is a 404-bed, acute-care hospital offering heart care, emergency care, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, cancer care, obstetrics and gynecology, outpatient services, rehabilitation and behavioral care. Banner Del E. Webb is part of Banner Health, a nonprofit health care system with 22 hospitals throughout the West.

*Editor's Note: Candace Hoffmann is PR Specialist for Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center.*

# Tourist attraction



ASHLEY LOWERY/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Volunteers lead groups on tours of Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center in Sun City West Saturday.

## Webb Medical Center open house attracts hundreds

JOY SLAGOWSKI  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The new wing at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center proved to be a big draw as about 700 attended the hospital's open house Saturday.

Small groups toured the 175,000-square-foot, six-story wing on the west side of Banner Del E. Webb campus. It is scheduled to be open for patients Feb. 17 and will become the hospital's new main entrance. The first floor of the new wing

houses a larger emergency department, which will offer 51 exam/treatment spaces, four major treatment rooms for life-threatening injuries and a pediatric treatment area.

An anesthesia care unit will be on the second floor. This unit prepares patients for surgery and takes care of them immediately after they come out of surgery. The third floor will open with a new cardiac telemetry unit, providing care

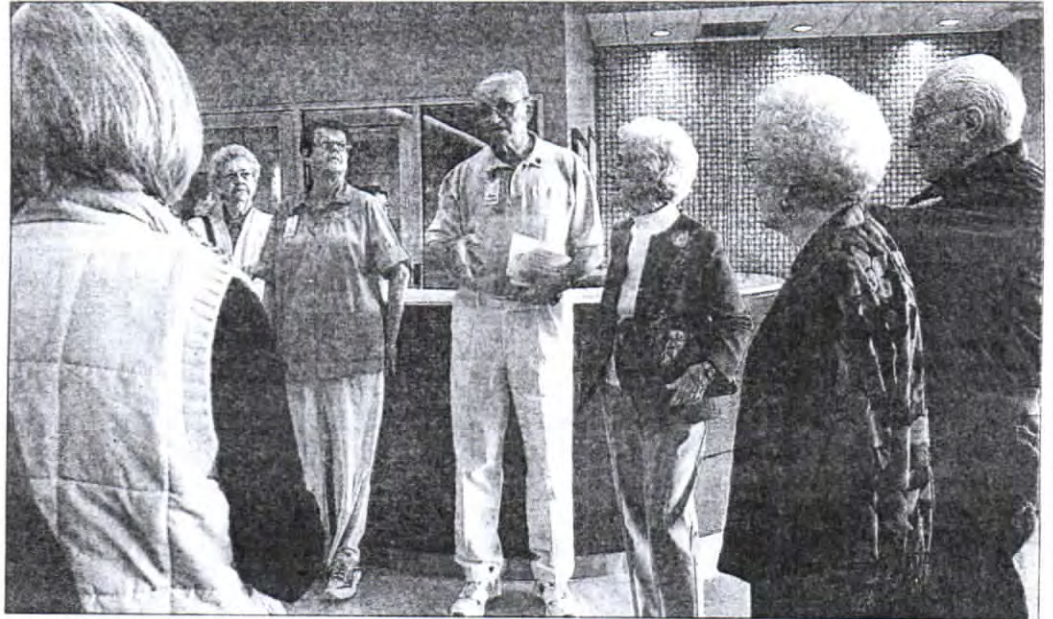
to patients who require constant heart monitoring. The fourth floor will open with 38 beds for surgical patients.

Hospital spokeswoman Candace Hoffmann said the tours were meant to give the community a look at the new wing, including areas that would be otherwise restricted to patients.

"The community has such inter-

**SEE WEBB, A5**

Volunteer Phillip Keimach, center, leads a tour through the new wing at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center in Sun City West Saturday.



ASHLEY LOWERY/DAILY NEWS-SUN

## WEBB

FROM A1

est in the hospital," Hoffmann said. "And this gives them a glimpse of the new building, so they can see it before they had to come here for not-so-happy reasons."

One of the first scheduled tours through the new wing showcased highlights of the new facility. Ruthann Hoffman,

who volunteers with her husband, Frank, at the front desk of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, also located at the hospital, said she was impressed with the facility.

"It's lovely," Hoffman said. "We've lived here since 1986, before the hospital was built, so we have seen all of the additions and each one was an improvement."

Mike and Gracie Dill of Sun City West say they are as impressed with the facility as

they are the volunteers.

"The size and scope of the services are for a huge part of the county, much larger than Sun City West and Sun City Grand," Mike said. "It's state of the art and so open."

The couple said they have friends who volunteer at the hospital.

"And I'm thinking about it myself," Gracie said.

Joy Slagowski may be reached at 623-876-2514 or [jslagowski@yourwestvalley.com](mailto:jslagowski@yourwestvalley.com).

# Del E. Webb makes top grades

## Medical center garners prestigious rating

### STAFF REPORT

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center in Sun City West ranks among the nation's best for medical excellence in a study from the ratings group HealthGrades.

The hospital and three others from Arizona — The Mayo Clinic Hospital in Phoenix and two Scottsdale Health Care Systems hospitals — were on the elite list in the national study.

"We're certainly pleased to see Banner Del E. Webb again recognized by HealthGrades for its clinical excellence," said Jeff Nelson, director of public relations. "Like all Banner hospitals, clinical excellence is an area of constant focus and attention for us."

"We have teams of nurses, physicians and others who gather regularly to assess how well we're doing clinically in each of the services we provide," Nelson said. "We evaluate the care we provide from many different angles. Are we keeping patients safe? Are staff members attentive to patients' needs? Are we cognizant of each patient's prescribed diet before we bring in a meal? All of these things and more add up to a positive patient experience and positive clinical outcomes."

"Of course, it's always nice to be recognized, but awards like that from HealthGrades are certainly not what drive us to strive for clinical excellence," Nelson said. "The more meaningful reward to us is seeing a patient leave our hospital feeling much better than when they ar-

**SEE RATING, A5**

# RATING

FROM A1

rived."

Each year for the last seven years, HealthGrades has assessed the quality of care provided at the nation's nearly 5,000 non-federal hospitals. Its analysis is based on more than 41 million Medicare hospital discharges over a three-year period.

Hospitals were rated based on "overall performance of risk-adjusted outcomes associated with 26 common Medicare in-

patient procedures and diagnoses," the HealthGrades report stated, and only 5 percent of the hospitals studied were designated as Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence.

According to the independent study, top-rated U.S. hospitals have a 27 percent lower death rate than other hospitals.

Patients treated at hospitals that were ranked in the top 5 percent nationally had a 27 percent lower risk of in-hospital death, and the report also found that in 2005, 2006 and 2007, the top-rated hospitals lowered their in-hospital risk-adjusted death rates by an average of 18

percent, compared to 13 percent for all other hospitals.

The risk of complications at the top hospitals also was lower, the study found. The best performers had an 8 percent lower risk of complications for diagnoses and procedures that include orthopedic and neurosurgery, vascular surgery, prostate surgery and gall bladder surgery.

The researchers discovered that from 2005 to 2007, the top-rated hospitals reduced in-hospital complication rates by more than 3.9 percent, compared to about 2.5 percent for all other hospitals.

# Designed to promote recovery

## Banner hospital in SC West has new technology

By Cecilia Chan

THE REPUBLIC | AZCENTRAL.COM

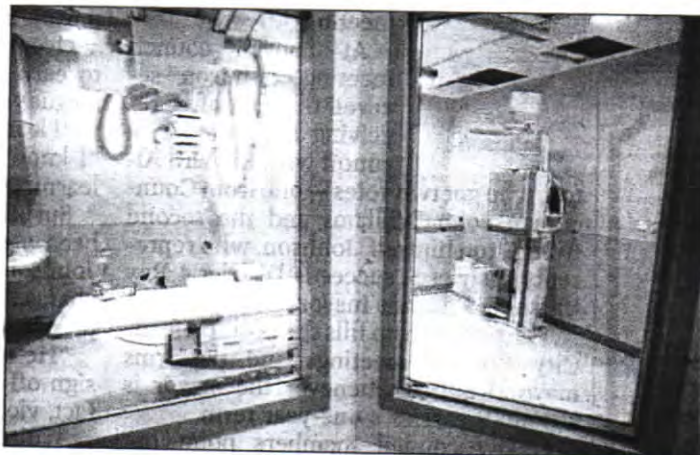
A new hospital wing featuring private rooms with flat-screen televisions, the latest in digital imaging technology and a door-to-doctor time policy of less than 10 minutes opens to patients next month in Sun City West.

Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center's new six-story patient care wing includes a new main entrance, a reflection garden and a much larger emergency department to serve the Northwest Valley.

"We are equipped and prepared, eager and anxious to open to the community," said Becky Kuhn, hospital chief executive.

Although the medical facility is located in a retirement community, approximately 35 percent of its patients come from Surprise, followed by just over 28 percent of patients from Sun City West, according to Candace Hoffmann, hospital spokeswoman. For 2008, the hospital treated an estimated 18,500 patients, she said.

"We've seen approximately a 4 percent increase from 2006, but for the most part our patient base has stayed steady," Hoffmann said.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SCHENNUM/THE REPUBLIC

The hospital expansion bumps the number of beds in the hospital to 404 from 332. The second phase of the expansion, which will be built based on need, will add 92

beds for a total of 496.

The new wing places Banner Del E. Webb as the eighth-largest hospital in the Valley.

The new building incorporates "evidence-based de-

Chief nursing officer Michelle Winters looks out windows at the new patient wing. Features include operating rooms like the one at left.

sign," which creates an environment that research shows promotes faster recovery and safety for patients, Kuhn said.

Some of the design elements include big windows to let in plenty of natural light, family areas in rooms painted in neutral, soothing colors and nurses stations outside each room instead of in a centralized area.

A larger emergency department also would allow for a patient to see a medical provider faster, said Gregg Shoemaker, interim director.

## Banner Health layoffs not expected to affect expansion plans

By Cecilia Chan

THE REPUBLIC | AZCENTRAL.COM

Banner Health's layoff of 334 employees last week won't affect expansion plans at its hospital in Sun City West. Banner Del E. Webb hospital let go 25 employees, according to spokesman Jeff Nelson.

These positions were primarily ad-

ministrative positions," Nelson said. "We really try to avoid (laying off) bedside caregivers."

The only other change was moving the outpatient behavioral health program at Banner Boswell in Sun City to Banner Del E. Webb, Nelson said.

The Sun City West hospital plans to open its \$86 million, six-story patient care wing next month.

The layoffs represent slightly less than 1 percent of Banner's total workforce of roughly 35,000 as it wrestles with a weak economy.

Other Banner health facilities in the West Valley also lost clerical positions, Nelson said:

- » Banner Thunderbird in Glendale, 8.
- » Banner Boswell in Sun City, 27.
- » Banner Estrella in west Phoenix, 3.

# SNEAK PEEK

## Banner shows off changes at Del E. Webb Medical Center

JOY SLAGOWSKI  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Patients and visitors at Banner Del E. Webb Hospital will notice some major changes as the hospital readies to debut its new 175,000-square-foot, six-story medical wing and main entrance next month.

The \$86 million addition, which has been under construction for 18 months, makes Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center the eighth-largest hospital in the Valley.

Funding for the wing was funded through tax-exempt bonds and Sun Health Foundation's community capital campaign, which also supported additions to Banner Boswell Medical Centers, and the Sun Health Research Institute.

The first phase of the Del E. Webb project, which is scheduled to open to patients on Feb. 17, will add 72 beds to the medical center, for a total bed count of 404.

Upon full build-out, with the second phase opening at a future date, the wing will add 164 beds to the existing 332 beds, making the total bed count 496.

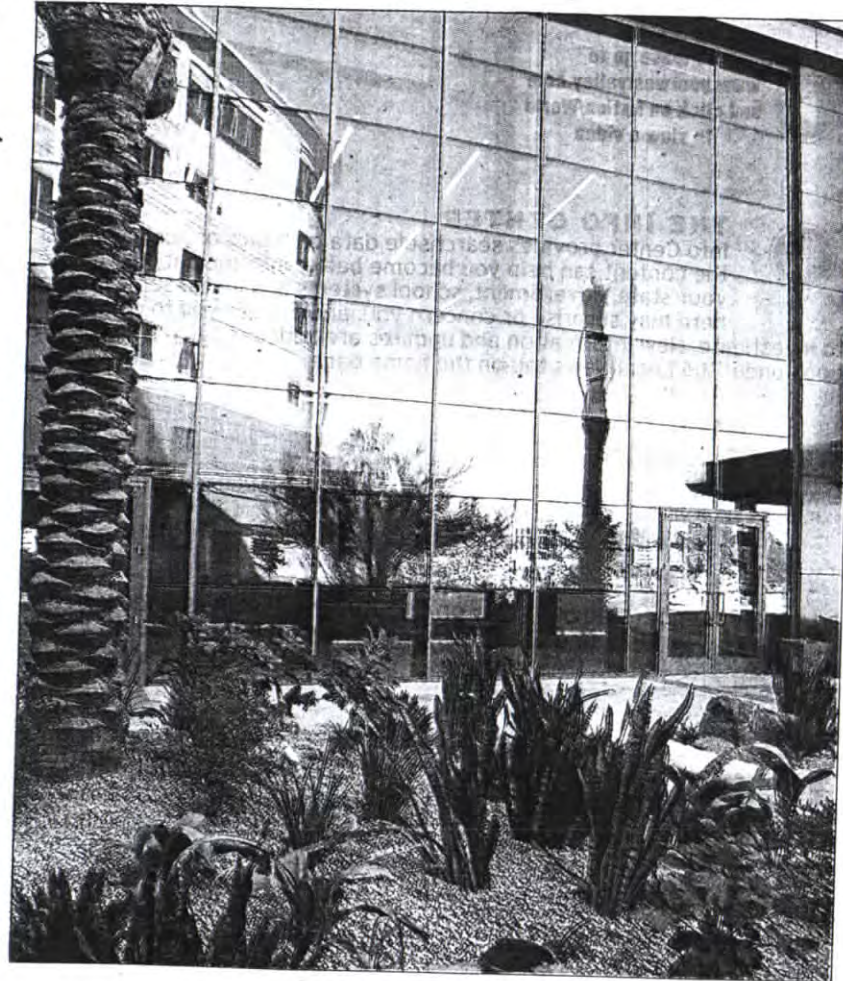
Becky Kuhn, chief executive officer, said the new wing has features that enhance the patient safety, outcome and healing, including private rooms with large windows to let in natural light and additional space for family to gather.

"There has been a lot of natural light studies that document it contributes to help promote patient healing," Kuhn said.

An art consultant was used to select colors and artwork that promoted a healing environment, she said.

Outside the new main entrance, which is on the west side of the campus, is the new reflection garden featuring fountains, benches and lush plants.

Emergency room services are enhanced by increasing rooms from 30 to



Submitted photo  
The Reflection Garden at Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center features fountains, and lush plants.

SEE BANNER, A4

## BANNER

FROM A1

Outside the new main entrance, which is on the west side of the campus, is the new reflection garden featuring fountains, benches and lush plants.

Emergency room services are enhanced by increasing rooms from 30 to 53, and an expedited medical evaluation procedure.

Door-to-physician wait time is expected to drop from an average 18 minutes to less than 10, according to Gregg Shoemaker, clinical manager.

"We have eliminated a step and patients go directly into one of six intake rooms," Shoemaker said.

A 64-slice CT scanner in the emergency department allows for quicker and more efficient diagnosing.

Inpatient post-operative rooms include alcoves outside each room for nurses to monitor patients and input data,

and benches and other seating for family members inside the 260 square foot private room.

Kuhn said the alcoves are one step towards even closer patient monitoring.

"When we transition to fully-digital medical records in 2010, nurses will be inputting data at bedside next to patients," Kuhn said. "This leads to greater communication and enhances patient safety."

Other features of the new wing include separate patient and visitor corridors, to help maintain patient privacy.

Residents may tour the new patient care wing during a community open house event from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 31 at the hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., in Sun City West.

Reservations to schedule a tour time between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. must be made by calling 602-230-CARE (2273) weekdays. Reservation deadline is Jan. 28.

*Joy Slagowski may be reached at 623-876-2514 or [jslagowski@yourwestvalley.com](mailto:jslagowski@yourwestvalley.com).*



# Final piece of frame tops new wing of Del E. Webb Hospital

STAFF REPORT

A milestone in construction of the six-story patient-care wing at Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital was reached when the building was "topped out" during a staff celebration.

The last beam in the wing's structural steel frame was raised into place Friday after hospital employees, physicians and volunteers signed their names to the 30-foot beam. Many of them witnessed the last beam's journey and celebrated this progress afterward with ice cream and a variety of "toppings."

Jo Adkins, CEO for the non-profit community-based Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital, joined staff members for the occasion, along with Andrew Bielfuss, principal with RTKL Architects, and Ron Rendina, project executive with DPR Construction.

The 175,000-square-foot, six-story wing will open on the north side of the hospital by early 2009.

Two of the floors will be devoted to patient care units, adding 76 medical-surgical beds and expanding the hospital's licensed bed capacity from 330 to 404. Two state-of-the-art surgical suites will be added, along with new peri-operative services for surgical patient admission, preparation and recovery. The new wing's first floor will house an expanded emergency department, including four trauma rooms, to meet the demand of up to 85,000 patient visits annually.

The highest point of the new wing is called the signature tower. It is named in memory of Thomas and Elizebeth O'Connor to recognize a contribution from Peggy and Jerry Schuld of Sun City West.

Shelled-in tower space on the top two floors will allow future build-out of two more medical/surgical patient care units. The

second floor will reserve space for a 16-bed intensive care unit and additional surgical suites. When the wing is completed, the hospital's bed count will total almost 500.

Designed for patients, families and visitors, the 4,300-square-foot Reflection Garden will be between the new wing and the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health. Numerous studies indicate botanical environments can minimize stress and promote healing, and this garden is designed with lush foliage to achieve those benefits for patients and their visitors. The garden's central focal point will be a four-direction, bowl-shaped wa-

ter feature donated by Dick and Toni Jaskowick of Surprise.

The wing is a major component of Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital's overall expansion and renovation project.

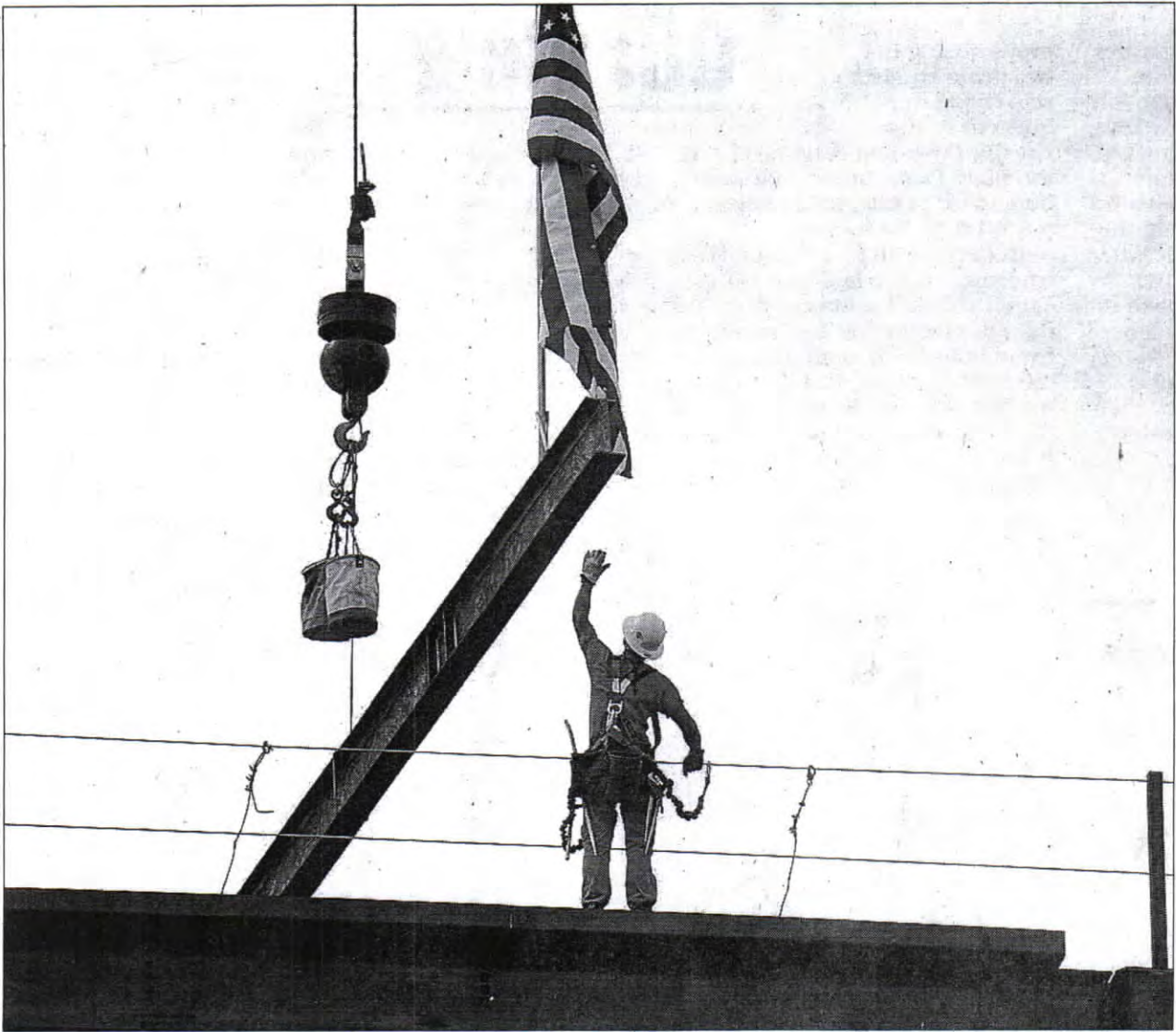
"The community's growing needs for health-care services will be met more fully with these new service enhancements, designed not only to provide optimal care delivery but also to provide greater customer convenience," Adkins said. "An expansion of this magnitude assures our capacity to provide quality services to the Northwest Valley population."

By 2008, 172 patient-care beds — equivalent to a medium-size hospital — will have been

added to Sun Health Del E. Webb and Boswell hospitals, an investment in the community of more than \$111 million.

Community contributions are helping to fund the hospitals' expansions. A \$25-million capital campaign, "Superior Health-care ... the Treasure within Sun Health," is being conducted by the Sun Health Foundation to help reach the \$111 million needed, plus \$5 million required, for Sun Health Research Institute's three-story research building that opened this spring. To date, \$17 million has been raised. For information about giving opportunities in support of the campaign, call 623-876-5330.

# Beam me up



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

A worker raises the final beam for the structural steel frame of the new wing under construction at Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital. The beam was raised during the wing's "topping out" ceremony Friday.

# Timely Tower: Growth results in hospital expansion



Independent Newspapers/ Dave Casadei

Jo Adkins, executive vice president for Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., shows off the progress of the hospital's new medical tower slated to open in December.

## Upgrades to improve service

By Dave Casadei  
Independent Newspapers

Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital will look a little different by the time Christmas rolls around.

The close-to-20-year-old hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., is in the midst of an expansion project hospital spokeswoman Linda Tyler noted was planned to improve service and reduce wait times.

Included in the expansion is a 175,000-square-foot addition to the hospital's emergency department, which Del E. Webb officials believe will allow staff to see an additional 35,000 patients, up from the more than 50,000 the hospital has already seen in 2007.

Jo Adkins, Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital executive vice president, noted the expansion includes a six-story tower with four trauma bays, extended space for surgery, a new pre-admission and recovery area, and shell space for future development for a 16-bed intensive care unit.

"We've done a lot of process improvement work in our ED

### What do you think?

How do you feel about the new tower being built?

Public forums  
[www.newszap.com](http://www.newszap.com)

24-hour Speak Out line  
623-445-2892

E-mail  
[zcolick@newszap.com](mailto:zcolick@newszap.com)

### Related link

Sun Health Del Webb Hospital  
[www.sunhealth.org/delwebb/](http://www.sunhealth.org/delwebb/)

just to be able to speed up flow and avoid patients from having to sit and wait," she said. "We've opened four operating rooms in the past year-and-a-half and seen significant growth in our operating volume there."

Ms. Adkins said the tower will also include four patient care units, two of which will be ready when the tower opens in December.

"It's moving quickly, it's on target and on budget at this point," she said.

The two patient care units will add another 72 beds to the hospital's 332 operating

beds, she said, noting Del E. Webb hospital will have 500 beds when the tower is fully completed.

"I think the physicians as well as the public will be welcoming the beds," Ms. Adkins said.

Hospital officials have just under three months to finish moving temporary departments and complete its landscape upgrades to have the project done by the year's end.

Ms. Adkins noted the hospital will have more of a zero-scape look and feel to it to conserve water.

The hospital's parking capacity is also being upgraded.

Ms. Adkins noted the hospital's main entrance, which now is off Meeker Boulevard, will be moved to direct traffic in from Granite Valley Drive.

"We will be extending the left-turn lane at the Meeker Boulevard and that's the reason from Arizona Department of Transportation's standpoint of why we have to change the entrance," she said. "We just

See Expansion — Page 3

## Expansion

Continued From Page 1

want visitors to be cautious as we're making parking changes."

The emergency entrance, which is currently under construction, will be completed by the end of this month, she added.

The hospital will have an additional 170 parking spaces after parking construction concludes.

Ms. Adkins is sympathetic to visitors who have to navigate around construction, but thanked them for their understanding.

"We really appreciate the patience of the community," she said. "We tried to do the large portion of our parking work over the summer when many community members are gone. As you can see, we're just now getting that back opened up,

so hopefully it will be less of a problem."

The expansion project is bond financed and will cost the hospital more than \$86 million, but Ms. Adkins explains improvements are needed because of the West Valley's growth.

"We've grown so fast out here, especially in our emergency department, which obviously overflows into the hospital," she said. "It's just a growing community."

Hospital officials are looking to raise about \$25 million through its "The Treasure Within Sun Health" campaign, which is a host fundraising events, including a golf tournament, individual fundraising and Del E. Webb's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball.

However, the fundraising does not end there, Ms. Adkins noted.

"There are a number of other events the foundation is also working on," she said, noting

Del E. Webb's sister hospital - Sun Health Boswell, 10401 W. Thunderbird Road - is also undergoing expansion projects.

Northwest Valley resident Sue Holcomb is excited about the expansion, but is not surprised the project is needed.

"It (Del E. Webb Hospital) used to be Sun City hospital and it's not anymore," she said. "With Surprise kicking in, you're seeing a lot more kids and a lot more young families and we (the hospital) just weren't set up to do that before."

Ms. Holcomb said she supports improvements for two reasons - first, because they are needed and second, because it keeps her husband, who works at the hospital, employed.

"It sounds great," Ms. Holcomb said. "They're almost doubling the size of the ER."

Call 214-4000.

# Hospital tower will offer more space

Sun Health expanding both its hospitals

By Matt Loeschman  
Independent Newspapers

Responding to ever-increasing patient demand, multiple projects mean more beds available at Sun Health medical facilities.

While expansion projects are in the works at both Sun Health hospitals, renderings and plans for the new patient care tower at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital were unveiled April 24.

"The need to construct the new tower, which will begin late this year, is being driven by the impact of greatly increased hospital usage by residents of the local retirement communities plus significant current and projected area population growth," said Jo Adkins, executive vice president and CEO of Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital, during a ceremony two weeks ago. "We're looking ahead, on the horizon, to assure their needs are met well into the future."

Renderings were unveiled during a reception hosted by Sun Health's chairman of the board, Birt Kellam, and his wife, Louisa, at their home in Sun City West.

Ms. Adkins uncovered the draped renderings to reveal a 175,000-square-foot, six-story tower to be opened on the north side of the hospital by early 2009.

Groundbreaking for the tower is set for 7:30 a.m. May 11 at the rear of the hospital. The public is



Submitted photo

**Jo Adkins, executive vice president and CEO of Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital, stands on the site of the hospital's tower addition. Ms. Adkins invites to the public to the groundbreaking ceremony May 11.**

invited to the brief ceremony, set for 14502 W. Meeker Blvd. in Sun City West near the intersection of Meeker Boulevard and Granite Valley Drive.

Admission is free. Call the Sun HealthLine at (623) 876-5432 to register.

Those attending will rendezvous at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13724 W. Meeker Blvd., in Sun City West. Trolleys will then

transport attendees to the site at the hospital for the brief program and site dedication. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Comfortable shoes and attire are recommended for this outdoor program.

Ms. Adkins said when the first four floors of the new tower initially go into service, 76 additional medical-surgical beds will become available as well as two additional surgical suites and a new emergency department to meet patient-care needs.

These beds are in addition to 24 beds converted in 2005 from skilled-nursing to acute-care use for medical/surgical patients. Renovation already is under way to add 21 medical/surgical beds in former physicians' office space atop the existing Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health.

The hospital's emergency department will be relocated and designed to accommodate up to 85,000 patients annually, depending on patient mix, and will include four trauma rooms.

These steps will increase the hospital's bed complement to 404 beds in 2008. An additional 76 medical/surgical beds, 16 intensive-care beds and two more operating rooms will be shelled in for future availability as community needs warrant.

Surprise resident Earl Werneke has spent time at Del E. Webb Hospital. He believes the tower construction is a positive sign for Sun Health.

"It says a lot about the community when they contribute to

something like this," he noted. "And I think that Sun Health is doing the best job they can to keep up with patient demand. The West Valley is still growing pretty significantly and I feel like we are lucky to have Sun Health close to us."

A \$25-million capital campaign, "Superior Healthcare — the Treasure within Sun Health," is being conducted by the Sun Health Foundation to help reach the \$111 million needed to fund the expansion projects under way at both hospitals.

According to [www.sun-health.org](http://www.sun-health.org), Sun Health expansion benefits to patients include:

- Increased capacity in both hospitals' emergency departments by adding patient treatment bays.

- Addition of 172 acute-care, telemetry and intensive-care beds between the two Sun Health non-profit hospitals by 2008 in an effort to ease capacity.

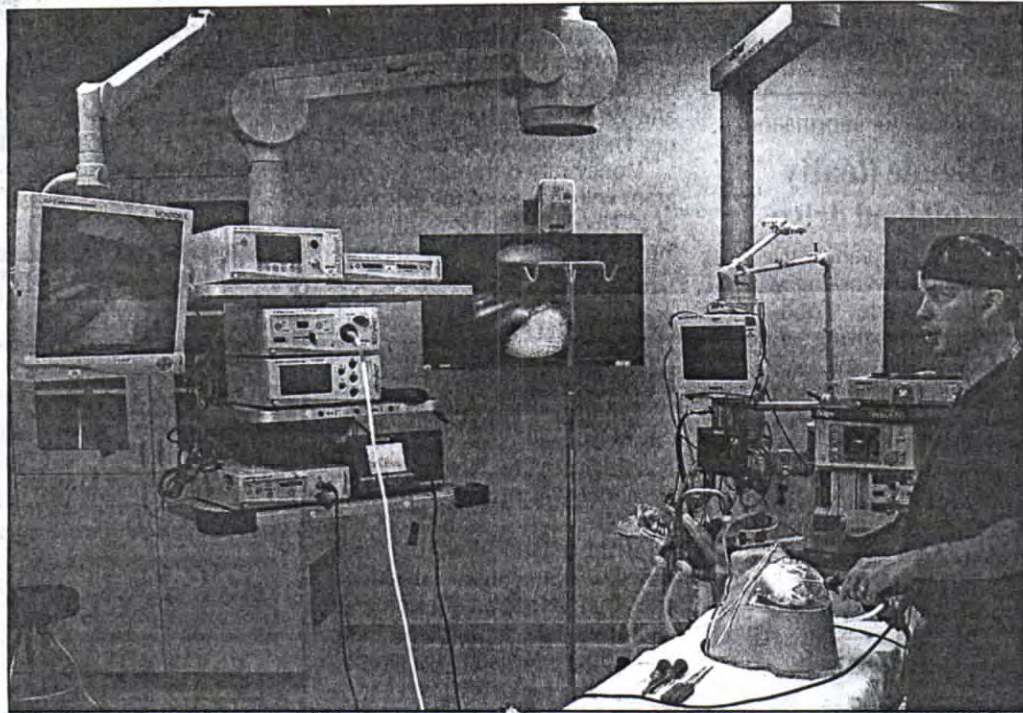
- Providing additional state-of-the-art equipment and the latest technology, including two new surgical suites.

- Expanding and enhancing services such as oncology, cardiology, orthopedics, neurology/neurosurgery and general surgery.

For more information about the capital campaign or to make a contribution, call the Sun Health Foundation at (623) 876-5330.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forums at [newszap.com](http://newszap.com). News Editor Matt Loeschman can be reached at 972-6101 or [mloeschman@newszap.com](mailto:mloeschman@newszap.com).

## Going Digital: SCW hospital adds 'smart suites'



Independent Newspapers/Zach Colick

Orthopedic surgeon John A. Brown of the CORE Institute demonstrates the use of one of four new Stryker "smart suites" now in use at Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital. The technology, part of the hospital's \$89-million expansion project, allows surgeons to operate lights, cameras, pumps and other equipment by simple voice commands.

# Webb Hospital expands facilities

By Zach Colick  
Independent Newspapers

Four new digital operating rooms complete with voice activation and image-guided surgery capabilities are part of the many additions to Sun Health's \$89-million expansion project.

Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will add a 175,000-square-foot, six-story tower, which will open on the north side of the hospital by December 2008.

The hospital is in the process of obtaining permits from Maricopa County and will start sight preparation on the expansion in January with construction set for June, said Jo Adkins, executive vice president/CEO of Sun Health Del E. Webb Hospital.

When the first four floors of the new tower initially go into

### Sun Health hospital expansion benefits

- Increased capacity in both hospitals' emergency departments by adding patient treatment bays.
- Addition of 172 acute-care, telemetry and intensive-care beds between the two hospitals by 2008 to ease capacity.
- Provide additional state-of-the-art equipment and the latest technology, including two new surgical suites.
- Expand services such as oncology, cardiology, orthopedics, neurology/neurosurgery and general surgery.

For more information about the capital campaign or to make a donation, call the Sun Health Foundation, 876-5330.

service, 76 additional surgical beds and a new emergency department — as well as the four new digital operating rooms known as Stryker i-Suites or "smart suites" — will become available.

These beds are in addition to 24 beds that were converted last year from skilled-nursing to acute-care use for medical and surgical patients.

Renovation is already under way to add 21 medical and surgical beds in former office space atop the existing Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health.

With 8,500 discharges at Del E. Webb Hospital in 2002 and 19,000 this year coupled with West Valley growth, Ms. Adkins

See **Hospital** — Page 9

# Hospital

Continued From Page 1.

said the need for expansion is crucial.

"Our goal is to keep up with demand and do it with quality care," Ms. Adkins said. "We have been rated by a number of agencies that we are performing at top level and want to continue that with the proper tools in place."

Ms. Adkins said keeping up with patient demand means recruiting and retaining a professional staff of physicians and nurses.

"It's one of those things that keep you up at night," she said of meeting patient demand.

## Smart suites

The smart suites, complete with high definition, flat-panel LCD television screens, are among the first 10 of their kind in the country, allowing surgeons to operate lights, cameras, pumps and other equipment by simple voice commands.

The new technology allows surgeons to perform image-guided surgeries with pinpoint accuracy and with minimal incisions, said orthopedic surgeon John A. Brown, of the CORE Institute that

partners with Sun Health.

Surgeons said they are impressed with the technology as it allows for a hands-free atmosphere and creates more space because much of the equipment is elevated.

"The quality of the image is like seeing it in real life," said Dr. Brown, who demonstrated the device to hospital staff Nov. 3. "This technology helps to better diagnose and treat patients because we can inspect our work closer and more critically."

Dr. Brown said the efficiency of the devices makes set up and access to instruments for surgical procedures a lot easier as well.

"Patients can watch the procedure, too," he said.

Eric Tomlon, vice president of administrative services at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., said the smart suites, which went into service Nov. 6 and can cost upwards of three-quarters of a million dollars, are an integral part of the hospital's expansion.

"These rooms are meeting a growing community need for a broader range of specialized surgical services," he said.

The smart suites technology has been around for two years and also integrates many surgical com-

ponents, including allowing surgeons to view X-rays and other medical images, scan monitors and communicate with colleagues in the next building or half way around the world, Mr. Tomlon said.

Depending on volume, Mr. Tomlon said, Del E. Webb Hospital conducts around eight to ten surgeries per day. He hopes all surgeries will use this technology soon. Spine and orthopedic surgery patients are the main benefactors thus far.

## Fundraising

Fundraising efforts to aid in the construction of the patient care tower and other projects for both Del E. Webb and Boswell memorial hospitals expansion projects is being conducted through a \$25-million campaign, said Pamela Meyerhoffer, CEO of Sun Health Foundation.

Thus far, \$8.5 million has been raised through community donations, Ms. Meyerhoffer said. The projected cost for the expansion at both Sun Health hospitals is \$111 million and Sun Health officials hope to garner those funds

by 2009.

"We still have a long way to go," she said, adding the campaign kicked-off last year. "We're encouraging folks to donate and are trying to make it as easy as possible."

An additional \$5 million is being raised by Sun Health Foundation to fully fund construction of a new three-story laboratory building at Sun Health Research Institute. Contributions to date for that campaign total nearly \$3 million.

Ms. Meyerhoffer said expanding both Sun Health facilities is imperative with today's medical advancements and the growing West Valley.

"We're trying to keep pace with the increased demand of hospital care," she said.

*Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at [newszap.com](http://newszap.com). News Editor Zach Colick can be reached at 972-6101 or [zcolick@newszap.com](mailto:zcolick@newszap.com).*

## From the Editor

# SCW experiences local 'baby boom' at hospital

By Matt Loeschman

Independent Newspapers

Sun City West is experiencing a 'baby boom.' Well, sort of.

The 6,000-plus babies born at

Sun Health Del Webb Memorial Hospital since Feb. 2, 2002, share a common but unusual bond — they were all born in a retirement community.

On their birth certificates, each baby has their place of birth noted as Sun City West, known for its active senior population.

But parents of the babies are coming from the rapidly growing communities that surround Sun City West such as Surprise, El Mirage, Peoria, Wickenburg, Litchfield Park, Glendale and Phoenix.

Sun Health's Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, which includes The Nesting Place Obstetrical Suites, has welcomed an off-the-chart number of newborns, brought needed gynecologists and obstetricians to the surrounding communities and has been providing diagnostic services and health education for women of all ages since it opened in 2002.

"We saw growth on the horizon in the West Valley and realized the need to build a women's services program that included obstetrics," says Karon Ford, B.S.N., M.A., director of

women and infant services. "But even with our planning, we've been amazed at how quickly the baby numbers have multiplied, yet we remain ready and excited to welcome every precious new life."

Total babies born more than doubled projections in the first two years and the rate of doubling has continued to escalate.

Sun Health has grown with the trend.

The original eight suites of The Nesting Place obstetrical suites were quickly expanded to 16 to keep pace with deliveries the first year. During the second year, with the number of births continuing to climb and average well over 100 per month, an area nearby on the third floor of the hospital was renovated for use as a couplet care area to provide extended care for mothers, newborns and a place where fathers and siblings could be part of the experience following delivery.

Educational opportunities for women and families also have grown during the last three years.

Class topics now include Boot Camp for New Dads, teen pregnancy, siblings, CPR for Family and Friends, baby massage and baby sign language. Breast-feeding support expanded to include the New Beginnings Boutique that offers breast-feeding supplies.

For more information about the services of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health or to schedule a class, call 214-4227.

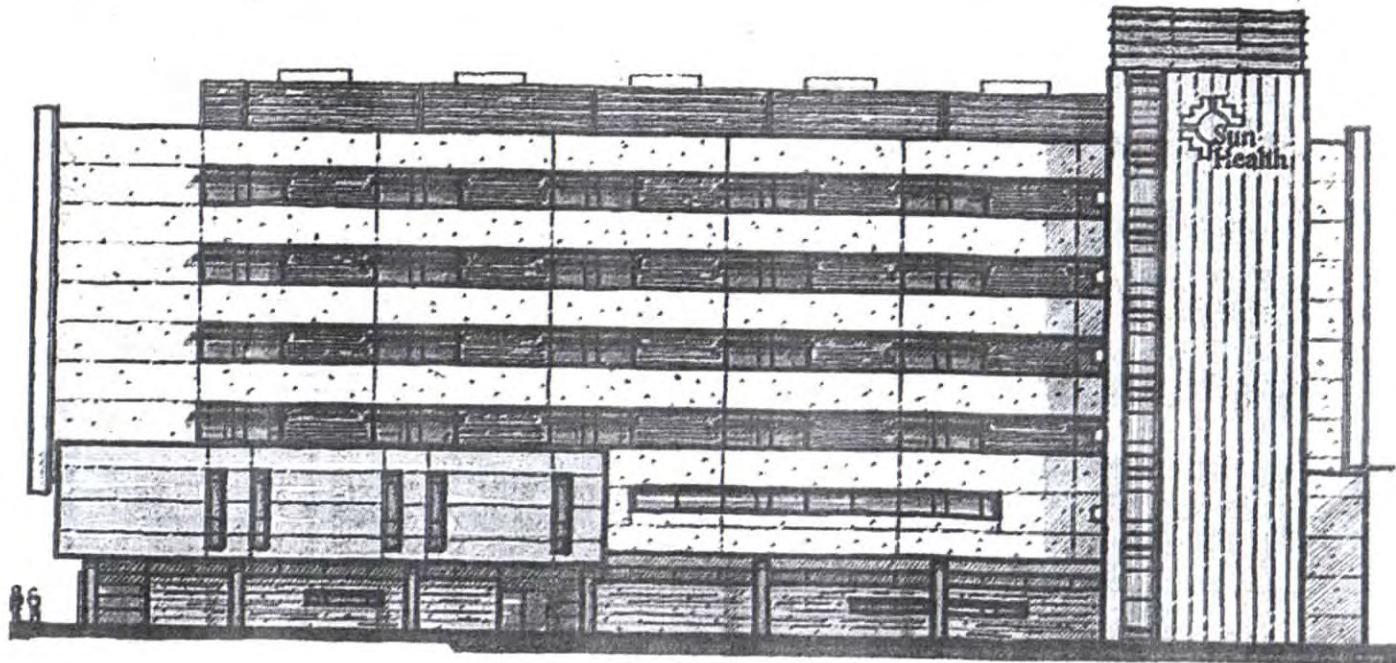
To obtain a physician referral, call the Sun HealthLine at 876-5432.



**Matt Loeschman**



# TOWER OF CARE



# Sun Health unveils plans for Del E. Webb Hospital

MITCHELL VANTREASE  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun Health unveiled artist's renderings for a six-story, 175,000-square-foot patient care tower to be built on the north side of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital at a gathering Thursday night in Sun City West.

"We've had so much growth at the hospital that it's so needed," said Jo Adkins, executive vice president and CEO of the hospital. Thursday's reception took place at the home of Sun Health Chairman of the Board Birt Kellam and his wife, Louisa.

The construction of the tower is expected to begin later this year with a completion scheduled in 2008. When it's built out, the hospital will have 152 new beds, 16 intensive care beds, four additional operating rooms, a new peri-operative room and an expanded emergency department.

"It's really all about serving the increasing needs of the growing community," Adkins said.

The project is just the beginning of an overall expansion for both Sun Health Boswell and Del E. Webb hospitals and Sun Health Research Institute.

Phase one began in 2005, when 24 beds at Del Webb were converted from skilled nursing to acute care for medical and surgical patients.

Former physicians' offices atop the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health are being renovated this year to add 21 beds.

"As we age and more people come into our area, we'll see more of a need for our facilities," she said. "The number of people we've seen has grown by leaps."

Lee Peterson, president and CEO of Sun Health, said the new expansion should help hospital patients without any significant delays.



THOMAS BOGGAN/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Pamela Meyerhoffer, CEO of Sun Health Foundation, talks about Sun Health's expansion plans during a party Thursday night at the home of Birt and Louisa Kellam in Sun City West. Birt Kellam is chairman of Sun Health's board of directors.

In order to help fund the projects, the Sun Health Foundation launched a \$25 million capital campaign.

Pamela Meyerhoffer, CEO of the Sun Health Foundation, said \$4.5 million has been donated for the hospital expansions and \$3 million for the research institute.

Tax-exempt bonds are expected to finance the \$111 million needed to fund the expansion projects, which include:

- Increased capacity in both hospitals' emergency departments by adding patient treatment bays.
- Addition of nearly 200 acute-care beds between the two hospitals by 2008 to ease capacity.
- Additional state-of-the-art equipment and technology.
- Expand and enhance vital services such as oncology, cardiology, orthopedics, neurology/neurosurgery

and surgery.

The theme for the campaign is "Superior Healthcare...the Treasure with Sun Health."

Geodes, which are precious stones, have been chosen as the symbol for the fund-raiser because of the treasure of amethyst crystal inside, Meyerhoffer said.

"The staff and volunteers need buildings to work in," she said. "What's really important though, is the compassionate care they provide within the buildings."

Kellam said he's excited about the expansion and can't wait for the completion.

"The needs are growing in the West Valley because of the population expanding around us," he said.

Mitchell Vantrease can be reached at 8766-2526 or e-mail [mvantrease@aztrib.com](mailto:mvantrease@aztrib.com).

SCW

# Del Webb opens boutique

Women's wellness emphasized with unique gifts

By Cecilia Chan

Independent Newspapers

Don't expect to find flowers, greeting cards or balloons at the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's newest gift shop.

Instead on the shelves of the New Beginnings Boutique are tools for the lactating mother, baby books and therapeutic oils. Shoppers are treated to relaxing scents of lavender oil diffused through the air.

"New Beginnings is for women starting out on a new adventure in life," said Karon Ford, RN and director of Women and Infant Services. "One thing down the road is to

## New Beginnings Boutique

Third floor of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health in Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Boulevard Sun City West.  
Opened 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays

help women with mastectomies (by offering) prosthetics and pads. We want to provide for women across the board."

Del Webb hospital is following a trend in the hospital gift shop industry, merging wellness with retail.

"Actually, this is the perfect place to do it," Ms. Ford said. "We are a facility that enhances health. We want to provide what is necessary and needful, with an emphasis on wellness."

All proceeds from the shop, a converted waiting room, funds the women center's educational programs. Gift certi-

icates are available.

The idea for the boutique came from Susan Sherbocker, manager of the Women's Health Education.

"This is the only thing for the West Valley that caters to lactation," said Carole Hockensmith, coordinator for the center's Health Education Program.

The boutique offers two hospital quality grade breast pump models for sale. It also rents the pumps. A lactation consultant is on hand to help new mothers who may have problems with

See Wellness — Page 5



Independent Newspapers/Cecilia Chan

Carole Hockensmith, left, demonstrates how the signing bear, Beebo, works with Karon Ford at the New Beginnings Boutique, which opened its doors Aug. 1 at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. The bear is used to help teach signs to a baby.

## Advice

Continued From Page 1

team brainstorm with hospital administration to determine each month's topic. Doctors on the program are affiliated with Sun Health.

The topic must be of interest to the community such as the flu or valley fever, highlights a new Sun Health service or introduces a new physician to the community. The program helped bring to the public's attention the existence of the six-year-old sleep lab, Dr. Gilbert said.

Physical ailments are not the only issues addressed. Last December, a psychiatrist was on

board to help callers deal with the holiday blues.

Since the program's inception 13 years ago, the community's taste in issues have changed.

"In the beginning it was traditional topics, focused on back pain, foot pain," Ms. Reaves said. "Today we see a lot more interest in women's issues, whether it's hormone replacement or osteoporosis. These types of women issues have very much been the focus in society as a whole in the last five years."

As young families continue to move into the communities surrounding the Sun Cities, the program's topics will look at health issues that affect young families, Ms. Reaves said.

Plans are to include more pedi-

atricians and sport medicine specialists on the program next year, she added.

"One thing that we have considered but we have finalized is working with the city of Surprise to put (the program) on its cable TV channel," she said. "There are some privacy issues to work through but there is a lot of interest from the city of Surprise about providing that as a service for the whole community."

If the project with Surprise goes through, it would be in addition to the monthly call-in program, said Jennifer Williams, Sun Health marketing coordinator.

"There is still a lot of planning involved," Ms. Williams said. "I am trying to see if that will work."

With a huge database of doc-

tors to call on and a public hungry for information, the program is ensure of longevity.

"I think as a general overview what you are seeing in the medical and health care these days, people are becoming more proactive in taking care of themselves," Ms. Reaves said. "They look for educational tools to help them. They research medical issues, they go on the Internet and find out who the doctors are and do lot of research and we as a health provider want to help them. This is one of the tools in our tool kit to help them."

Post your comments on this issue at [newsblog.info/0302](http://newsblog.info/0302)

News editor Cecilia Chan can be reached at 972-6101 or [cchan@newszap.com](mailto:cchan@newszap.com)

SCW

## Del Webb Hospital surpasses 5,000 babies born in a retirement community

The 5,000 plus babies born at Sun Health Del Webb Hospital since Feb. 2, 2002, share a common bond — they all were born in a retirement community.

On their birth certificates, each baby has their place of birth noted as Sun City West. Parents of the babies are coming from the rapidly growing communities that surround Sun City West, namely Surprise, El Mirage, Peoria, Wickenburg, Litchfield Park, Glendale and Phoenix.

Sun Health's Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, which includes The Nesting Place Obstetrical Suites, has welcomed an off-the-chart number of newborns, brought needed gynecologists and obstetricians to the surrounding communities, and has been providing diagnostic services and health education for women of all ages since it opened in 2002.

"Several years ago, we saw growth on the horizon in the west Valley and realized the need to build a women's services program that included obstetrics," says Karon Ford, B.S.N.,

M.A.O.M., director of women and infant services. "But even with our planning, we've been amazed at how quickly the baby numbers have multiplied, yet we remain ready and excited to welcome every precious new life."

Total babies born more than

doubled projections in the first two years and the rate of doubling has continued to escalate.

It is no surprise that the original eight suites of The Nesting Place obstetrical suites were quickly expanded to a total of 16 to keep pace with the deliveries the first year.

During the second year, with the number of births continuing to climb and average well over 100 per month, an area nearby on the third floor of the hospital was renovated for use as a couplet care area to provide extended care for mothers, newborns and a place where fathers and siblings could be part of the joyous experience following delivery.

Educational opportunities for women and families have grown during the last three years. Classes now include modern grandparenting, choices for better bone health, Boot Camp for New Dads, teen pregnancy, siblings, baby massage and baby sign language. In August, breast-feeding support will expand to include the New Beginnings Boutique that offers breast-feeding supplies. In addition to classes, special events are conducted through the Louisa Kellam Center throughout the year. One such event this fall will be a swap meet for babies, which will enable area residents to buy and sell baby items as well as obtain up-to-date

medical information for their families. More information will be available soon in newspapers and other publications that include the new Health-e Woman electronic newsletter, published monthly. Sign up is free and can be completed at [www.sunhealth.org](http://www.sunhealth.org).

Not only has the Louisa Kellam Center benefited childbearing-women but also mature women as the number of obstetricians and/or gynecologists has grown to 11, which enhances the availability of comprehensive gynecological care. Del Webb has experienced an increase in volume of gynecological surgeries and other related services.

Women's Diagnostic Services at the Louisa Kellam Center encompass mammography, X-ray and ultrasound technologies. Advanced mammography screenings now include a computer-aided detection system to read mammography films more thoroughly. This system offers the advantage of finding and diagnosing breast cancer in its earliest possible stages.

For more information about the services of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health or to schedule a class, call 214-4227. To obtain a physician referral, call the Sun HealthLine 876-5432.

# Sun City West hospice built from ground up



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun Health broke ground Tuesday on its hospice facility near Del Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West.

**MITCHELL VANTREASE**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Construction workers were preparing land this week near Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West.

In the spring, a new Sun Health hospice will be erected for patients. The facility intends to meet the needs of people in their final transition of life.

"It's all under way," said Stephanie Cambio, director of Sun Health's Hospice. "This is going to be a reality to us and the entire community soon."

Dick Givan, the vice president of engineering, said crews are digging up the land this month, and will pour the foundation in November and put the steel structure up sometime in late December.

Construction should be finished in time for a May 2004 grand opening.

"It's an accelerated process," he said. "We really

hope to finish soon."

Givan said work on the hospice should've started weeks ago, but couldn't until the right building permits were acquired.

This facility will be the second for the hospice program, which has another site in Peoria at the Plaza del Rio Campus.

The 12,500-square-foot single-story building has a light-brown, textured block exterior, and is adjacent to Grandview Golf Course.

There are 12 suites that will be decorated with colors of nature. Each room features large windows and customized hallways.

The Sun Health Foundation has raised \$1.6 million of \$2.4 million through the community needed to build and furnish the residence.

For information about donations, call 876-5330.

Mitchell Vantrease can be reached at 876-2526 or [mvantrease@aztrib.com](mailto:mvantrease@aztrib.com).

# Hospitals grow with area

**INDUSTRY BOOM:**  
Local hospitals  
experience  
expansion of space  
and services

**PATRICK O'GRADY**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Nowhere is it more apparent the Northwest Valley is growing than at the Nesting Place Obstetrical Suites at the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West and the Banner Thunderbird Medical Center's neonatal intensive care unit in Glendale.

Mothers and newborns are treated to private spaces and scenic views in rooms that two years ago didn't exist.

All four Northwest Valley hospitals have either expanded their buildings and operations or are in the process of doing so to meet the area's growth.

It's a building explosion that up to now and for the next few years will put as much as \$264 million worth of health-care facilities — from doctor's offices to new hospice locations. It's a sum that easily surpasses the \$180 million Glendale is spending to build the Phoenix Coyotes hockey arena and may eventually rival the cost of the \$355 million Arizona Cardinals stadium.

It's something that had to be done to meet the needs of one of the fastest growing areas in the fastest growing counties in the country, said Darin Anderson, director of planning at Banner Thunderbird.



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Leland Peterson, left, chief executive officer and president for Sun Health, and Jo Adkins, chief executive officer for Del E. Webb Hospital, sit in front of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, a \$46.5 million six-story facility that opened last year.

"Within the past five years, it's just become very necessary that we do this," he said.

## Growth trend

The push is something that has come quickly but not unexpectedly for administrators at the region's four medical centers — Banner Thunderbird and Arrowhead Community Hospital and Medical Center in Glendale, Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City and Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West.

The expansions are in response to the growth that has come to the

hospitals as more people have moved to the area.

Jon Bartlett, chief executive officer at Arrowhead Community Hospital, said the region's population has grown by about 3 percent annually but the hospital's admissions have grown by 10 percent each year.

"It's a tremendous area," he said. "The West Valley will clearly spell growth for lots of things."

Arrowhead has been building for more than a year, mostly concentrating now on offices on the hospital's 45-acre campus at 67th Avenue and Union Hills Drive. There's a three-story office building under construction just west of the hospital. It will be the campus's third and will allow doctors to buy into the building and have a direct connection to the hospital.

Later this year, Arrowhead will expand the hospital itself, increasing its bed total to more than 200 from its current 115. That construction likely will start sometime after the offices are completed, Bartlett said.

Arrowhead's total spending for the projects is between \$40 million and \$50 million during the next two years, Bartlett said.

"We're trying to grow and expand our capacity because we have very little capacity right now," he said.

## Similar positions

Banner Thunderbird, formerly known as Thunderbird Samaritan, is in much the same place as Arrowhead, although it remains a larger hospital. Two years ago, the hospital added a third patient tower, parking

**See GROWTH, A5**

OVER

## From A1

structure and other facilities to the campus at 55th Avenue and Thunderbird Road. The cost was \$49 million, Anderson said.

The move added 60 beds, but it wasn't enough. Officials are going to finish off the fourth floor of the patient tower, add 25 more licensed beds and bring their total up to 397. While it was in the plan, finishing the fourth floor is coming a little early, Anderson said.

"When we originally built the tower, we were not contemplating the fourth floor would be built out for another couple of years," he said.

Aside from Thunderbird, Arrowhead, Webb and Boswell, only John C. Lincoln in north Phoenix and Maryvale Hospital Medical Center — part of the Vanguard Health System along with Arrowhead Community — provide West Valley services along with the Northwest Valley medical centers. Banner is building another hospital in the Southwest Valley that should help ease burdens on the rest of the facilities.

"There comes a saturation point where hospitals can't grow any more, and that's where more hospitals come in and open up," Anderson said.

### Big spenders

The two Glendale hospitals represent close to \$100 million in medical facilities. Combined, that is about 60 percent of what Sun Health has spent upgrading its two

hospitals, spending upwards of \$175 million to accommodate growth, officials said.

Founded in 1966, Sun Health is based in the West Valley. Originally dedicated to retirement communities' residents, the region's growth has brought changes to the hospitals, including the addition of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, a \$46.5 million six-story facility that opened last year.

"The West Valley growth is so strong that it really requires a capital investment," said Leland Peterson, chief executive officer and president of Sun Health.

In the last five years, the two Sun Cities hospitals have seen a 60 percent growth in discharge rates. It's been balanced by more beds that were finished last year and another 42 beds to Webb's current 246. Expansion at Boswell, including the Heart Center, has brought the total to about 330. That can change and grow as the hospital reconfigures its facilities to meet its needs, Peterson said.

Next will be the expansion of other services, such as medical imaging that will be added to hospitals and off site, said Jo Adkins, chief executive officer for Del E. Webb Hospital.

Sun Health also will look to open more bays in its emergency room service at both hospitals in another move to free up more space, Adkins said.

There also have been office buildings — one recently completed near Webb

Hospital — that are useful for attracting doctors to the area. The changes have evolved the health-care system from one that previously focused on senior issues, Peterson said.

"We definitely don't look at it like Sun City, Sun City West and Surprise," he said. "It's a regional system."

### Challenges mount

At the same time hospitals are keeping pace with the growth, officials said they will always face challenges, especially in staffing. With Arizona and the nation in the midst of a nursing and general health-care worker shortage, that can be just as big an issue of facing the growing humanity as having space to put people, officials said.

"That's probably more of our constraints, making sure we have the physician capacity to handle that growth," Bartlett said.

That's why the hospitals

are building office buildings. The buildings, which all four hospitals have either nearby or are constructing, serve a useful purpose in giving doctors a home base close to a hospital, Adkins said.

Sun Health has worked for years with the Maricopa County College system in grooming more nursing candidates with the Boswell-Mesa Nursing Education Program.

"If we don't have people, the buildings just don't cut it as far as serving people," Peterson said.

For the private, nonprofit Sun Health, the growth presents even more problems — relying on the community for financial support. It's been mostly through donations and volunteer hours the system has been able to expand, Peterson said.

"The people in these communities really feel like owners," he said. "They voice those needs and financially support those needs."

# A GRAND ENTRANCE

## 1,000th baby born at Del E. Webb Hospital

By **Charlene Patti Bisson**  
Independent Newspapers

Misty and Mike Dehut were overjoyed when their healthy baby boy Andrew Mason was born March 18 on his grandfather's birthday.

They were more delighted when they learned their 8-pound 5-ounce boy was the 1,000th baby delivered at the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health at Sun Health's Del E. Webb Hospital in Sun City West, and therefore entitled to some special attention and gifts.

According to the hospital's Director of Women's Services Karon Ford, R.N., M.S.N., the milestone was hit much earlier than hospital officials anticipated after opening The Nesting Place.

"We estimated about 300 babies to be born from Feb. 2, 2002, to Feb. 2, 2003," Ms. Ford said. "Instead over 800 babies were born; we nearly tripled our anticipated births."

Andrew's parents were presented with one thousand diapers donated by Owens & Minor Distributing and one thousand dimes in a pink piggy bank.

Mrs. Dehut was very grateful for the gifts.

"We (had) everything except clothes and diapers," said the Surprise resident. "Now we just need clothes."

Mrs. Dehut added the hospital stay was an enjoyable experience.

Women who deliver a bundle of joy at the hospital stay in a birthing suite. The mother never has to leave the room. It features everything from birthing equipment, to computers, to a sofa bed for expectant fathers.

The rooms feature wood furniture and flooring, paintings and a massage-therapy bathtub.

"Everything is in one room," Ms. Ford said.

However, that may not be the case in the near future for



Photo by Charlene Patti Bisson/Independent Newspapers

**Andrew Mason Dehut sleeps peacefully during the delivery of presents from Sun Health officials.**

all the expectant mothers choosing Del E. Webb for delivery.

"We may have to move a couple of mothers upstairs in a post-delivery unit," Ms. Ford

explained. "The rooms upstairs are just as nice; the aesthetics won't change."

The first babies born at The Nesting Place was a set of twin boys. As of last week, 506 girls and 494 boys have been born, including 10 sets of twins.

A baby recognition wall honors recently born babies for a tax-deductible donation of \$100 per child. Families can also honor children who were born in other cities or states.

Funds raised through the recognition wall are used to support educational women's programs at the center. For more information, call 876-5330.

According to Sun Health officials, the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health was created to meet the health care needs of women of all ages. When it opened last year, the center offered diagnostic services that incorporated the latest technology and compassionate staff sensitive to the individual needs of women.



## Adkins is named CEO of Webb Hospital

By Marie Scotti

Jo Adkins, R.N., M.S.N., has been named executive vice president/Chief executive officer (CEO) of Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West. Her appointment was announced by Leland W. Peterson, Sun Health's president/CEO.

The new hospital leader succeeds Thomas C. Dickson, who had been the hospital's administrator for 12 years. Dickson accepted appointment last year as executive vice president/CEO of Sun Health Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City.

"Jo Adkins bring an impressive background in hospital administration to the top post at Del E. Webb Hospital," says Peterson, who was the hospital's first administrator when it opened in 1988. "She is extremely knowledgeable, has outstanding administrative ability and is the right person to lead the hospital to its next level of community-based service."

Adkins joined Sun Health in June 2002 as vice president of administrative services for Boswell and Del E. Webb Hospitals.

She has an impressive background that includes service as senior vice president/chief operating officer for St. Joseph's Mercy Hospitals & Health Services, a 462-bed multi-hospital system in Clinton Township, Mich. She held the same position at Memorial Medical Center, a 550-bed teaching hospital for the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Her tenure at Memorial Medical Center, located in Springfield, Ill., also included service as its vice president of operations and chief nurse executive.

Adkins earned her bachelor of science degree in nursing with magna cum laude honors from



Jo Adkins, new CEO at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

Eastern Kentucky University and her master of science degree in nursing from Indiana University, where she received an academic achievement award for maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade-point average at the graduate level.

"I appreciate the confidence shown in me with this appointment as CEO for Del E. Webb Hospital," Adkins said. "I'm looking forward to instilling a vision that seeks an even higher level of individual service that is consistent with Sun Health's mission."

DAILY NEWS-SUN

THURSDAY, FEB. 3, 2005

SCW

# Nesting Place delivers anniversary

MITCHELL VANTREASE  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

More than 4,300 babies have been delivered in the Tamara Kellam Center at Sun Health's Del E. Webb Hospital in Sun City West.

"It's exceeded our expectations," said Karon Ford, director of the center and infant services. "We're here to meet the needs of this community as it grows."

Known as the "Nesting Place," the staff have delivered 4,365 babies within three years. They recently celebrated its third anniversary.

The original eight private rooms of the Nesting Place suites were expanded to 16 to keep up with the pace of first-year deliveries. During the next year, the monthly average was about 100 births.

Ford said a nearby third floor was eventually renovated for couplet care and provide private accommodations for the family-centered experience. More than 120 members are on the staff.

Ford said they've had thousands of births because of rapid growth with families moving into the Surprise



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/PHOTO BY SCW

Doctor Rafael Mendoza, left, holds Anay Aguillar of Aguila while nurse Jolene Edwards holds Merneala Storm Blotcky of Glendale. Both were born Wednesday, during the third anniversary of the Nesting Place at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West. Behind them is Anay's father, Juan, and nurses Amy Lebbon, Stacie Conlon and Libbie Nix.

area.

"It's growing so fast, and we needed a unit nearby so families didn't have to drive so far," she said. "We're very pleased at the outcome."

Education opportunities have also expanded at the Nesting Place to include car-seat safety, teen pregnancy classes, breast-feeding courses, a boot-camp for new dads,

siblings and grandparents.

"We have so much to offer at our beautiful facilities for families," said Susan Sherbocher, a co-ordinator for the educational programs.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Mary Ann Grzybowski, chairman of the ball and Birt Kellam, right, greet guests arriving at Briarwood Country Club Monday for the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital 15th Anniversary Gala.

## Gala celebrates over the rainbow

STAFF REPORT

Not far over the rainbow, there was elegant dining, dancing and a silent auction that raised \$57,500 for Sun Health.

The affair for Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's 15th Anniversary Ball Monday evening took place at the remodeled Briarwood Country Club in Sun City West. It was titled "Over the Rainbow."

A hosted reception and chance for a "first look" at a diverse selection of silent-auction items began at 6 p.m., followed by a gourmet five-course dinner. Messinger Seven provided music for dancing.

The more than \$57,000 raised from ball will go to enhance community health care at Del E. Webb Hospital by upgrading and expanding telemetry capabilities. Proceeds included underwriting sponsorships, ball-ticket sales and silent-auction purchases.

The auction items included a one-week timeshare ownership at Los Abrigados in Sedona, a limited-edition Thomas Kinkaid lithograph, a Gainey Ranch golf package for four, a flight in the plane of Gen. Hank Canterbury (retired Luke Air Force Base commander) and lunch for two with Sheriff Joe Arpaio. A total of 52 items were donated to the silent auction

by area businesses and individuals alike.

"The lyrics from the song 'Over the Rainbow' truly reflect the success of Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital through the years," said Rae K. McMillan, volunteer chairman of the Del E. Webb Hospital Board of Directors. "Since January 4, 1988, when the hospital first opened its doors, the community has witnessed dreams being realized for expanded health-care services."

McMillan said Del E. Webb Hospital continues to respond to neighborhood needs to fulfill Sun Health's mission of caring for the community.

DAILY NEWS-SUN SATURDAY, JAN. 11, AND SUNDAY, JAN. 12, 2003

# Hospital honors 1st births

**TWINS:** Goodyear babies claim initial slot on recognition wall

**BRIAN POWELL**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

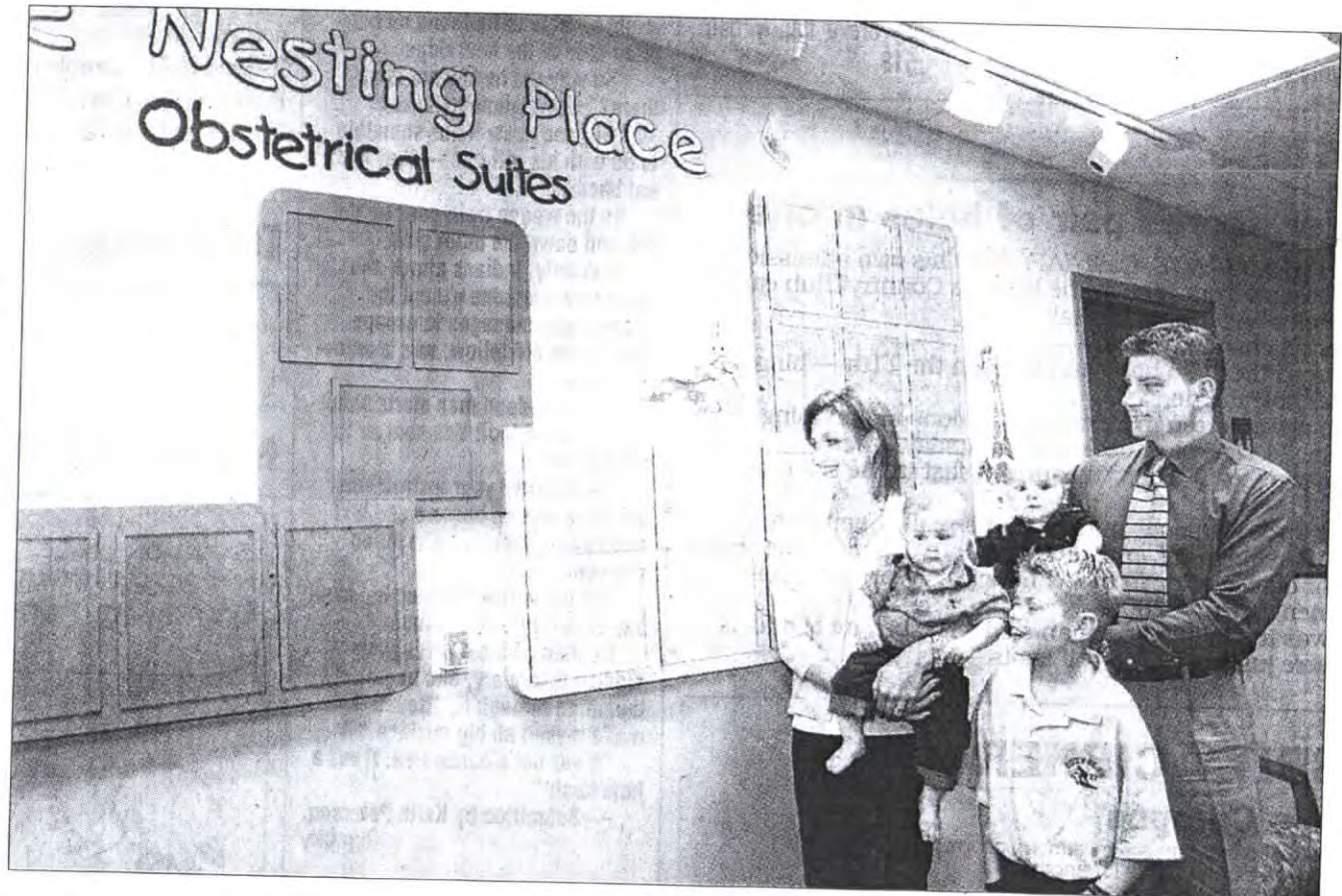
The first births at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital were honored Friday as the family watched the names of twins Scott and Grant Kennedy unveiled on the new baby-recognition wall.

With parents Marcus and Tammy and brother Corey looking on, the twins were given honorary memberships on the wall located in the reception area of The Nesting Place obstetrical suites, the delivery-room area of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health adjacent to the Sun City West hospital.

The wall lists a baby's name, birth date and weight in one of five colorful panels surrounded by Suzy's Zoo characters Witzzy, Boof, Lulla and Patches — a gift from Suzy's Zoo creator Suzy Spafford, said Susan Bennett, a Sun Health spokeswoman.

Tammy Kennedy was honored when Sun Health asked if the Goodyear family would be interested in dedicating the new addition to the hospital.

"Sure, yea, tell me when," she said.



The Kennedy family of Goodyear — mother Tammy, twins Scott and Grant, Corey, 9, and dad Marcus — view the twins' names on the recognition wall at The Nesting Place obstetrical suites in the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West. The twins were the first babies born at the center on Feb. 2, 2002.

STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

OVER

The Kennedy twins were born Feb. 2, 2002, on the opening day of the women's center. Scott was born at 8:34 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces. Grant was born a minute later at 7 pounds, 2 ounces. Both were 19 inches long.

Tammy Kennedy was originally given a due date of Feb. 18, but once she learned she was carrying twins, she knew the births would come sooner. Kennedy's doctor told her that the women's center was opening Feb. 2 and asked if she

would be interested in being the first delivery. Kennedy, who was already planning a Caesarean section, agreed.

The soon-to-be mother of three checked into the hospital at 5:30 p.m. and delivered the twins about three hours later.

Scott and Grant returned to the hospital Friday for just the second time since their birth. This time, the twins did not have to be held. Scott and Grant walked short distances through the reception area, fell down, crawled a bit and then stood

up and walked again.

"They are very good babies, easy going," father Marcus Kennedy said.

Scott and Grant were the first of 729 babies delivered last year at the hospital. Last month, 115 babies were born.

Karon Ford, Sun Health director of women's health services, said the upward trend in number of births per month is expected to continue.

The birth information on every baby born at Del E. Webb, or any other hospital, can be displayed on the wall for a tax-deductible

donation of \$100. The family also receives a personalized certificate.

Funds raised by the baby-recognition wall will support educational programs at the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, Bennett said.

A third name has already joined Scott and Grant on the wall. A grandmother chose to recognize her granddaughter, who was born in Mesa in 2000, Bennett said.

Brian Powell may be reached at 876-2531 or [bpowell@aztrib.com](mailto:bpowell@aztrib.com).

SCW

*'That hospital is our greatest source of pride'*

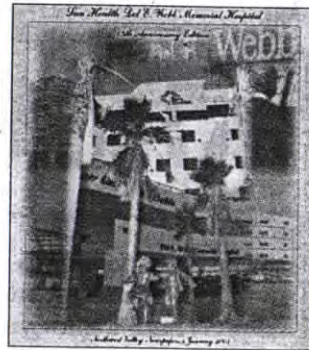
— R.H. Johnson, retired Del E. Webb Corp. executive

## Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital celebrates 15th anniversary

**SAMMIE ANN WICKS**  
FOR DAILY NEWS-SUN

"Through all the many years I knew him, Del E. Webb was a very particular man, and he wanted his name put on everything that he did."

So it is that R.H. Johnson remembers his long-time friend, supervisor, and fellow building professional Del E. Webb, whose name adorns Sun City West's triple-tower hospital named in honor of the retirement pioneer. But Dr. Johnson — the Del Webb associate received an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Arizona State University in 2001— enjoys more than just the vista of the



**Special section inside today's Daily News-Sun**

years as he is invited to reminisce on the occasion of the Del E. Webb Memorial

**See ANNIVERSARY, A5**



CHARLES WADE/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Marjorie and R.H. Johnson pose in front of the Del E. Webb Foundation of Wickenburg, which has contributed to the initial construction and two major expansions of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West.

# ANNIVERSARY: Retired Webb Corp. executives reminisce as Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital turns 15

From A1

Hospital's 15th anniversary.

Johnson always has been among the first forward with financial support in the course of the hospital's history, throughout its trajectory from idea to dream to towering reality. And the series of major financial gifts to the hospital on behalf of the charitable foundation he now heads with a board of directors including Marjorie Johnson have literally made the hospital what it is today.

Marjorie Klinefelter and Johnson were married last August after a working association that began in the early '60s.

She noted that the Del E. Webb Foundation of Wickenburg to date has provided the funds that made possible not only the initial construction of the facility — but two major expansions in more recent years.

"We gave \$3.5 million in 1985 for the hospital to be built and that gift was followed by others in 1992 and 1998, to aid the hospital as it expanded to meet the community's changing needs," she said.

But to those who have followed their careers, the names of Marjorie Klinefelter Johnson and R.H. Johnson will always be the other two names that are the most likely to be associated with major developments in the Sun City/Sun City West communities.

"Sure, I'm as proud as a person can be about what Sun City West and the

hospital have become," Johnson said. "But I haven't lost my memories of how it all began, either."

The veteran of a number of major Del Webb construction projects over more than four decades said he started his rise within the organization when he was barely beyond his teen years.

"I started driving a Model A Ford truck in 1935 as pretty much of a delivery boy of parts and materials," said Johnson laughing, "and I then went on to work with Mr. Webb in Flagstaff, California, Phoenix and other locales on just about every kind of job we could get our hands on. When I later became a timekeeper on jobs for him, our crews worked on the old Bayless Grocery Stores — and we even did odd jobs for individual households around town."

But when it came to the original vision to create retirement meccas on the lands that now constitute Sun City and Sun City West, Johnson gives much additional credit to developer John Meeker.

"John — and then investor and cotton magnate J.G. Boswell — came into the picture when they came up with the idea of building really affordable homes in developments that had enough infrastructure to expand them properly," Johnson said, "with the added idea that you had to have all the supporting facilities — like recreation centers — up first so they could serve the people who'd be coming in."

Their vision proved to be

an idea whose time had come.

"They all thought we should build model homes so people could see what they'd be getting, and that was still a pretty new idea at the time," Johnson recalled. "As it turns out, it proved to be a great idea, at that — maybe too great in the beginning — we had to really hustle to accommodate people."

The numbers of people interested in the Webb homes at first were a challenge to satisfy, Johnson said.

"When we started opening up the original Sun City homes for sale, we had such a phenomenal response that we had an outright traffic jam of people wanting to buy them," Johnson said.

His wife added that the demand for the \$8,700 to \$9,500 homes was so great that it often was not possible to get all the paperwork done on time.

"They were so busy they sometimes didn't even have proper sales contracts for awhile," Marjorie said, "and you'd get things on the documents that read something like, 'so many steps from such-and-such a tree.' But over time, we got everything completed, and it all worked out."

Marjorie started working for Johnson in 1960 when she was associated with the Webb enterprise as a secretary.

The rest, as they say, is Sun City and Sun City West history, and over time, the roles of both went from employees to key personnel to colleagues in the Del Webb

operation. And today, both are the most prominent — and certainly the most senior — members of a community of major donors that have helped create the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

The two now share responsibility for running the Webb charitable foundation, and their organization makes gifts primarily to health-care oriented organizations from a large trust Johnson says was started out of the original Del Webb stock.

"The foundation got its start years ago," Johnson recalled, "when the Webb enterprise actually had no cash funds. But we had 2,740,000 shares of the Webb stock, so we turned around and sold the shares for \$10 per share. That created the initial fund."

Today, the foundation chooses its projects carefully, funding organizations partly through the interest earned on its revenues, usually spread out in a series of large payments.

"This way of giving — in installments rather than in one lump sum — has proven to be the most successful way for us to donate funds," Johnson said. "It makes the most sense, given the ups and downs of the economy and interest rates we must constantly deal with."

It's the foundation's gifts to the Del E. Webb Hospital that Johnson said give him his greatest sense of accomplishment.

"For all of us who've taken a major role in it, that hospital is our greatest sense of pride."

# New CEO checks in at Boswell Hospital

ERIN REEP  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

He may be new to the job, but he's not new to Sun Health.

Tom Dickson was named last week to the position of president/CEO of Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City by Sun Health president/CEO Leland Peterson.

Dickson has worked for almost 13 years as executive vice president and CEO of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West. He was hired at Webb in 1989. During the past decade, the dynamics of Webb Hospital and the growth of the surrounding communities have helped Dickson implement change.

"Del Webb Hospital has grown by almost 20 percent each year," he said. "That's a level of growth that's difficult to maintain."

While the hospital's expansion has been a wonderful thing for the Sun Cities, Surprise and other surrounding communities, rapid growth has brought challenges with it, Dickson said, and he has had to navigate those challenges.

As Del Webb Hospital has expanded, it has been difficult to maintain the same level of quality, Dickson said. That is something he has striven for as administrator of Webb Hospital's day-to-day operations.

Dickson said he has appreciated the great volunteers at the hospital, who show "phenomenal team effort."

"I have really completely enjoyed my time at Del Webb Hospital," he

said.

Dickson was chosen to replace former CEO George Perez, who elected to step down as Boswell's executive vice president/CEO in August. Dickson stepped in and served as interim CEO for the past month.

"We're very pleased to have a CEO at Boswell who has experienced the Del Webb site," Peterson said. The Sun Health organization seeks to promote from within when it is appropriate, he said, adding Dickson seemed to be the right choice for this job.

Dickson said he is proud of Webb hospital's addition of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, a \$46.5 million expansion project that includes obstetric and gynecologic care. The center reflects how the hospital is trying to meet the needs of the surrounding communities.

Dickson said that eight babies were born at the hospital on Monday. With the addition of obstetrics services, Webb hospital also faces growth and expansion challenges.

Dickson will face a slightly different set of dynamics at Boswell. While he will deal with many of the same administrators and staff, Dickson must familiarize himself with Boswell's leading programs and look for ways to strengthen, improve, and expand its services.

Boswell, with 331, has more beds than Webb, 248, but Peterson said, Webb will add 40 more beds.

Dickson said he will look for

opportunities to bring growth and expansion to Boswell. Boswell is known for its cardiology services and neurological services. The clients that Boswell primarily serves are slightly older than Webb, because of the obstetrics services offered at Webb.

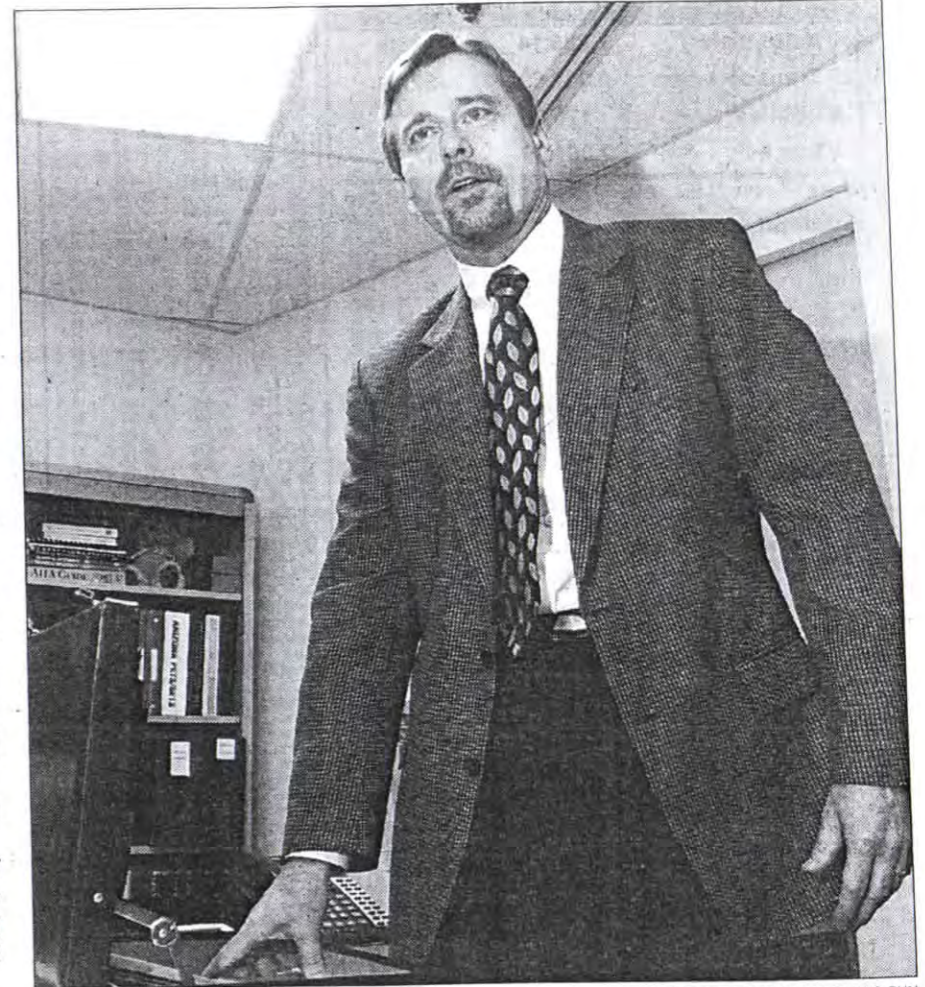
Dickson will also over see the Extended Care Services branch of Sun Health that includes: Sun Health Care Center, Sun Health Hospice Care Services and Residence, Sun Health Residence for Alzheimer's Care, Sun Health Residence for Special Adults, Sun Health Home Care Services and Sun Health Community Education and Wellness Centers.

"My job as CEO is to try and lead the team at Boswell," Dickson said.

The hospital has a long history of looking for needs in the community and finding ways to meet them and Dickson said he is coming aboard with that same vision.

In particular, he said, the hospital plans to implement continued change in its emergency rooms. Statewide, emergency rooms face the problem of "diversions" — having to divert patients to other hospitals due to extreme overcrowding and lack of sufficient beds and staff to handle patient needs. Of the hospitals in the Valley, Sun Health's hospitals have some of the lowest diversion rates, Dickson said.

Dickson views the emergency room services as an area that needs change and an "opportunity to expand." Both hospitals have



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Tom Dickson is the new president/CEO of Boswell Memorial Hospital. He is moving to Boswell from Del Webb Hospital in Sun City West. Sun Health Corp. is the corporate parent of both hospitals.

expanded their emergency rooms in the past year, adding more beds. Dickson also said that the hospitals must add more nurses.

Dickson said that over time, he has noticed the hospitals become more unified. Ten years ago, Boswell and Del Webb operated more like separate hospitals. Today, "we're trying to work as if we had one

hospital on two campuses," Dickson said.

Dickson has a bachelor's degree in rehabilitation from the University of Arizona and a master's degree in hospital administration from Arizona State University. He and his wife Lisa have three young children.

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# Model practice

## MEDICAL TEAM: Air Force puts clinic in Sun City West hospital

KATY O'GRADY  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The world is watching the new Luke Air Force Base Women's Clinic at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

Specifically, U.S. Air Force officials in this nation and abroad are gauging the success of a new relationship between Luke and the hospital that allowed the air force base to move its obstetrical services to the Sun City West hospital.

"We're high visibility right now," said Maj. Lourie Moore, the Luke Women's Clinic element chief, or manager. "If they're going to do this again, they're going to use us as a model."

"This is a really creative solution," said Tom Dickson, the hospital's executive vice president and CEO. "It was a way for them to have access to the facilities for their providers

without having to build it themselves."

The new clinic opened on the sixth floor of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital with gynecological services in August, then expanded to obstetrics Oct. 1. In January, it will more than double its space by moving to a nearby 5,000 square-foot clinic, also on the sixth floor.

"I think it's been great. I haven't had a whole lot of complaints of women having to come here," Moore said. "They like the idea of a women's clinic."

Luke personnel and family members appreciate the privacy the clinic affords for women's services, and they still see their primary care physicians on the base, Moore said. Dickson said the arrangement has the convenience of allowing women to deliver their babies on Webb's obstetrics unit four floors below.

The clinic has three doctors — James Glem, Peter Drewes and Justin Nast, and one nurse practitioner, Blanca Reyes, all of whom are majors stationed at Luke.

Their quarters are cramped, but when the expanded clinic opens in January, the four

See Luke, Webb, A5

OVER



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Tom Dickson, chief executive officer of Sun Health, and Maj. Lourie Moore, element chief of the Luke Women's Clinic at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, take a walk through what will be the new clinic at the hospital in Sun City West.

## From A1

will share six offices, eight exam rooms, a procedure room, waiting area and break room.

The clinic staff already has access to a 24-hour anesthesiologist, Webb's blood bank and other resources not available to them on the base. Previously, women served by Luke's clinic had to leave the base if they were high-risk cases.

In addition, Moore said, having three Luke doctors with operating-room credentials to do surgeries in the hospital helps with their preparedness in case they are needed on the military front,

since OB-GYNs back up military physicians in times of war.

The new Luke-Webb arrangement was about a year and a half in the making, Dickson said. "It was actually pretty complicated," he said.

Luke's doctors had to get privileges to work at Webb, and the contract had to be approved by TRICARE, which is the military's insurance carrier.

"Del Webb already had a contract with them. It's called an External Resource Sharing Agreement," Moore said, adding it had to be modified for the new arrangements.

Luke leases the clinic

space, which was how the sixth floor was designed, Dickson said.

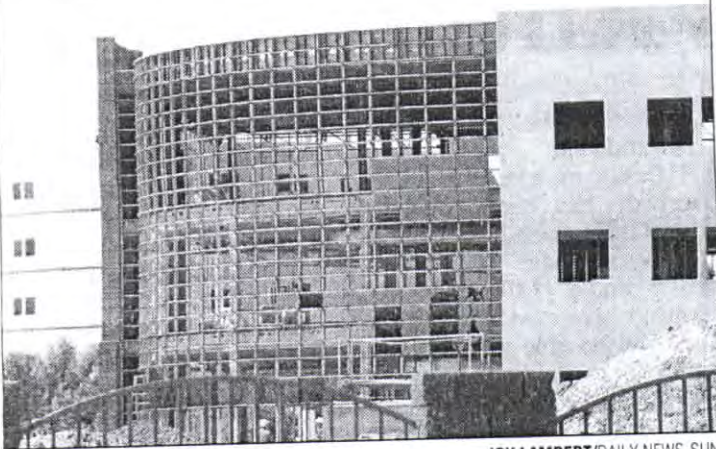
"Everybody has been excellent. They've been very accommodating," Moore said. "Our hospital commander, Col. (Donald) Taylor, is very excited. He thinks it's a great idea."

"It's a unique arrangement," Dickson added.

Moore said talks are under way to get privileges at Webb for Luke's orthopedics and general surgery doctors.

"Those providers are actually in the process of getting accredited here," she said.

For more information about the Luke Women's Clinic, call 856-3123.



JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Webb Medical Plaza Building B construction is moving along and should be completed by March 2003.

## Del Webb Hospital builds up campus

STAFF REPORT

Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital is adding on to its hospital campus. Construction of the three-story, 55,000-square foot Webb Medical Plaza Building B has begun, and the facility is slated to open in March 2003.

The building will provide office space for physicians affiliated with the hospital. Planned services in the building include primary care, internal medicine, neurology, hematology and oncology. There will also be a pharmacy, an ophthalmologist and an optical shop.

The first phase of the

three-building complex, Webb Plaza Building A, was started in 1996. The third phase, Building C, is in the planning stages. A cafe/deli in Building B will serve all three buildings that surround a park-like courtyard.

Orcutt Winslow Partnership is the architect, and Summit Builders have been contracted for construction. Sun Health Properties develops and manages real estate property relating to local healthcare activities.

For leasing information on Medical Plaza Building B, call Linda Mee, director of Property Management Services for Sun Health Properties, at 876-5324.



JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A construction worker runs wire to the ceiling while working on a section of the 55,000-square foot plaza at Del Webb.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2002

### **Sun City hospital names its first staff chaplain**

**SUN CITY** — Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital has named the Rev. Donald G. Farris its first staff chaplain.

In its 14 years of existence, the community hospital has had only volunteer chaplains.

Farris previously served for 12 years as senior minister at Sun City Christian Church. He resides with his wife in Sun City West.

The hospital's chaplain office can be reached at (623) 214-4207.

# Grand opening's twice as nice

**2 on 02-02-02:**  
 Delivery of twins christens Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health

**MICHAEL MARESH**  
 DAILY NEWS-SUN

There were a lot of twos at the new Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health Saturday evening.

Tammy and Marcus Kennedy of Goodyear had twin boys — Scott, born at 8:34 p.m., and Grant, one minute later.

That's two on 02-02-02.

But Tammy's quick to point out there are more twos.

"It's No. 2 for us," she said. "Other than the honor of being the first (to give birth here), our babies names are Grant and Scott so it is a God send," she said while talking about the initials of the twins.

Grant weighed in at 6 pounds, 7 ounces, while Scott weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces.

Once her doctor found out she was carrying twins, he asked if she would consent to being the first woman to give birth at the new center.

Kennedy said the thought of giving birth to twins on Groundhog Day is not without humor if you recall the movie starring Bill Murray.

"I could wake up and find out I am pregnant again," she said.

Kennedy said there is no comparison of her first pregnancy, when her son, Corey, was born in a military hospital eight years ago, to



JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Tammy Kennedy of Goodyear feeds 2-day-old Grant, while twin Scott is shown in background at the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, where the twins were born shortly after it opened Saturday night.

Saturday's births at the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health.

"The facility here is like a hotel," she said, adding that words cannot explain what the Sun Health staff had to go through to make Saturday even more special.

Kennedy said there were doubts she wouldn't make it until Feb. 2.

"I was on bed rest for the last three weeks," she said. I was hoping my water would not break. I was in premature labor for the last three weeks. Once we hit midnight Feb. 1. I knew we were in the clear."

Kennedy was the first patient admitted to the new center, arriving at 5:30 p.m. Saturday and underwent a Caesarean section shortly after 8:30 p.m.

Karon Ford, director of center, said a little bit of everything went into having a mother christen the hospital with the birth of twins.

Ford said they knew there was a mother who was carrying twins so Sun Health was hopeful the center could open with a flourish.

"It just happened that it coincided with what we were doing," Ford said.



JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Tammy Kennedy of Goodyear holds her 2-day-old twins, Scott, left, and Grant, born Saturday in the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health.

A third delivery Sunday and a fourth expected today have the center operating in full gear.

"It went a lot better than we thought it would," Ford said.

"It wasn't a surprise, but it sure felt good," she said.

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# Weekend events celebrate hospital's expansion



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Cartoonist Rick Kirkman of Glendale, creator of the "Baby Blues" comic strip, autographs a copy of one of his books for Bill Carpenter of Sun City.

## Celebration of hospital expansion attracts multi-generational crowd

BRIAN POWELL  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Three generations of Northwest Valley residents gathered under one roof Saturday to celebrate the services benefitting them all as Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital opened the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health and showed off its renovated quarters.

The Sun City West hospital, offering childbirth services for the first time, hosted tours of the expanded and renovated pharmacy, emergency room, education classrooms and the new women's center and its delivery rooms.

The private delivery rooms, otherwise known as The Nesting Place Obstetrical

Suites, were popular with seniors and young families.

Stephanie Elitz, a Sun City West resident, attended the grand opening just to catch a glimpse at the hospital's latest project.

"I think it's wonderful. I wish I could have a baby," Elitz said after her tour.

Lenore Grimwood, a Sun City West resident, said, "My father was a physician, and it's come a long way from what they had in the 1920s and '30s. I wish I was young, I'd have my babies here."

Claire Long, a six-month Surprise resident, is planning to deliver her second child at Del E. Webb Hospital in April.

As Long waited to tour the obstetrics area, she talked with joy about avoiding the long drive to another Valley hospital.

"That would have been quite a ways away," Long said. "I'm really pleased."

Christy Multz, a mother of two, moved to Surprise in October knowing obstetrics would soon be offered in Sun City West. It was a pleasant surprise for Multz, who said she will likely have another child.

"Before I really didn't think (this hospital) was for younger people. I thought that it catered to Sun City residents," Multz said before her tour. "Then I heard about

the (childbirth services), and it was a nice bonus."

In addition to the tours, adults and children had many entertainment options to choose from Saturday. Cartoonist Rick Kirkman of Glendale, creator of "Baby Blues," was available to sign copies of his cartoon books. "Baby Blues," published in 750 newspapers, features a married couple with two children and a third on the way.

"It's mostly about the changes and dynamics of a family once they start adding kids," Kirkman said.

Among the attractions at the open house were gardening displays, a Sun City West Model Railroad Club display, maternity fashion show, clowns, karaoke and the

OVER

"Bear Jamboree" puppet show.

Tom Dickson, the chief executive officer for Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, said the interest was there to hold a two-day grand opening celebration.

"We have two different, distinct communities. (Saturday) it was geared more toward kids," Dickson said.

Friday night featured the Sunset Gala fund-raiser on the sixth floor of the women's center, the future home of physician offices.

Bev Autrey, Sun Health's special events and programs director, said an effort was made with the grand opening to appeal to all segments of the population.

"We wanted to attract the

retirement communities as well as children, and both men and women," Autrey said.

Sun Health mailed about 8,000 invitations to the retired communities and 11,000 invitations to families of childbirth age in Surprise, Peoria and Glendale.

Glendale's Tony Coppola, along with his wife, Lily, and three kids attended the grand opening. Tony Coppola said he and his wife, who is expecting their fourth child in August, will consider having the baby in Sun City West.

"Maybe there's a chance we'll change to this hospital," he said. "The rooms are nice."

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STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Carolyn Mielke, 1, and her mom, Zona, of Surprise watch the Puppet Pizzazz, featuring Jon and Joyzelle Curtis and eight of their 10 children, perform at an open house Saturday at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, Sun City, celebrating the completion of hospital renovations and the opening of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health.

## Residents relish expanded Del Webb services

**BRIAN POWELL**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun Citians say Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's expansion will bring the community benefits ranging from improved local medical care to more opportunities for seniors to volunteer.

"We have young communities and all these people have so far to go," said Shirley Bartley, a Sun City Grand resident. "And it's nice to have young people around. We don't have to all be old."

"One of the criticisms is we are somewhat separated from the general population," Sun City West resident Joyce Nauen said. "This is a very good way to feel inclusive. I'm all for it."

The women's center will offer services such as breast biopsy capabilities, mammography, ultrasound imaging and bone densitometry.

But on Saturday night, the hospital began a service not typically found in a retirement community — obstetrics — to serve the growing family-oriented communities of Surprise, Peoria, Glendale and El Mirage.

Sun Cities residents who spoke to the Daily News-Sun believed it made sense to offer childbirth services at Del E. Webb hospital.

"If they built a new hospital, they would have to duplicate many of the services," said Lois Moran, a Sun City West resident.

Some even cracked jokes about babies being delivered in Sun City West.

"I think it's a riot we're going to have our first baby," said Sun City West resident Edy Martin, a supporter of the women's center.

Jean Majka, a Sun City West resident, said the

women's center will benefit both the young and the old.

"I think it's great. Not just Sun City West will benefit," Majka said.

Sun Citian Sally Klootra believed the hospital's overall expansion and renovation, at a cost of \$46.5 million, was needed. Women's services previously offered have been expanded. The hospital also renovated and expanded the emergency department and pharmacy. Physician offices and 92 beds were also added.

"They're so crowded, they need the space," Klootra said. "Any room is beneficial."

Roy Handwerk, a Sun City West resident, believes the addition of obstetrics will benefit the area in ways unrelated to health.

"I can see women going over there and volunteering to work in the nursery," Handwerk said.

*Brian Powell may be reached at 876-2531 or [bpowell@aztrib.com](mailto:bpowell@aztrib.com).*



**SUNDAY**

February 3, 2002

**SECTION B****THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC****Twin boys 1st arrivals  
at new delivery room**

**SUN CITY WEST** — The walls of twin boys christened Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's delivery room, which accepted its first patients Saturday.

Tammy Kennedy, 33, of Goodyear, gave birth to Scott and Grant Kennedy via Caesarean section at 8:34 p.m. Saturday. The boys were healthy, weighing in at 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and 6 pounds, 7 ounces, a hospital spokeswoman said.

"It went absolutely smooth as silk. The babies are beautiful," said Linda Tyler, community relations director. "We had twins on 2-2-02."

The babies were delivered in the Nesting Place Obstetrical Suites, which is part of the new Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health. The suites will serve the West Valley's growing population.

The hospital's new addition has been in the works for a year and a half, said Karon Ford, director of women's services.

"I haven't heard babies cry in a hospital for a long time," she said. "I've been working on this project so long that I felt like I was giving birth myself."

— Stephanie Paterik

# Hospitals grow with birthrate

## Sun City West facility starts obstetrics unit

By Kerry Fehr-Snyder  
The Arizona Republic

You know the Valley's birthrate is booming when a hospital that typically serves heart patients and post-menopausal retirees in Sun City West starts delivering babies.

Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, across the street from the venerable retirement community's golf course, plans to begin offering labor, delivery and obstetrics services today.

The expansion reflects the changing face of the northwest Valley and the continuing baby boom in the state, which saw a 5.6 percent rise in the number of births to 84,985 in 2000 compared with the year before. That follows a 3.3 percent increase during the 1998-99 period.

That's an average of 233 babies a day in 2000, the latest year for which state-wide data is available.

Hospitals throughout the Valley have been expanding their obstetrics departments to handle the bundles of newborns.

Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Phoenix, which delivered the most babies (7,970) last year among Valley hospitals, is adding 29 beds to its obstetrics unit. Scottsdale Healthcare Shea just completed a new family birthing center with 34 labor, delivery and recovery rooms.

See BIRTH Page B2



Cori Takemoto Williams/The Arizona Republic

Jesse and Jennifer Thibodeau are expecting their first child, due Feb. 8, and plan to deliver the baby at Del E. Webb Memorial's new labor wing.

CVER

From Page B1

Last year, Desert Samaritan Medical Center in Mesa added 10 labor and delivery rooms for a total of 26.

Valley Lutheran, which traditionally has served several retirement communities in east Mesa, also geared up for the boom, adding eight labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum beds.

Del E. Webb Memorial, which opened in 1988, always planned to offer labor and delivery services for the fast-growing cities of Surprise, Youngtown, Goodyear, Litchfield and even Wickenburg.

But the real estate slump of the late 1980s prompted the hospital to put its birthing plans on hold until now.

"Historically, we have specialized in providing services to older adults," said Tom Dickson, the hospital's chief executive officer, adding that cardiac surgery, psychiatric services and joint replacements are the top reasons patients are admitted.

In 1995, the hospital's planning studies began to show there would be enough women of childbearing age in the cities surrounding Sun City West to support an obstetrics department.

For young couples such as Jennifer and Jesse Thibodeau, the new obstetrics department couldn't come at a better time.

Expecting their first baby, a boy, in less than two weeks, the Surprise couple were re-

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We thought all that they were doing here (at Del E. Webb) was for senior citizens. It makes sense (to add obstetrics), but it's something I didn't think of.”

#### Jesse Thibodeau

Expectant father who plans to take his wife to Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, which starts delivering babies today

lieved to learn they had an alternative to Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital, the next-nearest hospital, which recently added three more labor and delivery beds.

The hospital is 25 minutes from the Thibodeaus' home compared with the five-minute commute to Del E. Webb Memorial.

"We thought all that they were doing here (at Del E. Webb) was for senior citizens," said Jesse, who, like his wife, works at Luke Air Force Base. "It makes sense (to add obstetrics), but it's something I didn't think of."

Until last year, the Thibodeaus would have had the option of delivering their baby

at Luke.

But the base discontinued the service because "we weren't doing enough deliveries at Luke to make it cost-effective," said Lt. Jeff Clark, a base spokesman.

Discontinuing the service will save \$1.5 million a year, he added.

Jennifer, who is due Feb. 8, said she is ready to deliver now.

"We want to be the first," she said.

Her enthusiasm stems from more than the anticipation of being a new mom.

She says she wouldn't mind the gifts the hospital plans for the first four women who deliver at the center.

Freebies include a car seat, assorted baby supplies and a variety of gift certificates.

The Thibodeaus also are eager to deliver in the new center, which features eight private rooms (with room for eight more), stained glass windows, faux hardwood floors, closed-circuit televisions and a hydrotherapy tub.

"That's what I'm looking forward to," Jennifer said as she toured the room. "I'll be so disappointed if my water breaks before I get in there."

The obstetrics department, part of the larger Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, represents a \$2.6 million project, said Karon Ford, director of the hospital's women's health services.

Reach the reporter at kerry.fehr-snyder@arizona-republic.com or (602) 444-8975.

# Couple's generosity inspires others

VERINA E. PALMER  
FOR NORTHWEST VALLEY NEWSPAPERS

**B**irt and Louisa Kellam love life, and their generous donation to the Sun Health Foundation will help save lives in the West Valley as well as bring new ones into the world.

The Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health is part of a \$46.5 million expansion of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. But don't be deceived by its location in a retirement community.

The intergenerational women's center will provide much more than the needed gynecological care, diagnostic services and health education for residents of the Sun Cities. It also will offer obstetrical care for young mothers in the surrounding — and rapidly growing — communities of Surprise, El Mirage, Litchfield Park and Wickenburg.

"It's astonishing to think that there are people with that foresight who would think of (birthing) babies in this area," said Louisa Kellam, for whom the women's center is named.

Women of all ages will benefit from the expansion's state-of-the-art outpatient diagnostic center, providing osteoporosis and breast screenings and wellness education.

Louisa is quick to point out: "There will be something for everybody."

The Kellams were so excited by the intergenerational concept for the women's center that they wanted to ensure it became a reality. In addition to their private contribution, they have helped the Sun Health Foundation raise millions of dollars in its \$12 million campaign to fund the project.

"Louisa and Birt Kellam's gift and commitment are outstanding and help inspire others to be supportive," said Pamela Meyerhoffer, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the Sun Health Foundation. "It's not simply a matter of writing a check. It's making the gift as well as being supportive in so many other ways.

The Kellams moved to Sun City West from St. Louis in 1990, after their daughter persuaded them to visit Arizona.

Del E. Webb's active-adult community offered the lifestyle these early retirees were seeking — music and the arts, tennis and golf, and the chance to learn new things. They quickly became entrenched in their new community.

Birt, a retired investment broker, was highly sought-after by various organizations for his financial expertise. He was asked to join the Sun Health Foundation board of directors, which fueled his interest in the West Valley's health-care organization. He

became the foundation's president and also headed the boards for the West Valley Art Museum and the Sundome Center for the Performing Arts.

Louisa, a professional violinist and concertmaster, had played for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. But she hung up her fiddle to try her foot at tap dancing, which she had yearned to do since childhood. Her musical retirement was short-lived, however, when the Symphony of the West Valley asked her to reunite with her violin and bow to perform with its orchestra.

After a lifetime of playing classical violin, Louisa learned to play popular music and show tunes, which she performs in the annual Variety Show that benefits the Sun Health Foundation. The event has raised more than \$1 million for construction of the auditorium in the women's health center.

Louisa also volunteers on the board of the Dysart Education Foundation and as a tutor with Centro Adelante Campesino in Surprise and the Dysart Community Center in El Mirage. She teaches English to Spanish-speaking adults. The couple also have opened their home to the foundation for receptions and the holiday tour of homes fund-raiser for Sun Health Auxiliary.

When the Sun Health Foundation suggested naming the women's center

after her, Louisa's response was to refuse.

"Oh no, no, no. You have to be dead before your name goes on something," she recalled thinking. "Actually, the women's center ought to be named for Birt, too. It really is a joint thing."

While the idea of seeing her husband's name emblazoned on a women's health center made her chuckle, Louisa's eyes misted at the thought that their donation will benefit so many people and encourage others to contribute to the hospital. Someone once told her: "People will see your name and know they can do something also."

## Breaking new ground

Eighteen months ago, the Kellams watched as a chalk outline of the proposed women's center was drawn on bare ground adjacent to Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

"That was really exciting to see, where there's nothing and then there's a chalk line where a building's going to be," Louisa said. "Now the building is there, with all those people coming in. It's just wonderful."

The Kellams are visibly excited when they talk about all the features of the women's center — especially the obstetrics unit. The childbirth experience is so different today than when they had their two children: Birthing suites aren't sterile and

OVER

uncomfortable, and healthy babies remain at their mothers' bedsides until they go home.

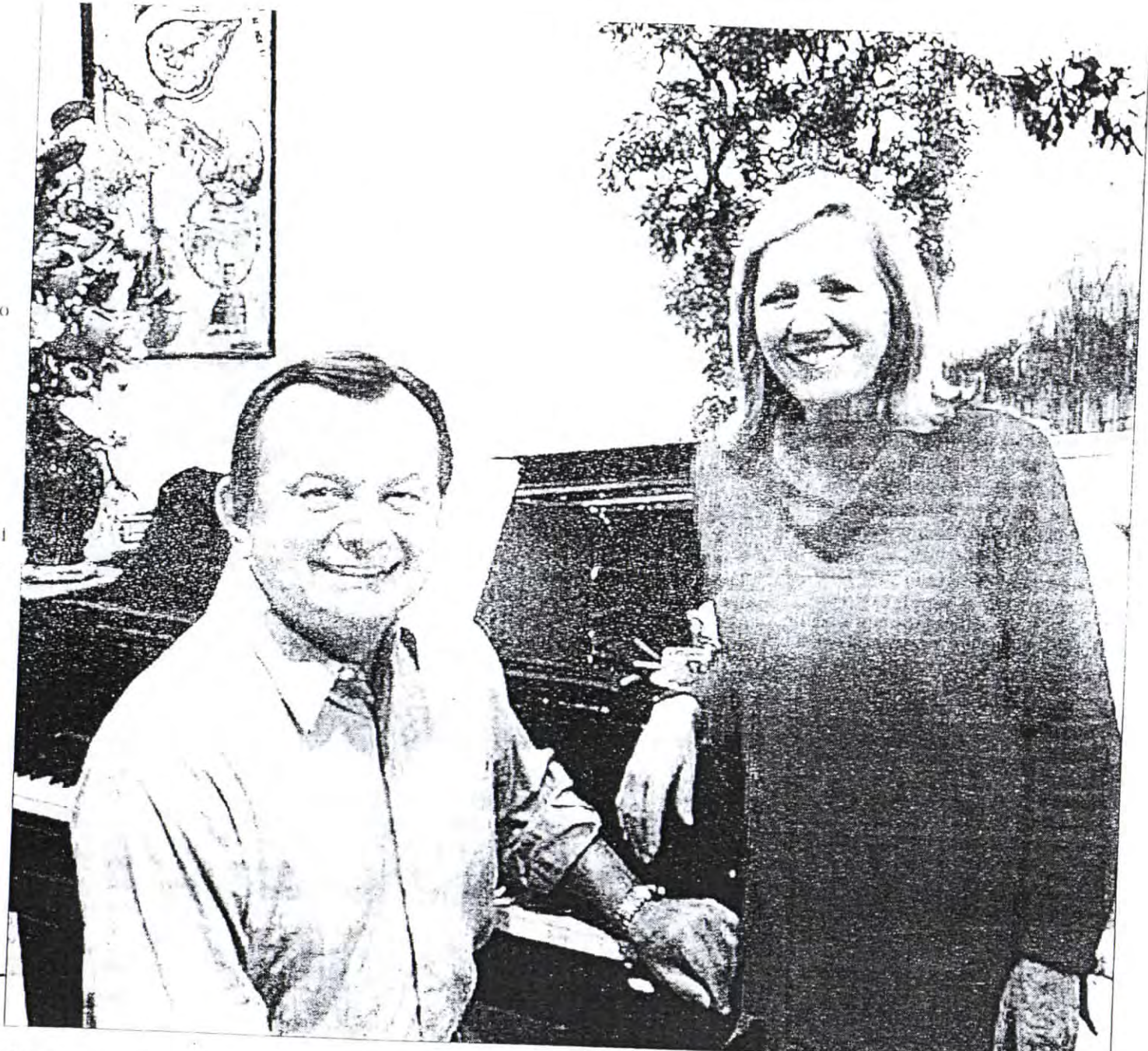
High tech medical equipment is cleverly disguised by pictures and mirrors, and the walls are sound proof.

The rooms have whirlpool baths to help mothers relax and sleeper couches for weary fathers. Obstetricians' offices are on the sixth floor just above the OB suite, so doctors are nearby when needed.

"It's going to be a great place," Louisa said.

Birt said expansion is necessary for the hospital to deliver superior health care. The women's center, and the overall expansion of the hospital, will vastly improve medical care for everyone.

He said he and Louisa are fortunate to have good health today, but someday they, too, may benefit from the very project they supported.



Birt and Louisa Kellam contributed generously to the expansion of Sun Health Del E Webb Memorial Hospital. The new women's center is named in her honor.

VERINA E. PALMER/DR. NORTHWEST VALLEY NEWS-PAPER/RS

# Hospital stands on firm ground

VERINA E. PALMER  
FOR NORTHWEST VALLEY NEWSPAPERS

A structure only stands if it has a solid foundation to support it. Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital has firm ground beneath its vast expansion.

Major contributors to the Sun Health Foundation provided a strong financial base for the \$46.5 million construction project. The foundation has raised \$10.8 million for the hospital in its \$12 million campaign. The donations cover about 25 percent of the cost for the overall project.

The campaign's momentum began with a \$3.5 million contribution from the Del E. Webb Foundation, which over the years has given more than \$11 million to Sun Health for medical facilities, research and education. In addition, the foundation has generously donated money to build and now expand the hospital bearing its founder's name.

"We've been supportive of it and we intend to continue to be supportive of it. It's a great project," said R.H. "Bob" Johnson, president of the Del E. Webb Foundation in Wickensburg. He said he appreciates that the hospital will serve Wickensburg residents in addition to the growing West Valley.

Noel and Jayne Willis have both been patients at Del E. Webb Hospital, so they appreciate the care they've received there. Noel Willis also serves on Sun Health's building and grounds committee. Through a charitable-remainder trust, the Sun City West couple made a significant contribution to the hospital expansion that leaves a legacy benefiting both their children and the community. Today, their name greets patients who enter the rotunda at the main entrance of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health.

"We know that it is a very important role Sun Health plays in the area providing health care," Noel Willis said. "It's something the community needs. It's something that

■ For information about becoming a donor, contact the Sun Health Foundation at 623-876-5330 or log onto [www.sunhealth.org/Foundation](http://www.sunhealth.org/Foundation) on the Internet.

we thought would last."

The couple had hoped their gift would inspire others to contribute to the hospital, and Noel Willis said he believes it has already.

"It's really a good place for a gift," he said. "Both my wife and I are very pleased."

Pamela Meyerhoffer, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the Sun Health Foundation, said these people exemplify the generosity of many others. She said the foundation strives to explain how a gift works, so donors have a justified sense of accomplishment.

Tax-deductible contributions can be made through wills, trusts and annuities. Another way to contribute to the foundation is through the Women Who Care program, which allows families to honor a woman they love. For a \$125 contribution, a written tribute to the honoree and her photograph will be placed in a kiosk in the Willis Rotunda and on the Internet at [www.sunhealth.org](http://www.sunhealth.org).

"It's been a really well-received program, and we hope more people will choose to honor a woman who is important to them," Meyerhoffer said.

Contributions to the hospital include artwork.

Bob and Diane Roskamp of Freedom Group donated a bronze sculpture by world-renowned artist Glenna Goodacre. The sculpture, located at the entrance to the Louisa Kellam Center, depicts two children playing, and is titled "Carefree."



Louisa and Birt Kellam



Jayne and Noel Willis



Marjorie Klinefelter and R.H. Johnson

OVER

## MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO HOSPITAL EXPANSION

- Del E. Webb Foundation of Wickenburg
- Louisa and Birt Kellam of Sun City West
- Jayne and Noel Willis of Sun City West
- Diane and Bob Roskamp of Sarasota, Fla.
- Florence and Walter George Ritz of Sun City West
- Charlotte M. Erb of Sun City West
- Mary E. Turrentine of Sun City West
- Donald and June Julen of Sun City West
- R.H. Johnson and Marjorie Klinefelter of Wickenburg
- Mary Kubistal of Sun City West
- Harris Trust Bank of Arizona
- Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital medical staff
- Sun Health Auxiliary
- The Sun City West Variety Show
- Holland America
- Briarwood Country Club
- Arizona Public Service
- Northern Trust Bank of Arizona
- Sun Health Employees' Shared Giving
- Donald J. and Josephine Lebo of Sun City West
- Jo and Frank Stockman of Sun City West
- Clarence and Marion Carlin of Surprise
- Stan Hungerford of Sun City West

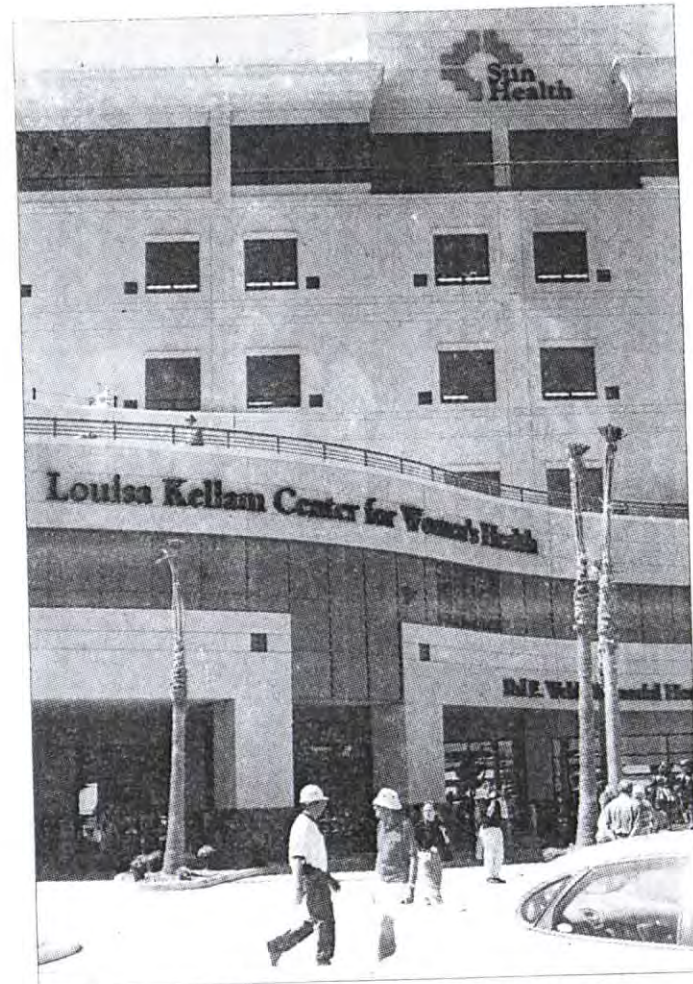
Daily News-Sun • Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2001



Submitted photo

### Health center unveils new name

Louisa, left, and Birt Kellam of Sun City West accept the gratitude of new Sun Health Foundation President Sandra Foell, right, who announces the naming of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. The announcement came Friday at the foundation's annual meeting and generated a standing ovation for the Kellams in recognition of their significant gift to the foundation on behalf of the center. The women's center is the centerpiece of the hospital's \$46.5 million expansion program.



### Health center unveils new name

Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital last week unveiled the name of its new women's health center. A "Great Expectations" tour staged by the Sun Health Foundation gave residents a pre-opening glimpse of the center and the services it will provide to the northwest Valley. The ceremony kicked off with the announcement that the center will be called the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health in honor of the contributions made to Sun Health by Louisa and Birt Kellam of Sun City West.



# Women's health gets a boost with new center

**KELLAM CENTER:**  
New facility named for major donors

STAFF REPORT

Sun Health Foundation members hugged Louisa Kellam at the Friday unveiling of Sun Health's newly named Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, located at the north end of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

"I'm very excited about it," Kellam said. "We're very excited for that first baby to be born here and for care women of our generation will receive."

Kellam, a violinist with the Symphony of the West Valley, was a member of the St. Louis Symphony for 20 years before moving to the Valley. She and her husband, Birt,

were the donors of an undisclosed amount to the women's center. Birt Kellam is secretary of the Sun Health Foundation Board.

The unveiling followed a Sun Health Foundation board meeting at which auditor Ernst & Young reported a "clean bill of health" for the Foundation's fund-raising efforts, totalling \$7 million of the \$12 million goal for the center.

The Foundation has raised a record \$16.8 million in 2000. The Foundation's funds are ear-

marked to support projects such as the expansion of Sun Health's Boswell and Del E. Webb memorial hospitals.

Although installation of the equipment and the finishing touches are not complete in the six-story women's center, Sun Health is sponsoring public tours today of the first floor of the structure. Tours are being held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today.

On the tour, the public is

invited to catch a first glimpse of the outpatient diagnostic area, an auditorium and educational classrooms, an obstetrical suite and patient care rooms.

"It's a one-stop, convenient alternative for women," said Guy Lanahan, supervisor of special imaging who will be working in the center. "We want it to be warm and fuzzy with a feminine atmosphere for patients."

Ann Schwartz, a senior mammographer with the center, said mammography and bone density tests were previously given in two

different buildings.

"Admitting is handled here now, too, which will be much less stressful for patients," Schwartz said.

The grand opening for the center should take place in early December. The obstetrics unit on the second floor is scheduled to open Feb. 2, 2002.

Meanwhile, educator Sandra L. Foell of Sun City is now president of the Sun Health Foundation board. She succeeded Karen Clark, vice president and manager of Harris Trust Bank of Arizona's Sun City branch.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Workers unveil the name of the Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health at Webb Hospital in Sun City West. The center is scheduled to open later this year.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Ann Schwartz, senior mammography technician at the new Louisa Kellam Center for Women's Health, shows off her unfinished department. The center is scheduled to open later this year.

# Women's center takes shape at Webb hospital

### SUN HEALTH: Health-care provider to show off part of expansion project

JEANNE WINOGRAD  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The official opening of the center for Women's Health in Sun City West isn't until Feb. 2, but Sun Health is offering a peek of its new baby Sept. 29.

The center will occupy a six-story building under construction next to Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital on Meeker Boulevard, and promises a range of obstetrics and gynecology services previously unavailable in the Northwest Valley.

The tour on Sept. 29 will showcase the second-floor diagnostics center, which is scheduled to open Dec. 1, and the obstetrics center.

"Two-2-02' is the big day," said Karon Ford, a nurse and educator who is director of center, being built as part of a \$46.5 million expansion at the hospital. Sun Health Foundation has helped raise more than \$10 million for the expansion, with a goal of \$12 million.

While the new center is expected to be a boon to expectant mothers in the Northwest Valley, services also will be tailored to older women.

"We're coming up with policies and procedures now," said Dr. David Forest, the obstetrician and gynecologist who is chairman of the center. "It's unbelievable the amount of planning that goes into something like this. It's very exciting."

Forest said it's rare for a hospital to start an OB/GYN department from scratch. Usually such departments are a mainstay of a hospital from its first day.

Because Sun Health has traditionally been devoted to geriatric care, dealing with babies, children and young mothers is a first.

Ford said the advanced range of services offered

### From A1

will make the center unique. The Perinatal Trust of Arizona must think so, too; it has given Sun Health a Level II certification, authorizing the women's center to help with deliveries for babies as young as 34 weeks old.

"We won't start out with a neonatal unit for children with special needs," Ford said. "As we grow, we'll increase the number of services offered."

Besides obstetrics and gynecology, other services offered will include:

- Education throughout every aspect of the program, offered in conjunction with Sun Health's behavioral health professionals. Initial programs will include classes on parenting, family communication, and "seasons of your life" for women of all ages. Childbirth education will focus on preparedness.

- A mammography center, including rapid turnaround for women needing follow-up mammograms.

- An ultrasound department.

- Bone density diagnostics.

- Televised education on breast feeding, bathing, circumcision care, and postpartum depression.

- Baby press conferences scheduled live on the Internet but accessible only to a family's loved ones, who must use a code to access the conferences.

- Services for women of

all ages, including hydrotherapy for pain relief and a centralized monitoring system for bedside charting.

- A bereavement program for women who have had miscarriages.

Hospital officials said a rumor that Sun Health would provide elective abortions is untrue, and the erroneous information may have arisen because the clinical term for a miscarriage is spontaneous abortion.

"If a woman is in our care, perhaps with other major health issues, that patient, with her team of physicians and her family, would make a decision if there is something seriously endangering that woman's life," said Sun Health CEO Leland W. Peterson. "That is a very rare event. The focus is the health care of the patient presented. We are caring for the total health of that woman."

Ford said helping women cope with the loss and grief of a miscarriage is a unique service the center will provide. Sun Health's social services, pastoral care and behavioral health professionals are involved in creating the program.

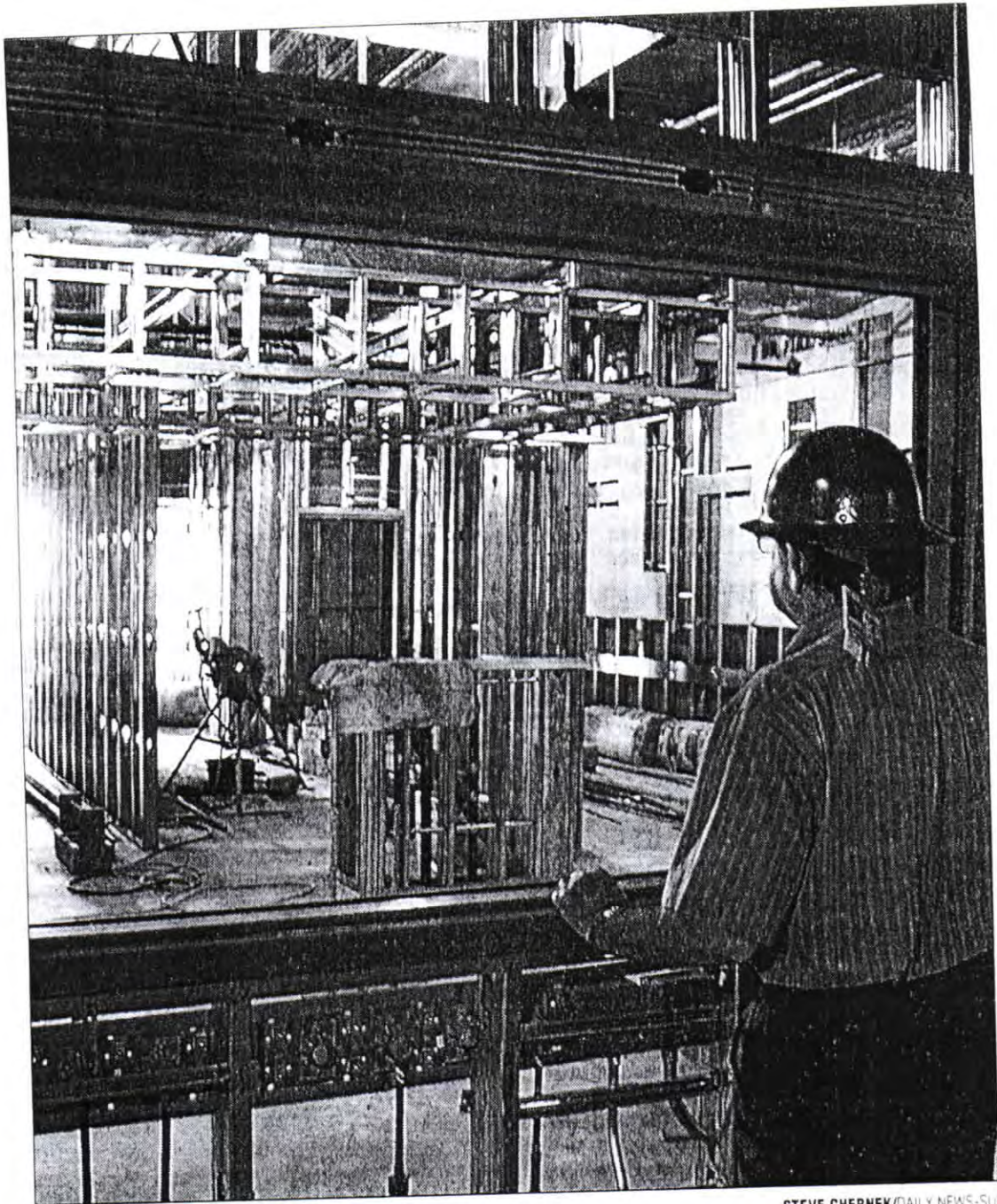
For information on Sun Health's Center for Women's Health, or to contribute ideas for programs offered there, call the Sun Health Helpline 876-5432.

Jeanne Winograd can be reached at [jwinograd@aztrib.com](mailto:jwinograd@aztrib.com) or by calling 876-2532.

### IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** Tour of Obstetrics Center, Sun Health's Center for Women's Health
- **WHEN:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29
- **WHERE:** Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. Call 876-5432 for reservations.

OVER



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Joe Shelton, Construction Diagnostics' project manager for the addition to Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, looks into what will be the nursery in the women's center.

# Webb Hospital expansion project begins

## Completion expected in September 2001

SCW

By **DIANA SHAUGHNESSY**  
Independent Newspapers

As communities expand, so must supporting services. So in an effort to keep up with the explosive growth in the northwest Valley, Sun Health has embarked on an expansion program for Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West.

Ground was broken April 8 for a 209,425-square-foot expansion, which includes a Women's Health Center as the project's focal point. Construction is scheduled to start next month with completion projected for September 2001.

The new Women's Center is designed to be an intergenerational, full-service center with outpatient diagnostic services such as mammography, bone densitometry and ultrasound imaging. Other features include gynecologic services, obstetrics unit and newborn nursery



Photo by DIANA SHAUGHNESSY/Independent Newspapers

Students from the third- through fifth-grade chorus of Palm Valley School in Goodyear were special guests at the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital expansion groundbreaking ceremony April 8. The students donned their hats and used their shovels to officially "dig in" on the new grounds.

and 14,000 square feet of office space for physicians specializing in women's health issues.

The addition will also supply more room for clinical services

including expansion of the emergency department and urgent care areas, surgery and outpatient

**See ■ EXPANSION, Page 8**

surgery preoperative/postoperative area, diagnostic imaging and endoscopy. The extra room will create 80 new private acute care beds and 12 new critical care beds as well as converting existing semi-private rooms into 24 more private rooms. New community resource rooms, including a large auditorium and several classrooms, will be built, and the gift shop will be expanded along with support space for volunteer services. Finally, areas to support the expanded hospital will be increased, such as

pharmacy, medical records, food preparation, materials management and housekeeping.

Excluding the physician's office space, the expansion is estimated at \$44,850,000. The Sun Health Foundation is in the process of raising \$12 million in community contributions, and is building on a \$3.5 million grant from the Del E. Webb Foundation. Arizona Public Service demonstrated its commitment to the health of the west Valley by donating \$125,000 for the Webb hospital expansion.

"We at APS clearly understand the pressing need to expand health care services for a rapidly growing west Valley, which is why we are responding with this donation," said Janie Holmes, community relations manager for the northwest region.

As part of the hospital's preparation for the future, a shelled-in space is included in the project design, to be finished as soon as the community's need for obstetrical and pediatric care is at a level to assure that this care can be provided on a highly effective, quality basis.

During 1999, almost 12,000 new homes were built in the city of Surprise alone. By 2020, estimates show 115,821 new homes will be constructed. The population within the next decade in the northwest Valley, excluding Glendale, is expected to increase from 183,640 to 383,639.

APS joins other organizations and individuals in making donations vital to fund the expansion project. For more information about the project, including donation opportunities, call the foundation at 876-5330.

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**SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT**

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**← JUNE 13-19, 2001**

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**Webb Hospital  
gets new paint job**

Renovation of the main lobby and the repainting of the existing structure's 13-year-old exterior are among the latest developments as part of the \$46.5 million expansion of Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West.

Modifications to the lobby, which include a new reception desk, seating areas and gift shop will began June 11 and will continue until September, according to Rob Tuchman, Sun Health's vice president of Engineering Services.

Meanwhile, crews have begun repainting the hospital's sand-colored exterior to match the more vibrant southwestern color of the new, six-story tower addition that will house the Center for Women's Health. The repainting will continue through August.

A \$12-million capital campaign is under way by Sun Health Foundation to fund a portion of the expansion project. Gifts that have been pledged or received total more than \$10 million. Additional campaign details, including a wide variety of recognition opportunities for donor support, are available by calling the foundation at 876-5330.

One unique way for area residents to support construction of the Center for Women's Health is the foundation's "Women Who Care," honoring women who have touched lives, who make lives happier and more meaningful. These women can be family members, neighbors, friends, teachers, caregivers, co-workers, nurses and doctors. For more information on how these special women can be honored on the Internet, call the foundation at 876-5330.

# Sun Health gears up for women's wing

SCW

Daily News-Sun • Wednesday, July 11, 2001

## DEL E. WEBB

### MEMORIAL: New hospital addition to offer advantages for all seniors

JEANNE WINOGRAD  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Karon Ford has advice for Sun Citizens who want to get their doctor's attention.

"Write down the questions you want answered (before you go)," said Ford, who is director of women's health services in Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's new women's wing, scheduled to open this fall. "Few people will refuse your hand in our society when you offer it. Hold out your hand, and when your doctor takes it, don't let go until they've answered your questions."

Ford's suggestion generated chuckles among the group of almost 40 people attending her presentation in Sun City West at Sun Health's Grandview Care Center.

Attending the event was Veryl Johnson of Sun City West, who said she was happy to know the center is opening.

"Lots of things need to be smoothed out (in women's health care). She sounds like one who'll do it," Johnson said.

Ford said the facility is being built to respond to the needs of the increasing number of families in Surprise and other areas of the West Valley.

"Never before have we had a need for obstetrics in the Sun Cities," said Ford. "The recent census showed that Surprise is one of the two fastest growing communities in Arizona, with 30 homes being built each day for young, married people of child-bearing age."

But the new obstetrics services also will bring many advantages for



JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Karon Ford, director of Sun Health's new women's health services at Del Webb Memorial Hospital demonstrates the proper way a patient should talk to her doctor Monday at Grandview Care Center in Sun City West. She said patients should shake their doctor's hand, and continue to grasp it while asking health-related questions.

senior women, and, to some degree, senior men.

"Gynecology has been missing in the area because doctors like to practice both arms of women's health: gynecology and obstetrics. And the three gynecology practices

(here) have been closed to new patients," Ford said. "The new center gives all women complete and total care."

Among changes in the way traditional women's health care has been practiced, the new center promises:

- Sixteen rooms in which everything related to a child's birth occurs, allowing fathers to participate in the birthing process and clinicians to assess when the family and baby need special help.

- A mammography center that

will facilitate faster appointments and results. A radiologist will be on staff at all times so additional diagnostic results can be provided to patients within 48 hours of their tests.

- A lab-draw station, an ultrasound department and a bone-densitometry machine for osteoporosis will be in house.

- Information on estrogen-replacement therapy and alternative therapies will be available. Among alternative therapies under consideration are acupuncture for pain; tai chi and yoga for energy, stress and flexibility; and massage therapy for stress.

- Classes and support groups will be offered on post-partum depression, parenting, communications, stress management and "seasons of our lives" as women age through their teens, 20s, 30s, 40s and into menopause and beyond.

- Some programs offered at the new center, such as cardiac care and lung-cancer screenings, may also be helpful to men. Ford said the No. 1 cause of cancer for women is smoking.

"A husband and wife can come in together for heart, mammogram and prostate screenings," Ford said.

"Getting older doesn't mean being immobile," she said, using as an example a friend who at age 71 purchased an RV and plans to tour the country by herself. "She's completely prepared for any emergency. She knows who to call for help if she needs it while on the road."

Ford said the primary goal of the new center is to let people know their options:

"The word 'elderly' today — I don't even know what that means anymore. The word should become a relic. Through health care today we can do that."

Jeanne Winograd can be reached at [jwinograd@aztrib.com](mailto:jwinograd@aztrib.com) or 876-2532.

Daily News-Sun • Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2001

# Sun Health offers hospital-expansion preview

**DEL E. WEBB MEMORIAL:** All three phases of construction projected to be complete early next year

**MICHAEL MARESH**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun Citizens on Monday received a glimpse of what Sun Health's Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will offer upon completion of its \$45 million expansion.

Hospital administrators hosted a walking construction tour to show residents what the hospital will entail when the expansion is completed next February.

Del Webb Hospital officials broke ground on the expansion in July following a planning process that lasted three to four years.

The expansion will be divided into three phases, said Tom Dickson, executive vice president of Del Webb Hospital.

The first phase, scheduled to be completed in October or November, will involve adding 92 beds in two patient-care areas and converting four semi-private rooms to private rooms. The enhanced bed capacity will include 80 private acute-care beds and 12 critical-care beds.

Phase 2, to be completed by January 2002, will be an expansion in all other areas. Phase 3, to open in February, will include obstetric newborn services and a center for women's health.

"It will give us the capacity we need to respond to the needs in this area," Dickson said, adding that women will benefit the most at first with the center for women's health.

The expansion work, being done by St. Louis-based McCarthy Construction, was made possible in part by the Sun Health Foundation, which raised \$12 million of the \$45 million cost.

Dickson said the expansion, which will increase the square footage of the hospital from 215,000 to 425,000 square feet, was needed due to the explosive growth in Surprise and Sun City Grand, along with other nearby communities.

And Phase 1, he said, cannot come too soon, as Del Webb and other hospitals in the nation are facing a severe hospital-bed shortage.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun Health's Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital is in the midst of a \$45 million expansion expected to be completed next February.

"Beds are near capacity," Dickson said. "In general, they are one of our biggest issues now."

Karen Ford, director of

women's health services, called the center for women's health a "great advance. There's not a

**See Added room, A5**

OVER



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Abraham Lincoln (aka Glen Weavers) hands out commemorative coins during a President's Day open-house tour of the expansion area at Sun Health's Del Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West.

## Added room required to serve rampant Surprise growth

### From A1

whole lot of other choices (in this area). There hasn't been a whole lot of acceptance here. That is about to change."

She, too, mentioned the explosive growth in Surprise, saying the hospital had to expand to meet the needs of the community.

The biggest advantage in newborn services, Ford said, is that babies will remain with their mothers following birth.

Ann Schwartz, senior mammographer for the hospital, said the diagnostics center will be changing its location and services so patients can be served in a one-stop area, rather than having to visit several different areas in the hospital to receive the same care.

Additional private and universal rooms are included in the expansion. Joe Shelton, project manager with Construction Diagnostics, said the universal rooms — 50 percent larger than the private rooms — can be turned into a room for critical care with minor modifications if the need arises.

"They are more user-friendly," Shelton said.

In addition, the pharmacy, which will be doubling in size,

will be much more secure. It will incorporate metal-mesh walls, bulletproof windows and security cameras.

Pharmacist Andrea Friend said the biggest advantage in the new areas will be separate rooms for different purposes.

"There will be more of a separation of things," she said, adding that more storage space will be a benefit as well.

Included is a compound room where pharmacists will be able to mix patients' medications.

The dietary room also will double in size, going from two to four walk-in freezers with more oven space.

"It's multi-faceted," said Kip Mackenzie, director of food services for Sun Health.

Mackenzie also noted that the cafeteria, when completed, will have a seating capacity of 175 seats, up from 70. "You won't have to wait to find a seat," he said.

Officials are considering extending the hours of the cafeteria, now open from 6:15 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and from 7 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. on weekends, after the expansion is completed.

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FEBRUARY 14-20, 2001

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

## Hospital receives grant from Northern Trust Bank

Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's expansion project is the beneficiary of a \$25,000 grant from Northern Trust Bank.

In acknowledgment, a community resource room in the future Center for Women's Health at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will be named in the bank's honor. The resource room will provide much-needed space to conduct health-education programs focusing on family and women's health when the center opens in the non-profit community hospital's new six-story tower in early 2002.

"Northern Trust continues to be a

visionary organization in the community as demonstrated by their support of important programs and services that enrich people's lives," says Karen Clark, president of the Sun Health Foundation's volunteer board of trustees. "We are grateful for their contribution and to their ongoing commitment to quality of life here in the west Valley."

"Northern Trust is supporting this worthwhile project because the Center for Women's Health will enhance the lives of people all ages," said Rae McMillan, senior vice president of Northern Trust Bank.

Mrs. McMillan is witness to the

west Valley's growth first hand. She has been a Litchfield Park resident for 36 years and opened the Northern Trust branch in Sun City more than 17 years ago. Under her leadership, Northern Trust also now has a branch in Sun City West.

The bank's donation to the Center for Women's Health at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital brings the total of funds received by Sun Health Foundation for the hospital's expansion to just over \$9 million. This is three-quarters of the \$12 million goal in community contributions that are helping to offset part of the \$46.5 million project

cost. In addition to donations, funding has been generated through a 1999 tax-exempt bond issue.

The tremendous need for the hospital's expansion and renovation already is evident. The population within Sun Health's primary service area, including Surprise, El Mirage, Wickenburg, Litchfield Park and Peoria in addition to Sun City, Sun City West and Youngtown, is experiencing an explosive growth rate of 13 percent each year.

The Center for Women's Health is an outreach to meet gynecological and obstetrical needs of area residents. Services will include a range of outpatient diagnostic services

such as mammography, bone densitometry and ultrasound imaging; inpatient gynecological beds; and a 16-bed labor-and-delivery suite plus a newborn nursery.

Offering obstetric services through Sun Health not only will meet growing demand for this service but also attract gynecologists to the area, enhancing gynecological care and total healthcare for women of all ages.

In addition to the Center for Women's Health, the hospital's expansion and renovation include 80 new private acute care beds, 12 new critical care beds and conversion of existing semi-private rooms into 24 more private rooms. Additional space for clinical services included the expansion of Emergency and Urgent Care, surgery, outpatient surgery, diagnostic imaging and edoscopy. New community resource rooms include a large auditorium and several classrooms. Expansion of the gift shop and support space for volunteer services also is planned.

For more information on supporting this expansion project, call Sun Health Foundation at 876-5330.

SCW

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2000

# PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

## Del E. Webb Hospital plans major renovation project

By **TODD FARRAN**  
Independent Newspapers

Expansion of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West will open new doors for Northwest valley residents.

Originally built and designed to meet the needs of a retirement community, renovations — including obstetrical and newborn care facilities — will allow the medical facility to cater to a new breed of Del E. Webb patients and meet the needs of a growing northwest Valley population.

Currently the Sun City West hospital and its sister Sun Health facility, Boswell Memorial in Sun City, deliver newborns only on an emergency basis, often when the mother is in-route to her planned delivery site.

“When we open the new care section in our new Center for Women’s Health Services, we expect to meet needs of the majority of births right here,” said Tom Dickson, executive vice president/chief operation officer for Del E. Webb.

Mr. Dickson said introduction of

obstetrical and newborn care has been planned since Del E. Webb hospital opened in 1988, but it has been waiting for local demand to increase.

The new services are expected to be ready by early next year.

With growth rates in the region reaching staggering numbers, the time is right for an expansion that will double the hospital’s square footage.

“I expect this to be a major improvement in service for young

See ■ HOSPITAL, Page 10



Del E. Webb Hospital in Sun City West has announced plans for a major renovation that will allow it to better serve the growing population in the west Valley.

(over)

women living in surrounding communities," Mr. Dickson said. "Right now they're having to make significant commutes for these services."

Pamela Meyerhoffer, executive vice president/chief executive officer of the Sun Health Foundation, also explained the new Women's Health Services department will benefit more than young women.

"Now that they are adding obstetrics it will bring in other specialists we've been lacking in our community," she said.

Gynecological and other women's health services, Ms. Meyerhoffer says, will improve dramatically for local residents who currently have to travel to see such specialists.

Even with the dramatic impact the women's health unit will make, it is only a small part of the entire \$46.5 million expansion.

An additional 92 private room beds will be installed, emergency room operations will be expanded for the third time, support services (ultrasound, diagnostics, etc.) will get a much needed boost and food services will also grow.

So how is Sun Health, a non-profit health care provider, going to pay for the costly expansion?

*Now that they are adding obstetrics it will bring in other specialists we've been lacking in our community.*

Ms. Meyerhoffer said strong community support is the key.

"We view ourselves as a community hospital," she said. "And people support it through contributions and volunteerism."

The Sun Health Foundation is funding \$12 million dollars of the total bill through contributions from communities around the Northwest Valley.

They currently have \$9 million of their goal, initially boosted by a \$3 million donation from the Del Webb Foundation.

The balance of cost will be funded by a bond issuance Sun Health set up one year ago.

Construction is on schedule, according to Mr. Dickson, and so is a large recruitment of health care

professionals.

"We are not experienced in recruiting women's care specialists," he said. "This is a new process, but things are going smoothly."

Del E. Webb has already hired Karon Ford, an registered nurse with 20 years of obstetrics experience, as the new director of women's services.

To help make the transition a little easier into a this new facet of health care, Del E. Webb has also entered into an agreement with Banner Health Arizona.

The agreement that went into effect Aug. 1 provides easy trans-

fers of high-risk cases to BHA facilities.

A consulting service provided by BHA to assist Sun Health with development of its obstetrical, newborn and pediatric programs at Del E. Webb is also included within the agreement.

"It's hard to introduce a brand-new service," said Ms. Meyerhoffer. "It takes time to get our personnel the instruction they need."

This expansion will not be Del E. Webb's last. According to Mr. Dickson, the hospital has projected an increase of 10 percent in health care professionals each year.



# PORA eyes hospital plans

**DEL WEBB MEMORIAL:**  
Added capacity could lead to traffic snarls that restrict hospital access

**BRUCE ELLISON**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Construction now under way on a \$46.5 million addition to Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West could bring traffic woes to the area, but officials hope to smooth the way with careful planning.

The hospital addition is the largest construction project ever in the community of 31,000, eclipsing Grandview Terrace by a few million dollars.

And it will mean hundreds of workers and dozens of trucks daily, most of them coming off Grand Avenue by way of Meeker Boulevard.

Hospital officials met recently with the traffic-safety committee at the Property Owners and Residents Association to see how their construction — and other planned projects nearby — will affect motorists as winter visitors return later this year.

PORA officials plan to keep a close eye on the traffic situation and meet with Sun Health, Maricopa County and Arizona Department of Transportation staff members as needed.

Among PORA's concerns are that increasing traffic on the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway tracks could affect emergency access to the hospital from Grand Avenue.

The railroad plans several days' of work in September to upgrade the Meeker Boulevard crossing, work which will restrict traffic to one or two lanes just as heavy trucks need to reach the hospital site. PORA plans to ask the railroad to move up the schedule for that work.

Workers last week began grading for a new employee parking lot toward the rear of the hospital and moving



LISA GOETTSCHE/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Del Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West is in the throes of a \$46.5 million expansion, including adding this covered physician's parking lot.

physician parking to the front of the building near Granite Valley Drive.

The employee lot should be complete next week, with the covered physician parking expected to open June 27.

Visitor parking at the hospital won't be affected by the changes for now, officials said.

After the hospital's expansion is complete, the temporary staff lot will be used to expand visitor parking areas, officials said.

The parking changes are the first steps in the project that will add another curved tower to the hospital and allow for obstetrics and pediatric units. Overall, capacity will be about doubled by the projected January 2002 completion date.

In addition, Sun Health Properties will begin work on new office buildings in the medical complex off Granite Valley Drive across from the hospital, adding to area congestion by next year.

Sun Health's expansion of Webb

hospital comes as the local care provider is just three months away from finishing up a similar expansion of Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City.

In Sun City West, the expansion will allow Sun Health to serve the fast-growing multigenerational communities near the Sun Cities.

The Webb expansion consists of more than 200,000 square feet, including renovation of about 52,000 square feet of existing space.

A full-service intergenerational Women's Health Center will be added along with additional beds for medical/surgical patients; more telemetry, critical-care and extended-care beds; enlarged outpatient- and emergency-services areas; a clinical-decision unit and community-resource rooms.

Technical areas, such as electric, air conditioning and food service, and the more prosaic parking lots, also will be enlarged as needed.

# Webb hospital breaks ground for expansion

## Elementary school kids entertain

By Marie Scotti

The weatherman provided great weather for the groundbreaking celebration of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital on Saturday at the expansion site of the hospital. A special program included the children from the Palm Valley Elementary School Choir of Litchfield Park and a storyteller Margaret-Ann Balster. The director of the school choir was Elaine MacDonald.

The children performed an excellent variety of songs, including a patriotic medley and a medley of "oldies but goodies" as well as a song about the 21st century. They were outstanding and everyone expressed their appreciation with a warm round of

applause for these youngsters and their director.

In attendance was Robert H. "Bob" Johnson, president of the Del E. Webb Foundation, along with foundation board member, Marjorie Klinefelter. Sun Health officials Lee Peterson, Sun Health president/CEO, Tom Dickson, executive vice president, Del Webb Hospital, and Pamela Meyerhoffer, executive vice president Sun Health Foundation participated in the program. Birt Kellam, Sun Health Foundation's president, greeted the audience and expressed greeting on behalf of the Volunteer Board of Trustees to all who came to show their support for Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. Merri Lay, Sun Health Auxiliary president was also present. Morey Jensen, chairman Sun Health Volunteer Board of Directors also was in attendance and participated in the program.

Donors of \$10,000 or more present were honored during the celebration. They were Lois C. Michael, Bryon and Inez Salem, Noel and Jayne Willis and Wallace and Edith Litchfield Denny. They were presented with a commemorative photo entitled "Where Promises Boom." Earlier major donors were presented with this same photo at a Del E. Webb Healing Garden ceremony held in September.

Arizona Public Service (APS) served as a co-sponsor with Sun Health of a children's poster contest. Peterson said, "As we reached out to the younger generations of our community we were pleased to have the students of El Mirage School and Kingswood Elementary School participate in a contest in which they drew pictures of a hospital of the future. The students from the Dysart Unified School District responded with almost 200 posters, many of which truly were outstanding representations of 21st Century healthcare delivery.

"All participants in the poster contest received a commemorative bookmark from Sun Health. Also, our staff selected winning posters from each grade at booth schools. We were most pleased that APS served as the co-sponsor of our poster contest. APS donated 18 deluxe art sets that include oil pastels, color pencils, and paint brushes all contained in a beautiful wooden case. Very nice prizes indeed for these aspiring young artists."

Jensen presented each winner with their individualized art set. He was assisted by APS representative Janie Holmes and Sun Health community education specialist Eric Leshinskie.

Margaret-Ann Balster, a past present of Sun Health Auxiliary and who also was known at the Sun Health Child Development Center as "Grammy Anne" for relaying stories to the children, concluded the program with children gathered around her as she made her presentation. She told the story of the storyteller that will be commissioned for the Women's Health Center Rotunda and referred to a smaller version of the Storyteller on display.

Then came the exciting moment when the children were led by Jensen, Lay, Peterson and Dickson to the site where the ground would be broken for the new hospital expansion. The children each had his or her own construction hard hat and shovel in hand. Dickson had in his possession the shovel used for the original groundbreaking of the hospital way back on October 7, 1985—almost 15 years earlier! This helped to symbolize the union between the past and the present in expanding the availability of cost-effective, quality health care services to the West Valley. Dickson turned the first shovelful of dirt. Next was Peterson who had been the hospital's original administrator. He was followed by Jensen. Finally, as the audience counted to "three," ground was broken.

- SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT— APRIL 5-11, 2000

## Del Webb Hospital to be renovated, expanded

A new chapter in health care development for the West Valley is heralded on April 8 at a groundbreaking event signaling the beginning of construction for the expansion and renovation that will double the size of Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital of Sun City West.

"Caring for Generations: The Story Continues," the event will unveil plans for enhanced health care services that respond to the needs of a rapidly growing population that includes families. The community is invited to join in the celebration at 9:30 a.m. at the expansion site, located on the northeast side of the hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. Admission is free. The event includes refreshments, entertainment and a special program including children and storyteller Margaret Ann Balster. Call 876-5700 to register.

"The expansion of the hospital is necessary to keep pace with rapid population increases in the West Valley," said James R. Lay, chairman of the non-profit community hospital's volunteer board of directors. "More than 330,000 people will be residing within Sun Health's primary service area within five years. That represents growth of more than one-third in our local population during the first half of this decade alone. Much of that growth will occur within Surprise and other communities that look to Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital for their health care services. Younger families as well as senior adults are moving here and we absolutely must be prepared to meet their health care needs."

During 1999, almost 12,000 new homes were built in the city of Surprise alone. By 2020, it is estimated that 115,821 new homes will be constructed. Within the next decade, the population in the northwest Valley, excluding Glendale, is expected to increase from 183,640 to 383,639.

The 209,415-square-foot hospital addition includes a Women's Health Center as the focal point of the project. It is designed to be full service, intergenerational center with outpatient diagnostic services such as mammography, bone densitometry and ultrasound imaging. Physician office space also is integral to the Center's design.

As part of the hospital's preparation for future health needs,

obstetric and newborn pediatric services also are planned to be available as early as January 2002.

Other important aspects of the project include the renovation of 52,140 square feet of existing space to keep pace with the growing demands for service. This includes increasing the number of private rooms, adding needed beds for medical/surgical, telemetry, critical care and extended care patients; enlarging outpatient services and the urgent care/emergency department; adding a clinical decision unit and community resource rooms and expanding parking, gift shop and ancillary services.

Construction begins in May and is scheduled for completion by the fall of 2001. Total cost of the initial phase of the project is \$44.8 million. Sun Health Properties is funding an additional \$1.7 million for medical-office space, bringing the overall project to \$46.5 million.

The nonprofit Sun Health Foundation continues set the pace in community capital campaign to raise \$12 million toward the hospital's construction cost. To date, more than \$7 million has been received or pledged, including a \$3.5 million grant from the Del E. Webb Foundation. Donations continue to be necessary. Donors may choose to name areas of the Women's Center and hospital expansion in honor or memory of loved ones. Call 876-5330.

# Webb Memorial's \$40 million expansion OK'd

By Connie Cone Sexton  
The Arizona Republic

Plans to expand and renovate Sun Health's Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will move ahead, thanks to approval of zoning permits by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

"We are very excited that the hospital improvements can get under way," Supervisor Jan Brewer said last Wednesday of the \$40 million project at the Sun City West facility. Last March, she secured low-interest bonds to finance the improvements.

Tom Dickson, executive vice president of Webb Hospital, said the expansion will help keep up with growth in the far West Valley.

"We've been experiencing an ever-increasing demand for services," he said.

Approval of the hospital's master plan was a big step for the expansion.

"We've been working with the county for a long time on this project," Dickson said. "The only step now is to go back to them for specific permits for site-plan modification and grading."

With the changes, 150 employees will be added to the current 400-member staff. Construction is scheduled to begin in May at the hospital, 14520 W. Meeker Blvd.

The project, which is expected to be completed by September 2001, will include a 60,000-square-foot women's services center and a six-story tower featuring an outpatient diagnostic services area, obstetrics and gynecology and a nursery. Fourth, fifth and sixth floors will be added as needed.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2000

# Del E. Webb Memorial expanding

By Lori Baker  
The Arizona Republic

**SUN CITY WEST** — To keep up with growth in the West Valley, Sun Health's Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital plans to launch a \$40 million expansion.

Next Wednesday, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors is to consider expansion of a special use permit for 30 acres, up from the current 21 acres, to allow Sun Health to remodel and expand its hospital, at 14520 W. Meeker Blvd. The County Planning and Zoning Commission earlier this month recommended approval of the new master plan.

Construction work at Webb Memorial, which is projected to start in May, calls for a six-story tower, including a women's services center.

The addition of homes in El Mirage and Surprise, along with Del Webb's possible expansion of Sun City West, will add thousands of people to the area in the next decade, said Tom Dickson, the hospital's executive vice president.

An increasing number of younger families is prompting Sun Health to add obstetrics. Dickson said the tower is to be completed mid-2001, which is when the hospital's current space is likely to reach capacity.

Highlights of the expansion include:

- The tower will include outpatient diagnostic services in the first floor, obstetrics and gynecology, including a nursery, on the second floor, and 40 hospital beds on the third floor.

- A 60,000-square-foot women's center to consolidate many diagnostic and treatment services for women, including mammography, ultrasound and osteoporosis testing.

- As needed, fourth and fifth floors will be added, with 20 beds on each floor.

- A sixth floor calls for 14,000 square feet of physician office space.



## Garden to honor Sun Cities developer

SUN CITY WEST — Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's namesake will be honored next Friday along with hundreds of other donors who have contributed to health care services in the West Valley.

The free event will be at 9 a.m. at the new Del E. Webb Healing Garden, a landscaped area with rippling water, benches and walkways. It is in front of the hospital's main entrance, 14502 W. Meeker

Blvd. Refreshments will be served. Call (623) 815-7600 to make reservations.

During the dedication, the focal point of the garden — a life-size bronze statue of Del E. Webb — will be unveiled. Webb, developer of the Sun Cities, is being celebrated throughout 1999 to commemorate the 100th year of his birth.

The dedication also marks the formal launch of the Sun Health

Foundation's \$12 million capital drive to support the \$45 million expansion of Webb hospital.

The project includes additional rooms for patients requiring medical and surgical care, critical care, sub-acute services, skilled nursing care, a women's health center and increased space for outpatient services and community resource rooms.

Guests will have a chance to plant flower seeds in the garden.

SCW

VF

MEMORIAL GARDENS  
DEL E WEBB HOSPITAL

# Hospital plans expansion

## Emergency unit size will triple

By Lori Baker  
Staff writer

SUN CITY WEST — Responding to a population boom, Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital plans to triple the size of its emergency department.

In 1993, 8,605 patients received emergency treatment at the hospital. That was more than double the 3,789 served in 1988, when the hospital opened.

Construction on the emergency room expansion will start Jan. 26. There will be a groundbreaking ceremony at 11 a.m.

The hospital is at 14502 W. Meeker Blvd.

The Del E. Webb Foundation, a nonprofit corporation founded by the late Del Webb, developer of the Sun Cities, provided a \$2.5 million grant to expand the emergency and ambulance areas to 13,600 square feet from 3,900 square feet.

There will be seven more treatment areas for emergencies, bringing the total to 15. There also will be space for six new treatment

areas for ambulatory services.

"Managing growth has been one of our biggest challenges," said Kathy Malloch, the hospital's vice president for patient services. "We want to be technologically current and still maintain that personal aspect."

The hospital is in a high-growth area.

Sun City West is expected to grow to 28,225 residents by 1998 from 25,081. The population of neighboring Surprise is expected to swell to 33,790 from the existing 28,674, according to Thomas Dickson, the hospital's chief operations

officer.

"Many hospitals nationwide are holding their own as far as demand for services. But we're fortunate to be in a community that is growing," he said.

Dickson's population forecast takes into account the next five years of Del Webb Corp.'s development in Sun City West and Surprise.

Del Webb Corp. is expanding Sun City West on 1,320 acres north of Deer Valley Drive. When the expansion is completed, Sun City West is expected to have about

See EXPAND, Page 6

33,000 residents.

In addition, this year Webb plans to start building a retirement community on 3,520 acres south of Grand Avenue in Surprise. It eventually is expected to be home to about 11,000 residents.

With more retirees moving near the hospital, there will be more demand for emergency services, as well as joint replacement procedures, cardiac care and treatment of other aging-related conditions.

Other than the emergency department, Dickson said he does not expect more building additions to the 201-bed hospital during the next five years.

"We should be able to handle medical care with the number of beds we have," he said.

The number of admissions to the hospital has increased to 3,240 in 1993 from 1,363 in 1988. There was a 16.4 percent increase between 1992 and 1993.

The hospital will celebrate its sixth anniversary with an open house on its fifth floor from 2 to 4 p.m. Jan. 18.

The festivities also will mark the first anniversary of the acute rehabilitation center, the fifth anniversary of the 40-bed Del E. Webb Extended Care Center, and the sixth anniversary of the SAGE inpatient medical/psychiatric pro-

**With more retirees moving near the hospital, there will be more demand for emergency services, as well as joint replacement procedures, cardiac care and treatment of other aging-related conditions.**

gram for chemical dependency. Tours will be available.

A new feature of the rehabilitation center is an apartment where a patient lives for a day or two to try out skills such as getting in and out of bed and using a shower.

"This helps the patients get ready for living at home," Malloch said.

Patients in the rehabilitation center are recovering from strokes, brain injuries, orthopedic problems and amputations.

Dickson hopes to add a cardiac catheterization lab if the \$2 million cost is raised by the Sun Health Foundation. This lab would be used to determine the extent of damage to a patient's heart.



James Garcia / Staff photographer  
**Tom Dickson, chief operations officer of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, expects continued growth in Sun City West and Surprise. The hospital is expanding its emergency facilities.**

# Del E. Webb Hospital welcomes expansion

By JACQUE PAPPAS  
Daily News-Sun staff

Some were sceptical. A new, 201-bed hospital on the outskirts of Sun City West — just 10 miles away from a thriving 325-bed hospital.

As the little sister to Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City, Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital had to overcome obstacles of doubt and gain community acceptance.

"It was very difficult. There was a lot of opposition to building a new hospital out here at first," said Wyn Culler, who has been chairman of the hospital's board of directors for three years.

"Finally we just prevailed. Now I feel very secure that it's going to make it."

During its first month of operation in January 1988, 50 patients came through Del Webb hospital's doors.

Now, more than 75,300 patients later, Webb officials are gearing for more expansion and growth.

December marked the hospital's biggest month ever with 240 discharges.

"We are the busiest we have ever been. We've grown every year," said Tom Dickson, executive vice president of Del Webb Hospital. "And we expect to get even busier. March

is usually our peak month."

Webb, which is budgeted for a 6.8 percent growth in 1993, was built with expansion in mind, Dickson said.

"The blueprint of the hospital is now half of the size of what it could be. Sun Health has plans for a 455-bed hospital some day," he said. "We have 80 acres to build on —

plenty of room."

With the population figures in the Northwest Valley increasing, and the physical expansion at Boswell virtually impossible, Webb seems prime for growth.

"This hospital was built on the outskirts of Sun City West to make sure it was possible to serve more than one com-

munity," Dickson said. "We have plenty of room to expand, it's very exciting. It's a lot more fun than being in a hospital with a declining patient rate."

In 1992, 2,733 patients were discharged from Webb — 447 patients more than the year before.

Also last year, 55 percent of

the patients discharged from Webb Hospital were Sun City West residents.

A little more than 15 percent of the patients were Sun City residents with the bulk of the other patients coming from other Northwest Valley communities.

"It was the hospital's goal to get the acceptance of the

residents here in Sun City West and now we are becoming the primary health care provider of many other residents in the area," Dickson said.

Dickson said the patient census from areas such as El Mirage, Surprise, Peoria, Youngtown, Circle City and Wickenburg have increased in the past several years.

In 1991, for example, Webb had 59 patients from Wickenburg compared to 115 patients from Wickenburg through November 1992.

In addition, the hospital is also a major employer of Northwest Valley residents.

Of Webb's 295 employees, 72 percent are from Sun City, Sun City West, Peoria, Glendale, El Mirage, Surprise, Wittmann, Waddell, Litchfield Park and Wickenburg.

Webb's growth has prompted plans and progress for new additions in the hospital.

Last year Webb started an outpatient chemical dependency program based on the fourth floor of the hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd.

The program is the first of its kind designed for treatment of the chemically dependent geriatric adult patient.

See There's more, CC5

Nearly 28,000 patients have been treated in the emergency department since the hospital opened. Last year the hospital had 5,465 emergency room discharges through November compared to 4,745 discharges in 1991.

## Gala to mark anniversary

Daily News-Sun staff

Sun Health Foundation Board of Trustees is hosting a black-tie gala Jan. 25 in Briarwood Country Club in Sun City West to mark the fifth anniversary of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

The "Fountain of Youth Gala" will feature a flamenco guitarist, a five-course gourmet dinner, silent auction and dancing to the Tommy Reed Orchestra. Former Gov. Rose Mofford will serve as the master of ceremonies.

Proceeds from the event will be earmarked for an emergency room expansion planned for Webb hospital.

The cost is \$75 per person. For information call 876-5330.

# There's more growth ahead, according to hospital official

—From CC4

The unit is on the same floor as the hospital's Support Adaptation Growth and Enrichment program, which opened during the hospital's first year as the first inpatient medical/psychiatric program in Arizona.

Earlier this month, the hospital opened a rehabilitation unit that focuses on care for patients needed acute services.

"I think it's going to be very successful. We had four patients in the first week. Before we had this unit, we would transfer such patients over to Boswell or specialty centers in Glendale," Dickson said.

Dickson said the hospital has two major projects in its future plans.

The first project is the planned expansion of the hospital's emergency department.

Nearly 28,000 patients have been treated in the emergency department since the hospital opened.

The steady increase in volume has warranted the need to plan for future department expansion, Dickson said.

"This is an area where we have experienced tremendous growth," Dickson said. "More



Tom Dickson

'We are the busiest we have ever been. We've grown every year.'

Tom Dickson  
executive vice president

emergency room space is needed to accommodate current and future growth."

Last year the hospital had 5,465 emergency room discharges through November compared to 4,745 discharges in 1991.

Another project the hospital has in the works is developing a cardiac catheterization laboratory.

The laboratory, which would cost about \$2 million, would be equipped with imaging capabilities and enhance treatment for the critically ill

patient with cardiac problems, Dickson said.

"The communities are getting to the point where there is a great need for additional services and we can justify these projects," Dickson said. "We don't have things like a pediatric or obstetric unit now, but with this expected growth, I can see the need for them in the future.

"If Del Webb was not here now, could Boswell accommodate all their patients' and all of ours? I think there would be no way."

# Volunteers, residents gave hospital early support

By JACQUE PAPPAS  
Daily News-Sun staff

Long before Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital opened, volunteers and area residents showed their support with time and money.

"It was a bunch of wonderful volunteers all the way who made these things happen. They built every inch of the hospital that we've got," said William Chapman Jr., a founding member of the hospital's board of directors.

"If it wasn't for the marvelous talent out here that got together and rallied for the hospital, there wouldn't be one."

It was volunteers who spent countless hours copying, folding, addressing, stamping and sorting mail as part of a community-awareness effort.

It was volunteers who stayed at board meetings until 3 a.m. to finalize plans for the

Sun City West hospital.

And it is volunteers who still today are the backbone of the five-year-old hospital's outreach to the community.

"The level of support from the community in terms of donations and volunteers," said Tom Dickson, Webb executive vice president. "We wouldn't make it with just the money we get from Medicare if it weren't for these volunteers."

Jean Stahl, director of volunteer services at Webb, said area residents have volunteered more than 235,000 hours since the hospital opened in January 1988.

"They provide a tremendous amount of support and development. We started from zero and had to grow to meet the needs of the hospital and the needs of the community," Stahl said. "The volunteers have always been here right

from the start. They are a big part of the team."

Volunteers, who are all members of the Sun Health Auxiliary, perform a myriad of services that the hospital provides such as conducting blood pressure screening services and manning the front desk.

You can find volunteers in virtually every department in the hospital as well — from the nursing unit to the pharmacy.

In addition to the dedication shown by volunteers, area residents have displayed their

support of the hospital through monetary donations.

Serena Sorensen, director of special projects for Sun Health Foundation, said residents and grant-giving organizations have contributed more than \$10 million to Webb since plans for construction got underway.

While part of the \$10 million is in deferred gifts and land values, other parts include proceeds from fund-raisers to benefit the hospital, Sorensen said.

Proceeds from the black-tie gala the Foundation is spon-

soring in honor of Webb's fifth anniversary will benefit the hospital.

The money from the Jan. 25 event plus money from a golf tournament fund-raiser last year and the Sun City West Variety Show is estimated to bring the Foundation \$125,000.

When construction plans went forward, the Del E. Webb Foundation donated a \$3 million grant. This month, the Webb Foundation announced a second grant of \$2.5 million to the hospital, earmarked for its emergency

room expansion.

Donations have been used to purchase the hospital items such as new medical imaging technology, a urology surgical room and an advanced life support base, which gives emergency room doctors a communication link with paramedics in the field.

"It's hard to believe it's been five years since the hospital opened," Sorensen said. "Without a doubt it could have never been done without these generous donations and the hard work of our wonderful volunteers."

THE WESTER Jan. 7-13, 1993

## Del Webb Hospital Celebrated 5th Anniversary

Story

Marie Scotti

A new era in health care dawned for the Northwest Valley on January 4, 1988, when the first patient entered the sandy-colored twin towers of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West. William H. Thomas, a member of the hospital's volunteer board of directors, was the first patient admitted.

In the five years since the admission of Mr. Thomas, more than 7,000 patients have received treatment in the 201-bed health care facility that memorializes the developer of the Sun Cities: Mr. Del E. Webb.

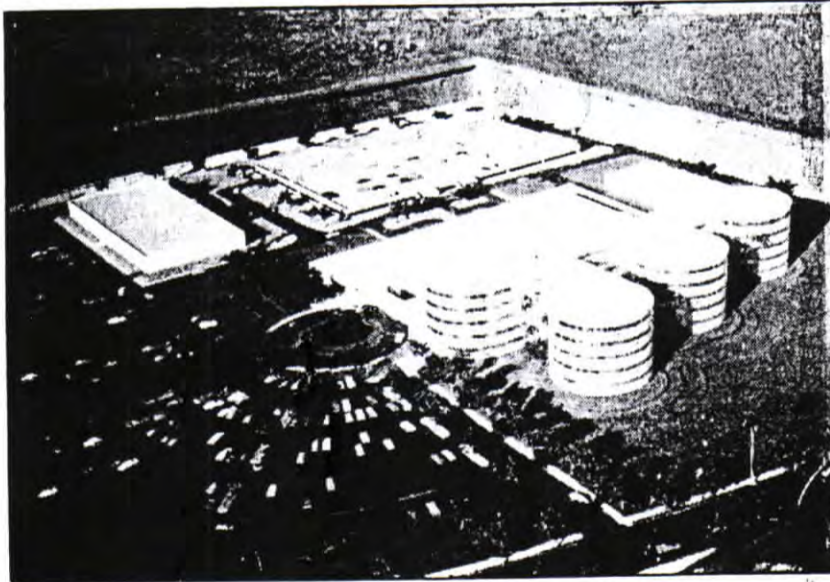
The hospital's outreach is not limited solely to Sun City West or even the Sun Cities. Residents of Surprise, El Mirage, Waddell, Wittmann and Circle City also look to Del Webb Memorial Hospital as their primary health care provider. Specialty services, such as the inpatient medical-psychiatric program attract patients from Peoria, Glendale, Phoenix and many other communities.

It is no exaggeration to suggest that the hospital, in its comparatively brief history, already has developed into a respected primary provider of care to residents of the Northwest Valley and

beyond.

"For the past two and a half years, I have had the privilege of serving as the chief operating officer of the Webb Hospital," said Thomas C. Dickson, executive VP, Sun Health, Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. "During that time, one of the most impressive components I have witnessed in our comprehensive team approach to health care delivery is the role of the Sun Health Auxiliary in making Webb Hospital a community-based and community-driven medical center," said Dickson.

"I'm not speaking solely of the very important service provided through our many volunteers to their friends and neighbors who look to Webb Hospital to meet their health care needs. That contribution is quite evident as demonstrated by the more than 235,000 hours of volunteer service provided to the hospital since it opened and even in the months prior to that event. Volunteers form the backbone of our outreach to the community, and you are most appreciated," said Dickson.



Del Webb Memorial Hospital



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

William H. Thomas of Sun City West was the first patient to enter Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital five years ago. It was October 1985 when permits were obtained, and a groundbreaking ceremony launched construction of the \$42 million hospital. The hospital opened its doors Jan. 4, 1988.

## Patience led to opening of Del E. Webb Hospital

By JACQUE PAPPAS  
Daily News-Sun staff

William H. Thomas wears a landmark scar on his abdomen.

The Sun City West resident has the distinction of being the first patient to enter the sandy-colored twin towers of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital five years ago.

"I needed a hernia operation and I knew the hospital would be opening, so I held out and decided to test the system," said Thomas, who at the time was a member of the hospital's volunteer board of directors.

"I thought having a full-service hospital at our doorstep in Sun City West was a great attribute. This is one of the basic essentials of a retirement community."

On Jan. 4, 1988, the Sun Health Corp. hospital opened its doors.

"It was really exciting being part of a hospital that was brand new,"

### Related stories, CC4, CC5

said Carol Finley, a nurse manager at Webb. "After all the planning, there was so much to look forward to."

Ten years before the doors opened, Sun Health officials and volunteers were already working on plans to make their dream of a hospital a reality.

With the realization that patient-care demands would outstrip Walter O. Boswell Hospital's capacity to serve the Northwest Valley, long-range plans were set into motion, said Arizona Sen. Austin Turner, founding president of both Boswell and Webb hospitals.

"The people on the planning committee and board felt it was very important for older people to have a

**See Residents supported, A3**

(OVER)



# Residents supported 2nd area hospital

—From A1

hospital close to where they live. And they felt this was a hospital that could serve more than just residents in Sun City West," Turner said.

By 1984, Sun Health took its case to the Central Arizona Health Systems Agency. The proposal, however, was denied by a 5-4 vote.

Undaunted, Sun Health continued its quest for a second hospital in the Northwest Valley.

After several appeals, local legislators joined forces in allowing the state's certificate-of-need law to expire — thus eliminating the authority for CAHSA to limit a second Sun Health hospital in the Northwest Valley.

"We hurried up with the drawings and final plans. There was tremendous support in Sun City West to raise the money we needed," Turner said.

By October 1985 permits were obtained, and a groundbreaking ceremony launched construction of the \$42 million hospital.

Among those taking part in the event was baseball Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle, a member of the New York Yankees when Del E. Webb was part owner of the team.

Leland W. Peterson, now chief operating officer of Sun Health Corp., was charged with overseeing the hospital's construction.

"Sun City West is already larger than Sun City was when Boswell opened in 1970. This is why we are building the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital here in Sun City West," Peterson wrote in a 1987 open letter to area residents.

"The plain fact is that Boswell is absolutely full in the winter. ... Its resources are being stretched to the limit and demand continues to grow."

Providing policy and guidance during the planning and construction phase was the hospital's volunteer board of directors, led by its president, Henry S. Raymond.

Owen Childress, a founding and current member of Webb's board of directors, said many residents in the community supported the idea of opening a new hospital.

"When you have a critical situation happen and need to have something done, you want to go to a hospital that is close," Childress said. "What we attempted to do is bring a state-of-the-art facility to Del E. Webb Hospital and I think that's what we've done."

Construction of the hospital, named after the developer of the Sun Cities, was completed during the next two years by Del E. Webb Construction Services Co.

To help construction, the Del E. Webb Foundation gave a \$3 million grant to the hospital.

The foundation, a legacy to the estate of Mr. Webb, makes grants to a variety of organizations every year, said Robert H. Johnson, president.

"I think it was really necessary to get the hospital under way. The grant gave people in the area incentive to match the grant," Johnson said.

"It was just another way to memorialize Mr. Webb's name in the community."

# Rehab program fills gap for seniors battling drugs

By JACQUE PAPPAS  
Daily News-Sun staff

Since 1988, they have helped seniors in the Northwest Valley battle drug and alcohol problems.

But the professionals at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's Medical Psychiatric Unit didn't have a long-term rehabilitation program for their patients — until now.

This month the unit started admitting older adults and their families to an outpatient chemical dependency program called Adult Recovery in a Senior Environment.

The program is based on the fourth floor of the Webb hospital, 14502 W. Meeker Blvd. in Sun City West.

Meg MacMullen, a registered nurse and unit program director, and Dr. Paul Butzine, unit medical director, designed the chemical dependency program for seniors because the existing long-term rehabilitation programs in the Valley are not geared toward the older adult.

"There isn't any specific place I know of that is designed to treat the chemically dependent geriatric adult patient," MacMullen said.

"When a patient from this population goes to another treatment center for rehabilitation, they cannot identify with younger people who are chemically dependent. They haven't shot up heroine on the streets of



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Meg MacMullen, a registered nurse, and Dr. Paul Butzine, medical director of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's Medical Psychiatric Unit, have designed a long-term rehabilitation chemical dependency program for seniors.

Phoenix. They are seniors. They come from a different generation. They need a different type of rehabilitation."

Although Webb Medical Psychiatric Unit was designed to

detoxify seniors, the 54-bed unit didn't have a rehabilitation program to help older adults

stay off drugs.

So, when Webb sent its senior patients to various rehabilitation programs in the Valley, the result was usually counterproductive.

"Their values are different. The language used in some of the sessions was not appropriate, they couldn't hear what was being said and were embarrassed to ask the instructor to repeat themselves," Butzine said.

"There was nothing in terms of rehabilitation for older adults. It's a whole forgotten segment of the population when it comes to chemical abuse. Everyone in Sun City knows the problem exists, but it is not addressed."

About 10 percent of the population is chemically dependent, and 10 percent of those people are recovering, Butzine said.

Although seniors are less likely to be chemically dependent than their younger counterparts, the incidents of abuse for prescription drugs increases for the over-65 population, Butzine said.

"Tranquilizers and sleeping pills are some of the most widely prescribed pills to patients. If you're exposed to a certain amount of them — boom — you're hooked," Butzine said. "If you start using a hip pain killer to solve fears, family problems and other things, then the drug becomes an answer to things it was not supposed to be an answer to."

Rehabilitation helps people find alternatives to answer their problems, Butzine said.

And for seniors, these problems are often unique to their age group.

"Life is more painful, frightening. They deal with a spouse being sick, deaths, retirement, losing their independence," Butzine said. "This program addresses those specific needs of seniors. We have to stress the positive aspects of recovery for people at this age and show them how they can be a productive member of society."

MacMullen said the problem is that many people do not even know Webb has a unit that treats people with depression, anxiety disorders, chemical dependency and other illnesses.

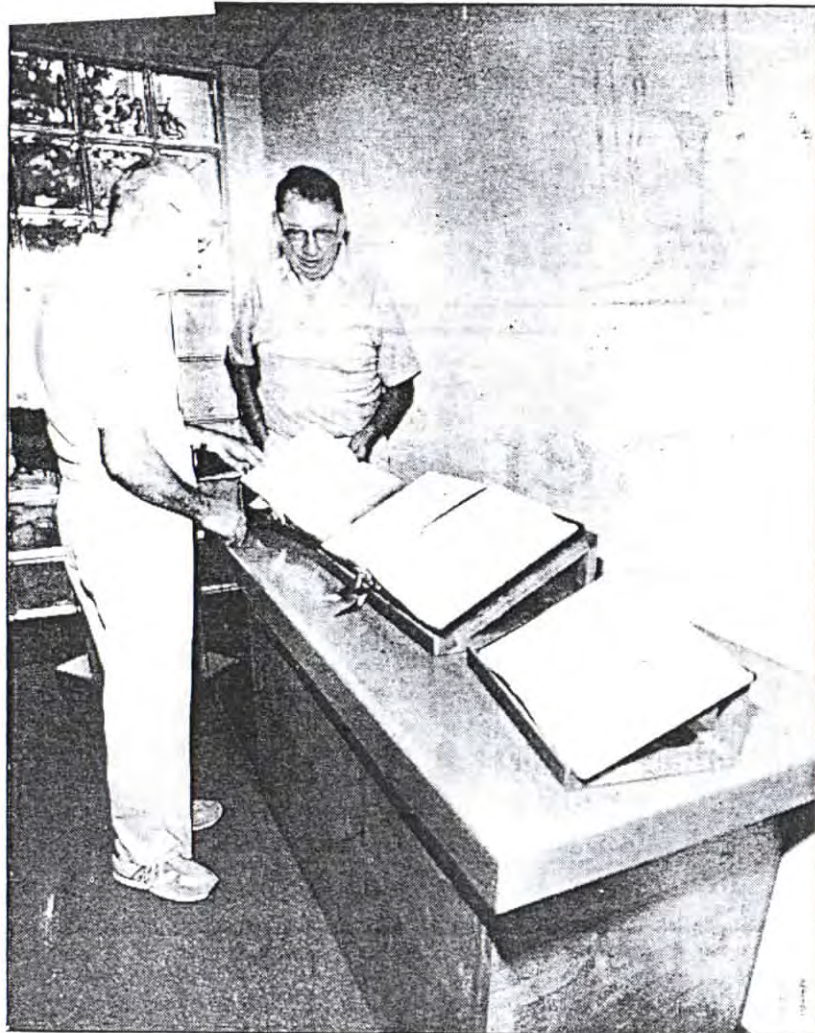
Even so, the unit treats 50 to 75 people a year, and "that's without anybody knowing we are here," MacMullen said.

"Those people are very clearly the tip of the iceberg. There are people who are dying from this disease. It is much more prevalent in seniors than people want to acknowledge," she said.

The program includes 12 weeks of intensive treatment from 8 a.m. to noon the first six weeks and from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. the second six weeks.

The program is covered by Medicare. For information, call 930-4042, 24-hours.

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News-Sun photo by Stephen Cherneski

**QUIET PLACE** — Jerry Miller, left, and Dick Latzke look over a Bible resting on the altar they helped build for the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital chapel. Miller, president of the Sun City West Woodworking Club, Latzke and two other club members built the polished birch plywood altar with copper trim.

*News Sun Aug 11/89*

# Hospital chapel can be medicine for the soul

By **CHRISTINE SELIGA**  
News-Sun staff

**SUN CITY WEST** — A hospital is a place of physical healing. But people's emotional and spiritual well-being can also need repair.

The newly furnished chapel at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will help fulfill those spiritual needs, said Joann Landmark, chairman of the chapel decoration committee.

The chapel is in a room off the hospital lobby and can seat 20 to 25 people. An organ, planter, altar and lectern are part of the chapel furnishings.

Landmark said that when the final furnishings are added, the chapel will be beautiful.

"The atmosphere we want to achieve in the chapel is one of peace, quiet and serenity where people can go and pray or meditate as they wish," she said.

A chapel dedication service and open house for local clergy is planned for September.

Four members of the Sun City West Woodworking Club built the altar, which is 3 feet tall and 5½ feet wide. It took 120 hours to build, club president Jerry Miller said. Miller, Dick Latzke, Vincent Marchese and Karl Krug worked on the piece.

The altar is made of birch plywood and trimmed with a copper band. Miller said he and his fellow club members tried to match the wood in the chairs and lectern that were already in the chapel.

The men from the woodworking club also built a planter and are building a frame for a stained glass picture that will hang over the altar.

The picture, called "The Dove of Peace," was

designed by Alice Olsen. Because the chapel is non-denominational, Landmark took the design to all the community's major religious groups.

"It was approved by all the religious faiths here in Sun City West," she said.

Several religious books were donated to the chapel.

Beth Emeth congregation donated the Holy Scriptures according to the Masoretic text.

The Leland W. Peterson family donated a large print Bible and a Spanish Bible. Peterson is the senior vice president and chief executive officer of Sun Health Corp., which owns the hospital.

Landmark said donations for furnishing the chapel were given by the Sun City West Men's Social Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10695, Sunland Memorial Park and Mortuary, and Menke Funeral Home.

Landmark said she became involved in the project in April 1988 when she wrote the hospital and said she was interested in working with a committee to furnish the chapel.

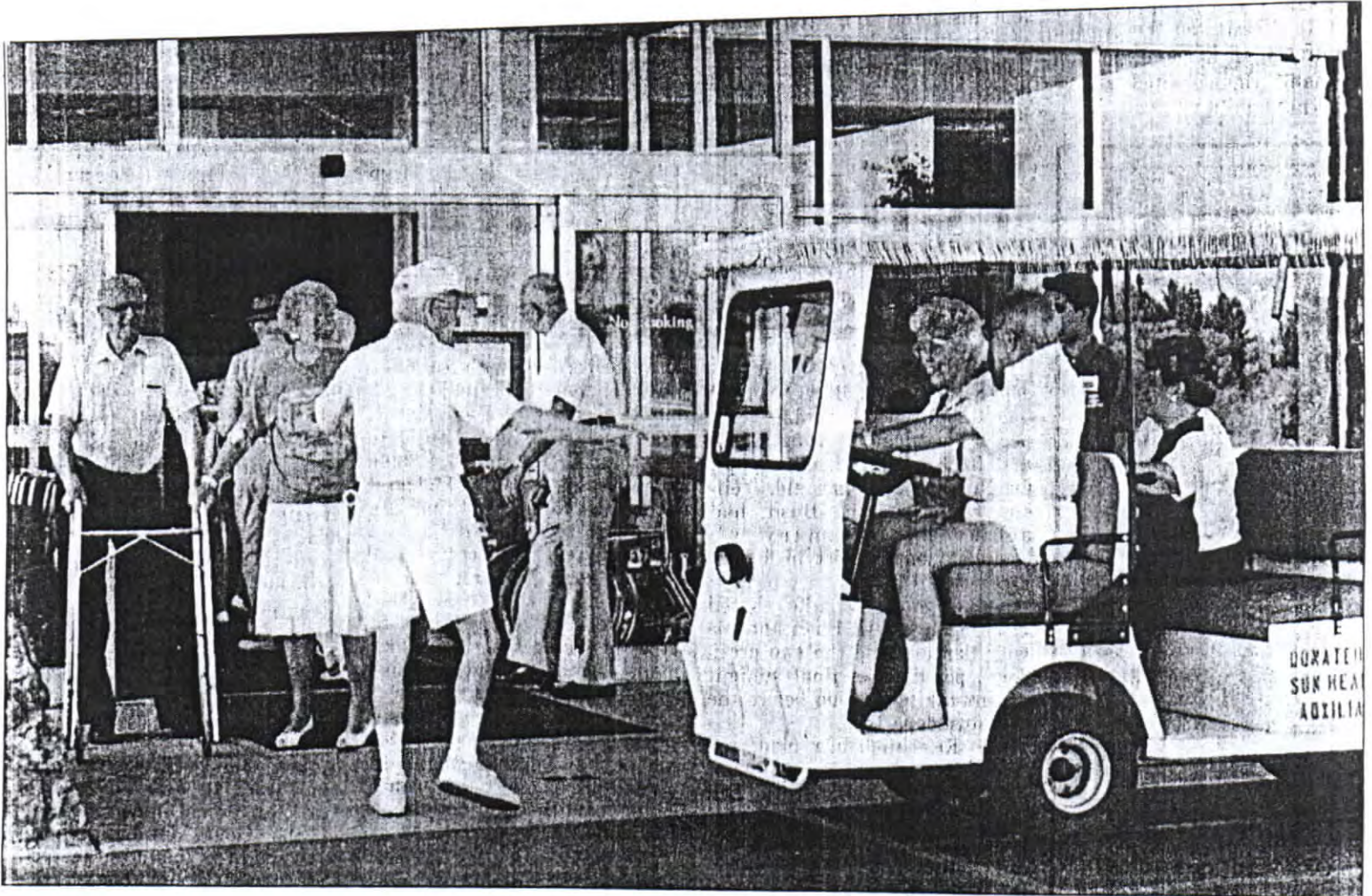
She became the committee.

Grace Jones, vice president of the hospital, said Landmark was a driving force behind the project.

"That's something she wanted to do and that's something we needed done, so it's been a wonderful relationship," Jones said.

Landmark said the project came together because of the help and generous donations of many people.

The chapel still needs vertical blinds to cover its glass block windows. Landmark said people who want to make additional donations can call Tim Donnelly at the Sun Health Foundation, 876-5330.



Frances Guarino/Daily News-Sun

Boswell Hospital volunteer George Chandler, left, directs people to a courtesy cart driven by Phil LaPlaca.

## Hospital volunteers fill summer gaps

By JACQUE PAPPAS  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Phil LaPlaca spends his Tuesdays driving up and down the hill leading to the entrance of Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital.

"We call it cardiac hill or agony hill because it's so steep and really hard for people to walk up," said LaPlaca, 74.

LaPlaca is a volunteer courtesy cart driver. He drives a golf car and escorts hospital visitors and patients to and from their cars in the parking lot.

"I think the reason I enjoy doing this so much is because the people are so grateful for the service. I've been blessed with good health and I am glad to share my good fortune with those who need the help," LaPlaca said.

La Placa is one of the hundreds of Sun Health Auxiliary volunteers who are working this summer during a time when free help is stretched thin.

Although the patient census is down at both hospitals (Boswell and Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West) during the summer, volunteers are still needed, said Jane Harker, director of volunteer services at Boswell.

"We have a continuing need for volunteers and that need is greater in the summer months because we have many volunteers who leave. Volume does not necessarily affect the need for volunteers at the hospital. If we have helped one person, our time is well spent," Harker said.

This summer Boswell needs even more extra volunteer help, Harker said.

Because the hospital's emergency room is being remodeled, volunteers have assumed a number of additional responsibilities by escorting visitors and family members around the hospital.

Outpatient surgery patients, endoscopy patients and others who usually park on the southwest side of the hospital, now have to park near the entrance and have a longer walk to their treatment areas, Harker said.

To accommodate the increased number of people using the main entrance, courtesy cart hours have been extended from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

"At a time when many volunteers are going away for the summer, we are looking at them more and more to assist in additional roles with patients and families,"

See Student volunteers, A5

# Student volunteers help at Webb

—From A1  
Harker said.

Harker said Boswell has about 800 volunteers in the winter and about 550 in the summer.

But she said the numbers are often misleading because some volunteers do not work on a regular basis and others work a few hours a month.

On the other hand, Harker said some volunteers are reaching the point of burn-out by working six days a week.

"We have some wonderful, dedicated people, who know how difficult it is for patients without their help. We feel our program is very broad so that there is a post fulfilling and rewarding for nearly everyone," Harker said.

Harker said Sun Health's care center,

hospitals, administrative offices and other departments use volunteers in a number of roles to supplement professional staff.

She said volunteers help in more than 100 different positions that help provide "the many nice extras to make a hospital stay nice for visitors and patients."

The hospitals have five categories of volunteer service: Reception Services, such as working in family waiting areas reception desks; Support Services, working in deliveries for the pharmacy or printing; Patient Services, serving coffee or comforting a family; Community Services, such as taking blood pressure readings; and Clerical Services, answering telephones and typing.

Most volunteer shifts are for four hours in the morning, afternoon or evening.

To help augment the many adult volunteers who leave the area for the summer, Sun Health has a junior volunteer program of students ages 13 to 18.

Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital has 22 student volunteers this summer, said Jean Stahl, director of volunteer services at Webb.

"With the summer shortages it's nice to have these student volunteers. They cannot do all the same jobs the adults do, but they are a great asset," Stahl said.

Stahl said Webb has combined service areas and cross-trained volunteers to fill in the volunteer gaps.

For more information on being a Sun Health Auxiliary volunteer, call the Boswell office at 876-5387 or the Webb office at 930-4058.

# Junior volunteers fill halls of local hospitals

## Annual program gives exposure to medical field

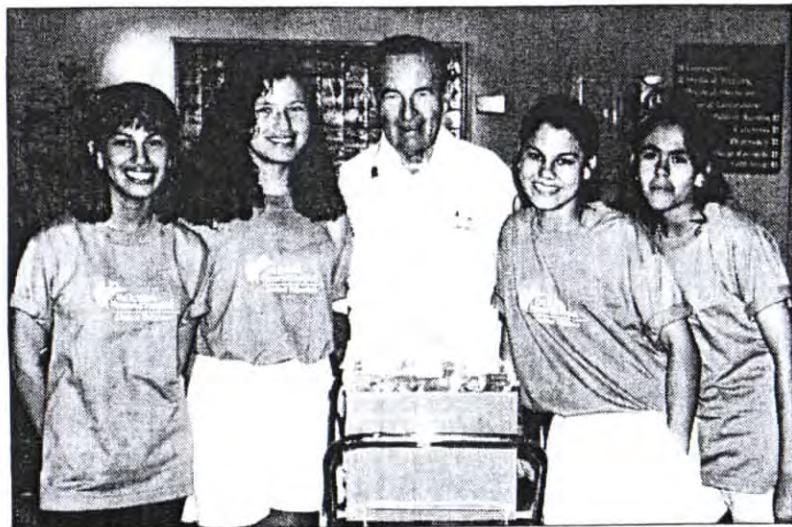
By ANNE RYMAN  
Sun Cities Independent

Giselle Limas volunteers at Boswell Hospital because she says she likes to help people. Her reason may sound similar to why many people donate their time, but she is different from most volunteers in the Sun Cities.

Giselle is 14 years old.

She and 80 other students participate in a 10-week Junior Volunteer Program at Boswell and Del Webb hospitals where they greet patients and visitors, copy medical records, deliver food, transfer medication carts and visit with patients.

Boys and girls ages 13-18 have lent a helping hand in the programs at Boswell since 1972 and at Webb



More than 80 students volunteer at local hospitals. From left, Alma Sustalta, Christine Dominguez, Auxiliary volunteer Mike Rockett, Monique Oliver and Amanda Hernandez.

since 1988 and come primarily from the Peoria and Dysart school districts.

All volunteers attend a one-day orientation where they learn about the duties and responsibilities of being volunteers and receive one-on-one training with adult

volunteers in specific areas of the hospital. While they help in most areas of the hospital, volunteers do not provide direct medical or personal care of the patient, says Jane Harker, Volunteer Service director at Boswell Hospital.

"All our volunteers act in a

### Volunteer

"I've wanted to be a volunteer for three years," she says.

Some students like volunteering at the hospitals so much they return the next summer. Melissa and Ana Camacho, sophomores at Centennial High School, volunteered last year.

"I like helping other people," Ana says.

Many of the junior volunteers come away with fond memories. Giselle Limas recalls the special moments she shared with a lady who had terminal cancer.

"I used to talk to her and she had fascinating stories to tell. She'd tell how her family coped with the Depression. She knew she was dying, but she didn't think about it."

"They're very caring and they want to make a difference in someone else's life."

—Jane Harker, Volunteer Services director

supplementary role by providing extras to make a patient's visit more pleasant."

These could range from filling a patient's pitcher with fresh water to getting reading materials to filing, typing and computer work.

The program offers students the opportunity to explore the health care field and the students help fill the void left by senior volunteers who leave for the summer, says Jean Stahl, Volunteer Services director at Webb Hospital.

"Some think they want to go into the health care field and want to see what it's like."

Holly Leno, a junior at Peoria High School who volunteers at Boswell Hospital, aspires to a career in medicine. "I wanted more experience in the medical field because I want to become a doctor,"

she says. She says she wants to volunteer in all areas of the hospital but wants to one day provide care in the emergency room as a doctor.

Josh Bradley, an eighth grader at Skyview Elementary School, isn't sure if he wants to make a career of medicine, but he's thinking about it.

"I want to see what it's like and learn more about it."

For Jennifer Magee, an eighth grader at Sundance Elementary School, volunteering runs in the family. Her mother works as a registered nurse at Boswell Hospital and her sister and father volunteer there. This will be her first year as a volunteer and one she has anticipated.

See VOLUNTEERS, Page 3

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See VOLUNTEERS, Page 3

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# Chapel is a labor of love

## Volunteer gives sanctuary a lift, it gave her one

By Jeff Nies

Arizona Republic Correspondent

As a Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital volunteer, Joanne Landmark frequently has found spiritual strength during a quiet moment of prayer and reflection in the hospital's chapel.

But last spring, she decided the hospital sanctuary needed a spiritually appealing face lift.

When the hospital opened in January 1988, the chapel, just off the main lobby, had been left unfinished. The room's construction was underwritten by a \$100,000 gift left to the hospital by Dr. Harold Gries and his wife.

However, officials of Sun Health Corp., non-profit operator of the hospital at 14502 Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, intended to put finishing touches on the chapel during a future community fund-raising campaign.

"The community enjoys supporting the hospital in that kind of way," said Jerry Porter, a hospital spokesman.

But Landmark, 54, quickly accelerated improvement planning when she wrote Leland Peterson, Sun Health's senior vice president and chief executive officer, requesting an active role in chapel decorating.

A short time later, after a meeting with Peterson, she got her wish — the Sun Health executive named her coordinator of the chapel project. No one has been disappointed with the results of the Landmark production.

"Everybody thinks it's a lovely room," said Grace Jones, the hospital's executive vice president.

On Sept. 25, the hospital officially dedicated the non-denominational chapel and opened its doors for inspection by local clergy.

"They were quite pleased," Landmark said. "I have received nothing

but beautiful comments."

Landmark, a former registered radiological technologist and clinical instructor in Denver, pursued work on the chapel with missionary zeal, said Tim Donnelly of Sun Health Foundation, which administers hospital fund-raising.

"She had a vision of what she wanted to do with the chapel," Donnelly said. "And she maintained that vision all the way through."

Landmark said her efforts were divinely inspired and guided.

"It's truly something that God called me to do," she said. "It's just like the good Lord opened doors for me."

That is clearly evident from the widespread backing the project received, Jones said.

"A lot of volunteers came forward

and gave freely of their time, energy and funds to put the chapel together," she said.

At Landmark's request, the Sun City West Woodworking Club, led by President Jerry Miller and fellow members Dick Latzke, Vincent Marchese and Karl Krug, built a set of white-birch chapel furniture.

The specially designed pieces, highlighted with copper inlay, included an altar, kneeling bench, planter, Bible stands and circular stained-glass frame.

"All the furniture is made out of solid birch," Miller said. "It took us in the neighborhood of 100 to 120 hours to complete the job."

While Miller and company supplied all of the carpentry labor, chapel contributions paid for the club's \$275 materials expense, he

said. Although the club offered to donate that as well, Landmark and the hospital wouldn't hear of it, Miller said.

A \$900 chapel organ was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Klein of Sun City West.

Peterson and his family also got swept in the giving spirit of the project. They helped out by donating a large-print pulpit Bible and Spanish-language Bible.

A similar gift came from the local Beth Emeth Congregation, which donated a copy of the Holy Scriptures according to the Masoretic text.

In addition, the Sun City West Men's Social Club and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10695 each contributed \$100 for chapel decorating. Window-furnishing costs and

other expenses were met through a \$1,000 contribution by the Menke Funeral Home in Sun City.

For Landmark, the most difficult and sensitive aspect of the project, was raising money and obtaining approval for the hospital sanctuary's symbolic focal point: a circular, stained-glass mosaic of the dove of peace.

The pastel-colored stained glass, measuring 50 inches in diameter, was designed by local artist Alice Olson and crafted by Gene Hensley of Ho-Ho-Kam Art Glass in north Phoenix. The \$1,560 artwork was financed by Sunland Mortuary and Memorial Park in Sun City.

The backlighted stained-glass dove now perches prominently above the chapel altar.



Chris DeVitto/Special for The Arizona Republic

Joanne Landmark, a volunteer who coordinated the decorating of the chapel at Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, says her efforts were divinely inspired.

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## Great giving

### Club builds chapel altar for Del Webb hospital

Members of the Sun City West Woodworking Club have donated a white birch altar for use in the chapel at the Del E. Webb Hospital.

The handcrafted altar is one of several gifts made in recent months to complement the special room set aside for spiritual comfort and reflection.

The altar was constructed by club members Jerry Miller, Dick Latzke, Vincent Marchese and Karl Krug.

In addition, the chapel's large-print pulpit Bible and Spanish-language Bible were donated by Leland W. Peterson, senior vice president and chief executive officer of Sun Health Corporation, operators of the hospital.

The Holy Scriptures according to the Masoretic text were donated by Beth Emeth Congregation.

Donations of \$100 each were received from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10695 and the Sun City West Men's Social Club.

"We are most appreciative of these generous gifts, which help the hospital in meeting not only the physical needs but also the spiritual needs of our patients and their families," says Grace Jones, the hospital's executive vice president.



**HOSPITAL CHAPEL OPENS.** Reviewing recently donated items to the new chapel at the Del E. Webb Hospital are, from left, Dick Latzke, commander of the VFW Post 10695; Joan Landmark, volunteer chapel coordinator; Jerry Miller, president of the Sun City West Woodworking Club.

# After one year, Webb hospital going strong

By LAURIE HURD-MOORE  
Sun Cities Independent

The scent of newness has not yet faded from the corridors of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, but 126 beds are already in service and all departments, except pediatrics and obstetrics, are functioning.

The Sun City West hospital, located at Grand Avenue and Meeker Boulevard, is seven miles and 15 minutes further northwest than any other hospital in the Phoenix area.

The facility opened Jan. 4, 1988, and works in cooperation with the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City.

Construction for the \$35 million twin-tower facility was completed under budget.

Staff members participated in 600 surgeries and discharged 1,331 patients that first year, says Grace Jones, the administrator for the full-service hospital.

Approximately 50 percent of the hospital's patients came from Sun City West. The remaining 20 percent of the people came from Sun City.

Residents of El Mirage, Surprise, Waddell, Wittman, Circle City, Morristown, as well as citizens from portions of Youngtown and Peoria, make up the remaining 30 percent of patients who have used the hospital thus far.

Hospital beds will be expanded to 153 in the fall of 1989 to meet the needs of an increasing west-side population, says Ms. Jones. The hospital can expand to 203 beds when needed.

Although patients have visited the hospital for a variety of reasons -- orthopaedic surgery, early cancer detection treatments and coronary care make up the majority of services rendered by the hospital.

"We don't do open heart surgery, neurosurgery or O.B. (obstetrics). We do have complete diagnostic services in those areas," says Ms. Jones.

The health care campus can boast of a diverse number of specialized medical departments: cardiology, clinical laboratories, nuclear medicine, pulmonary, radiology and respiratory.

In addition, the hospital has several surgical and recovery units.

A number of distinctive services are also contained on the campus.

"We have a sub-acute care unit -- a transition unit, which opened in January, 1989," says the administrator.

The Del Webb Hospital is also equipped to handle individuals suffering from disabling symptoms of stress.

SAGE, an acronym for Support, Adaptation, Growth and Enrichment, is designed to help one's mental health and well-being, and assists residents resume a more positive lifestyle.

Developed by a team of mental health professionals, the program includes group activities, counseling, occupational therapy and recreational activities.

An outpatient SAGE program has also been designed along with a "COPE" line -- 930-4357.

The Webb Hospital also plans to be the first hospital in the three retirement areas to offer obstetric and pediatric services.

"We don't have enough population at this time for O.B. and pediatrics. We will continue to evaluate those. Perhaps in the mid-90s, say 1993 or 1994, the population will have developed enough to support these services," says Ms. Jones.

If a baby does insist on being born before reaching another hospital, says Ms. Jones, the Del Webb Hospital's 24-hour emer-

gency care unit is equipped for such a need.

Presently the hospital maintains a medical staff of 325. Approximately 38 physicians, including dentists, have their offices on the Webb campus.

Local volunteers -- approximately 400 in all -- work in 44 other care areas within the hospital.

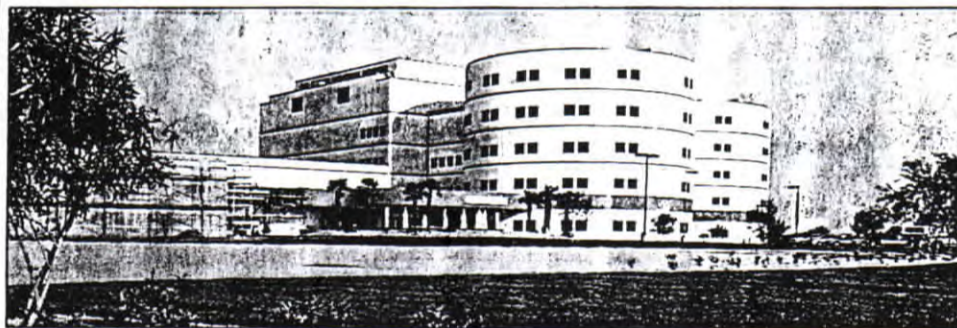
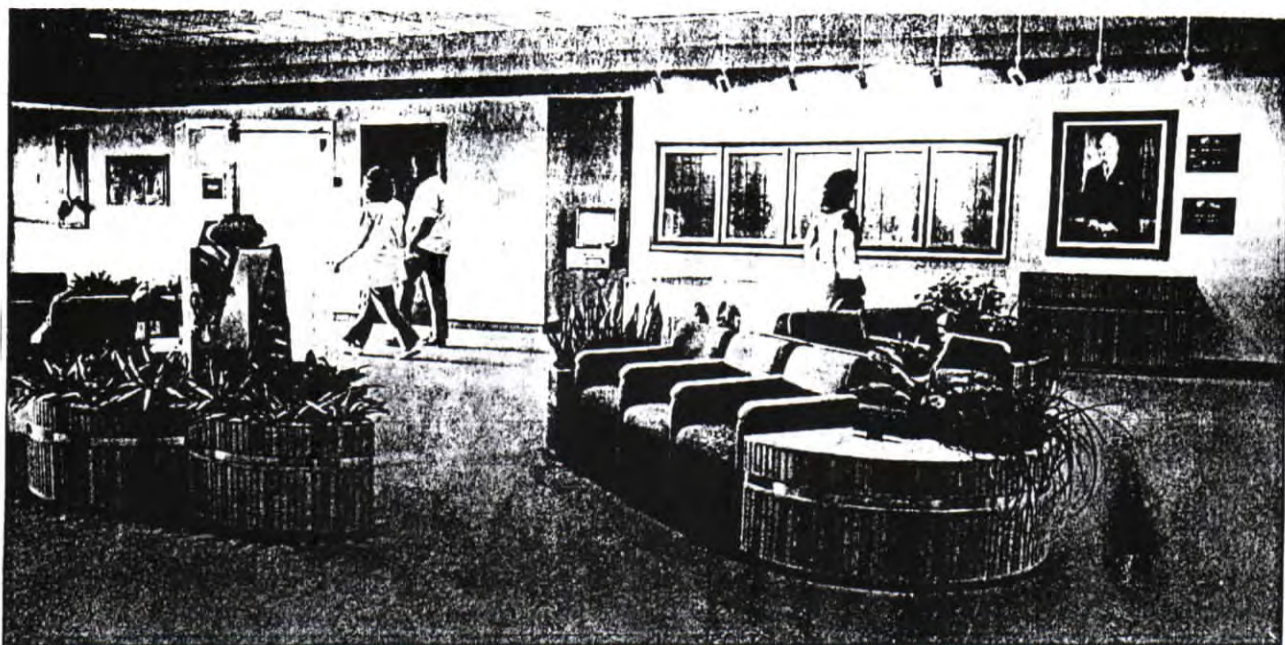
"For our first year, 35,000 hours of service were logged by these volunteers. They contribute approximately 4,000 hours each month," says Ms. Jones.

*THE DEL E. WEBB  
MEMORIAL HOSPI-  
TAL in Sun City West.*

Laurie Hurd-Moore/Independent



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**NEW HOSPITAL** — A portrait of Del E. Webb Hospital (top photo). Bottom photo shows exterior and grounds. (News-Sun photos by Stephen Cherek)

## Hospital opens in SC West

News-Sun staff

**SUN CITY WEST** — Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital opened Monday.

The new hospital opens with 60 beds and is expected to expand to 203 beds as community needs increase, said Leland Peterson, executive vice president of the facility. Hospital officials hope to be caring for an average of 40 patients a day by the end of the year. Private rooms are available at no additional charge.

This morning, the hospital

had eight patients.

The facility is expected to relieve pressure on Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City. Patient loads at Boswell increased 9.4 percent last year, hospital officials say. Boswell had an average of 287 patients per day last year compared to 262 per day in 1986.

More than 260 physicians and dentists are members of Del Webb's medical staff, Peterson said.

Hospital services include a 24-hour emergency, gast-

roenterology, intensive and coronary care, oncology and psychiatric departments.

Construction on the \$47 million twin-tower facility was completed about \$2 million under budget. The savings will help purchase additional equipment, Peterson said.

"We feel the hospital is making a very positive contribution to the community's health care," Peterson said. "We are dedicated to serving with compassionate care."

## 5-story hospital also a technological landmark

The new Del E. Webb Memorial stands tall; it is a landmark that can be seen for miles in any direction. Inside the hospital are landmarks of another kind — landmarks in the field of medical technology.

★ One of the most unique features is the **Flexible Use Laminar Flow** operating room. This operating room is designed with special equipment, originally developed in Great Britain, which provides specially treated air to the operating area. Flexible Use means that although this equipment is available, the room is also equipped with a sophisticated conventional air-handling system which facilitates the surgeon's choice of methodology.

Normally, air flows in a rotary fashion, picking up and dropping particles as it moves. Laminar Flow equipment filters the air 180 times an hour through special vents. It is then circulated rapidly in a horizontal flow. That rapid, horizontal flow is

designed to decrease the opportunity of particles being picked up or deposited. Some surgeons feel this is a benefit which reduces the risk of infection from a foreign substance entering an incision or surgical wound, particularly for such procedures as orthopedic surgery.

★ The **Radiation Oncology Center**, currently under construction adjacent to the hospital, is expected to open this spring. Privately operated under the direction of Thomas D. Runyon, M.D., it will offer radiation therapy to cancer patients on an inpatient or outpatient basis.

The 5,500-square-foot center is being built to house a High-Energy Electron Linear Accelerator. High-energy X-rays shorten the treatment time. A sharper X-ray beam profile allows greater accuracy in treating the diseased site, thus reducing side effects.

The center eventually will accommodate two accelerators that are

shielded by three-foot-thick concrete ceilings and four-foot-thick concrete walls.

★ A special service is offered to the community by the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. Known as the **SAGE Program**, it provides comprehensive inpatient care for adults 18 years and older who need assistance coping with the problems of daily living because of emotional or behavioral difficulties. These problems may be accentuated by co-existing medical problems.

SAGE is an acronym for Support, Adaptation, Growth and Enrichment — goals of the program. Developed by a team of mental health professionals, the program consists of an individualized treatment plan as well as group activities, occupational therapy and recreational activities.

Additionally, it incorporates medical treatment and nursing care to assure that the maximum level of

personal health is reached. Your family physician remains active in your treatment throughout.

Family involvement is strongly encouraged and support groups, under the guidance of qualified behavioral health specialists, meet regularly with you and your family.

Information about the SAGE program may be obtained by calling 931-9322, ext. 3021.

A "SAGE Line" is available 24-hours a day to provide help and referral information. Dial "930-HELP" or 930-4357 for assistance.

★ **Medical Imaging** is an important diagnostic tool used by your physician. It often eliminates the need for other exploratory procedures or surgery. Specially trained technicians under the direction of radiologists perform the tests.

Various types of equipment are available to you and your physician:

★ Nuclear Medicine uses a gamma camera to track the progress

See technology Page 6

## ...Technology benefits care

From Page 5

of radioactive compounds in your body's systems. The information is then stored on a computer disk and made into an image by exposing it to X-ray film. It is particularly useful in diagnosing disorders of internal body organs such as the kidneys.

★ Ultrasound forms a picture by transmitting sound waves through our body and creating an image when they bounce back. The waves are recorded on a computer disk and transferred to X-ray film.

★ Computer Tomography is best known as a CT Scan. Again, a computer is utilized but the image is produced in cross sectional slices, rather like slices of bread. In this way, even very small abnormalities, such as beginning tumors, can be detected earlier and treatment can begin.

★ Special Procedures such as angiography.

Every effort has been made to provide the most sophisticated diagnostic and treatment equipment. Your health is our primary concern at the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

# Look what it costs to build a hospital now

In 1970, a mere 15 cents would coax a can of soda from a vending machine. Today, that same soda generally costs four times that amount — about 60 cents.

A new house purchased for \$30,000 in 1970 can command in excess of \$100,000 from a buyer in 1988.

The effects of runaway inflation in the 1970s and early 1980s clearly are visible in other aspects of everyday life: Food is more expensive. Utility charges are higher.

Clothing costs have climbed. Automobile prices have soared. And yes, health care costs have risen, too.

Overall, according to government statistics, what \$1.20 would buy in the early 1970s now would cost more than \$3.40 — an increase of more than 180 percent! Workers' wages and retirees' pensions and Social Security payments have gone up as well, albeit many are hard-pressed to maintain comparable purchasing power.

Costs associated with providing

health care services to the rapidly growing northwest Valley likewise have faced upward pressure.

When the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital opened in Sun City in November 1970, its initial two white towers stood as sentinels to protect and nurture the health of Sun City-area residents. Construction costs for those two towers (capacity of 173 beds) was \$6,324,000. Equipment costs were \$1,206,000, bringing the total to \$7,530,000.

By comparison, the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital — which opened in January in Sun City West and, like Boswell in 1970, has two patient-care towers (capacity of 203 beds) — was constructed for \$24,147,000. The initial equipment tab totalled \$6,672,000. Together, the cost for constructing and equipping the new hospital came to \$30,819,000.

The bottom line: \$7.5 million for the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital vs. \$30.8 million for Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. Or, \$43,500 per bed vs. \$151,800.

That's an increase of more than 300 percent in costs over a period of 18 years!

Why have hospital-construction and equipment costs so dramatically outpaced the general inflation rate?

"There are many reasons, and it's

**"Tremendous advances have been made in the delivery of health care"**

important for people to understand why," says Henry S. "Hank" Raymond, chairman of the volunteer board of directors for the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

What first must be realized are the tremendous advancements that have been made in the delivery of health care in the last two decades, he stresses.

As specifics, Raymond points to joint replacements, renal dialysis, refinements in open-heart surgery, angioplasties, radiation oncology, and CT and magnetic resonance imaging among other advances in diagnostic capabilities.

"Quite simply," he explains, "medical technology is costly. Costs of research, development, testing and government approval are in-

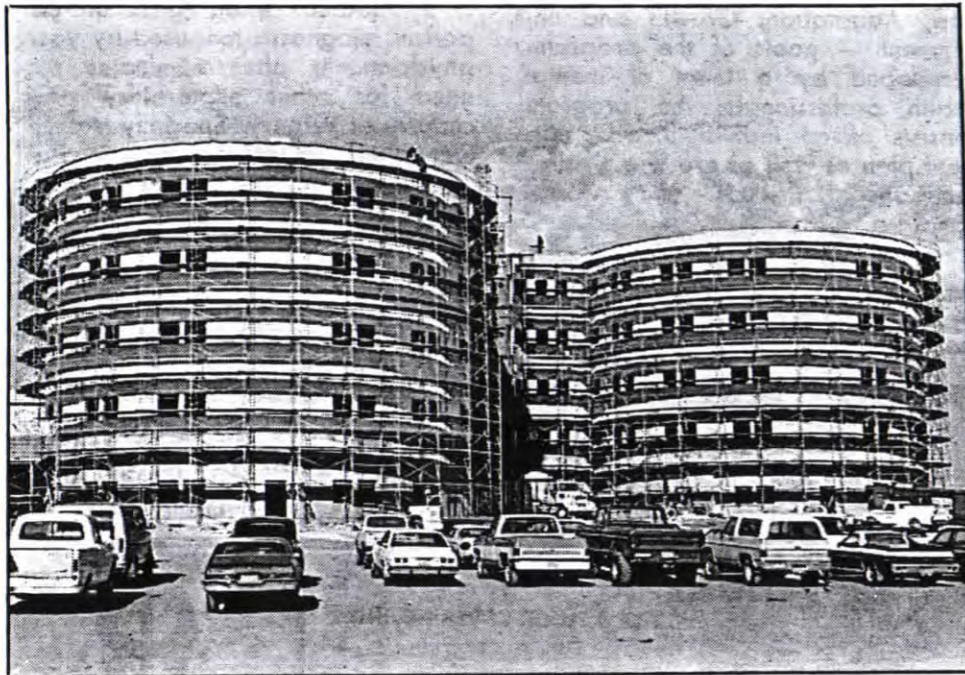
cluded in the price we must pay to obtain superior equipment for the benefit of our patients.

"In fact, the equipment costs at today's prices just for the sophisticated medical capabilities I've mentioned almost would equal the initial construction cost of the Boswell Memorial Hospital! And, that doesn't begin to include the cost for monitors, surgical instruments, sterilization equipment, computers and general supplies such as medications, X-ray film and so forth."

A computerized radiography system, for example, costs approximately \$2 million — almost one-third of the construction bill for Boswell Memorial's first two towers!

Some equipment and treatment capabilities require specialized building design and materials. One of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's surgical suites features a choice of Laminar air flow, which

**See Quite Page 7**



Scaffolding surrounds the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital during construction of the facility.



# ... 'Quite simply, medical technology is costly'

From Page 6

provides exceptionally clean air by circulating and filtering all the air in the room dozens of times each minute. This technology is preferred by some surgeons for such procedures as orthopedic surgery to minimize possibilities of infection.

The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital also has been constructed with specialized seismic joints to enable it to better withstand earthquakes.

Local, state and federal agencies have strict codes and guidelines governing construction of health care facilities, all of which add significantly to construction costs. For ex-

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A computerized radiography system costs almost one-third of the bill for Boswell's first two towers.

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ample, the construction cost per square foot of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital totals approximately \$120, while the Medical Arts Center, located across the street from the hospital, was constructed for \$84 per square foot.

Among the numerous agencies the hospital must satisfy are the Arizona Department of Health Services, the Industrial Commission of Arizona, the Bureau of Air Pollution Control and the Bureau of Environmental Health of the Maricopa County Health Department, Building and

Safety Division of the Maricopa County Department of Planning and Development, the Maricopa County Flood Control District, the Maricopa County Highway Department, the Maricopa County Flood Control District, the U.S. Health Care Financing Administration, the Federal Aviation Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Occupational Safety and

Health Administration.

In addition, there are standards established by local fire-protection districts and utility companies. And, the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the national hospital review organization, will visit the hospital later this year for its accreditation inspection.

"It's a tremendously difficult and

expensive undertaking to open a hospital nowadays as well as maintain existing health care facilities," Raymond noted. "But the health of the community has to be the foremost concern. The alternative — not having hospital services available, especially in an emergency — is unacceptable.

"That's why the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital was constructed."

## Many must be satisfied

# Agencies review hospital's progress

Following are some of the local, state and federal agencies that the Del E. Webb Memorial hospital must satisfy to begin providing service to northwest Valley residents:

- U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- Federal Aviation Administration
- U.S. Health Care Financing Administration
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Arizona Department of Health Services
  - ★ Clinical laboratory certification
  - ★ Pharmacy board
  - ★ Inhalation anesthetics
  - ★ Non-flammable medical gas systems

- Industrial Commission of Arizona
- Maricopa County Department of Planning and Development (Building Safety Division)
  - ★ Construction code compliance
  - ★ Plan review and approval
  - ★ temporary use permit
  - ★ temporary certificate of occupancy
  - ★ Final certificate of occupancy
- Maricopa County Flood Control District
  - ★ Site drainage permit
- Maricopa County Health Department (Bureau of Environmental Health)
  - ★ Kitchen sanitation
- Maricopa County Health Department

(Bureau of Air Pollution Control)

- ★ Earth moving permit
- ★ Fossil fuel burning installation permit
- ★ Fossil fuel burning operation permit
- Maricopa County Highway Department
- Fire Permits
  - ★ Sun City West-Rural Metro
  - ★ Arizona Department of Health Services
  - ★ Medicare federal certification
- Sun City West Utilities Company
  - ★ Water and Sewer permit
- Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
  - ★ Accreditation review in 1988

# Peterson brings experience to helm

Hospital administrators have many responsibilities, the most important of which is to ensure efficient and cost-effective delivery of quality health care. It takes special training and a willingness to be "on call" 24-hours a day. The executive vice president of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, Leland W. Peterson, brings a willingness and expertise that sets excellence as its standard.

Appointed as executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Sun City West facility in January 1986, he also serves as senior vice president of Sun Health, your non-profit, community health care provider.

"Sun Health is most fortunate to have Leland Peterson as an administrator. He is very familiar with many facets of health care from construction to community outreach programs. In these changing times, that



**Leland W. Peterson**

is an important asset," says W. A. Turner, president of Sun Health.

Peterson has 18 years experience in the health care field. He joined Sun Health in 1972 as an administrative assistant, after serving an administrative internship and residency in California. A graduate of Wisconsin State University with a bachelor's of science, cum laude, he holds a master's degree in public health from the University of California, Berkeley.

His activities include memberships in a variety of organizations including the American College of Healthcare Executives, Arizona Hospital Association, Rotary International and Heard Museum Men's Council.

The Sun Health family includes Webb's sister facility, the Boswell Memorial Hospital, the Institute for Biogerontology Research, Boswell Extended Care Center, Plaza del Rio Care Center and other community-based health care services.

## Board guides hospital policy

Following the volunteer board of directors for the non-profit Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital:

Officers include Henry S. Raymond, Chairman; William A. Chapman Jr., vice chairman; W.A. Turner, president; Winifred M. Culler, secretary; and Owen F. Childress, treasure.

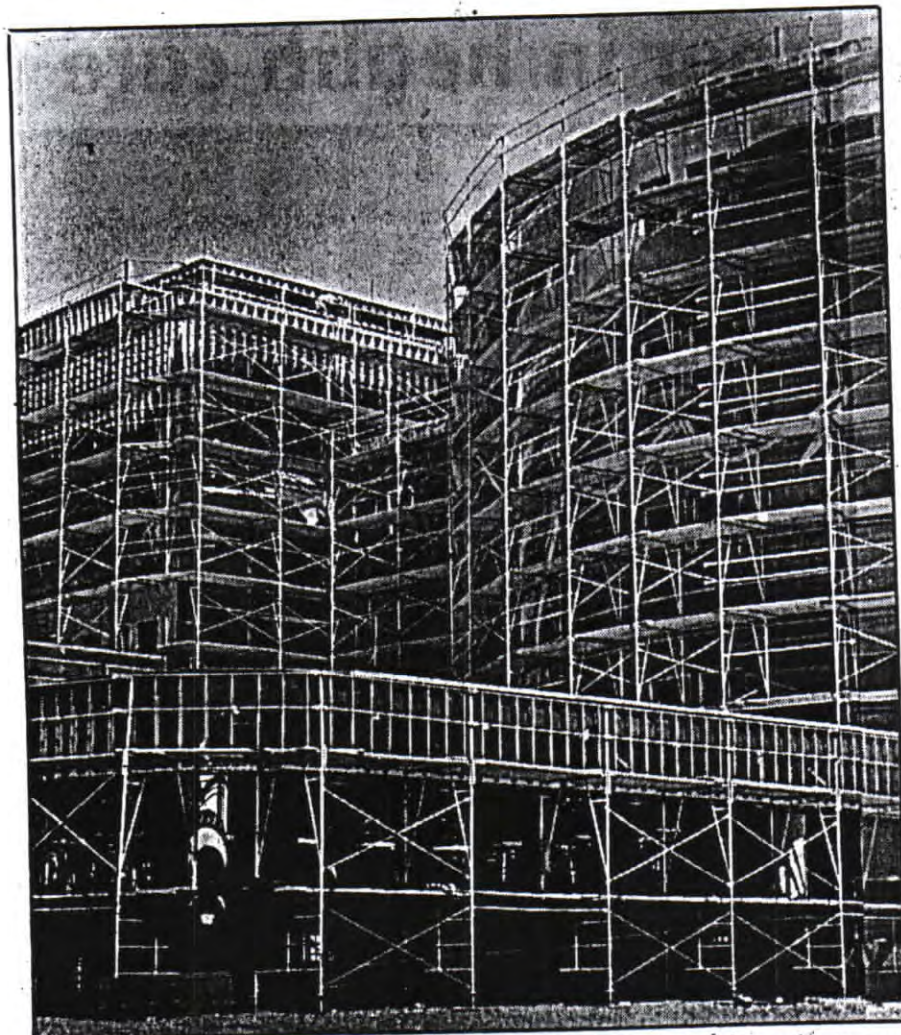
Members are Haakon Bang, Ph.D., Charles S. Bowden, C. Gerald Bromm, Merrill E. Dodge, Hogan A. Dunlevy, Aubrey K. Johnson, Robert H. Johnson and William H. Thomas.

The board members, whose expertise includes a broad range of business, community service and health care activities, provide valuable policy guidance for the operation of the health care center.

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# The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital

## . . . From the ground up



The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital begins to take shape during the early stages of construction.

## Shared services with Boswell maximize expertise, lower cost

Sisters often share.

As sister health care centers, the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital and the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital have the capabilities to share several patient-care and administrative services that help to minimize costs of providing care to northwest Valley residents.

"Residents of the growing communities west of the Auga Fria River need locally available health care services. And yet, Boswell has been developed to its designed capacity," explains Haakon Bang, Ph.D., chairman of the board of Sun Health, the non-profit, community health care organization that operates the two hospitals.

"What has been done through the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital is to efficiently extend to the patients it serves the expertise in community health care delivery developed at Boswell since 1970," he says. "By sharing and maximizing this expertise, we are able to minimize management duplication at the two sites and maximize our focus."

This focus, he continues, maintains consistency in addressing the needs of the community while achieving

administrative cost savings.

Administrative coordination is achieved in such patient-care areas as medical imaging, pathology and the clinical laboratory. Compatible patient-care computer systems, which provide cross-over and sharing capabilities, benefit extensive laboratory studies as well as the pharmacies and medical records sections at each hospital.

Through Sun Health, there are shared purchasing and financial services that allow the two hospitals to benefit from economies of scale that contain costs. Personnel in quality assurance and utilization review also are shared.

Other mutually coordinated services include the telephone systems, educational opportunities, public affairs, human resources, billing, planning and copy systems.

"This shared approach, especially in the area of management expertise, helps to assure tremendous advantages for patients at both hospitals. What we learn at one hospital can be used to help patients at the other," Dr. Bang says. "That's efficiency."



At the groundbreaking ceremony in 1985, William A. Chapman, Jr., (above) declares the hospital in Sun City West will be named for Del E. Webb. Former New York Yankees slugger Mickey Mantle (below) signs autographs at the groundbreaking.



The twin towers of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital now stand as sentinals to protect the health of area residents. U.S. Rep. Willis D. Gradisoa, Jr., R-Ohio, (inset) delivers the keynote address at the dedication ceremony in December.

# Del E. Webb— Legend in his own time



Del E. Webb: A giant in business, sports and philanthropy

*Excerpted from the speech given by R.H. Johnson, president of the Del E. Webb Foundation, at the dedication ceremony of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital on Dec. 6, 1987.*

*R.H. Johnson began his career with the Del E. Webb Construction Company in 1936. In 1974, when Del Webb died, he became chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the Del E. Webb Corporation. In his present capacity as president of the Del E. Webb Foundation, Johnson carries on Mr. Webb's*

*commitment to the field of health care by providing grants for medical research and construction of health care facilities. The Webb Foundation's \$3 million grant led the way to the fulfillment of a dream - the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.*

—o—

Del E. Webb was a legend in his time . . . the legacy he leaves approaches the true definition of American folklore. As a simple carpenter, he began work in the late 1920s on the ageless Westward Ho Hotel in downtown Phoenix. In 1928, he

**See . . . Hospital Page 4**

# ...Hospital's namesake stressed hard work

From Page 3

joined a construction crew that had been hired to build one of the first A.J. Bayless stores at Central and Moreland. When the contractor defaulted on the project and left town, Mr. Webb asked if he could finish the job. He did finish and, in the process, established Del E. Webb Construction Company. The legend was well on his way!

Mr. Webb walked with kings, consulted with every president from FDR forward, and founded friend-

**Del Webb felt that hard work and a creative mind were the two main ingredients in achieving success.**

ships and business relationships among the greatest personalities of the 20th century. But... he established the same friendly rapport and demonstrated the same human kindness for construction workers and hotel clerks.

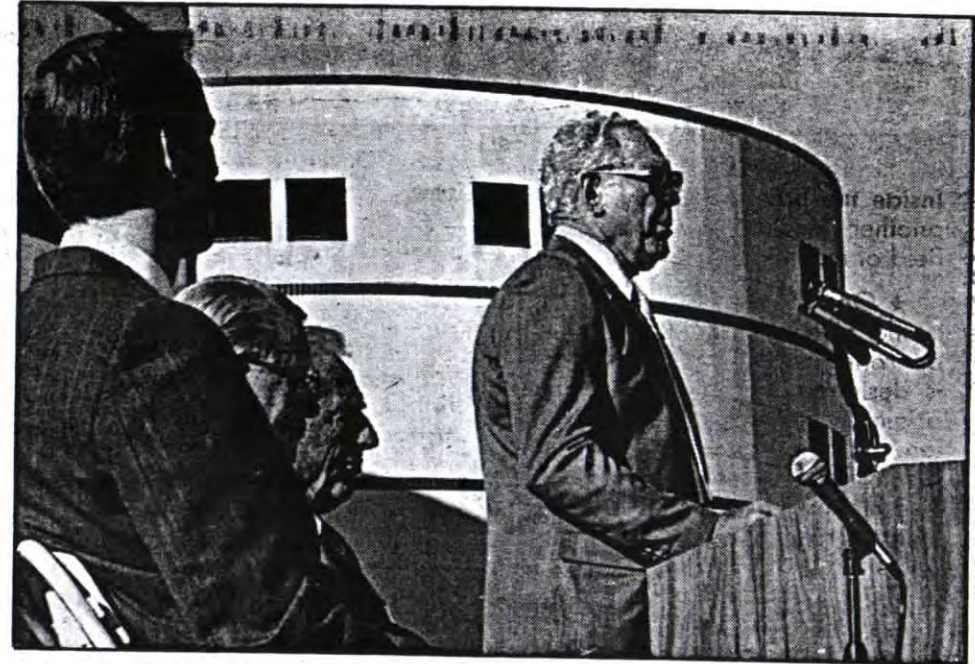
His business acumen was know-around the world — but his philosophy for success was quite simple: he felt that hard work and a creative mind were the two main ingredients in achieving success. He once said, "If you really believe in the people you hire, then you'll pay them well, allow them to make decisions, expect

their loyalty... and get it. It is people... our customers... who will determine our success." And how right he was! There are countless stories of employees receiving personal calls from Mr. Webb — either congratulating the individual on a personal triumph or expressing condolences for a family sadness.

Mr. Webb had a fondness for bringing ordinary people — many without college educations — into the company and nurturing them into key positions. We used to refer to the newcomers as having been "Webberized." I once interviewed and subsequently hired two bright young men from prominent Ivy League schools — I had to spend considerable additional time reassuring Mr. Webb that these non-Webberized challengers were worth the effort.

Mr. Webb had some very interesting business ventures over the years... and some equally interesting business associates to go with them. It was Del Webb who originally purchased the huge agricultural area known as Arrowhead Ranch... in partnership with the very influential Chicago business executive Henry Crown. Mr. Crown also owned the Empire State Building.

There are many stories about Mr. Webb and Howard Hughes. When dealing with Hughes, he had to prepare for meetings in the most



Robert H. Johnson, chairman of the Del E. Webb Foundation, shares recollections of Del E. Webb during the dedication of the hospital that bears Mr. Webb's name.

unexpected and isolated locations — and always at night. If your business was with Hughes, it was typically between 12 midnight and 4 a.m. While Hughes was admittedly an eccentric of unparalleled definition, Mr. Webb cherished his relationship and felt Hughes was one of the shrewd men he'd ever met.

Del Webb's love and devotion to sports were instrumental in his work ethic — he always maintained that if he were not able to get away periodically and play a round of golf, drudgery would most certainly have overtaken him. A former baseball player himself, he accomplished a long-standing dream when, in 1945, he joined in partnership with Dan

Topping and invested in the largest single enterprise of his career — the purchase of the New York Yankees. In the ensuing 20-year ownership, the Yankees never once failed to generate a profit — not to mention an unprecedented 15 American League pennants and 10 World Series crowns.

In spite of the large financial holdings attributed to Del Webb, he never carried much cash with him. Those who travelled with him for the first time usually found out the hard way! I can remember when Maxine Newman, his long-time secretary, took Mr. Webb to play golf with Bob Hope. As his golf bag was

**See Webb Page 8**

# ...Webb supported medical research

From Page 4

being taken from the car, Mr. Webb leaned over to Maxine and asked to borrow \$1 to tip the porter.

Porters and skycaps at Sky Harbor International Airport knew Mr. Webb as well. One day, while hurrying to catch a flight to Las Vegas, Mr. Webb forgot his wallet. A few hours later, he telephoned Maxine, from Las Vegas, and confessed he'd also forgotten his plane ticket. She asked how he'd managed to get on the flight if he didn't have any money. The incredulous reply was that a skycap named Charlie, the head man, recognized him . . . and took up a collection from all the other skycaps to buy his ticket. Maxine was to immediately go to the airport and repay the money . . . Charlie would know who and how much to repay!

Mr. Webb was very interested in medicine and medical research. Many of his employees often referred to him as "Doc Webb." His penmanship had grown so illegible that he could have qualified for a real prescription-writing doctor. In the 1950s, as chief executive for the corporation, Mr. Webb insisted that all key executives have thorough physical exams — and he personally reviewed each one. He was one of the first to put a "No Smoking" sign

in corporate offices. He was the spirit behind the many large contributions given to assist medical research. He had the forethought to create the Del E. Webb Foundation to ensure his interests in civic charitable causes were carried on. This Foundation is proud to be a key contributor in the hospital that bears his name.

Del E. Webb was a man larger than life — a man that has a part to play in the lives of every resident in the Sun Cities area. His name preceeds every accomplishment he ever produced . . . he loved Sun City and Sun City West for the values it taught, the principles it sustained and, most importantly, for the people it catered to. Surely, Mr. Webb

linked the naming of the Sun City West hospital as the zenith of recognition and honor to be bestowed upon him.

In death, Mr. Webb decreed that there would be no funeral and that his ashes would be scattered over Arizona — the state he loved so much. I'm sure that one of those ashes fell to earth on the very spot the hospital is located. It is a noble place to resurrect a caring institution . . . and a deed of kindness and respect to call it the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.



Del E. Webb (right) shares in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in 1969. At left is William A. Chapman, the hospital's board president, and William Boswell.



SCW

## Sister hospitals

# Similarities show history is repeated

History, indeed, can repeat itself — which can be a good omen for the health of northwest Valley residents.

Several interesting situations parallel the developments of the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City and its sister non-profit health care center in Sun City West, the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. For example:

- Each acute-care community hospital is named for an individual largely responsible for the development of the Sun Cities active retirement lifestyle. (Walter O. Boswell was one of three brothers in a ranching family that worked closely with Del E. Webb in the development of the communities.)

- Each hospital opened with a total of 60 beds in two five-story pa-

tient towers.

- Boswell Memorial opened in 1970, which is 10 years after the founding of Sun City; Webb Memorial opened in 1988, which is 10 years after the first homeowners moved into Sun City West.

- Sun City had approximately 16,000 residents when Boswell Memorial began to treat patients; today, Sun City West has a comparable population with a new hospital to serve them.

- Each is the locus of a full-service medical campus which has major emphasis on the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of primarily geriatric patients.

- Del E. Webb Construction Services, Inc., built both hospitals.

- Both are operated by Sun Health, a local, non-profit, community health care organization. Independent, volunteer boards of directors, comprised largely of residents from the communities served, provide policy guidance for each hospital.

- Three members of the Webb Memorial board of directors (Henry S. "Hank" Raymond, chairman; William A. Chapman, Jr., vice Chairman; and Owen Childress, director) were founding board members of the Boswell Memorial Hospital.

- W. A. Turner, the only chief executive officer in Boswell Memorial's history, is president of both hospitals.

## 73% of hospital's workers are drawn from local area

Local communities provide the non-profit Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital with 73 percent of its employees.

"As we expected, the economic impact of the hospital is a positive one," says Leland W. Peterson, executive vice president of the hospital. "Increased employment opportunities and the resulting higher personal income promotes growth in our surrounding communities."

In a January 1988 report from the

human resources department, a total of 131 of the hospital's 181 employees were found to reside in the communities of Sun City, Sun City West, Surprise, El Mirage, Waddell, Wickenburg, Peoria, and Glendale.

Glendale supplies the largest number of local employees with 34, closely followed by Peoria with 29, and Sun City West 10. There are eight employees each from Sun City

**See Payroll Page 10**

## ...Payroll bolsters area economies

**From Page 9**

and Wittman, six from El Mirage, five from Wickenburg, and four from both Surprise and Youngtown.

Peterson adds, "Registered nurses, five of them from as far as Prescott, commute to the hospital. Our benefits, competitive wages and pleasant work environment helped them make the decision to come."

Local employees take home more than 70 percent of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital's total payroll.

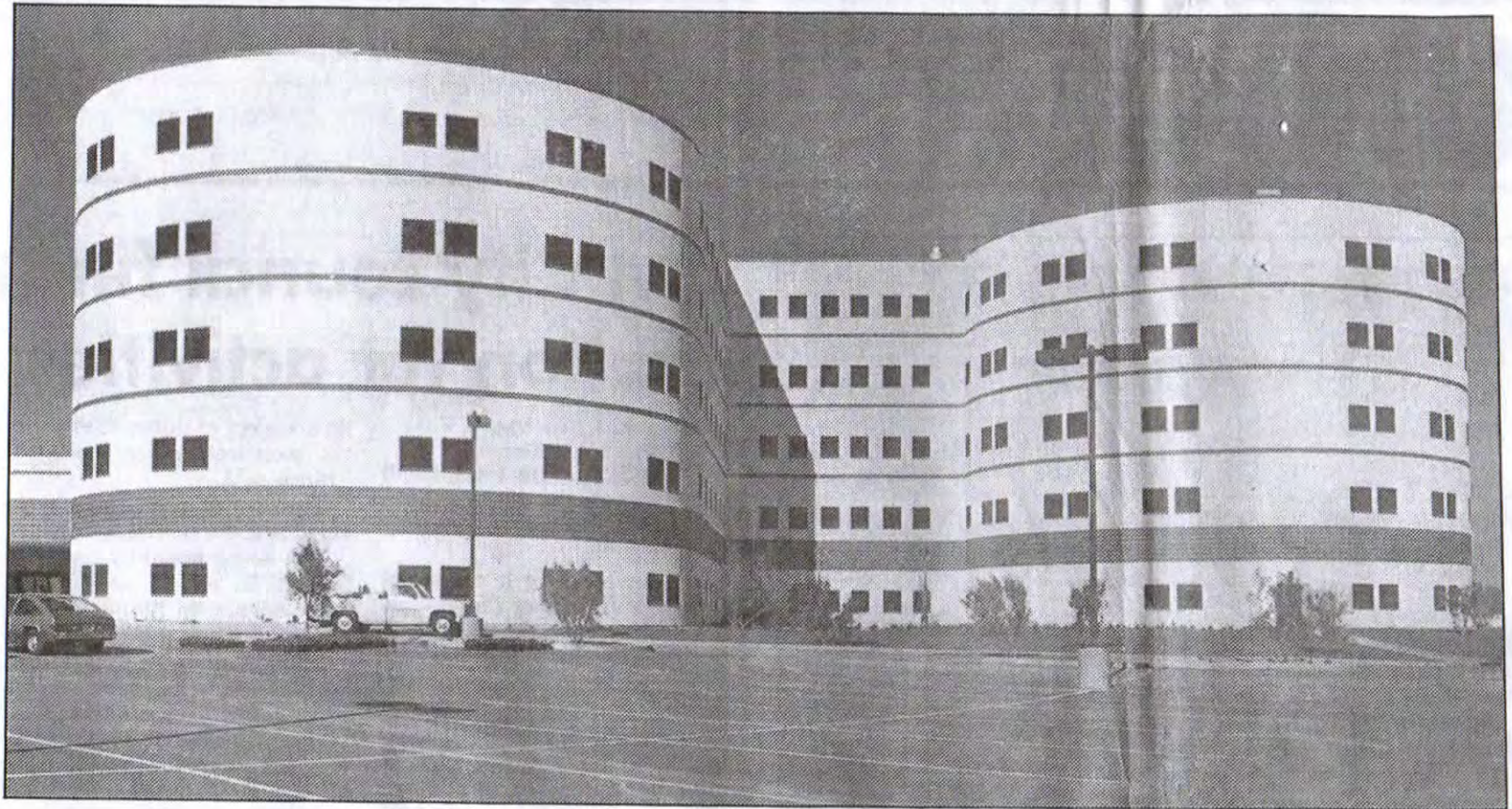
"We're pleased that much of our payroll remains in the local communities to bolster the area's economy," says Peterson. "Projections

call for the northwest Valley to add 50,000 to 100,000 people by the year 2000. We expect to expand our facility and its services to meet those needs which in turn increases local employment potential."

A Sun Health community outreach program designed to provide education and training as Certified Nurses Assistants was initiated with the town of Surprise. Participation was excellent and eleven graduates received their certificates in January 1988. Three are now employed at the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital and two at the Boswell Memorial Hospital.

1W-B Wed., Dec. 23, 1987

*The Phoenix Gazette*

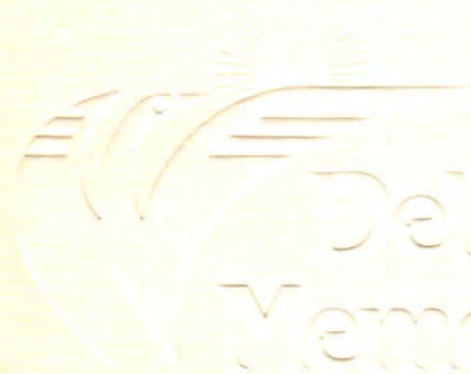


*The Phoenix Gazette*

## Ready to open

The 203-bed Del E. Webb Memorial is due to open Jan. 4. The hospital, Sun City West's first, is at Grand Avenue and

Meeker Boulevard. Operated by the Sun Health Corp., the hospital will serve El Mirage, Surprise and Sun City West.



De la Webb  
Memorial Hospital

*Dedication Ceremony*

*December 6, 1987*

## Keynote Speaker

*The Honorable Willis D. Gradison, Jr., seven-term Congressman from Ohio, served several years as assistant to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare during the Eisenhower administration.*

*He is the ranking minority member of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, which has primary jurisdiction over Medicare in the U.S. House of Representatives and is a member of the Budget Committee. His experience enables him to bring a studied approach to problem solving and unique knowledge about the Medicare system. He co-authored legislation regarding catastrophic illness insurance for the elderly. It is designed to protect against high inpatient medical costs by capping in-patient out-of-pocket expenses and expanding coverage for home care and short-term care.*

*Additionally, as chairman of the Biomedical Ethics Board, he examines those aspects of medical practice and research that have significant ethical implications.*

*At their 1987 annual convention, the American Hospital Association awarded him an honorary membership for his continuing work to improve the nation's health delivery system.*

*An undergraduate of Yale University, Representative Gradison has a master's degree, with high distinction, in business administration and a doctorate from Harvard University. Congressman Gradison is a trustee of the Cincinnati Children's Home and the Cincinnati Children's Hospital.*

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## Dedication

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Sunday, December 6, 1987 2:00 p.m.

### **Musical Selections**

*Sun City Concert Band*

### **Welcome**

*W.A. Turner*

*President*

*Sun Health Corporation*

### **Master of Ceremonies**

*Henry S. Raymond*

*Chairman, Board of Directors*

*Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital*

### **Invocation**

*Reverend James B. Price*

*President*

*Sun Cities Ministerial Association*

### **Presentation of Colors**

*The Honorable Bob Stump*

*U.S. Representative from Arizona*

*Luke Air Force Base Honor Guard*

### **National Anthem**

*Lois Untch*

*Sun City Concert Band*

*Ann Gaines*

### **Greetings**

*The Honorable John McCain*

*U.S. Senator from Arizona*

### **Keynote Address**

*The Honorable Willis D. Gradison, Jr.*

*U.S. Representative from Ohio*

### **Tribute to Del E. Webb**

*R.H. Johnson*

*President*

*Del E. Webb Foundation*

### **Dedication Highlights**

*Leland W. Peterson*

*Executive Vice President*

*Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital*

### **Recognition of Special Guests**

*Haakon Bang, Ph.D.*

*Chairman, Board of Directors*

*Sun Health Corporation*

### **Closing Remarks**

*Henry S. Raymond*

*Chairman, Board of Directors*

*Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital*

## *Dedication Week Activities*

*Monday, December 7 through Thursday, December 10*

*9 a.m. to 12 noon*

*Open House  
Self-guided Tours*

*Art Show  
Sun West Art Club and  
Sun Health Auxiliary*

*Hospital Gift Shop  
Grand Opening  
Sun Health Auxiliary*



14502 West Meeker Boulevard  
P.O. Box 5169  
Sun City West, AZ 85375  
(602) 931-9322

*A service of Sun Health, a non-profit community health care provider.*



Post Office Box 5169  
14502 W. Meeker Boulevard  
Sun City West, Arizona 85375  
(602) 931-9322

FACT SHEET

**NAME:** Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, named in honor of the founder and developer of the Sun Cities.

**LOCATION:** 14502 West Meeker Boulevard  
Sun City West, Arizona 85375  
(602) 931-WEBB (931-9322)

**SIZE:** Maximum capacity of 203 beds. The 210,000-square-foot hospital to open with 60-80 beds in service and add beds as demand for care warrants. Designed for efficient expansion to ultimate capacity of 400 beds.

**SERVICES:** Inpatient and outpatient medical/surgical services, including 24-hour emergency care, gastroenterology, oncology, intensive and coronary care, and medical psychiatric services. Obstetric and pediatric services to be added when warranted by local need. Therapeutic radiation services available on the hospital's campus.

**GOVERNANCE:** Non-profit hospital with a volunteer board of directors comprised of area residents.

**OFFICERS:** Henry S. Raymond, chairman; William A. Chapman Jr., vice chairman; Winifred M. Culler, secretary/treasurer.

**SERVICE AREA:** Sun City West, Surprise, El Mirage, Wickenburg, Waddell, Wittmann, Circle City, Morristown and surrounding areas.

**AFFILIATION:** Closely affiliated through Sun Health with the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City. Patients to benefit from shared services and experienced management team.

**EMPLOYEES:** Approximately 130 at time of opening. Supplemental services provided by hospital volunteers.

**MEDICAL/DENTAL STAFF:** 230 physicians and dentists; many others in process of being granted staff privileges.  
(over)

DESIGN CONCEPT: Five-story nursing towers incorporating central nurses stations.

COST: Total project cost of approximately \$47 million, including financing.

CONTRIBUTIONS: Approximately \$9 million from private sources.

OPENING: January 1988.

DEDICATION: 2 p.m. Sunday, December 6, 1987.  
###



## A HISTORY OF DEL E. WEBB MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

A new era in health care dawned for the northwest Valley on January 4, 1988, when the first patient entered the sandy colored twin towers of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West. William H. Thomas, a member of the non-profit hospital's volunteer board of directors, was the first patient admitted.

In the almost four years since the admission of Mr. Thomas, more than 7,000 patients\* have received treatment in the 201-bed health care facility that memorializes the developer of the Sun Cities: Mr. Del E. Webb. It is fitting that the thousands of residents who have embraced Mr. Webb's dream of active retirement by making these communities their home also maximize their healthy lifestyles through the wide-ranging services of the hospital that bears his name.

The hospital's outreach is not limited solely to Sun City West or even the Sun Cities. Residents of Surprise, El Mirage, Waddell, Wittman and Circle City also look to Webb Memorial Hospital as their primary health care provider. Specialty services, such as the inpatient medical-psychiatric program, attract patients from Peoria, Glendale, Phoenix and many other communities.

It is no exaggeration to suggest that the hospital, in its comparatively brief history, already has developed into a respected primary provider of care to residents of the northwest Valley and beyond. In doing so, the good will and benefits to humanity already associated with the name Del E. Webb have been further extended and enhanced.

### WHEN THERE WAS BUT A DREAM

More than 10 years were invested in the planning of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital prior to its opening. By February 1979,

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\* Includes total admissions through October 1991

plans were proposed for a 120-bed hospital in Sun City West. Sun Health, which also operates the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City, formulated the plan with the realization that patient-care demands eventually would outstrip Boswell Memorial's capacity to serve the entire northwest Valley area.

Sun Health representatives took their case before the Central Arizona Health Systems Agency (CAHSA) in 1984. Although there was overwhelming evidence that Boswell Memorial's capacity would be exceeded even before completion of a hospital in Sun City West -- and despite endorsements such as the unanimous support of the Sun City West Property Owners and Residents Association -- the CAHSA hearing board voted to deny the project by a narrow 5-4 vote.

Undaunted, Sun Health continued efforts to bring Sun City Westers their own hospital. The Arizona Legislature permitted the state's certificate-of-need law to expire in 1985 and with it the authority for CAHSA to limit readily accessible hospital care by Sun City Westers and other northwest Valley residents.

The necessary permits at last were obtained. On October 7, 1985, a colorful groundbreaking ceremony launched construction of the \$42 million hospital. Among those taking part in the event was baseball Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle, a member of the powerhouse New York Yankees during the dynasty years when Mr. Webb was a part owner of the American League team. The ceremony also was the setting for a special announcement by William A. Chapman, Jr., vice chairman of the hospital's volunteer board of directors: In consideration of a \$3 million grant from The Del Webb Foundation, the new, five-story health care center in Sun City West would be named the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

#### THE DREAM IS REALIZED

Construction of the hospital was completed over the next two years by Del E. Webb Construction Services Co., Inc. Charged with the administrative responsibility of overseeing the

hospital's construction was longtime Sun Health executive Leland W. Peterson, who was named as Webb Memorial's executive vice president and chief operating officer. He previously had held the same positions at Boswell Memorial and was well-qualified to bring Webb Memorial on line. Providing policy guidance was the Webb Memorial Hospital volunteer board of directors, chaired by Waddell resident Henry S. "Hank" Raymond, former board chairman for Boswell Memorial Hospital.

During the latter stages of the hospital's construction, the Sun Health Foundation conducted numerous "Dusty Shoe" tours to help acquaint residents and donors with the dual towers that were springing up in their community. Frequent newspaper articles, columns and foundation newsletters also helped to maintain interest both in the facility and in the community capital campaign that was under way to help support its construction. Such support enabled the foundation to meet its goal of raising another \$6 million in charitable gifts (in addition to the Del E. Webb Foundation's \$3 million grant) to benefit the initial stages of the hospital's construction.

Then, on December 6, 1987, several hundred persons were on hand for the festive dedication of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. One of the most captivating and emotional moments of the Sunday afternoon ceremony was when R.H. Johnson, the former chairman and chief executive officer of Del E. Webb Corporation who worked with Mr. Webb for 48 years, offered his remembrances of the hospital's namesake and closed with these moving words:

"Del E. Webb was a man larger than life -- a man who had a part to play in the lives of every person here today. His name precedes every accomplishment he ever produced. He loved Sun City and Sun City West for the values it taught, the principles it sustained and, most importantly, for the people it catered to. I feel very comfortable in saying that Mr. Webb would have considered the naming of this hospital as the zenith of recognition and honor to be bestowed upon him.

"Mr. Webb decreed that, at his death, there would be no funeral and that his ashes would be scattered over Arizona -- the state he loved so much. I'm sure that one of those ashes fell to earth on this very spot -- a noble place to resurrect a caring institution. It is a deed of kindness and respect to call it Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. I know he would be pleased."

Four weeks later, on January 4, 1988, the doors of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital were opened.

### A SHARED TRADITION

As service began, many parallels could be seen in the development of Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West and Boswell Memorial Hospital, its sister facility in Sun City. For example:

- \* Each acute-care community hospital was named for an individual largely responsible for the Sun Cities active retirement lifestyle. Walter O. Boswell was one of three brothers in a ranching family that worked closely with Mr. Webb in the development of the communities.

- \* Each hospital opened with a total of 60 beds in service in two five-story patient towers.

- \* Boswell Memorial Hospital opening in 1970 occurred 10 years after the founding of Sun City. Webb Memorial opened in 1988, which is 10 years after the first homeowners moved into Sun City West.

- \* Sun City had approximately 16,000 residents when Boswell Memorial opened. Sun City West had a comparable population in 1988.

- \* Each is the locus of a full-service medical campus which has major emphasis on the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of primarily adult patients.

- \* Del E. Webb Constructions Services Co., Inc., built both hospitals.

- \* Both continue to be operated by Sun Health, a local, non-profit community health care organization. Independent volunteer

boards of directors, comprised largely of residents from the communities served, provide policy guidance for each hospital.

\* Three members of Webb Memorial's founding board of directors -- Henry S. Raymond, William A. Chapman, Jr. and Owen Childress -- were founding board members of Boswell Memorial.

\* W.A. Turner served as the founding president of both hospitals.

While there were similarities by chance, there also were major benefits achieved by design that continue to be realized today. As sister facilities under Sun Health, Webb and Boswell Memorial Hospitals have the capabilities to share several important patient-care and administrative services that helped to minimize costs of providing care to northwest Valley residents.

Included are coordination of patient services such as medical imaging, pathology and clinical laboratory. Compatible patient-care computer systems benefit extensive laboratory studies as well as the pharmacies and medical records sections.

Through Sun Health, there are shared purchasing and financial services that allow the two hospitals to benefit from economies of scale that contain costs. Personnel in quality assurance and utilization review also are shared. Other mutually coordinated services include the telephone systems, education services, public affairs, human resources, receivables management, planning and copy systems.

Staffing for the hospital was achieved through personnel sharing, transfers and outside recruitment. In some cases, department heads at Boswell Memorial were asked to assume direct responsibility for operation of their counterpart departments at Webb Memorial. In other areas, promotional opportunities were created for assistant managers to assume operational responsibilities at Webb.

Many medical staff members at Boswell Memorial, recognizing the potential for service that Webb Memorial represented, applied for staff privileges at the new facility. Thoracic surgeon

Thomas G. Daniel, M.D., chaired the Medical Staff Organizing Committee. A total of 230 physicians were on staff at Webb Memorial during its first year of operation.

Efficiency also was underscored through the services of the Sun Health Auxiliary. The volunteers, who comprise the largest hospital-volunteer organization in Arizona, reached out to assist at Webb Memorial, meeting the challenge of serving in a new environment. Even before the hospital opened, the volunteers were assisting in the paperwork details of planning. Many hours were spent copying, folding, addressing, stamping and sorting mail as part of the community-awareness effort. They also copied, assembled and tabbed various manuals that helped to make the state-licensing process go smoothly.

The new hospital stood tall, not only as a landmark visible for miles in any direction but also a landmark in the field of medical technology. One of its most unique features upon opening was the Flexible Use Laminar Flow operating room, which was equipped with special equipment to provide specially treated air to the operating area. The equipment would filter the air 180 times an hour through special vents and then rapidly circulate the air in a horizontal flow to decrease the opportunity for particles entering a surgical incision or wound. Such technology especially is preferred by some physicians for orthopedic surgery.

In recognition of special community needs, planning for Webb Memorial Hospital also included the introduction of Arizona's first inpatient, critical-care, medical/psychiatric program in Arizona. The SAGE (Support, Adaptation, Growth and Enrichment) Program provides medical management of the cognitively impaired patient, assessing and treating the patient for medical and behavioral problems. Care also is provided to patients suffering from acute depression and/or anxiety. (The SAGE Program is further described later in this presentation.)

## RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENTS

With its facilities completed, equipped and staffed, Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital was prepared to begin its own tradition of excellence in service. Following is a year-to-year accounting of the hospital's major patient-care achievements.

### 1988

Many "firsts" were achieved as the hospital's physicians, staff, patients and volunteers shared the experience of bringing a new dimension of health care services to the community.

As a measure of performance, the following statistics reflect levels of selected services provided to residents during Webb Memorial's first year of operation:

- \* Admissions totaled 1,363.
- \* Total patient days of care numbered 12,219.
- \* The average length of stay was 7.0 days (acute care); 8.8 days (combined acute care and medical-psychiatric services)
- \* The staff of the full-service, 24-hour Emergency Department treated 3,799 patients.
- \* A total of 553 surgeries was performed.
- \* The Clinical Laboratory processed 85,601 tests.
- \* A total of 63,718 meals were served.
- \* The Medical Imaging Department processed 8,044 images and 560 nuclear medicine scans.
- \* A total of 156,285 medication units was dispensed.
- \* The Rehabilitation Services Department provided 7,832 therapies.
- \* Treatments provided by the cardiopulmonary/respiratory staff totaled 26,674.

Overseeing this care were the 230 members of the hospital's medical staff. Alan Mallace, M.D., served as chief of staff during the first year of operation.

During the summer, V. Grace Jones assumed responsibilities as the hospital's executive vice president and chief operating

officer. Ms. Jones formerly was executive vice president and chief operating officer for Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital.

She succeeded Leland W. Peterson, who was named senior vice president in charge of acute-care operations for Sun Health, guiding activities both for Webb Memorial and Boswell Memorial.

Community support continued to be strong, as evidenced by volunteer support and donations. More than 38,000 hours of service were donated in 1988, with volunteers serving at the reception desk, as tour guides, in the gift shop, on the patient-care floors and in various other support areas. They also helped to arrange and host various art displays that decorate the attractive lobby.

The Sun Health Foundation's capital campaign began to raise funds from area residents and businesses to help build and equip the facility. In 1988, almost \$1 million in cash donations was received. Pledges and other deferred gifts raised that total significantly. Included were the first Webb Memorial Hospital "Founders" -- those who have contributed at least \$1,000. Today, the names of 650 "Founders," including individuals, families, and business and corporate donors, appear on plaques adorning the attractive "Founder's Fountain" outside the hospital's main entrance.

Almost 200 residents, employees and other health enthusiasts took part in the hospital's first "Race to Health" 10K Run in the fall of 1988. The race attracted widespread print and television coverage in its initial year. Participation has grown each year.

In addition to standard hospital acute-care services, Webb Memorial introduced the first inpatient, critical-care, medical/psychiatric program in Arizona. As previously described, the 27-bed SAGE (Support, Adaptation, Growth and Enrichment) Program provides medical management of the cognitively impaired patient, assessing and treating the patient for medical and behavioral problems. Because of this specialized approach, the program often receives referrals from other health care facilities,



including independent, free-standing psychiatric hospitals. This unique program, developed by an outstanding team of mental health professionals, includes the patient as an active participant in treatment and recreational activities. Specific elements of the program are designed to help the patient to cope with the emotional consequences and/or complications of a medical illness.

Introduced as a complement to the SAGE Program was an outpatient behavioral health program and a 24-hour "COPE" Line which may be called for assistance with emotional emergencies and counseling. The "COPE" Line telephone number is 930-4357.

In early December 1988, the Meals-On-Wheels program was initiated. The program is offered through a volunteer organization which delivers well-balanced meals, prepared by the hospital's kitchen, to residents of Sun City West who are unable to prepare their own.

## 1989

As Webb Memorial began its second year, two new services were being added.

The Del E. Webb Extended Care Center, intended to help ease the transition for patients from acute hospital care to home, opened on January 4, the hospital's first anniversary. Initially located on Unit 5B, the 27-bed unit became Medicare-certified and state-licensed. Its location within the hospital meant patients would have immediate access to services such as emergency care, medical imaging, clinical laboratory testing and a pharmacy. It also allowed the Sun Health Care Center, located on the Boswell Memorial Hospital campus, to convert from an extended care facility to a provider of skilled long-term care. The Del E. Webb Extended Care Center proved so successful that it was expanded in July 1989 to include Unit 5A and a total of 55 beds.

Also in January, the 275-volume professional library at Webb Memorial was dedicated. More than \$30,000 was pledged to support the library, with the majority of the funds being donated by

retired physicians, current medical staff members and employees. The library houses medical books and other health-related resources to enhance the continuing medical education of the hospital's medical staff and patient-care personnel.

Notification was received in March that the hospital had earned a maximum three-year accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Accreditation means that Webb Memorial provides a level of care that is consistent with the high standards of the Joint Commission.

In late April, the hospital received the first-place award in the Institutional Design category from the Arizona North Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers. The award commended the hospital for its tasteful combination of Southwestern desert decor and functional furniture, including fabrics, color and materials that give warmth and practicality to its interior.

Webb Memorial gained designation in August 1989 as a BLS (Basic Life Support) Certifying Center from the Arizona Affiliate of the American Heart Association. This qualified the hospital to offer BLS instructor and instructor-trainer courses in the northwest Valley to individuals who, in turn, would train lay persons to provide life-sustaining care in those minutes prior to the arrival of professional care.

The hospital's overall average daily census increased 77 percent over 1988. Contributing significantly to the census was the Del E. Webb Extended Care Center, which averaged more than 20 patients per day.

Significant patient-care statistics for 1989 and comparisons to the first year of service, where applicable, included the following:

- \* Admissions totaled 2,005, an increase of 47.1 percent.
- \* Total patient days of care numbered 21,593, an increase of 76.7 percent.

\* The average length of stay was 11.0 days, which included the Del E. Webb Extended Care Center.

\* The Emergency Department was visited by 5,192 patients, an increase of 36.7 percent.

\* A total of 700 surgeries was performed, an increase of 31 percent. A large part of this increase was attributable to the 60 percent rise in the number of outpatient surgeries.

\* The Clinical Laboratory processed 141,463 tests. The overall rise of 65.2 percent could be traced in part to a doubling of the outpatient volume.

\* Meals served totaled 92,736, an increase of 45.5 percent.

\* The Medical Imaging Department processed 11,528 images and 588 nuclear medicine scans. This reflected an overall increase of 41.5 percent. As part of that activity, the department recorded an 82 percent increase in the number of outpatients seen. This was attributed in part to the introduction of a mammography service developed in cooperation with the Sun Health CHOICE Health and Lifestyle Enrichment Program. The mammography service was offered at competitive rates and included an educational video and handouts, which proved so popular that the educational component was expanded to Boswell Memorial.

\* A total of 265,039 medication units was dispensed, reflecting an increase of 69.6 percent.

\* The Rehabilitation Services Department provided 10.8 percent more therapies as the total grew to 8,679.

\* The cardiopulmonary/respiratory staff provided 39,648 treatments, which was up 41.4 percent.

Meanwhile, the hospital's campus continued to attract new physicians. Construction was begun on the Granite Valley Medical Office Building. The hospital's medical staff grew to 315 physicians. Thomas G. Daniel, M.D., served as chief of staff during the year.

1990

As Webb Memorial entered its third year of operation, it was clear that increasing numbers of Sun City West residents were utilizing the hospital's services. For example, statistics for the first half of the year showed that well over half -- almost 53 percent -- of those Sun City West residents who were admitted to a Sun Health hospital entered Webb Memorial. This growing acceptance of the hospital by residents of the immediate community was a goal the hospital had been working hard to achieve.

The combined average daily census for the hospital and the Del E. Webb Extended Care Center was 70.9 patients, an increase of 20 percent over the previous year. The extended care center averaged 24.5 patient per day in only its second year of service. So great was the demand for services that by early February, the hospital had broken the "triple-digit" barrier for the first time and recorded a census of 101 patients. On that same day, the combined census at Sun Health's three free-standing facilities -- Webb Memorial, Boswell Memorial and the Sun Health Care Center -- exceeded 500 patients for the first time.

This outreach into the community undoubtedly was benefitted by the opening in November of the Granite Valley Medical Office Building, which began accepting physicians and other health care tenants. Together with the tenants at the Sun City West Medical Arts Building, a total of 60 health care providers now were officed on the hospital's campus.

Webb Memorial experienced changes in its leadership during 1990. In January, family practitioner Albert L. Boyd, M.D., was elected to lead the physicians as their chief of staff. In July, Thomas C. Dickson, who had been serving as vice president of administrative services for Boswell Memorial, was named as Webb Memorial's new executive vice president and chief operating officer. His predecessor, V. Grace Jones, resigned in order to pursue her doctorate in health policy.

Significant growth of outpatient utilization was recorded for the year. Amazingly, outpatient percentage increases over 1989 even outdistanced inpatient percentage increases in the areas of Surgery (60 percent), Clinical Laboratory (56 percent), Cardiopulmonary Department (27 percent), Neurophysiology (62 percent), General Medical Imaging (37 percent), Nuclear Medicine (38 percent) and Ultrasound (46 percent).

Significant patient-care statistics for 1990 and comparisons to 1989, where applicable, included the following:

- \* Admissions totaled 2,456, an increase of 22.5 percent.
- \* Total patient days of care numbered 25,870, an increase of 19.8 percent.
- \* The average length of stay, which included the Del E. Webb Extended Care Center, dropped from 10.5 days to 10.1 days.
- \* Visits to the Emergency Department increased 16.4 percent to 6,045.
- \* A 57.7 percent increase was recorded in the number of surgeries, which totaled 1,104.
- \* The Clinical Laboratory processed 197,353 tests, an increase of 39.5 percent.
- \* Meals served totaled 112,024, an increase of 20.8 percent.
- \* The Medical Imaging Department processed 15,069 images and 785 nuclear medicine scans. This reflected an overall increase of 30.8 percent.
- \* A total of 10,053 therapies were provided by the Rehabilitation Services Department. That reflected a 15.8 percent increase.
- \* Treatments provided by the cardiopulmonary/respiratory staff totaled 57,748, which was up 45.6 percent.

## 1991

As the hospital began its fourth year of service, the growth in services achieved during its first three years was remarkable for a community hospital. These five areas are indicative of the

hospital's overall increases in activity from just the first through the third years:

- \* Admissions -- up 80.2 percent.
- \* Total patient days of care -- up 111.7 percent.
- \* Average daily census -- up 112.3 percent.
- \* Emergency Department visits -- up 59.1 percent.
- \* Surgeries -- up 99.6 percent.

One of the major accomplishments for 1991 was the installation of the revolutionary Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) in the Medical Imaging Department. Together with Boswell Memorial, the Sun Health facilities became the first hospitals in the world to fully integrate this pioneering technology. Through PACS, computerization of digitized images allows physicians to manipulate data to see on video terminals the internal anatomy with greater clarity and details than previously possible. For example, a single chest X-ray with the PACS system can clearly reveal detail at various depths, including areas behind bone and tissue that previously could have been obscured. Hundreds of these images can be stored on computer disks rather than film, thus minimizing film cost and easing storage while affording physicians almost instant retrieval. As an added benefit, fewer images may be required, which means reduced radiation exposure for patients.

The \$2.2 million cost of the system for both hospitals was funded entirely by donations to the Sun Health Foundation -- a further demonstration of the community's support for their local health care facilities.

1991 saw increased demand for services of the SAGE Program and related behavioral-health services offered through Webb Memorial. Planning was under way for expansion in 1992 of the 27-bed inpatient program to a second nursing unit. An outpatient chemical-dependency program was planned for implementation in early 1992. The need for expanded outreach in these patient-care areas was demonstrated in the fall of 1991 when healthmatters,

Sun Health's 48,000-circulation community health-services magazine, devoted its entire quarterly issue to behavioral-health services provided by Webb Memorial and other Sun Health divisions. Response to this community-awareness effort was so great among area residents that a waiting list for admission to the SAGE Program immediately resulted. Members of the medical staff reported patients arriving at their offices, magazines in hand, to request assistance with many of the problems explored in the publication.

Physician-recruitment efforts proved successful in 1991 when ear, nose and throat specialist Dennis Everton, M.D., joined the medical staff and filled the vacancy in a major medical specialty. In other medical-staff matters, family practitioner Albert L. Boyd, M.D., was re-elected chief of staff.

Together with Sun Health's CHOICE Health and Lifestyle Enrichment Program, the hospital conducted a major community outreach on cancer awareness during March through May entitled "Cast Your Vote For Healthy Choices." The series of educational events included a lecture by television star Marcia Wallace, best known as Carol Kester of the 1970s sitcom "The Bob Newhart Show," on her personal experience with breast cancer. Her talk drew approximately 300 persons and was covered by local newspaper and television media. Additional events included skin-cancer and colorectal-cancer screenings, breast self-examination classes and other events aimed at early detection, risk reduction and cancer support. All told, more than 800 persons participated in the series, just part of the ongoing efforts by the hospital and Sun Health to promote healthy lifestyles among area residents.

With installation of equipment obtained with gifts raised by the Sun Health Foundation, Webb Memorial's Emergency Department was certified in 1991 as an ambulance base station.

Late in the year, the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations made its survey of the hospital. Findings were not available at this writing, but accreditation renewal is anticipated for the maximum three-year term.

#### FOUR YEARS: AN ASSESSMENT AND OUTLOOK

Throughout this report, statistics have borne out the phenomenal increases in utilization of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. The physicians, board, staff and volunteers -- as well as area residents -- can be proud of the growth of their community hospital.

However, more is being emphasized here than growth in mere numbers, important as they may be. The outstanding achievement of Webb Memorial Hospital in its relatively brief history is that people are being served -- lives are being improved -- as never before in Sun City West. The SAGE Program, the Laminar Flow operating room and PACS are just a few ways in which the specialized health care needs of the northwest Valley are being satisfied.

What is truly represented here is a bonding of community and hospital. Calling upon numbers again to validate human compassion, consider these examples of community involvement:

\* Approximately 600 individuals are affiliated with the volunteer program at Webb Memorial, aiding the hospital's staff in their ability to render patient care as well as providing a host of other services. By the end of 1991, the cumulative volunteer service recorded since the hospital's opening was expected to total 173,000 hours. Volunteer activities included not only in-hospital service but also a variety of community-outreach programs. For example, the volunteers introduced Webb Memorial's Telephone Reassurance Program in November 1991. Outreach to local schools included the Venture Vocational Program in which hospital volunteers serve as job "coaches," working one-on-one with vocational students from the nearby Dysart Unified School District. The students learn various skills in such areas of the hospital as Food Services, the Business Office and Central Service.

\* Donors have given more than \$10 million to support Webb Memorial Hospital. Of that amount, \$8 million has been in



outright gifts, including the \$3 million grant from The Del E. Webb Foundation. In addition, the Sun Health Auxiliary has raised more than \$378,000 for hospital construction and equipment.

Of special note is the more than \$3.2 million provided by Del Webb Corporation through its donation of the hospital's site and in-kind services.

Since 1987, the annual Sun City West Variety Show, a program staged and performed by area residents and attended by 14,000 each year, has donated its proceeds to support Webb Memorial Hospital. Through 1991, the Variety Show has netted more than \$240,000. Funds have been used for general equipment to help open the hospital as well as for a cardiac monitoring system and portable X-ray equipment for the Emergency Services Department.

In addition, the annual fall PING Arizona Classic Golf Tournament has raised more than \$109,000 to purchase needed medical equipment such as for ear, nose and throat surgery at the hospital.

\* The hospital has had a tremendous positive impact as a major employer in local communities. A total of 211 of the hospital's 295 employees -- 71.5 percent -- is drawn from Sun City West, Sun City, Peoria, Glendale, El Mirage, Surprise, Wittmann, Waddell, Litchfield Park and Wickenburg. Approximately 73.3 percent of the hospital's \$5.78 million annual payroll is taken home by employees of those communities, benefitting area merchants, services and local governmental authorities. In addition, the hospital attracts employees from as far away as Cottonwood, Douglas, Prescott and Prescott Valley.

Unquestionably, the value and importance of Webb Memorial to the community is clear. However, there have been difficulties the hospital has encountered along the way. Webb Memorial had the misfortune of opening just at the time the federal government made deep cuts in payments for the treatment of Medicare patients, which account for almost 90 percent of the hospital's patient population. These cuts ran counter to promises made by

the government for increases in payments -- projections on which the hospital's finances had been planned. Operational losses were anticipated in the first years as a result of start-up expenses; however, these losses have been higher than expected.

Additionally, Medicare also is changing its method of reimbursing hospitals for capital expenditures which benefit Medicare patients. Capital payments will be folded into the pre-determined payments made for care provided to Medicare patients according to diagnosis. Under the complex new Medicare formula, Webb Memorial, with its current high capital expense, will receive approximately \$1 million less in capital payments than otherwise would have been expected for the 10-year period beginning January 1, 1992.

Part of the operating losses also result from the lingering downturn in the housing market that has plagued Arizona since the late 1980s. As a result, areas such as Kingswood Parke in neighboring Surprise have not developed as projected. Cultivation of non-Medicare as well as Medicare patient populations has been slowed, thus adding to financial concerns.

Fortunately, encouragement can be drawn from announcements made in 1991 by Del Webb Corporation that escrow has been closed on 895 acres north of Deer Valley Drive for the expansion of Sun City West. By the end of the century, an estimated 2,400 homes and 4,400 persons are expected to be added to the expanded community. Del Webb expects to begin moving dirt by June 1992 and to begin home sales in early 1993. In addition, Del Webb has filed an application with the State of Arizona requesting that 367 acres adjacent to the expansion area be made available for sale.

Even with minimal population growth, it is clear that several hospital services must be expanded to accommodate both current and future demand. As early as 1992, expansion of the Emergency Department is required. Since this department is a major source of patient admissions, its ability to provide quality care and thus attract needed patients is clear. Expansion of emergency services is contingent on securing

donations for the project, since capital funding is inadequate to meet this vital need.

Also in the future, the need is seen for development of a cardiac catheterization laboratory on the Webb Memorial campus. On a combined basis with Boswell Memorial, more cases of heart failure and shock are treated at the Sun Health hospitals than at any other facilities in the state. Yet, treatment not always is enhanced when the critically ill patient must endure transport to Boswell Memorial for catheterization procedures. Having this capability at Webb Memorial can serve as a further attraction to patients and physicians.

### CONCLUSION

After four years of service, Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital has developed into a recognized and respected provider of health care services for Sun City West and northwest Valley residents. While there has been growth in service, there also has been growth in maturity. The hospital has gained a reputation for excellence, as has been demonstrated in the preceding pages. Local residents increasingly have turned with confidence to Webb Memorial as their hospital -- a facility that safeguards their health, their well-being and their lifestyle.

All this is fitting, of course, for a hospital which bears the name of Del E. Webb. After all, promotion of the active, healthy lifestyle is the very quality on which Mr. Webb developed the active retirement communities of Sun City and Sun City West.

His dream lives on.

###

December, 1991

## Del Webb Donates \$40,000 to Sun Health Foundation for Caridac Catheterization Laboratory

The Del Webb Corporation has contributed \$40,000, the third of five installments of an overall contribution of \$200,000, to the Sun Health Foundation. The donation will help underwrite the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at the Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

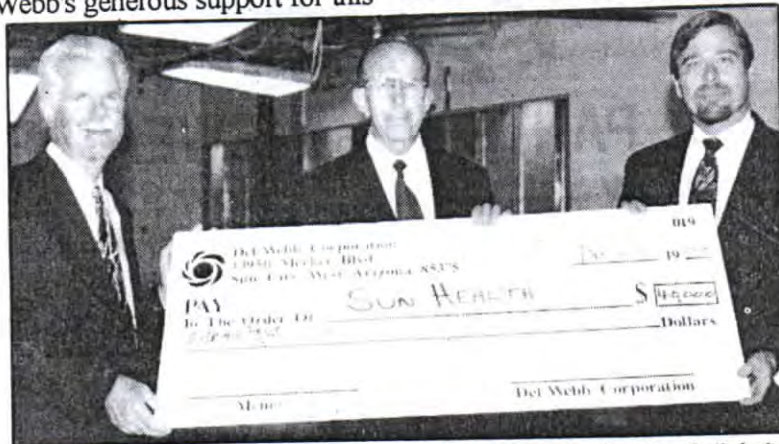
The Cardiac Cath Lab is scheduled to be installed at the hospital in March, 1996. The lab represents the latest medical technology and is manufactured by Philips Medical Systems, the world's largest manufacturer of Cardiac Catheterization systems.

"We are appreciative of Del Webb's generous support for this

lab. It fills a growing need in our community for the most technologically advanced equipment to treat cardiac patients. The Cath Lab will assist doctors in streamlining certain procedures relating to catheterization," said Tom Dickson, executive vice president and chief operating officer at Sun Health Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

The Cardiac Cath lab is totally digitized, storing patient data on disks without the use of traditional cine film. Clearer, more concise images, less storage room

**Webb**  
Continued on Page B4



Del Webb donates \$40,000 to Sun Health Foundation for Cardiac Cath Lab. (L. to r.) are Chuck Roach, senior vice president and general manager at Del Webb's Sun City West; Morey Jensen, chairman of the Board, Del Webb Hospital, and Tom Dickson, vice president, Del Webb Hospital.

## Webb Donates \$40,000 to Sun Health Foundation

Continued from Page B1

for patient files and elimination of costly films are three advantages of digital archiving.

The Cardiac Cath Lab will also refine and simplify system operation to allow the physical to work faster and spend more time attending to the patient. In addition, it will enhance patient comfort by minimizing the time needed to perform Cardia Cath procedures. It also minimizes radiation doses to both the patient and operator without sacrificing image quality through its innovative technology.

"This new cardiac lab is a great

addition to Del Webb Hospital. It will definitely be an asset in treating cardiac patients throughout our community. This is one of the additions in medical technology which have helped Sun Health be one of the leaders in quality health care," said Chuck Roach, senior vice-president and general manager for Del Webb's Sun City West.

The total cost of the Cardiac Catheterization Lab was 2.1 million. Generous community donations, including Del Webb's \$200,000 contribution have helped fund the lab.

# THE WESTER

Oct. 7-13, 1993

## History of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital

By Marie Scotti

More than 10 years were invested in the planning of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital prior to its opening on January 4, 1988. By February 1979, plans were proposed for a 120-bed hospital in Sun City West. Sun Health, which also operates the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City, formulated the plan with the realization that patient-care demands eventually would out-strip Boswell Memorial's capacity to serve the entire northwest Valley area.

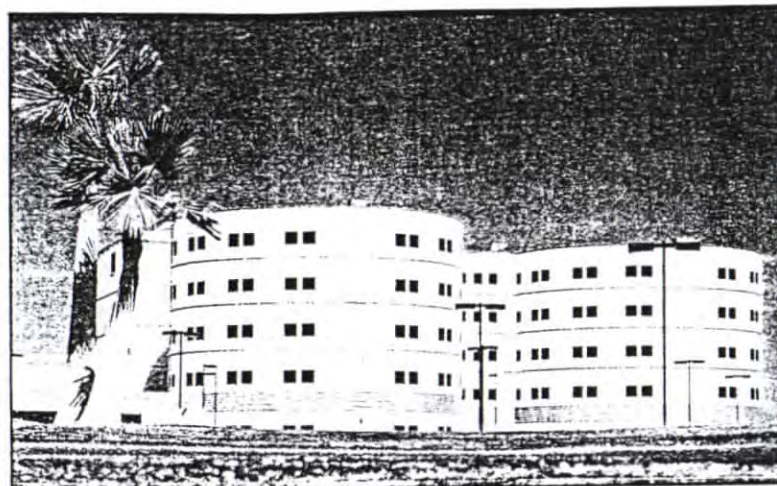
Sun Health representatives took their case before the Central Arizona Health Systems Agency (CAHSA) in 1984. Although there was overwhelming evidence that Boswell Memorial's capacity would be exceeded even before completion of a hospital in Sun City West, and despite endorsements such as the unanimous support of the Sun City West Property Owners and Residents Association, the CAHSA hearing board voted to deny the project by a narrow 5-4 vote.

Sun Health continued efforts to bring Sun City Westers their

own hospital. The Arizona Legislature permitted the State's certificate-of-need law to expire in 1985 and with it the authority for CAHSA to limit readily accessible hospital care by Sun City Westers and other northwest Valley residents.

The necessary permits at last were obtained. On October 7, 1985, a colorful groundbreaking ceremony launched construction of the \$42 million hospital. Among those taking part in the event was baseball Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle, a member of the powerhouse New York Yankees during the dynasty years when Mr. Webb was a part owner of the American League team. The ceremony also was the setting for a special announcement by William A. Chapman, Jr., vice chairman of the hospital's volunteer board of directors: In consideration of a \$3 million grant from the Del Webb Foundation, the new five-story health care center in Sun City West would be named the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

Construction of the hospital was completed over the next two



Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital

years by Del E. Webb Construction Services Co., Inc. Charged with the administrative responsibility of overseeing the hospital's construction was longtime Sun Health executive Leland W. Peterson, who was named as Webb Memorial's executive vice president and chief operating officer. Providing policy guidance was the Webb Memorial Hospital volunteer board of directors, chaired by Waddell resident Henry S. "Hank" Raymond, former board chairman for Boswell Memorial Hospital.

During the latter stages of the hospital's construction, the Sun Health foundation conducted numerous "Dusty Shoe" tours to help acquaint residents and donors with the dual towers that were springing up in their community.

Then on December 6, 1987, several hundred persons were on hand for the festive dedication of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

Four weeks later, on January 4, 1988, the doors of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital were opened.

# Webb Memorial touted as boost to west Valley

Hospital likely to open in January  
with 60 beds; may expand to 400

By VICTORIA STEVENS  
The Arizona Republic

Developers, government officials and residents in the northwest Valley have high expectations for the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, at Grand Avenue and Meeker Boulevard.

The hospital, which is scheduled to open in January with 60 beds, will offer employment opportunities and could be a catalyst for the area's economic and residential growth.

David Graybill, executive director of the Grand Bell Economic Development Corp., a private tax-exempt foundation funded by northwest Valley landholders, said the hospital is a positive addition to the area.

"Often we'll be asked what the availability of medical facilities are in the area," Graybill said. "The hospital is a definite selling point."

Nick Bacon, town manager of Surprise, said he hopes the hospital will provide much-needed jobs for area residents.

"This will create a larger job base, and everything we're doing here is based on creating more job opportunities," he said.

Potential residents are attracted to the area because of the hospital, said Ron Knudsen, a Sun City West resident who is a volunteer for the hospital's \$9 million capital-improvements drive.

"This hospital is one of the main features of the Sun

City West area," he said. "It's a great attraction for people, as they reach older age, to have this security factor."

Knudsen also said the hospital and its services are needed because of the significant growth projected for the area.

Although many of the hospital's beds may be empty for the first year or so, growth of businesses and housing is expected to help the hospital reach capacity.

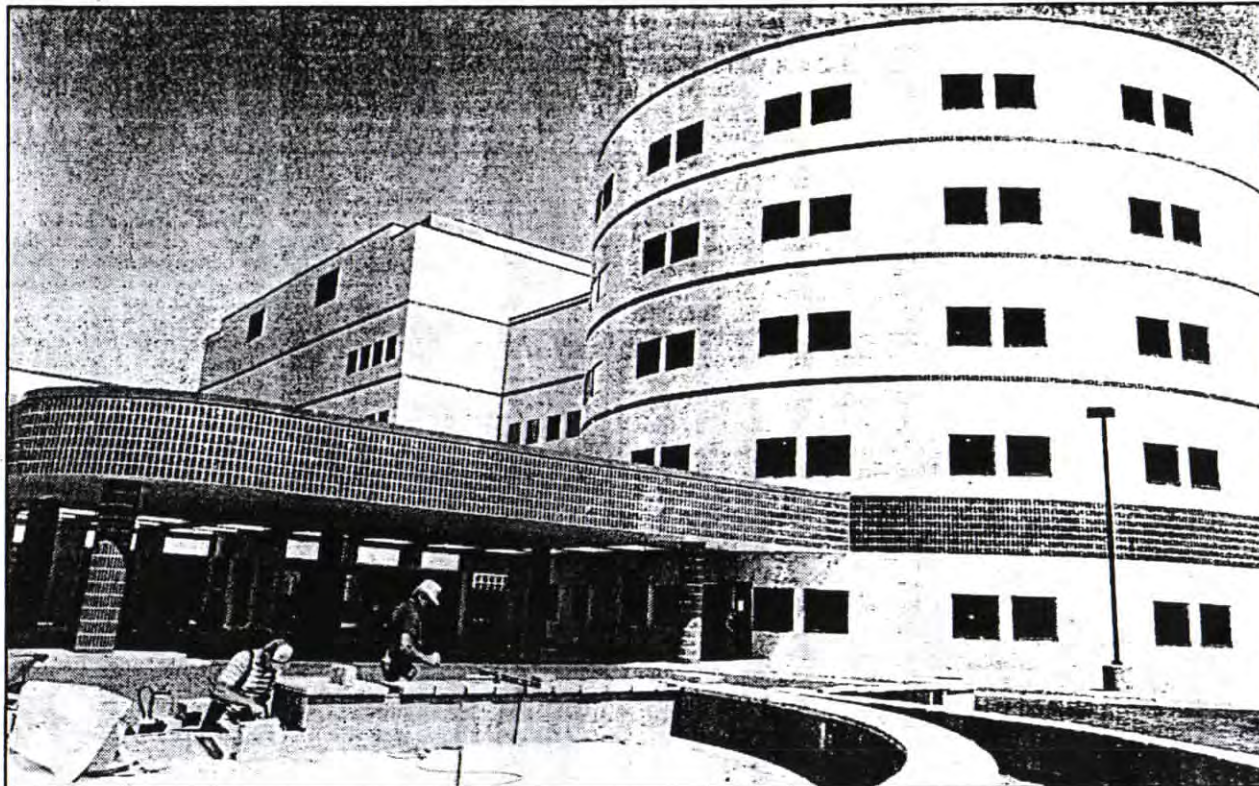
Currently, the 120,000-square-foot hospital looks lost in the middle of 83 acres devoted to the medical campus, which is mostly surrounded by barren desert. The hospital, which will be opened with 60 beds and initially will cost \$27 million, will be expanded to 203 beds and could expand to 400 beds, depending upon the area's growth. The total cost of the hospital is expected to reach \$45 million as it grows.

In addition, the \$1.4 million Del E. Webb Medical Arts Center, on a 4-acre site north of the hospital, will be completed this month.

John Rivers, president of the Arizona Hospital Association, a trade group that represents hospitals in the state, said it will be difficult to tell when Webb Memorial will begin to reach capacity.

"But in three to five years, I would expect it to reach capacity," he said.

The nearest hospital is Webb Memorial's sister facility, Boswell Memorial



Doyle Sanders/Republic

Jim Bazzell (left) and John Gudeman, both of Sun Valley Masonry, work on a fountain at the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

Hospital, seven miles east. Both hospitals are owned by Sun Health Properties, a non-profit community health-care provider.

Webb Memorial will serve Sun City West, Wickenburg, Surprise, El Mirage, Peoria and other northwest Valley communities. It also will serve the growing region of the far-northwest Valley, said Leland W. Peterson, executive vice president of the hospital.

The population of those communities is expected to triple by 1995, rising to 157,400 from 54,000, according to the Maricopa Association of Governments.

Peterson said he wants to see the hospital and its services established before the growth begins so it can meet the area's needs immediately.

"Del E. Webb (founder of Sun City) always assembled the services to attract people," he said. "This may be another model, where the services reflect the people in the area and attract them to the area."

Webb Memorial in many ways mirrors Boswell Memorial Hospital in construction and operation.

The buildings have similar circular towers and are almost identical, except for the color schemes. Both hospitals depend upon a large volunteer base. Both are designed for the needs of the growing senior-citizen populations of Sun City and Sun City West, including extensive health-education programs.

However, there will be some differences in the two facilities, Peterson said.

Because of the regional nature of Webb Memorial and the diverse communities it will serve, the hospital will not be geared entirely toward the elderly.

"First, there will be a willingness and an expectation that we would be treating certain pediatric cases, over the age of 5 or 6," Peterson said.

Second, Webb Memorial will defer acute cardiac and open-heart surgery to Boswell Memorial Hospital, which established an open-heart surgery center less than two years ago.

In addition, extended-care facilities and home-health-care services will be available at Boswell Memorial Hospital.

Peterson said another major difference between Webb

— Lure, Extra D

## Hospital to be open for tours

A community tour of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, Grand Avenue and Meeker Boulevard, will be held on Sept. 26 from 8 a.m. to noon.

The self-guided tour will have volunteers at various points throughout the hospital. Refreshments and gifts will be offered.

More information is available by calling Jennie O'Donnell, manager of public affairs, at 584-8316.

## LURE

Continued from Extra A

Memorial and Boswell Memorial will be that Webb Memorial officials hope to employ many of the people that hospital serves.

"We're expecting (that) a range of 150 to 200 employees will be needed when the hospital opens," Peterson said.

As the 60-bed hospital grows to its full capacity of about 400 beds, that could mean more than 600 jobs for residents in the northwest Valley, he said.

Peterson said that half of the employees needed will be in the nursing field, including registered nurses and certified nursing assistants. Other employees will be needed in such areas as respiratory care, cardiology,

pharmaceutical, maintenance, food-preparation, nutrition and warehousing and distribution.

The hospital also is working to attract physicians who would serve patients from the hospital, Peterson said. So far, more than 200 physicians have applied for residency status.

Webb Memorial, like Boswell Memorial, also will depend largely upon volunteer support, Peterson said.

"We've had a large volunteer force, in service areas, on boards, on planning committees, and they have been the heart of how we were formed," Peterson said.

A volunteer group for Webb Memorial has been formed, and those members

have been instrumental in the hospital's drive for funds.

In order to finance the construction of the hospital, Peterson said First Interstate Bank and United Bank of Arizona purchased privately placed bonds worth \$42 million.

An additional \$3 million, which will be earmarked for capital development, is expected to come from private and corporate donations, he said.

Timothy G. Donnelly, director of development for Webb Memorial's capital campaign, said corporations and other donors have contributed more than \$2.5 million.

Donnelly said he expects

the remaining \$500,000 to come from the community.

At least 14 people have pledged donations of \$1,000 or more and will have their names included on the Founder's Fountain, which is at the hospital's entrance, he said.

"I've never seen this kind of spontaneous response from the community," he said.

Peterson said the community support reflects the need for the hospital in the area.

"The driving reason we're here is to go where the growth will be," he said. "To go where the people are, so that this will be a community hospital."

# Shot in the arm

## New hospital expected to boost area's economy

By MIKE GARRETT  
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY WEST — The new \$45 million, 203-bed Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital campus will be an economic boon to the entire area, much as Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital has been to Sun City, executives say.

Its economic impact will be far reaching into almost every commercial and residential facet of Sun City West and surrounding communities as far away as Litchfield Park.

The new hospital will generate several hundred jobs and be by far the largest employer in Sun City West when it opens in January 1988. It will also help support the surrounding satellite service industry such as restaurants, gas stations and hotels, executives say.

The hospital's presence will likely increase Sun City West home values for the resale market and spark new home sales to retirees who feel more secure knowing a full-service hospital is a few minutes away.

It's strategically located in one of the fastest growing regions in the Valley. Projections call for the Northwest Valley to add 50,000 to 100,000 people by the year 2000.

"The hospital is being designed for geriatrics, obstetrics and other general hospital services for people other than specifically the senior segment of the market," says Phil Brant, Del E. Webb Communities Inc. manager of commercial sales and leasing.

But job creation may have the most significant economic impact.

"As new jobs are created in any particular spot, it impacts on nearly all the businesses," said Leland W. Peterson, senior vice president of Sun Health Corp., the non-profit organization that will operate the new hospital in addition to managing Boswell.

Peterson estimates the new hospital eventually will have three to four full-time employees for each occupied bed. One hundred fifty to 200 employees are expected for the first year of operation. That will See Hospital, A3



The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Sun City West is expected to open in January of 1988. (News-Sun photo by Stephen Cherneski)



sites on the east and west ends of the Meeker Boulevard-Camino del Sol commercial strip. Both stand to benefit from increased traffic into the area.

Engman said the one-acre lot development has been completed and leasing commitments have been made by three tenants — Leighty Lighting, an electrical contractor and ceiling fan business, Augie's Hair Studio and Desert Golf Cars.

He said Bade's five-acre site may be used for automotive service-type businesses but no commitments have been made for that site yet. Bade's other properties in the area have been sold to other investors and developers.

Webb Hospital officials have indicated they would like to see a full-service restaurant open within walking distance of the hospital for employees who want to eat somewhere besides the hospital cafeteria.

Engman said he has not heard any mention of a restaurant on Bade-Boyes land but "it would certainly be open for discussion."

Peterson said the traffic increase will have a direct impact on service industries, restaurants, clothing stores and any other store that stands to benefit from potential shoppers staying in the area longer because of the hospital.

While some homeowners may not be thrilled with increased traffic congestion in the hospital area, they shouldn't mind the escalating value of their houses, some area real estate agents say.

"The hospital has to be a real plus for the entire community," said Ken Meade, owner-broker of Ken Meade Realty.

Meade says Sun City West home prices, unlike Sun City, have been appreciating in value at a steady rate, particularly the newer Grandview area homes near the hospital.

Some Sun City West residents may be tempted to move closer to the hospital, although even the most distant Sun City West home is less than 10 minutes away.

"When Boswell opened, I know

that many people moved from Phase I (south of Grand) to Phase II in Sun City," Meade says.

"We'd certainly like to see it have the same impact on (new home) sales in Sun City West as Boswell had on Sun City," says Ken Plonski, Webb spokesman.

"Sales really took off after Boswell opened. But realistically, it probably won't have that same impact because Boswell is already here.

"But we are anticipating some kind of (sales) increase relating to the hospital being in this community and we plan to use it in some of our winter advertising," Plonski says. "We plan to publicize it a great deal."

The two nearby Estes Homes planned community projects across Grand Avenue, especially the adult Sun Village at Kingswood Parke, are also promoting the hospital in their marketing and advertising, according to Estes officials.

Webb's Brant has not been hesitant in telling prospective commercial customers the benefits of locating near the hospital.

"I like to point out to my commercial customers that . . . the hospital, with its tremendous investment in dollars, construction and employment, is Sun City West's equivalent of a major employer," Brant says. "It's like an enclosed regional mall or any other major economic addition to a community. I see the hospital that way, especially in the case of Sun City West, for two reasons.

"One is the tendency of the person in the Sun City age bracket to consume health care at approximately three times the rate of the general, non age-restricted population simply because of the fact of the ages involved.

"You have a community here prone to becoming quite involved with the hospital either as a patient, a volunteer, or perhaps as a purchaser of the hospital's bond financing. As far as its impact on the residents, it's very large.

Further, " . . . here is a case of a major business coming into the

community whose service market is larger than just Sun City West," Brant says.

"Then of course you have people needing banking services, haircuts, every imaginable service that results from bringing people into an area."

Brant says the Mobil service station on Meeker or the nearby Sun City Carwash would not have located in Sun City West had it not been for the hospital. Circle K convenience stores also purchased a site close to the hospital.

Brant says a number of other businesses and doctors appear to be waiting until after the hospital opens to serve the additional traffic the hospital will generate.

Brant also expects various nursing homes and life care facilities to open in close proximity to the hospital, just as happened with Boswell.

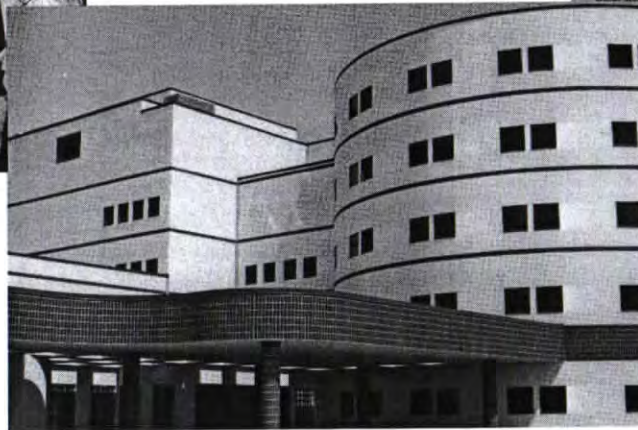
"Sunwest Nursing Center was built knowing the hospital would be down the street.

"I have also had some inquiries on the model reserve land which we're offering for sale — the property along Meeker Boulevard facing the Hillcrest Golf Course — from catered living apartment builders."

## BUILDING TODAY ... FOR A HEALTHIER TOMORROW



STAN FRAM, SUN HEALTH'S FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGINEERING, POINTS OUT A FEATURE OF THE NEW HOSPITAL DURING A RECENT TOUR FOR SCW PHYSICIANS AND THEIR SPOUSES.



ON APRIL 8 THE HOSPITAL SPONSORED A TOUR FOR SCW PHYSICIANS AND THEIR SPOUSES TO FAMILIARIZE THEM WITH THE NEW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL.

# DEL E. WEBB MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

**C**onstruction on Sun City West's hospital, the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, is now 70 percent complete and right on schedule for its January, 1988 opening. The exterior of the structure is virtually finished and the bulk of the remaining work involves finishing the interior which will feature Southwestern themes and colors in its decor.

The total cost of the hospital project is roughly \$45 million. Financing is being provided through a privately placed bond issue and community support. The Sun Health Foundation

is conducting a \$9 million capital campaign, and to date has raised more than \$7.7 million toward that goal.

The campaign was given early momentum when Del E. Webb Communities donated the land worth more than \$3.2 million. Del E. Webb Foundation, the charitable organization which was personally established by the late developer of the Sun Cities, made a gift of \$3 million.

The volunteer chairman of the capital campaign is Stan Hungerford

of Sun City West. The campaign has focused mainly on identifying and soliciting substantial gifts in the four, five and six figure range to this point; however, the scope will soon expand to include virtually the entire Sun City community. Joe Davisson, vice president and manager of the Sun City West branch of United Bank, has been named chairman of the Sun Cities Community Campaign in support of the hospital, and will work closely with Hungerford to achieve their \$9 million goal.

# HighLights

VOL. 1 NO. 1

APRIL, 1987

## Dusty Shoe Open House Is April 18

Mark your calendar now for the morning of Saturday, April 18. Your new community hospital is holding a special Dusty Shoe Open House from 8:00 a.m. -- Noon, and the whole town is invited!

You will have the opportunity to tour Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital and get an insider's look at the \$45 million project while it is still under construction.

There also will be free blood pressure readings, informative displays, and plenty of refreshments to round out this one-of-a-kind event.

And we're not kidding when we call it a "dusty shoe" open house; with the hospital site in the midst of construction, everything gets dusty in a hurry, so we suggest you wear comfortable, flat walking shoes and dress casually.

If the weather is bad on April 18, the Dusty Shoe Open House will be moved back to Saturday, April 25 from 8--Noon.

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

by Stan Hungerford,  
Capital Campaign Chairman

Welcome to the first issue of HIGHLIGHTS, a monthly newsletter published by your new community hospital, the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital!

I've been a Sun City Wester since 1981, and I've come to realize how much we need our own full-service hospital. Our community is growing rapidly, and now, more than ever, we need 24-hour emergency care and quality hospital services right here in Sun City West.

HIGHLIGHTS will bring you the latest news about the hospital project, with construction progress reports, regular updates by the hospital's executive vice president, Lee Peterson, and information about our capital campaign and the various ways you can participate.

The construction of a beautiful, five-story modern hospital with a wide range of services is one of the biggest events in our community's history.

I am excited and enthusiastic about our hospital project, so enthusiastic that I am serving as chairman of the capital



Stan Hungerford

campaign to generate community support for Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

I have had the opportunity to work closely with the management team developing our new hospital, and I am confident they will provide us with a first-class facility, one which will deliver the best available care while holding down costs.

Our new hospital will be closely affiliated, through Sun Health, with Boswell Memorial Hospital, its non-profit sister in Sun City. We will benefit from the experience and sensitivity to the needs of older patients gained by Sun Health's administrative team since 1970. They are nationally recognized for their excellence in providing quality geriatric care.

All of us involved in the project hope that HIGHLIGHTS will inform and inspire you to share our enthusiasm and become part of the team. Westers have always rallied behind a worthy cause, and I know that many of you will join us in this important venture.

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# Capital Campaign Nearing Its Goal

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The capital campaign for Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital has raised more than \$7,400,000 toward its goal of \$9,000,000 of contributed support for the non-profit community hospital, according to Stan Hungerford of Sun City West, volunteer chairman of the campaign.

The campaign was established to help finance the new community hospital, which is under construction on West Meeker Boulevard near Grand Avenue in Sun City West. The total cost of the project is approximately \$45,000,000. While a portion of that cost has been raised through placement of a bond issue, a substantial amount of private support is necessary for the successful completion of the project.

"The logic behind this campaign is simple: we will be the primary group to benefit from this much-needed facility, and we should be the primary group to support it," Hungerford says.

When it opens in January, 1988, the 203-bed Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will be the major provider of health services to residents of Sun City West, Surprise, El Mirage and other nearby communities. It will open just in time to help accommodate the exceptionally high demand for local hospital care which causes crowded conditions every winter at its sister facility, the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City.

The campaign gained early momentum from two major lead gifts: a \$3,000,000 pledge by the Del E. Webb Foundation, the philanthropic organization personally established by the late developer of the Sun Cities, and the gift of land worth \$3,213,000 by Del E. Webb Communities, Inc.

"This drive is making steady progress, thanks to the hard work of dozens of Westers who have served on our committees and spread the hospital's message to their neighbors in both Sun Cities," Hungerford says.

"People are giving to the campaign in a variety of ways--cash, multi-year pledges of cash, bequests, life insurance, and through other types of planned giving arrangements," he notes.

Hungerford explains that for many people, planned gifts allow a substantial long-range contribution while actually improving the donor's current financial position.

He also says that since the campaign has developed a full head of steam, it will be expanding its scope to include residents of both the Sun Cities as well as nearby communities like Surprise and Litchfield Park. Plans are being developed for this broad-based effort, and at the top of the list is building a strong leadership team.

"I'm delighted to announce that Joe Davisson, vice president and manager of the Sun City West branch of United Bank, has agreed to serve as chairman of our Sun Cities Community Campaign. Joe's energetic leadership will help put us over the top," Hungerford says.

A founding member of the Sun City West Community Fund and past winner of the Daily News-Sun's prestigious APEX award, Davisson has been active in a number of local civic and charitable organizations since 1975. He said he hoped for 100 percent participation throughout the Sun Cities in the upcoming community campaign.

For more information about the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital Capital Campaign and how you can participate, please contact the campaign office at 975-1979.

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**BUILDING TODAY . . .  
FOR A HEALTHY TOMORROW**

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Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital as it looked in April, 1986

# Construction Update

by Lee Peterson,  
Executive Vice President

We have come a long way since breaking ground on October 7, 1985.

At that time the hospital campus was just a barren piece of desert off Meeker Boulevard near Grand Avenue.

Today, a gleaming new five-story hospital is nearing completion, and the first phase of a medical office complex is taking shape just east of the hospital.

Construction is approximately 65 percent complete. The exterior of the hospital is almost in its final form; most of the remaining work involves finishing the interior.

The general contractor for the project, the Del E. Webb Construction Services Co., has things right on target for our scheduled opening next January. We expect the construction phase to be complete sometime in September. Once the building is ready, we will need time to install and test equipment, train staff, and make all the necessary preparations before we begin caring for patients.

Those of you who have not been out Meeker Boulevard recently are in for a pleasant surprise. While I'm hardly an impartial observer, I think the hospital looks great. The reddish brown trim tile works well against the Southwestern stucco finish. We will do our best to make sure the interior is just as attractive.

Our total capacity will be 203 beds, though we will open with somewhat fewer than that number in service. The design allows for the efficient addition of two more patient care towers as necessary, so as Sun City West and the surrounding area grows we will have the ability to grow with it, to an ultimate size of 400 beds.



Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital today (above); a recent view of the main entrance (right)



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## Planned Giving: An Option To Consider

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People considering a contribution to the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital Capital Campaign often raise this question: "How can I make a significant gift now when I may need earnings from my assets for a long time to come?"

The answer is planned giving. Participation in the campaign's life-income plan, the gift of a life insurance policy, or a bequest are some of the planned giving options available.

The life-income plan can be very beneficial to the donor. Commitments of \$5,000 or more are eligible. The donor transfers the principal to the Sun Health Foundation to benefit Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, and

receives a lifetime return--which currently pays about 8%, adjustable quarterly.

Frequently, life-income gifts can be funded by low-cost basis securities to reduce capital gains taxes and increase cash flow (from a low-yield stock to the relatively high-yield life-income plan). A current tax deduction is also gained.

The Sun Health Foundation staff are knowledgeable about the entire range of planned giving options, and they have access to expert advice. They are available to meet with you and your professional advisors to discuss the most advantageous way for you to make a significant gift to your new community hospital.

# More Hospital Beds Needed For Growing Area

You may have heard a friend or neighbor ask, "Why are we building a new hospital, anyway? Do we really need it?"

Sun Cities area residents have counted on Boswell Memorial Hospital for many years. Its familiar white towers have been a symbol of healing since 1970. Local access to quality hospital care has been so dependable that many have taken it for granted.

But in the last few years things have changed.

Boswell is now virtually full during the winter, when people need it most. Its resources are being stretched to the limit, and the area's population and demand for health care continues to grow!

Each winter Boswell fills up earlier than the year before. It has a total of 355

beds. This year the patient census soared to 345 on January 13, which translates into an occupancy rate of more than 97 percent. Since then the census has climbed higher than 340 numerous times.

Any hospital with a census higher than 90 percent is making exceptional demands on its staff and equipment. Acute care hospitals, such as Boswell and the new Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, need a margin of empty beds to handle emergencies, provide for isolation cases, separate male and female patients and accommodate other special patient needs.

When a hospital's patient census is exceptionally high, new patients often have to be held temporarily in the emergency department until a room becomes available. Elective surgeries have to be postponed, sometimes for

several days, inconveniencing patients and their families.

There really is no question that more hospital beds are needed to serve this area. That is why Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital is being built.

More resources are needed to provide Westers and their neighbors with the quality hospital care they have come to expect. Community residents want a full-service hospital nearby, one which offers round-the-clock emergency care and a variety of health education programs to keep you informed about ways to prevent illness.

Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will be opening just in time to relieve next winter's overcrowding at Boswell. It will bring Westers and their neighbors the same skilled, compassionate care which has made its sister hospital so widely known.



## HighLights

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3/79  
9/80 S.C. Newsletter  
Active Calendar

Calendar  
78 - Nov  
79 - Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec

Newsletter  
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80 Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov

80 Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec

all of 1981 and 1982

1983 - Act. Cal. only  
84  
85 - Feb. meeting  
86 - Feb. meeting  
1987 - meeting

SCW

## Sun City West Hospital Receives \$250,000 Gift

The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital has received the second of 12 \$250,000 contributions from the Del E. Webb Foundation, the charitable organization personally established by the late founder of the Sun Cities.

The contribution is a portion of a \$3 million grant pledged to the new community hospital at its groundbreaking in October 1985. The 203-bed acute care hospital is currently under construction in Sun City West.

the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City.

Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will be closely affiliated with Boswell Memorial Hospital through Sun Health, the non-profit local organization which operates the two hospitals as well as the Boswell Extended Care Center and other allied health services.

When it opens in January 1988, the new hospital will be the major provider of health care for residents of Sun City



William A. Chapman, Jr., Vice-Chairman of the Board of Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, presents the \$250,000 check to Board Chairman Henry S. Raymond. Looking on are fellow board members (L-R): W. A. Turner, President; Peter J. Strupp; Hogan Dunlevy; William H. Thomas; Winifred Culler, Secretary/Treasurer; Lee Peterson, the hospital's Executive Vice President; and Haakon Bang, Ph.D.

"This generous grant should spur our community to increase its commitment to this important project," said Henry S. Raymond, chairman of the non-profit hospital's volunteer board of directors.

"The logic is simple: Sun City Westers and their neighbors will be the primary beneficiaries of this new facility, and we should also be the primary ones to support it?" Raymond pointed out.

He said local area residents should remember the words of Robert H. Johnson, Webb Foundation Chairman, when he announced the \$3 million gift at the hospital's groundbreaking: "We challenge you to match this amount with your own financial support of the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital. After all, it's your hospital."

Strong community involvement will enhance the hospital's quality of care and help it attain the stature of its distinguished sister facility,

West, Surprise, El Mirage, and other neighboring communities.

The need for additional hospital beds in the rapidly growing Northwest Valley is underscored by the exceptionally high occupancy Boswell Memorial Hospital has already experienced this winter, well before the normal peak season.

The 355-bed Sun City facility reached a daily census of 345 on January 13, which represents an occupancy rate of 97.2 percent. Since January 1, Boswell has been averaging approximately 20 patients more per day than on the same dates last year. Boswell's coronary care unit, surgical intensive care unit, and medical/surgical nursing units all have been at or near capacity in recent days.

Those interested in more information about the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital Capital Campaign are invited to contact the campaign office at 975-1979.

# Del Webb Hospital work continues, grand opening slated for 1988

By LAURIE HURD-MOORE

Liken the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital with the multi-faceted functions of a library.

Contained inside the 1,800 tons of structural steel and 215,000 square feet of drywalls, are two five-story nursing towers and core building which when completed will have the ability to offer a collection of inpatient and outpatient services.

The hospital site is located in Sun City West, at Grand Avenue and Meeker Boulevard.

Decked out like a giant bookshelf, the hospital will offer an area, expected to grow in population to an

estimated 100,000, literally layers of services by the time it opens in January 1988.

Among the communities the hospital will draw from are Sun City West, El Mirage, Surprise, Waddell, Wittmann, Circle City and Morristown.

The first level will contain the main lobby, administration offices, personnel department and food-preparation service facility, says Leland W. Peterson, the executive vice president for Webb Memorial Hospital.

In addition to these sections, the 24-hour emergency-care department and a nearby clinic and "medical imagery" or X-ray labs will be in operation.

Contained on the second floor will be a surgical section

complete with four major operating rooms and two "cysto" rooms or urology departments, Peterson says.

The nursing floors will include levels two, three, four and five, he added.

An elaborate surgical intensive care unit will also be present on this floor.

Entitled, "Cardiopulmonary Unit" the third floor will contain a medical intensive

care center with private rooms.

A telemetry unit will also be located at this point. Telemetry enables patients that have suffered heart attacks to be released from the complex wired-monitors to a more mobile radio-transmitted vital-sign relay.

*See HOSPITAL, page 3*

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# • HOSPITAL

from Page one

Floor number four, Peterson says, is still in the planning stage, but the unit will contain two nursing centers and obstetrics and pediatrics.

Each of the towers containing the nursing stations and patient rooms, are shaped more like candycanes rather than the circular counterparts at Sun City's Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital.

The cane shape will add more rooms -- approximately 16 to Boswell's maximum 13 rooms -- as well as additional equipment space. The tower will allow more private rooms too, he says.

"The nursing units themselves will be quite similar to Boswell's -- a modular formation with as little as possible built in. And it won't have any objects sticking up and obstructing the view of the patients' rooms," he says.

On the final floor, a segment is devoted to mechanical devices such as air and heating equipment.

And two units of medical surgery are also planned for this division.

"We would like it to be more of a medical floor rather than a surgical one."

A power house with major electrical components is currently being constructed adjacent to the hospital.

And a couple separate medical-office buildings are also being constructed on the campus.

Other medical-related offices and businesses are also expected to be built on the site in the future.

During the hospital's first phase of operation, Peterson says they are expecting to open 75 of the 203 beds. In the future, the facility can be expanded to 400 beds.

"We're certainly right on schedule. We expect the completion of actual construction to be late September of 1987," Peterson says.

The construction at this stage, is 37 percent completed.

The same architectural firm - Ellerbe, of Bloomington, Minn., that designed Boswell Hospital is also working on the Sun city West building.

"As with the Boswell plans, they (Ellerbe) put together these plans with expansion in mind."

The completion of the foundation was cause for celebration back in August.

And with the final bucket of foundation cement poured, work was then started on the interior section of the building and air ducts, plumbing and electrical wiring was installed.

Currently the inner dry walls are now going up, so too are the exterior walls.

"We are readying for winter

as the rains become more frequent," he says in reference to the first layer of exterior stucco currently being applied to the structure.

When the job is done and the bills for construction, equipment, financing, fees, etc., are totaled, the hospital will cost approximately \$45 million.

The facility will operate in close affiliation to its sister facility, Boswell, Peterson adds.

The hospital in Sun City West will be governed by a volunteer board of directors composed of local residents and through Sun Health Corporation, a local health care coordinating organization. The two local hospitals will operate under a central management, in order to utilize the cost savings that can come through volume purchasing, as well as sharing appropriate services.

In addition to staff, the hospital will require the work of volunteers to operate the new hospital.

The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Steering Committee will host a public meeting at 9 a.m. Oct. 16 in the R.H. Johnson Recreation Center in Sun City West.

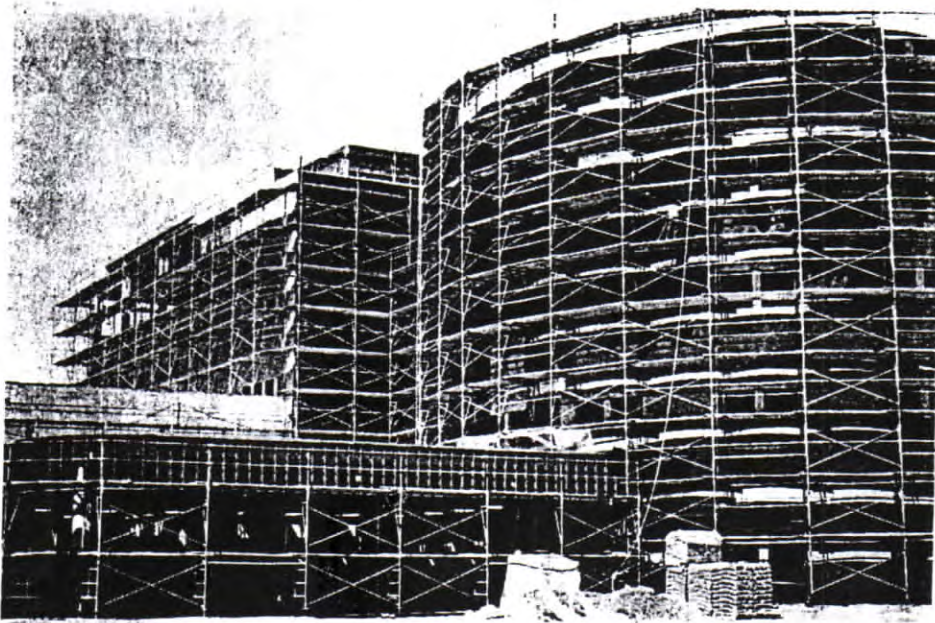
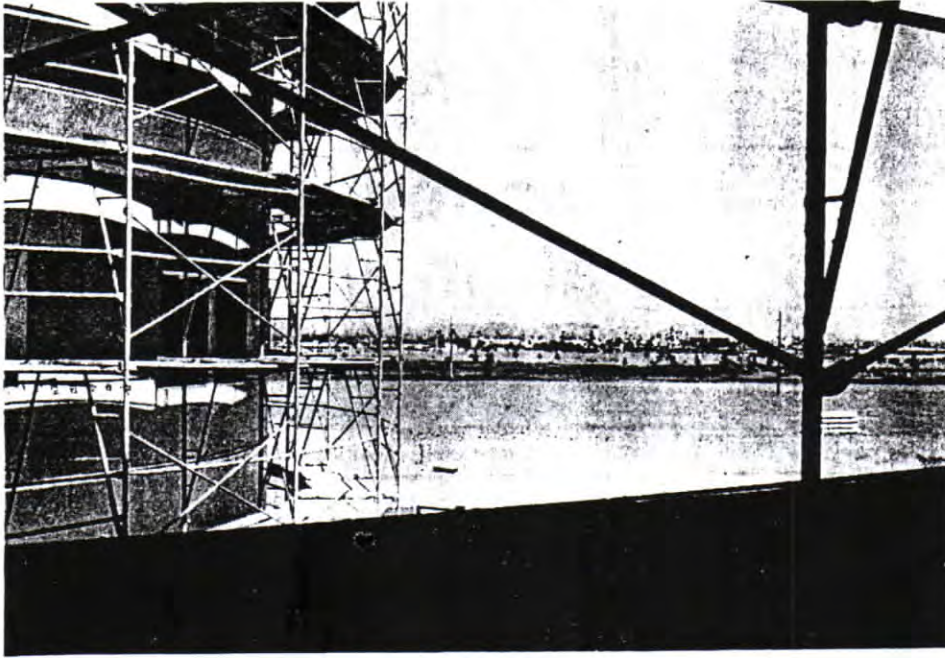
The meeting will be held to inform area residents about the opportunities for volunteer service.

A report on the progress of the hospital's construction will also be given.

SCM

# Del Webb Hospital construction continues

Photos by Laurie Hurd-Moore/Independent



**CONSTRUCTION ON THE DEL E. WEBB MEMORIAL HOSPITAL** in Sun City West is proceeding on schedule. Work on the outside walls is nearly complete and workers have now begun work on the inside -- installing air ducts, plumbing, elevator shafts and electrical wiring. Construction began in October, 1985, and is expected to be completed in January, 1988. The structure is also being fitted with special flexible pipes to allow 10 inches of structural movement in the event of an earthquake.

## WATCHING SUN HEALTH'S DEL WEBB GROW...



*The hospital's live stones will include a total of 210,000 square feet, and will include an emergency department, diagnostic services, medical imaging, surgical intensive care unit, medical intensive care unit, coronary care unit, and anticipated obstetrics and pediatrics services.*

Sun City West's own community hospital is under construction on Meeker Boulevard near Grand Avenue. The Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will provide 24-hour emergency care and a comprehensive range of acute care services to Westers when it opens in January, 1988.

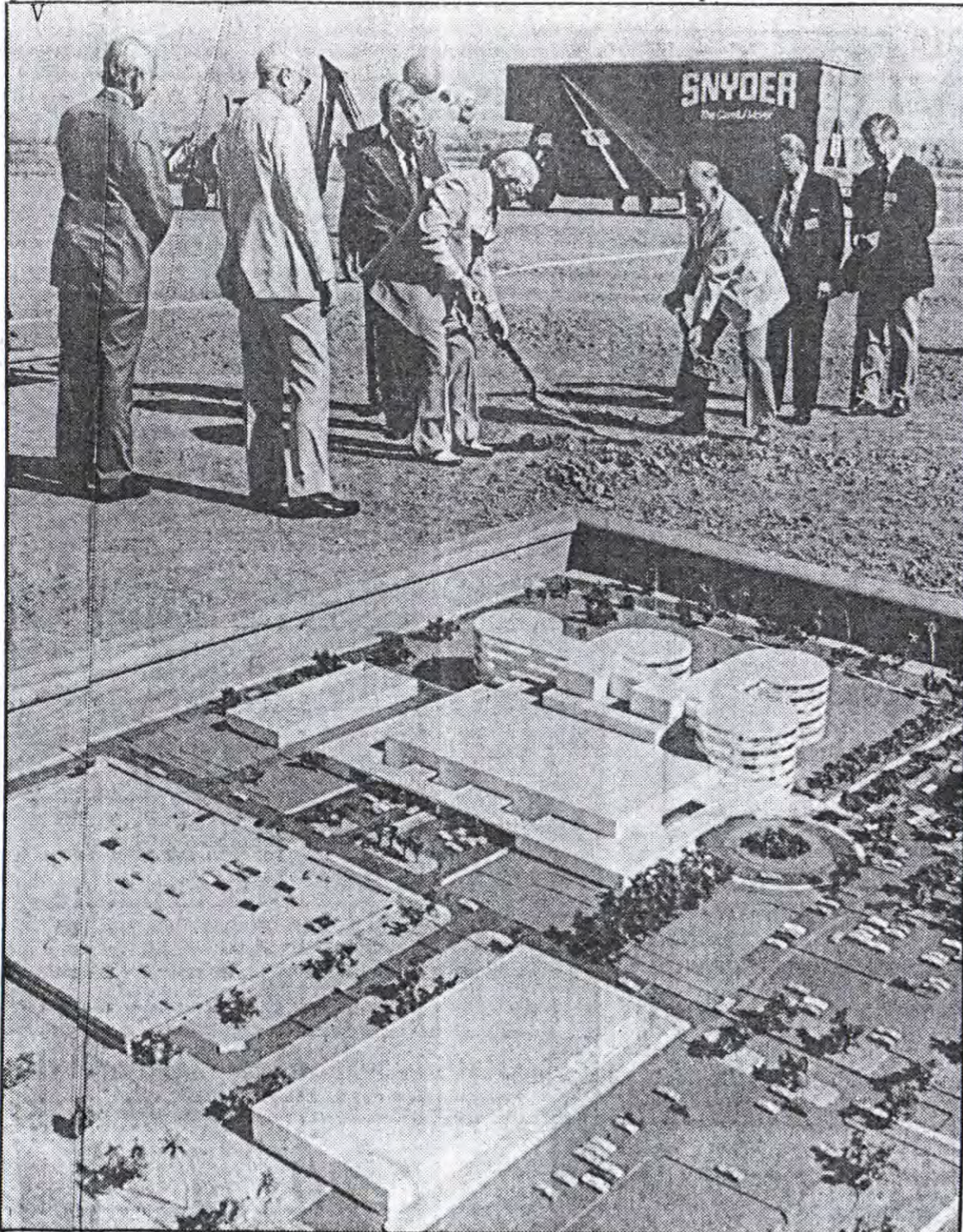
One of the new hospital's most important features will be its close affiliation with its sister-facility, Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City. Patients will benefit greatly from shared knowledge and sensitivity to the special needs of area patients acquired by Boswell's management team during its 15-year history.

At the 203-bed hospital, emphasis will be placed on the diagnosis and treatment of diseases related to aging, such as heart disease, strokes, lung disease, cancer and arthritis.

The hospital will be the tallest structure in Sun City West, with two five-story circular towers with patient rooms attached to a core building. The design is similar to that used at Boswell, with circular nursing units allowing nurses to observe and quickly respond to patients in their area.

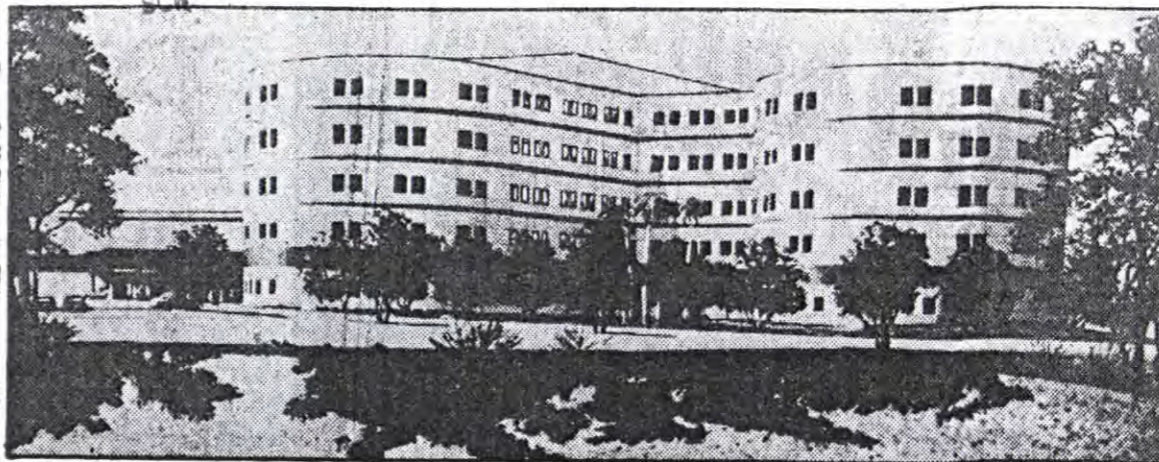
Westers have always been able to rely on Boswell Hospital for quality inpatient care. But Boswell is now virtually full during the peak winter season, and Sun City West continues to grow steadily, adding 1,600 people each year. The residents expect quick access to the best modern health care, and Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will soon meet that need.

Named for the founder and driving force of the Sun Cities, the non-profit Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital will make an already excellent place to live even better.



Dignitaries break ground near a model of the hospital.

Russell Gates, *The Phoenix Gazette*



## Del E. Webb Hospital launched

Ground-breaking ceremonies last week launched the start of Sun City West's hospital, to open in January 1988. An artist's rendering shows it will resemble its sister hospital, Boswell in Sun City, with five white, rounded

patient towers emerging from a rectangular middle. Below, a crowd observes the ceremony at Meeker Boulevard and Grand Avenue, where Yankee great Mickey Mantle discussed Del Webb. (Related story: NW-4)



# Plans for SCW hospital shift to high gear

By HELEN ALLEN  
Staff Writer

After lying dormant for nearly a year, plans for a Sun City West hospital are back in high gear.

An audio-visual presentation on the proposed hospital has been put together and a certificate of need will be sought early next month.

Both the audio-visual program and news that an application is to be filed next month were presented by Mary Ellen Potash, director of planning with Boswell Memorial Hospital, at a Property Owners and Residents planning committee meeting Tuesday.

IF APPROVAL is granted by the Central

Arizona Health Systems Agency, she said, Sun City West should have a new 120-bed hospital by early 1987.

A letter of intent had been filed with CAHSA last month by Sun City West Hospital Inc. as the first step toward getting the hospital. The firm and Boswell Memorial Hospital are both subsidiaries of Sun Health Corp.

Indications from the audio-visual program were that SCWH will cite the high use of hospitals by senior citizens in its application for need with CAHSA.

ALSO STRESSED was that the proposed hospital would serve the northwest portion of Maricopa County and that it would be a full service facility.

NEWS - SUN 2-28-84  
The voice of Austin Turner, Boswell Memorial Hospital administrator, notes, in addition, that the Sun City facility has already reached its optimum size.

Plans, according to Miss Potash, are to build a twin-tower building as a start, enlarging it later to four towers.

A 48-ACRE site at Grand Avenue and Meeker Boulevard has been set aside for the hospital and a nursing home.

A certificate of need for a Sun City West hospital had been filed last April and then withdrawn.

Bill Stewart, a planning committee member, mentioned during the meeting the proposed hospital is getting support from El Mirage.

# Bonds, gifts to finance SCW hospital

By HELEN ALLEN  
Staff Writer

Financing of Sun City West's proposed \$25 million hospital, if approved at the state level, will come from private contributions and industrial development bonds.

This was reported by W. Austin Turner, Boswell Memorial Hospital administrator, at a Property Owners and Residents Association membership meeting Monday.

PORA members also were informed of plans to extend the Interfaith Services program to Sun City West by William Wolfrey, president of the agency.

**WOLFREY SAID** the program, which provides an adult day center and crisis counseling, will be started sometime next month in the Sun City West Baptist Chapel.

About a dozen Sun City Westers are enrolled in the program offered in Sun City, according to the Interfaith Services official.

Referring to the need of such a program, he commented: "We're all aging. Del Webb's idea of a resort retirement community is great, but we don't all die at the 19th hole on our 71st birthday."

**WOLFREY** described the day center as an alternative to nursing home confinement and "aimed at keeping people active, independent and in their own homes as long as possible." The program, he said, also offers "a respite" to family members serving as caretakers of the elderly.

Many who entered the pro-

gram, Wolfrey said, appeared to be suffering from senility but "were only suffering from stimulation hunger."

The day center, he said, provides socializing, meals and exercises and added the cost is \$15 a day if participants can afford to pay the fee. The actual cost to Interfaith Services, he stated, is \$25 per person.

**REGARDING** the proposed hospital, Turner reported an application of need was filed last week with the Central Arizona Health Systems Agency along with a request that a hearing on the matter be conducted in Sun City West.

The hospital official had stated previously that a hearing is usually held about a month after an application of need is filed.

Turner, who described the design of the hospital as "musical notes," said plans call for a 120-bed facility as a start with it later being enlarged to accommodate 400 beds.

**THE HOSPITAL**, if approved, is to be built on a 48-acre site at Grand Avenue and Meeker Boulevard. In other matters:

—PORA President William Thomas reported the board is still checking into possibilities of getting the community a full-service post office.

—When asked if anything was being done by Del E. Webb Development Co. about getting a second restaurant into Sun City West, Thomas said the matter is still being pursued by the developer.

SUN CITY CITIZEN

4/2/80

# Mediator recommends Sun City West hospital

## Boswell, Valley View appeals not favored

By Susan Meulendyk  
Staff writer

A state-appointed hearing officer has made a recommendation that might result in a hospital being built in Sun City West.

Boswell Memorial and Valley View Community hospitals were among seven hospitals that appealed expansion denial recommendations by the Central Arizona Health Systems Agency (CAHSA).

State Department of Health Services Director Suzanne Dandoy appointed attorney Charles Roush to hear the appeals of area hospitals. He was only to determine whether CAHSA had been arbitrary, capricious or ignored the facts considering the hospital's applications for expansion.

Roush made two sets of recommendations. One would eliminate the division of the Phoenix metropolitan area into health analysis regions (HARs), which he said resulted in arbitrary assignment of hospital beds.

He determined that, with the elimination of the

HARs, a need was shown for more hospital beds in the Sun City West area, and for the planned 150-bed hospital at 55th Avenue and Thunderbird Road. Roush said no other application in the area could fulfill the need for more beds better than Sun City Community Hospital Inc. (Boswell) for the Sun City West area.

But in an alternate recommendation, one that would leave the HARs intact, he found sufficient evidence to support the CAHSA recommendation that the hospital at 55th Avenue, alone, would fulfill the need for beds in the northwest area.

Another alternative listed by Roush was to return the matter to CAHSA for reconsideration.

Roush said he made two recommendations regarding the HARs because it is unclear to him whether Dandoy has the authority to rule out the HAR concept. State law gives the director the authority to modify or substitute the recommendations of CAHSA regarding hospital expansion.

Attorneys for the hospitals have until the end of the week to file objections to Roush's recommendations. Dandoy then will have two to three weeks to decide whether to accept any recommendations or to return the matter to CAHSA for reconsideration.

Boswell Planning Committee Chairman William Chapman said, "We are pleased with the findings that support the 120-bed application (for Sun City West). We believe the area of greatest unmet need (for hospital beds) is the far northwest area, as was shown in the CAHSA bed plan."

Valley View administrator Andrew Allen said, "I'm disappointed, to say the least. I don't understand why Valley View wasn't considered as having a suitable proposal." He said the issue that Valley View's conversion of skilled nursing beds to acute-care beds as the most cost-effective proposal "has yet to get a response."

Roush said it wasn't for him to decide who should get the beds, only whether CAHSA made its recommendations on sufficient evidence.

"I am unable to quarrel with their (CAHSA's) recommendation" about the Valley View. He said he thought the Boswell application for Sun City West fulfilled the CAHSA criteria better than the Valley View application. He interpreted one of CAHSA's objectives as being the need for new hospitals, as opposed to expansion.

During the bed "sweepstakes" last June, CAHSA recommended for approval three new hospitals and denied applications of hospitals that wanted to expand existing facilities.

The attorney for Valley View will file an objection to Roush's recommendations, a spokesman for the hospital said.

CAHSA rejected Valley View's application last June because the hospital has a higher census for the nursing beds than for the acute-care beds. The board said the hospital couldn't fill the beds if they were converted.

Boswell's application for an 84-bed fourth tower and the 120-bed facility in Sun City West were denied approval because the board said the hospital limited its care to geriatric patients, to the exclusion of the needs of residents in surrounding communities.

SCW

# SCW landing hospital?

By HELEN ALLEN  
Staff Writer

Steps toward what might end up as a hospital in Sun City West have been taken by Del E. Webb Development Co. and Sun Health Corp.

The steps involved both a donation and a swap of land.

Final papers were signed Thursday.

Sun Health, parent firm of Boswell Memorial Hospital, now owns 48 acres near the northeast corner of Meeker Boulevard and Grand Avenue with the property restricted for a health care facility.

DEVCO DONATED 26.4 acres of the land, said to be valued at more than \$1.5 million.

The developer, in addition, turned over 21.6 contiguous acres to Sun Health as a swap for 9.8 acres owned by Boswell at the northwest corner of Meeker and Johnson boulevards.

"The value of the two is virtually the same due to their locations," said Devco spokesman Ken Plonski.

AN INDICATION of a land donation for a future hospital was given by Robert Swanson, Del E. Webb Corp. chief, at an annual stockholders meeting last May.

However, in final papers signed

between Devco and Sun Health, the restriction put on the land designates only that it be used for a health care facility.

Devco officials also noted that "the Sun Health board will determine when and for what it will use the land."

JERRY PORTER, Sun Health's assistant corporate director of public affairs, said the firm is still considering a hospital for Sun City West.

He added that a certificate of need for a hospital had been filed with the Department of Health Services last April and then withdrawn to allow Sun Health "to look at other alternatives."

The "other alternatives" were not explained.

However, Porter stated it was felt by Sun Health that Sun City West still did not have a sufficient population to support a hospital.

THE CERTIFICATE of need called for a 120-bed hospital to be completed by 1986 at which time the estimated population of the community would be about 16,000.

Porter mentioned that Sun City's population stood at 16,000 when Boswell Memorial Hospital was built.

One reason the certificate was deferred, Porter stated, is that the "cli-

Webb,  
Sun  
Health  
make key  
deal  
official

(over)



Cont

mate now is for contained health care costs."

Sun Health, he added, also wants to see the effect of Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital on Boswell.

Thunderbird Samaritan, under construction at 55th Avenue and Thunderbird Boulevard, is scheduled to open the end of this year.

**THE-BELIEF** at Boswell, Porter said, is that Thunderbird will take a "certain percentage" of patients away from the Sun City facility.

The Sun Health spokesman said there was still no indication when a certificate of need for a Sun City West hospital would be resubmitted, but that it could be as early as next year.

However, he then added: "The timing is not right now and we don't want to build until it can be supported."

**NAMED EARLIER** as officers of the proposed Sun City West facility board of directors were Henry Raymond, chairman; William Chapman Jr., vice chairman; and William Woodyard, secretary-treasurer.

Raymond is a consultant to the J.G. Boswell Co. and president of the Maricopa Water District. Chapman is a Devco consultant and Woodyard is manager of Johnson Center.

**'The  
timing  
is not  
right  
now...'**

—JERRY PORTER,  
Sun Health Corp.