
A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Square Dance Comes to Sun City

The early birds of Sun City (later called the "pioneers") were a sociable group who greeted each new homeowner with "over the fence" parties, barbecues or trips to Kings Inn for dinner. Organized entertainment, however, was not yet readily available. In June 1960, Tom Austin of the Del Webb Development Co. asked the Arizona Federation of Square-Round Dancer Teachers and Instructors to organize a dance group. This group recommended Alex Nagy of Glendale. Alex and his wife Gertrude arrived and on September 29, 1960, organized a beginner class in the building we now know as Oakmont Recreation Center. Ten couples made up this first class, and as the class proceeded to grow, they named themselves the Sun

City Pa's and Taws. (Webster tells me "Taws" is a square dance partner—yes, I had to look it up!) Now they were in business.

In September 1964, a new beginner class started at what is now called Fairway Recreation Center, and they chose the name Sun City Twirlers. During the period from 1960 to 1970, the enrollment grew to more than 200 couples—all in proper square dance costumes!

Come visit the Sun Cities Historical Society at 10801 Oakmont Drive. Hours are from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. A volunteer is always available. Speakers are always available to groups desiring a program. For more information, call 974-2568.

Lewis & Clark Expedition explained

The 20th anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Expedition will be celebrated in a program sponsored by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society on Thursday, Jan. 19, 1 p.m., at the Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church.

Ed Allen, local resident and president of the Society, will present the entertaining and informative program. Admission is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call 623-974-2568.

Historical Society to host program

The Sun Cities Area Historical

Society will present a talk that retraces the steps of Lewis and Clark as they explored the Louisiana Purchase some 200 years ago.

Historian Ed Allen, president of the Historical Society, will be the guest speaker at the program planned for 1-2 p.m. Jan. 19 at Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, 13658 Meeker Blvd., Sun City West.

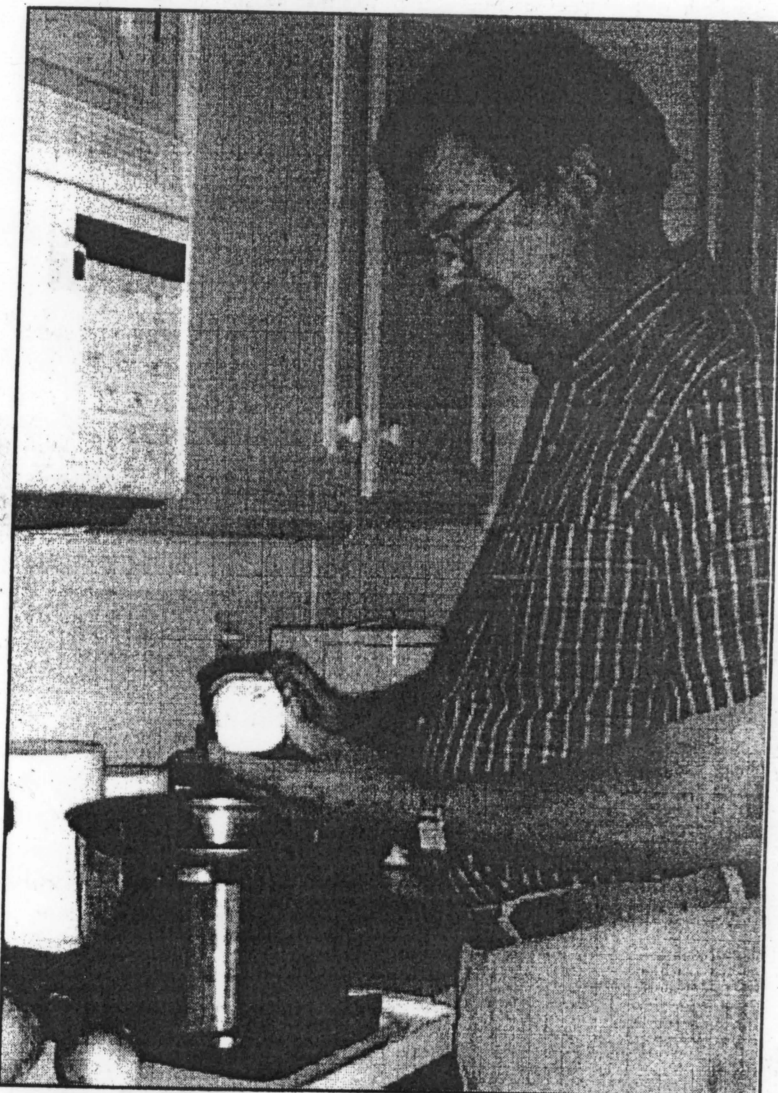
In 1804, then-President Thomas Jefferson completed the purchase, which nearly doubled the size of the country, over the objection of the Federalists, who thought the 15 cents-per-acre price was too much.

The program is open to the public at no charge. Light refreshments will be served.

Call 974-2568.

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT January 4, 2006

Sample Apple Leather at free Lewis & Clark presentation



Ed Allen, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, is shown preparing a batch of Apple Leather using a recipe from the time of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Allen will be giving a talk on behalf of the Society to celebrate the 200th anniversary of this great true adventure story. Hear the story of this great adventure and sample some Apple Leather at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 19, at the Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, 13568 Meeker Blvd. in Sun City West. Admission is free and the meeting is open to the public. Other light refreshments will be served in addition to the Apple Leather!

Page 1 THE WESTER Thursday, January 12, 2006

LOVIN' LIFE
AFTER 50

LECTURES & TALKS

More listings at lovinlife.com

Jan. 2006

Sun Cities Area Historical Society will present a program Jan. 19 at 1 p.m. Learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition in an entertaining and informative program. Admission is free and open to the public. Place is Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, choir room, 13568 Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. Call for additional information and details at 623-974-2568.

Maricopa County Library District, North Valley Regional, Anthem Branch, 40410 N. Gavilan Peak Parkway, presents monthly events. The Journal Writing Group will meet to talk Jan. 11 at 1 p.m. The North Valley Film Club will meet Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. Book Talkin' Tuesday will get together Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m. Call 602-525-1126 for additional information and details.

☆☆☆☆ "One of the greatest true adventure stories."

Join us in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the

LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION

Thursday, January 19, 2006, 1:00 P.M.

Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church (Choir Room)
13568 Meeker Blvd., Sun City West



Come along with Capts. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and the Corps of Discovery – 30 men, plus a young woman and her baby – as they sought a passage to the Pacific Ocean. For 2 ½ years, they faced hunger, cold, illness, and hostile Indians. They came close to death on numerous occasions, but persevered, and returned with a treasure trove of information.

Ed Allen, local resident and president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, will present this entertaining and informative program. Admission is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

SPONSORED BY

Sun Cities Area Historical Society

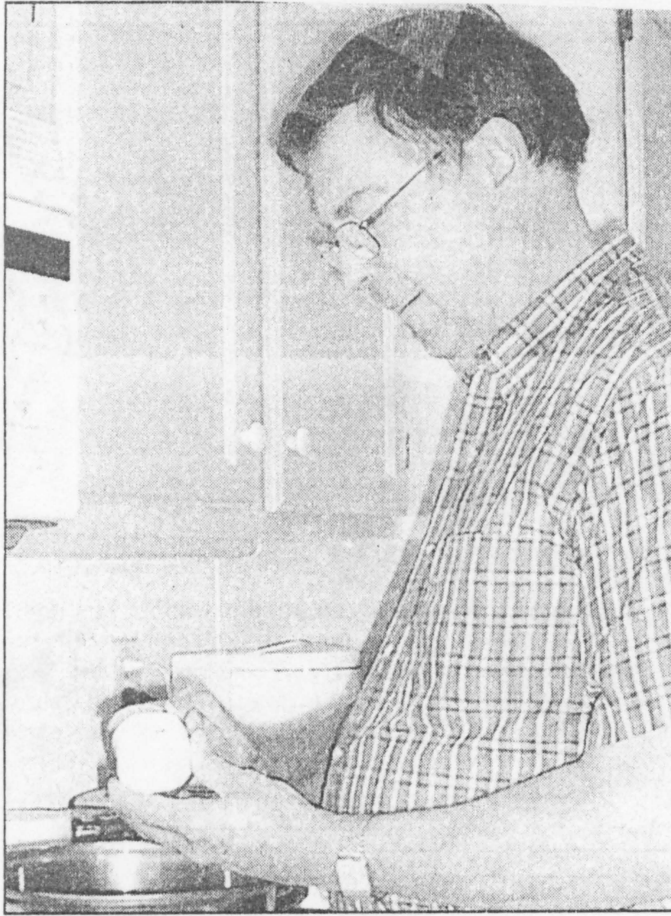
10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City

(623) 974-2568

www.scazhistory.org

January 18, 2006

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT



Submitted to the Independent

Gala apples

Ed Allen, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society prepares a batch of apple leather using a recipe from the time of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Mr. Allen will speak on behalf of the Society to celebrate the expedition's 200th anniversary 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19 at the Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, 13568 Meeker Blvd., Sun City West. Attendees will sample apple leather and other light refreshments. Admission is free to the public. Call 975-1815 or 974-2568.

Sun City West looks back on history

The unparalleled success of the Del Webb Corp.'s first master-planned community for active adults - Sun City - led to its beginning a new community in 1978 in the desert two miles to the west - Sun City West, according to [suncity-](http://suncity-west.org)

[west.org](http://suncity-west.org).

Del Webb Corp. completed construction of Sun City West in 1997. It features four recreational complexes, nine golf courses, convenient local businesses, churches and nationally ranked Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital.

Sun City West has gone through the transition from developer-owned to community-owned.

With the end of developer subsidies, residents know the true costs of operating and maintaining the recreational facilities. A governing board, elected by residents, oversees the community's \$125-million investment in these amenities.

People will find Sun City West a friendly community, filled with people from every state in the nation, as well as Canada and other countries.

By 1997, 31,000 people had come from the 50 states, Canada and other countries to make Sun City West their home.

The Complete story is told in the book, "Sun City West Silver Celebration - the First 25 Years." The Sun Cities Area Historical Society sponsored the book.

It contains 270 pages and more than 140 illustrations. Copies are available at the Visitors Center for \$6 each or \$9 by mail. Make check payable to SCAHS at: Visitors Center, 13823 Camino del Sol, Sun City West, AZ 85375. Allow three weeks for shipping.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Sun City Players: A Dramatic History

Recently an item appeared in the Daily News-Sun about the new play to be performed this season by the Sun City Players at Mountain View Recreation Center.

Thoughts came to mind about past plays presented over the years—matinees, dinner theaters, comedies, musicals, dramas—all planned to delight the artistic tastes of the Sun Cities. If you visit the Sun Cities Historical Society museum, you will learn about how the ten Sun Citians who were interested in theater met in February 1961 at the Community Center, now the Oakmont Recreation Center.

The Sun City Players have grown and are indeed alive and well today. When you attend their next play and read the credits of all the Players in their playbill, you will learn how skilled all of them really are. Remember to attend—but first, make a trip to the Sun Cities Historical Society, located at 10801 Oakmont Dr., to appreciate their adventures on and off stage over the years. The Historical Society hours are Tuesday through Friday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. Call 974-2568 for more information.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Sun City Pioneers Play Ball

When one thinks of Sun City what sport comes to mind first? There is little doubt in anyone's mind that golf is Sun City's leading sports attraction—then or now.

A lesser-known fact is that in the early days of Sun City, the newcomers had a soft spot in their hearts for baseball.

As early as 1962 the Del Webb Development Corporation responded to the Sun Citians and provided a softball diamond near the Grand Shopping Center. It was truly a diamond in the rough, with lots of gravel and low growing weeds with burrs, making fielding a hazardous adventure. But it did have a backstop made out of 2x4s covered with poultry netting! In the opening game of the season, on a beautiful spring Sunday afternoon, the Sun City Giants edged out the Sun City Yankees by a score of 14-11.

This makes one wonder about that game when the following statement appeared the next day in the review in the Daily News Sun: "Wanted—dead or alive—three ladies to umpire the softball games at the playgrounds on 109th near Grand Avenue. Knowledge of Jujitsu helpful—no salary, but umpires will be permitted to keep half of all bribes." The article also stated that "The final result was in doubt until the first ball was pitched." Doesn't that create an image of a fun game? If you visit the Sun Cities Historical Society located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, you can learn more.

The Historical Society is open from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

For more information, call 974-2568.



Submitted to the Independent

Stewards of history

Edson Allen, president of the Sun Cities Areas Historical Society, receives a check from Nancy Wyatt (left) and Shirl Hilton, president and vice president of the Lysil Oma Chapter of the Questers. Thanks to their generous gift, the society will be able to purchase a recorder and transcriber and resume its oral history program. Questers brings together individuals interested in antiques and collectibles and works to restore historic sites and artifacts. The Lysil Oma chapter has members in Sun City and Sun City West.

Home displays vintage Sun City

MITCHELL VANTREASE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Take a glimpse into the past with a visit to Sun City's first model home built by Del Webb.

For more than 15 years, the Sun Cities Area Historical Society has helped many residents discover information about retirement communities. The house, which originally sold for \$8,500, includes old pictures and artifacts from the beginning of Sun City.

"There's so much history to be learned right here," said Edson Allen, the society's president. "I hope everyone takes advantage and learns how far this community has come in the last few decades."

Allen said a number of longtime residents and newcomers visit the society on Oakmont Drive off 107th Avenue and south of Grand Avenue.

"People move out here and begin to develop roots, so they want to know," he said. "We have everything you want to know."

In the home, visitors can view an authentic 1960s kitchen and bathroom.

"It's just like it would've been if you bought it then when they began to build Sun City in the beginning," Allen said. "We've tried to make everything in those rooms as authentic as possible."

In addition to the rooms, pictures line the walls with information about Sun City and Sun City West. There's a room dedicated to the town of Marinette, a farming community that existed before Sun City.

The society has opening day photos



THOMAS BOGGAN/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Guide Loretta Allen, right, talks to visitors Don Dailey and Eveline Horelle Dailey at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society in Sun City.

IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** Sun Cities Area Historical Society.
- **WHERE:** 10801 W. Oakmont Drive, Sun City.
- **WHEN:** 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.
- **INFO:** 974-2568, or visit www.scazhistory.org.

with five Sun City model homes and the beginnings of the surrounding area.

"You get to step back into time and get a feel for what it's like," he said.

More than 150 members are in the Sun Cities Area Historical Society. At least two people volunteer every day at

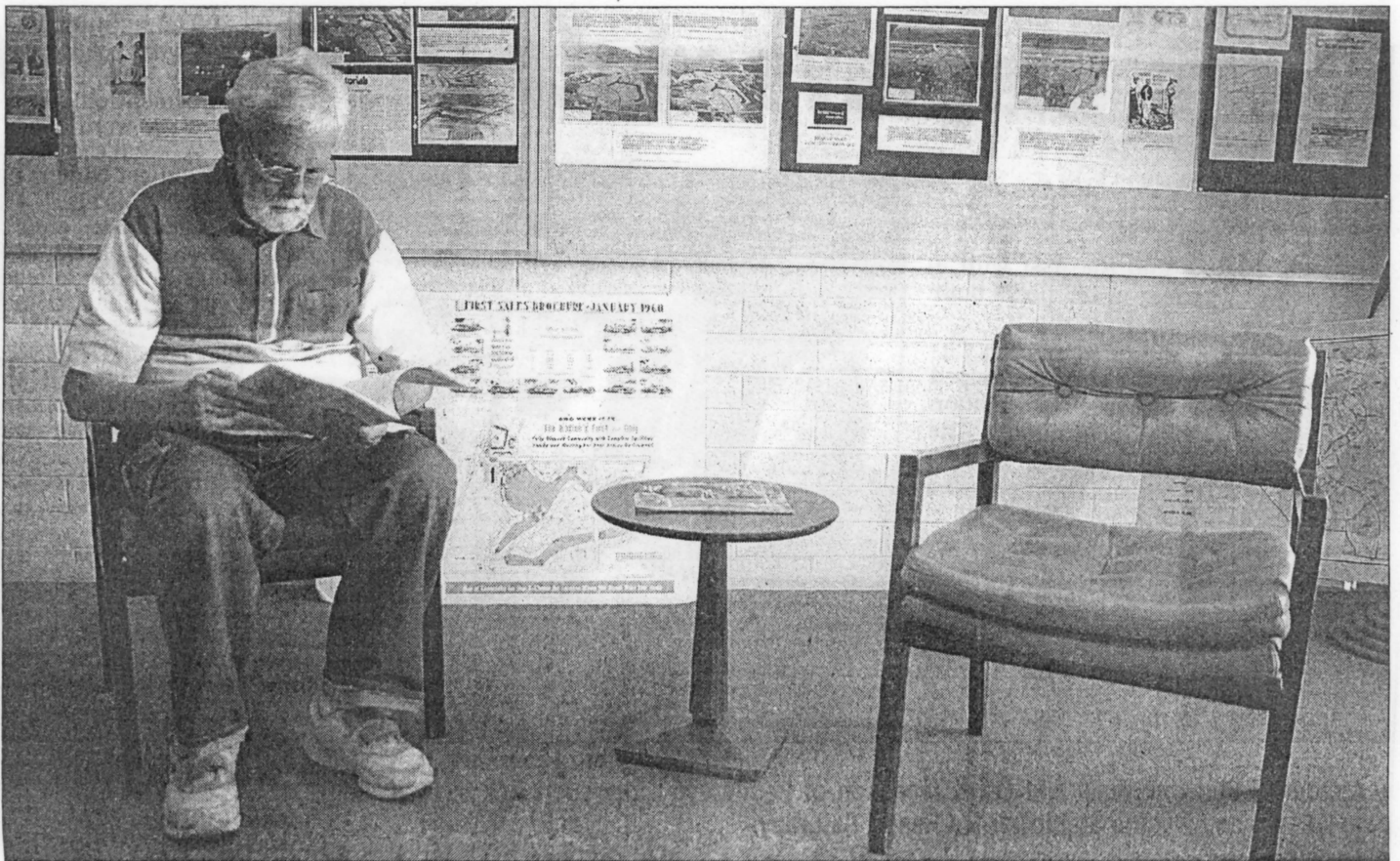
the center and help visitors who might have questions.

After the publication in 1985 of "Jubilee," a book about the 25-year history of Sun City, authors Jane Freeman and Glenn Sanberg realized they had enough records for preservation. They formed a nonprofit organization for civic and educational purposes.

"It's interesting to see how far we've come, especially since Sun City used to be a cotton field," said Freeman, who serves as a trustee for the society.

If you have a special interest story, call Mitchell Vantrease at 876-2526 or e-mail mvantrease@aztrib.com.

OVER



THOMAS BOGGAN/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Don Dailey reads paperwork in the living room of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society in Sun City Tuesday. Dailey first visited the house in 1959, three days after it opened as a model home. The society has preserved pictures and information about the beginning of Sun City at the house.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society and Arizona Humanities Council invite you to

SEE what the well-equipped
Arizona doctor of the 1880s carried...

LEARN about the
“Healers, Hucksters & Heroes” of
Arizona territorial medicine

HEAR
Dr. Robert Kravetz

Retired medical doctor, educator and
historian present the medical treatments
commonly used by pioneer doctors, along
with the native plants and patent
medicines common to the late 1880s.

1:00 PM, Tuesday, March 28
Willowbrook United Methodist Church
99th and Saddle Ridge, Sun City

FREE! Light refreshments will be served



An amputation kit, along with “bite-the-bullet”
anesthesia, that was frequently used 1860-1900.

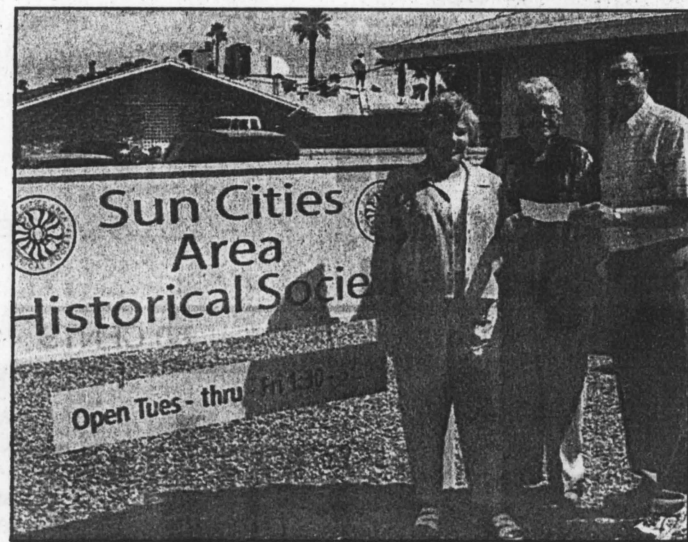
Arizona
Humanities
Council

Sharing cultures. Enriching communities.



Area Historical Society names new officers

Newly-elected officers of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society are (standing, from left) David Verble, secretary, and Edson Allen, president; and (seated) Sandy Goldstein vice president and Paul Graf, treasurer. The Society displays pictures and artifacts of local history at its headquarters, 10801 Oakmont Dr., Sun City, in the first home built in the community. It is open from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.



Submitted to the Independent

Stewards of history

Edson Allen, president of the Sun Cities Areas Historical Society, receives a check from Nancy Wyatt (left) and Shirl Hilton, president and vice president of the Lysil Oma Chapter of the Questers. Thanks to their generous gift, the society will be able to purchase a recorder and transcriber and resume its oral history program. Questers brings together individuals interested in antiques and collectibles and works to restore historic sites and artifacts. The Lysil Oma chapter has members in Sun City and Sun City West.

● Thanks to the Lysil Oma

Chapter of Questers, the Sun Cities Area Historical Society will be able to resume its oral history program.

Edson Allen, president of the Historical Society, announced that money contributed by the Questers will fund the purchase of a recorder and transcriber. The equipment was needed to continue the program of recording recollections of early residents of the Sun Cities, Allen said.

Nancy Wyatt, chapter president, explained that the nationally organized Questers brings together individuals interested in antiques and collectibles and works to restore historic sites and artifacts. The Lysil Oma chapter has members in Sun City and Sun City West.

**Questers to host
benefit garage sale**

Lysaloma Chapter 782 of the Questers of Sun Cities will host a garage sale 7 a.m.-2 p.m. March 9-10 at 13407 Gemstone Drive, Sun City West, to benefit their preservation and restoration fund. Part of the proceeds will go to the Historical Society of Sun City to enable them to purchase a micro-cassette recorder to tape interviews and a transcription unit in order to prepare a written copy of the interview.

The other part of the proceeds will go to the West Valley Art Museum for the restoration and preservation of the ethnic dress collection.

Call 584-3780.

News

Center Profile

Oakmont - *Sun City's First Center Is Still Young at Heart*

Many Sun Citians know that Oakmont Recreation Center was the first recreation center built in Sun City. Originally named the Community Center, Oakmont was ready and open for business when the first "pioneers" made their way to Sun City in 1960.

Oakmont was Sun City's first example of a recreation center built for "active retirement," and it still houses a variety of activities and is home to several clubs. You can go for a swim in the generously-sized pool, relax in the spa or join a game of lawn bowls, a Sun City pastime that was popular the early days and still remains a favorite activity. Oakmont's 3,200 sq. ft. fitness center features a wide variety of machines and equipment.

Many clubs and other groups are housed at Oakmont, including several arts and crafts and social clubs. Bridge and other card games are played in the auditorium, which

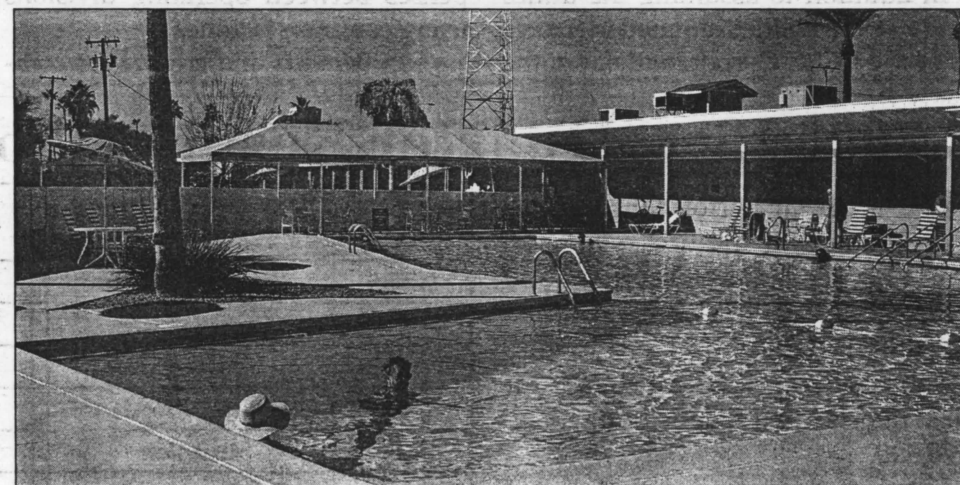
is also available for rent. The auditorium has an adjoining kitchen, making it ideal for potlucks and other events. To rent the auditorium, contact the Clubs and Activities Office at 876-3000.

The center also boasts an outdoor covered patio area with a view of North Golf Course, perfect for relaxing after a game of bowls or just chatting with friends. The patio also has barbecue grills, making it a popular venue for gatherings.

The Sun Cities Historical Society resides next door to Oakmont, and individuals interested in learning more about the history of Oakmont and Sun City in general will find a wealth of information.

So pay a visit to Oakmont. This venerable center may be old in years, but still remains young at heart, just like Sun Citians!

Oakmont is located at 10725 Oakmont Ave. You can contact the center at 876-3046.





Submitted to the Independent

Keeping history alive

Edson Allen, president of the Sun City Area Historical Society, stands in the space to be occupied by the Del Webb portrayal as he receives contribution from the Sandpainters officers, from left: Harta Franham, treasurer; Mareta Colclough, secretary; and Judy Johnson, president. A life-size cutout of Del Webb will be the centerpiece of an extensive renovation of the society's headquarters at 10801 Oakmont Drive, housed in the first house built in Sun City. Judy Johnson of Sun City West, president of the Sandpainters, noted that the Society's renovation plan fits perfectly with the Quester's national commitment to preservation and restoration of the past. Historical Society President Edson Allen said a search is on for furnishings and appliances of the 1960s to renovate the kitchen as well as the living room of the historic home. Work on the project will begin this fall.

Historical Society plans revamp

STAFF REPORT

Del Webb will become a permanent resident of the Sun City Area Historical Society building after a summer of improvements to the first home built in Sun City.

A life-sized cutout of Webb will be the centerpiece of a round of renovations to the building at 10801 Oakmont Drive. Webb will stand in the living room, greeting visitors as they enter the home for a tour to learn about Sun City's roots.

The historical society has started its search for authentic 1960s furnishings and appliances to use in the home, said society President Edson Allen. Work will begin in the fall to transform the kitchen and living room into spaces reminiscent of the original look of Sun City living.

Jack Hart, historical society spokesman, said the project was given a head start with a donation from the Sandpainters chapter of Questers, a national organization committed to preserving and restoring pieces of history.

Historical Society plans renovation



Edson Allen, president of the Sun City Area Historical Society, stands in the space to be occupied by the Del Webb portrayal as he receives a contribution from Sandpainters officers, from left, Harta Franham, treasurer; Mareta Colclough, secretary, and Judy Johnson, president.

In a few months, people be able to see Del Webb in Sun City, in all his historic glory, pointing out the highlights of the community he founded nearly half a century ago. He'll be waiting for you at the Sun Cities Area Historical

Society building.

The life-sized cutout of Webb will be the centerpiece of an extensive renovation of the Society's headquarters at 10801 Oakmont Drive, in the first house built in Sun City.

Plans for transforming the building into a replica of the 1960s got a big boost when the Sandpainters chapter of Questers contributed funds for the Del Webb likeness. The figure will stand in the living room to greet visitors to the period makeover of the house.

Judy Johnson of Sun City West, president of the Sandpainters, noted that the society's renovation plan fits perfectly with the Questers' national commitment to preservation and restoration of the past.

Historical Society President Edson Allen said a search is on for furnishings and appliances of the 1960s to renovate the kitchen, as well as the living room of the historic home. Work on the project will begin this fall, he said.

Historical Society needs help

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society needs help in spreading the history of Sun City and Sun City West. They are seeking volunteers to assist visitors at the Society headquarters at 10801 Oakmont Drive in the first model home built by Del Webb in Sun City.

Training is provided. Volunteers can

select the times they wish to serve as greeters between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Those interested are urged to visit the headquarters house during those hours. For information, call the Society at 623-974-2568 and leave a message for Ruby Wells.

SC Historical Society posts summer hours

Starting in June and continuing through August, the visiting times at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society will be 10 a.m.-noon Fridays and Saturdays only. The headquarters is located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City in the first home built in the community.

The building houses a vast array of pictures, clippings and documents covering the 46 year

history of Sun City and its later companion, Sun City West. Visitors may view highlights of the community's founding and development.

In September, the regular visiting times of 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday will resume.

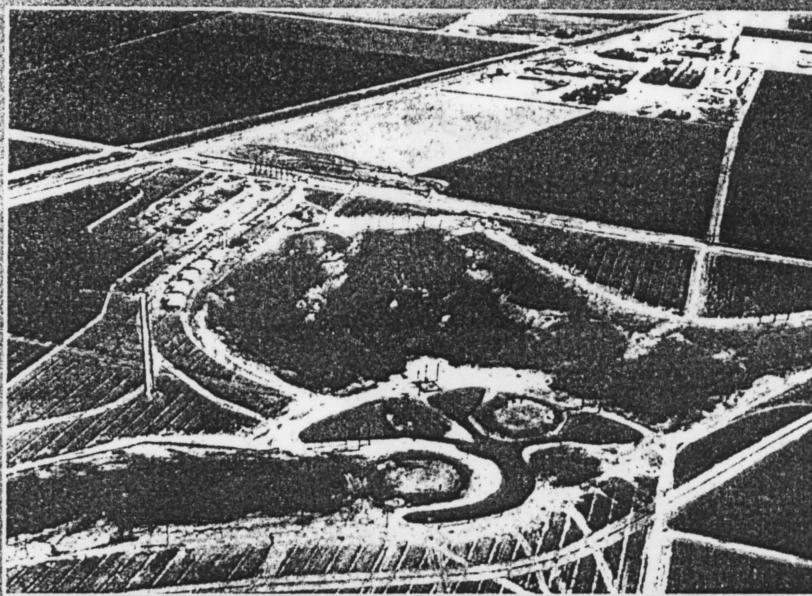
May 24, 2006

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

A Taste of Sun City History

presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society

Golf in Sun City



North Golf Course (Sun City's first) under construction in 1959.

Having devoted space to baseball in its formative years in Sun City, we deem it only fair to give equal time to the wonderful world of golf. Build a golf course and they will come? Were not most of the pioneers golfers? Wrong!

Sun City's first 18-hole golf course opened in August 1960, reflecting Del Webb's policy that the game was to be open to all—the experienced golfer, the occasional hacker and the beginner. While the principle was excellent as a marketing tool, it soon became clear that there were problems.

Both the players and the golf pro at North Golf Course, Fielding Abbott, could see that the growing number of golfers was resulting in a slow pace and excessive wear and tear on the golf course. Some way had to be found to teach the etiquette of golf and the basic rules of the game, so 48 men and 26 women attended a meeting called by Abbott and endorsed Abbott's suggestion of a formal organization. A committee was appointed

and five men and five women were given the responsibility of setting up the regulations to accommodate all golfers—visitors, prospective buyers and residents. Abbott pointed out that the organization should not only educate but also supervise handicapping, plan tournaments and promote good fellowship. Quite a mandate for the newly retired pioneers!

They lost no time at all and a week later a Constitution and Bylaws for the Sun City Golf Club were adopted, calling for a nominating committee of nine members, with annual election to be held each November.

Come into the Sun Cities Area Museum located at 10801 Oakmont Drive to hear the details of the club's experiences, not only with one golf course, but ultimately seven!

Summer hours are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and other hours by appointment. Speakers are also available for groups desiring a program. Call 974-2568 for more information.

Historical society discusses origins

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society will deliver "From Cotton Balls to Golf Balls" at Freedom Inn in Sun City West at 2:30 p.m. June 21.

The society is dedicated to the history and preservation of Sun City, formed in 1960, and Sun City West, formed in 1978. The presenter, Connie MacMillan, will discuss the origins of the Sun City area.

Freedom Inn is at 13810 W. Sandridge Drive.

Reservations are requested by calling 584-2338.

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT July 12, 2006

Fountains to host chamber social

The Fountains of Sun City, 13638 N. Newcastle Drive, will celebrate its 10th anniversary by hosting an Asian-themed social for The Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The member social takes place 4:30 p.m. July 20.

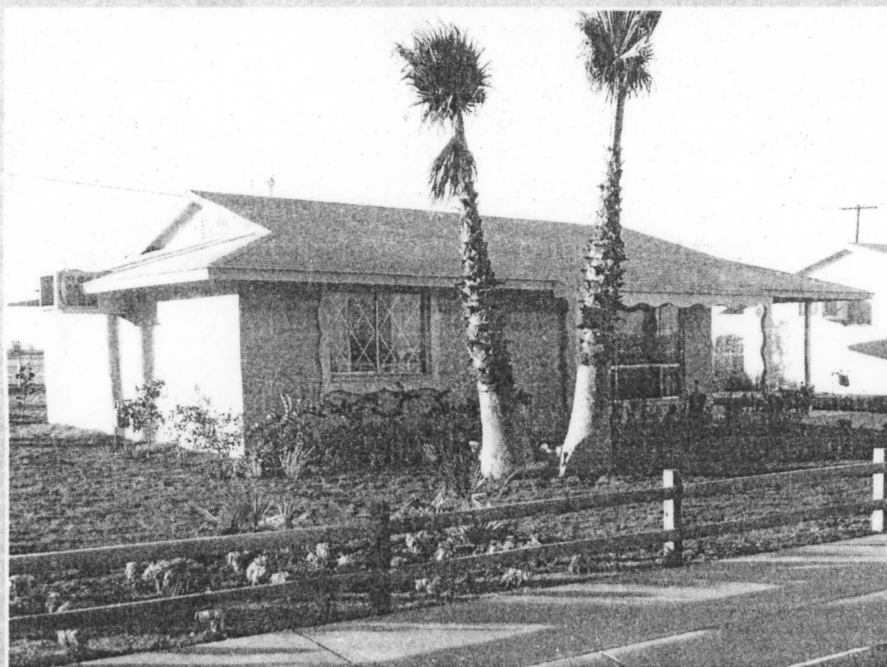
The celebration will include pictures and memorabilia presented by The Sun City Historical Society.

"A Walk on Del Webb's Baseball Field to a Community" will describe in pictures how the land in which Del Webb built a professional baseball field is now home to the apartment complex.

A separate resident and staff party will be held on July 21. Call 933-2500.

Home, Sweet Home

Sun City's First House



The first house built in Sun City, now home to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society.

A Taste of Sun City History
presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society

This month we dedicate this space to a very real "first." I refer to the first house built in Sun City, which was closely followed by four others. All were ready for inspection by the visitors who appeared on January 1, 1960. Stop for a moment and try to visualize a Sun City made up of five houses.

This special house was named The Kentworth, number 1C. It contained 858 square feet of living space plus 303 square feet of storage and a carport. As a sign of the times, the asking price was \$8,500, plus \$600 for air conditioning and \$1,250 if located on the golf course. Do you remember when newcomers needed only to ask the name of your house to identify the floor plan? Do newcomers still do that?

The house was sold after one year and by 1962 was resold. The new occupants, as typical newcomers do, made changes and additions to the living space.

When the house came on the market again in 1988, it caught the eye of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, led by Glenn Sansberg and Jane Freeman, plus several others who had been collecting and saving materials about Sun City so that the story of the community would not be lost. What foresight and what a gift for those who came years later.

Details of the purchase could be described here as well as a description of the remodeling that was necessary to change this "first house" into a museum, but, even better, come in and see this historical site first-hand. The address is 10801 Oakmont Drive, adjacent to the Oakmont Recreation Center parking lot. Summer hours are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. Call 974-2568 for more information.

A Taste of Sun City History

presented by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society

SunViews August 2006 11

Clay Club Offered Pioneers an Outlet for Artistic Expression

In addition to the variety of sports available in Sun City, in the "pioneering" days of the 1960s many varied clubs provided an outlet for residents to exercise their artistic skills by creating handmade treasures.

When one couple, the Soules, arrived in Sun City in 1968 they started attending the Fairmont Ceramic club, but their true love was forming clay objects from just a lump of clay. Undaunted, they pursued forming a Clay Club, going through the proper steps to accomplish their dream.

Space does not permit details of their journey, but on October 8, 1969, the Recreation Center Manager formally welcomed the Sun City Clay Club as a "charter

club." The number of members in this very first club is not known, but the club did very well financially. An early fund raising project was to create executive ash trays for the Thunderbird Bank. More than 50 were made and put into use immediately.

Come visit the Sun Cities Area Historical Society Museum located at 10801 Oakmont Drive and hear the details of the club's experiences getting established and equipped and about the quality of the work they created.

Summer hours are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

For more information, call 974-2568.



A Sun City Pioneer works on a piece at the Fairway Ceramic club, October 1960.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is dedicated to the presentation and preservation of the history of Sun City and Sun City West.

We have many volunteer opportunities available. You could read newspapers and clip pertinent articles for SCAHS files, help develop displays in our historic home, or assist in keeping files in order and up-to-date or with publicity and our newsletter. If you enjoy meeting people and public speaking, you could be a Host or Hostess and introduce people to our home, join our Speaker's Bureau or conduct and record interviews with past community leaders and early residents. You could also become an active SCAHS Board member.

Don't feel qualified? Don't worry! We provide a training program, and you can choose a time and day convenient to your schedule. Call 974-2568 or stop in to discuss your interests and availability.

A Taste of Sun City History

presented by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society

Lawn Bowling Rolls into Sun City

It seems appropriate during these languid days of summer to turn back the pages of time and establish how Lawn Bowling came to exist in hot Sun City. Lawn Bowling in the state of Arizona was non-existent until Del Webb built the first court at the Community Center (now Oakmont Recreation Center) in 1960. The new residents knew so little about the game that Webb called upon Paul Burns from Youngtown to help them get started. No record of how Del Webb knew of Mr. Burns, but he assisted in laying out the first court.

From this humble beginning, interest and players' skills grew, and before long the Sun Cities Lawn Bowling Club was formed and had 60 members. One must agree that the early "Pioneers" were game to try anything!

Fairway Center was built the fol-

lowing year, and though there were no inter-club tournaments, there was rapid membership growth in both clubs. Perhaps the parties, pot luck suppers, and picnics they enjoyed had something to do with the increasing membership. The first high point arrived in October 1976 when the American Lawn Bowling Championship was held at Lakeview Center. More than 1,000 spectators observed each of the matches!

Come visit the Sun Cities Area Museum, located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, to follow the growth of this formerly non-existent Arizona sport and the fellowship which followed. Summer hours are 10 a.m. to noon on Friday and Saturday, and other hours by special appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. Call 974-2568 for more information.

*You are cordially invited to an Open House Preview
of the first phase of the renovations at the
Sun Cities Area Historical Society,
located in the first model home in Sun City.*



*Sunday, November 19, 2006
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
10801 Oakmont Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-2568*

- ▶ *Meet our surprise "Host."*
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Sun Cities Area Historical Society

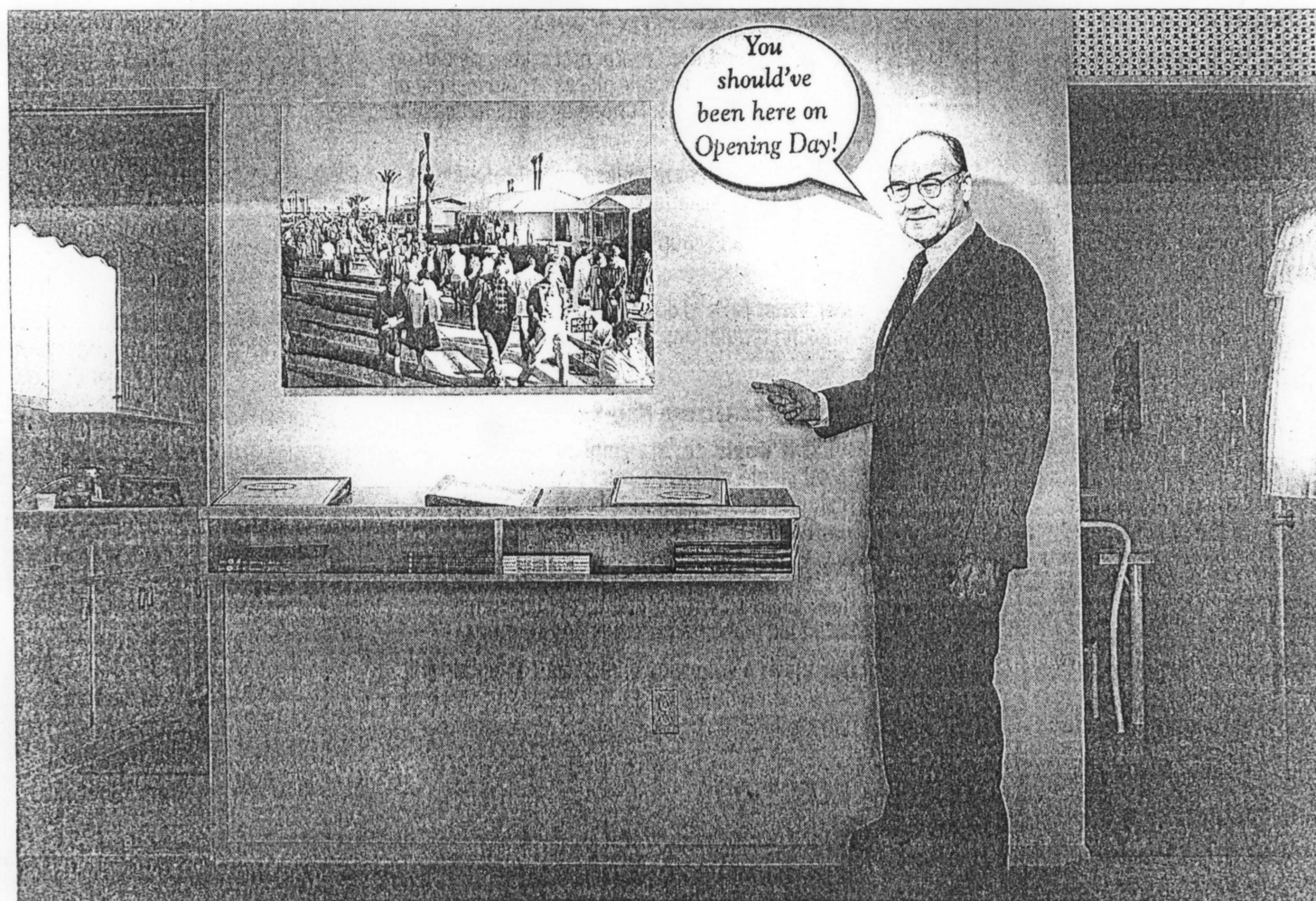


*A
Special
Invitation*

from the

Sun Cities Area Historical Society

Sweet home Sun City



PHOTOS BY THOMAS BOGGAN/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A 6-foot-4-inch cutout of Del Webb greets visitors at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society headquarters in Sun City. The newly remodeled home was made to look the way it did in the 1960s when the community first began.

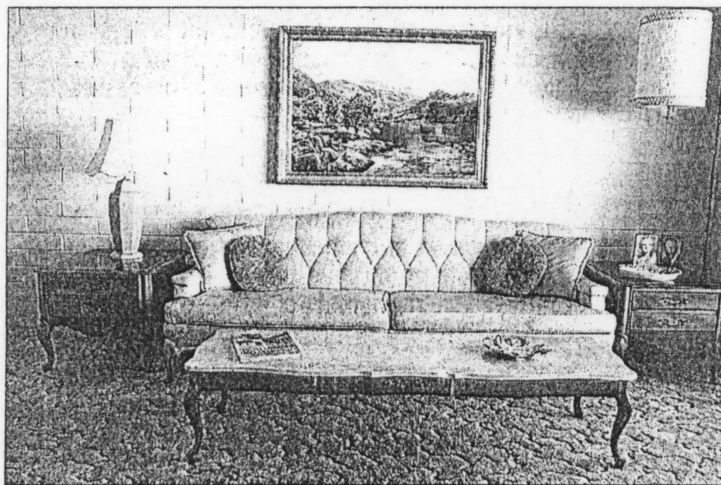
Historical society looks forward to upgrades

ANNIE BOON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Visitors to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society home are now greeted by a life-sized cutout of Del E. Webb as they enter the living room that, while newly remodeled, looks about 66 years old.

"We tried to keep things as close to the beginnings as we could," said Sandy Goldstein, historical society vice president. "We restored the living room to how it looked in the 1960s. We're looking 'Ahead to the Past.'"

The first phase of the remodel to the historical society's headquarters, at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive, is nearly completed. The \$4,500 cost is paid for by grants



The interior of the the Sun City Area Historical Society House in Sun City, photographed Friday, was restored to resemble an original 1960s model home. The society will soon have a public open house to show the changes.

from the Arizona Historical Society, donations from individuals and fund-raisers, said society President Edson Allen at the annual meet-

ing Thursday. However, additional donations are needed to continue improvements, he said.

Improvements include track lighting, inter-

changeable display areas and authentic 1960s-era furniture, found at thrift stores by society volunteers, Allen said.

Possibilities for phase 2 include a flat-screen television to play Sun City educational DVDs and some improvements to the back yard.

A preview open house tour of the remodeled areas will be for society members only Nov. 19.

A public open house will be announced at a later date.

For information about the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, to become a member or to donate to the "Ahead to the Past" improvement project, call 974-2568.

Annie Boon may be reached at 876-2532 or aboone@aztrib.com.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society*

It didn't take Sun City's early birds long to show a desire to do something other than play golf or sit in the sun and count their blessings. T.C. Austin, activities coordinator for the Del Webb Development Corp., reported that the interest shown far exceeded expectations. By April 1960 (only four months after Opening Day!), eight clubs had been organized. These first eight clubs were the Lapidary Club, Ceramic Club, Woodworking Club, Jewelry and Copper Club, Crochet Club, Croquet Club, Lawn Bowling and Shuffleboard. (What—no bridge??) All this activity in only four months! The startled Mr. Austin stated, "We realize that an overall and complete program will take a time. Therefore, DEVCO will assume

all maintenance costs until June 1, 1960." By the beginning of June, those Pioneers had arranged that membership fee would \$1 per person per month, which would allow the members to use the community center, swimming pool, arts and craft rooms, card rooms, shuffleboard and lawn bowling courts.

The membership fee did not cover the cost of supplies; that was left up to each club to define. And, you will notice, golf course privileges were not included in these membership dues. Each of the eight clubs held its own meeting during the month of May. At this meeting members appointed a representative to serve on an overall governing body to be called the Activity Club. In turn, this

group would look after the facilities and coordinate the activities of the various clubs. In June 1960, a general meeting was held, followed by an election of officers for the Activity Club. This was the beginning of organized recreational activity tied in with home ownership, and was truly the fulfillment of Del Webb's dream of what a retirement community should be. This was a venture into uncharted territory, and many changes have since been made. Come visit the Historical Society at 10801 Oakmont Drive, open Tuesday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. Call 974-2568 for more information.



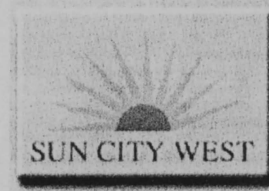
Historical Society bring in treasure

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is offering rummage sale enthusiasts a special treat on October 6-7. Labeled a "Treasure and Trivia" event, much of the merchandise will be unneeded archival material and furnishings accumulated in the more than 20 years the Society has been chronicling the noteworthy activities of the history-making Sun Cities. Proceeds from the sale will assist in the renovation of the Society's headquar-

ters in the first house sold in Sun City nearly 50 years ago. The ongoing program will restore the 1960s environment of the property and feature a life-sized cutout of founder Del Webb greeting visitors. The sale will be at the Society's headquarters at 10801 Oakmont Dr in Sun City, just west of the Oakmont Recreation Centers. Sale times will be from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Society offices will be closed on Thursday October 5 to prepare for the sale. Above, Historical Society volunteers Sale Randle and Belva McIntosh assign prices to items to be on sale.

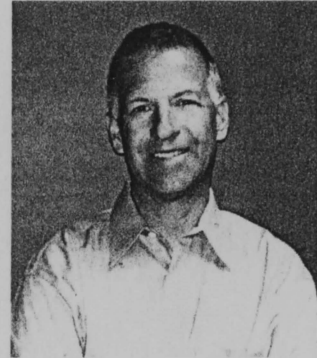
GEORGIA - ILLINOIS - INDIANA - MARYLAND - MASSACHUSETTS

It all started here!



The SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY presents a special program describing how the concept of "Active Retirement" living that started in SUN CITY and SUN CITY WEST has led to other Sun Cities throughout the United States.

Mr. David Schreiner, Pulte Homes' national vice president for adult communities, will discuss the history of what has happened to the Sun City concept after Del Webb's success with this first effort. Hear about the amazing national growth of the Sun Cities, and of Pulte Homes' plans for its future.



A five-minute video segment about Sun City recently aired on Channel 8 will also be shown. A question-and-answer session will follow the presentation.

Admission is free. Light refreshments will be served.

Thursday, November 2, 1:00 p.m.
Hoover Room, Bell Library
Bell Recreation Center
16828 N. 99th Ave., Sun City

Sponsored by

Sun Cities Area Historical Society

10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City
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MICHIGAN - NEVADA - NEW JERSEY - NO. CAROLINA - OHIO - PENNSYLVANIA

Original Sun City sets standard

Town that Webb built serves as model nationwide

ANNIE BOON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun City may have made history 46 years ago as the world's first active adult community, but today, it is still the foundation for a thriving housing and lifestyle empire.

"This concept is still incredibly well-received across the country," said David G. Schreiner, national vice president for

Pulte Homes/Del Webb Adult Communities, during a presentation at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society's annual meeting Thursday.

"The Historical Society is very important to us and is a big part of what makes Del Webb as successful as it is," Schreiner said.

Before it became a retirement mecca with more than 26,000 homes and

40,000 residents, Sun City was a 10,000-acre cotton field in the distant deserts west of Phoenix. Today — after Pulte purchased Del Webb in 2001 — there are more than 50 Pulte/Del Webb active adult communities



Schreiner

across the country.

"We weren't really smart in this business, we just listened," Schreiner said. "Del Webb's hallmark has always been to pay attention and reflect what consumers want."

Schreiner said the original Sun City is largely to thank for pioneering the active retirement lifestyle, and the community's success today further confirms that Del Webb/Pulte's projections for the future are

on target.

With 78.2 million Baby Boomers entering retirement — 7,900 turn 60 every day — Schreiner said there is a solid market for building more Sun Cities or similar communities. Pulte/Del Webb is counting on strong nationwide sales through 2030, he said.

"There are more 70-year-olds, by percentage, that own their own home, more than any other age," he said. "You (seniors) are

the ones with the money."

Because the Del Webb name is widely known and highly respected, Pulte will continue to deploy the Del Webb brand throughout the country, Schreiner said. Since the acquisition of Del Webb, 40 percent of Pulte's profit has been attributed to active adult communities by Del Webb, he added.

While Pulte/Del Webb communities are popping

SEE SUN CITY, A5

SUN CITY: AZ leads nation in new development

FROM A1

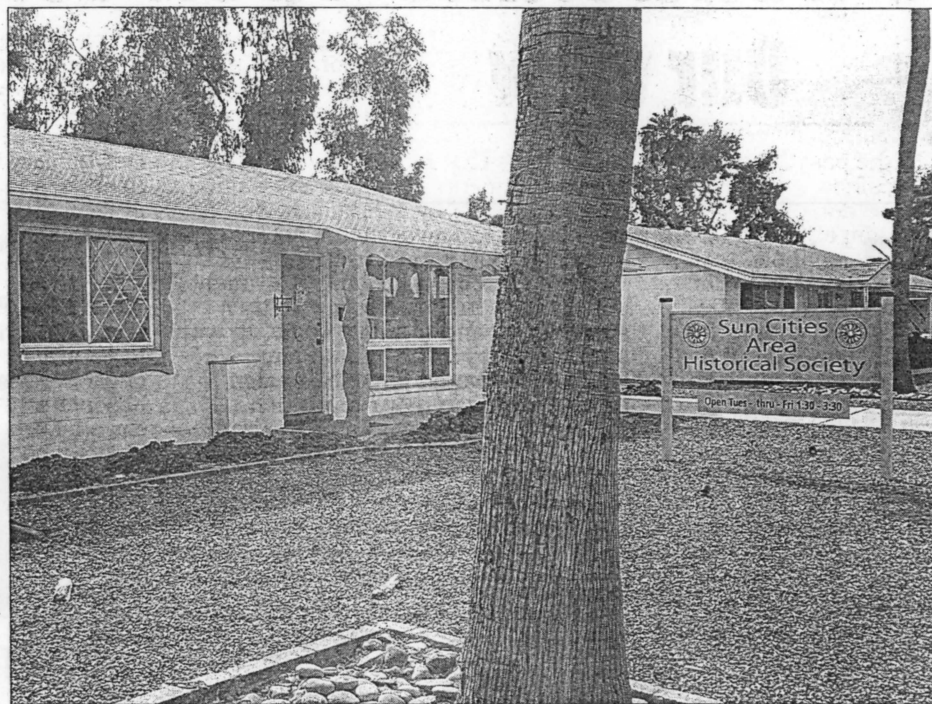
up in places such as South Carolina, Colorado and Illinois, Arizona continues to be a hot spot for new development, the Northwest and Southwest Valleys in particular, Schreiner said.

Approximately one in 10 of the home sales that closed in 2005 were in active adult communities, and 35 percent of all Phoenix area active adult homes closed were in the Sun City area, according to Pulte/Del Webb.

"Del Webb projects a 63 percent increase in active adult closings on the west-side by 2009," Schreiner said of the housing market in western states.

"You're in the happening place," he said.

For information about the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, call 974-2568.



The Sun Cities Historical Society remodeled this Webb model home to resemble the original. Watch for photos in Saturday's Daily News-Sun.

MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Trends to watch for in the Active Adult Community housing market

- Affordable challenges — National median price for homes is reaching \$340,000, and retirees will seek less expensive options.
- Diversity in locations and offerings — Some retirees want a smaller-scale community, some want the sunshine and some want four seasons.
- Work/play cycling — An increasing number of retirees are re-entering the work force, and recreational needs are changing.
- Technology as lifestyle spine — About 80 percent of Pulte/Del Webb residents across the country use the Internet. Amenities must expand to meet higher technological standards.

Source: David G. Schreiner, national vice president for Pulte Homes/Del Webb Adult Communities.

Revamped original Del Webb house debuts

Historical society welcomes members to an open house this weekend

STAFF REPORT

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society debuts its authentic 1960s interior to members Sunday.

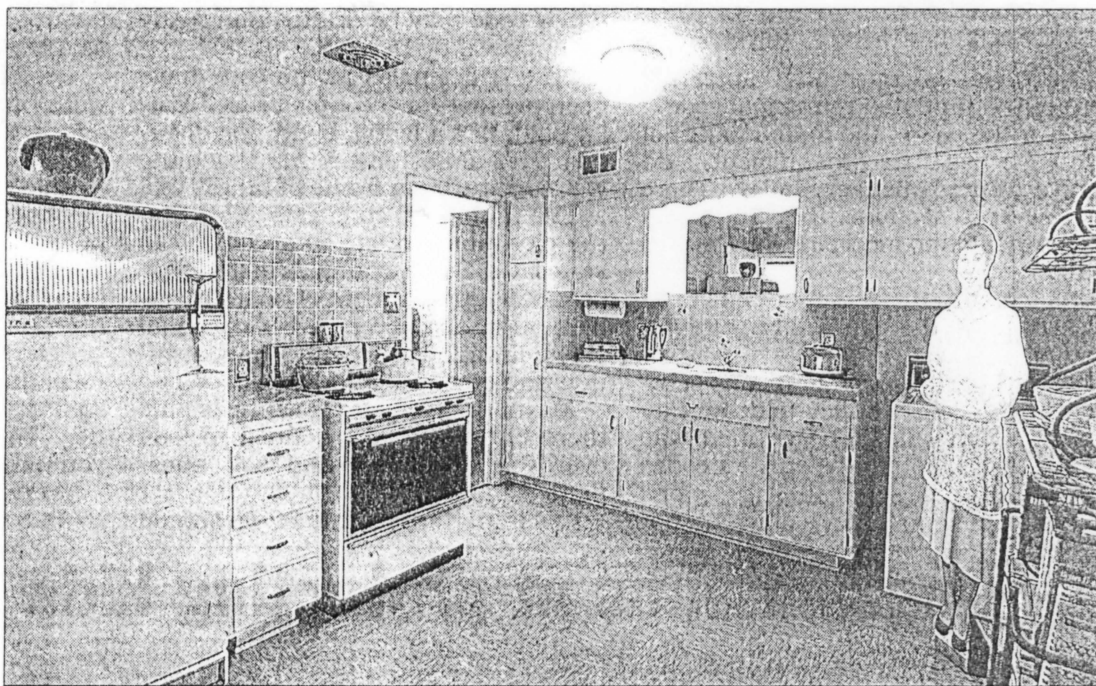
Phase one of the "Ahead to the Past" renovation project is nearly complete, and donations are being accepted to continue into phase two. The society's headquarters, an original Del Webb home at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive, is being revamped to give visitors a feel for how Sun City and Sun City West looked at the outset of the developments.

It features Sun Cities memorabilia, a life-sized cutout of Del Webb in the living room and a cutout of a typical 1960s housewife in the kitchen.

The historical society would like to thank Palmers Plumbing, the Fan Doctor, Denny's TV, Marcella's Interiors and Geno's Carpets for their contributions to the project.

Only historical society members and contributing businesses are invited to Sunday's open house, but an open house for the general public will be announced later this month.

For information about the society or to become a member, call 974-2568.



PHOTOS BY PETE PALLAGI/DAILY NEWS-SUN



Sun Cities Area Historical Society will have an open house Sunday to show off the revamped original model home style of its headquarters. Above, the kitchen has original appliances and fixtures, along with a cut-out of a 1960s housewife. At left is a renovated bathroom, now resembling what it may have looked like when the community was first established. The historical society headquarters is at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive, Sun City. An open house for the general public will be announced soon.



Sun City's first model home now serves as a museum for the Sun Cities Area Historical Society.

CHERYL EVANS/THE REPUBLIC

Group to show off restored digs

THE REPUBLIC

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society this weekend will offer a free preview of the first phase of renovations to its headquarters, which is housed in Sun City's first model home built by Del Webb nearly 50 years ago.

The preview will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive. Refreshments will be served.

The headquarters is filled with early Sun City and Sun City West historical items, memorabilia and photographs, including an exhibit about Sun City's

Opening Day on Jan. 1, 1960. The model home has served as the historical society base since it was purchased by the society in May 1989.

Recent renovations were made possible by donations from local businesses, organizations and individuals. Plumbing repairs, for example, were donated by Palmer's Construction and Remodel of Youngtown.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society headquarters is normally open Tuesdays through Fridays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., or by special appointment. For more information, visit www.scazhistory.org.

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Vicki Berger and Les Roe
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Museum, Tempe**

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Sun City West

Turquoise Questers
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Sun City

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Sun City

Carol Petrarca
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Sun City West

Scott Wolf
Winchester, California



Sun Cities Area Historical Society

*Located in the first model home
built by Del Webb in Sun City.*

10801 Oakmont Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-2568

Open Tuesday through Friday
1:30—3:30 p.m.
or by special appointment.

E-mail: scahs@frys.com
Web site: www.scazhistory.org



The Sun Cities Area Historical Society

*acknowledges the
businesses,
organizations,
and individuals
that have contributed to
the first phase of our
renovation project . . .*

“Ahead to the Past”



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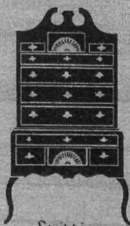
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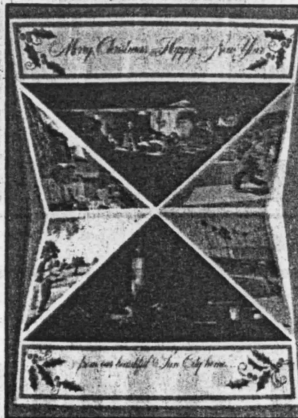
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Submitted photo

Greetings from the past

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is presently featuring a display of holiday greeting cards created by the Del E. Webb Corporation and used to promote the community in the 1960s. The cards were originally sent to residents, but due to popular demand were eventually made available to residents for them to send to family and friends. A limited number of the cards are available for purchase.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society has opened an exhibit featuring Sun City Christmas cards designed by the Del E. Webb Corporation in the 1960s and sent to residents living in the community during that time.

In the early years of the community, the holiday cards were only sent to residents living in Sun City. In the mid-60s, the Webb Corporation printed cards that residents could send to friends and family at Christmas — and thereby helping to promote the Sun City lifestyle to those living outside the community.

A limited number of these nearly 40-year-old cards are available for purchase. Cards are available for \$1 each as long as supplies last.

The Historical Society is located at 10801 Oakmont Ave., Sun City, in one of the first five original model homes that opened Jan. 1, 1960 in Sun City. The society is open 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Exhibit highlights

SC greeting cards

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*Sun Cities Historical Society &
Windermere Real Estate
Present "Ahead to the Past"*

*Community Open House
10801 W. Oakmont, Sun City, AZ
January 13, 2007 - 1 to 3 p.m.*

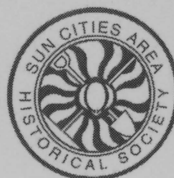


*Join us for an afternoon of Jazz, complimentary hot dogs,
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DIGEST

NEWS

Society to offer tour of 1st model home

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society on Jan. 13 will offer tours of Sun City's first model home, now under renovation as the society's museum. **Page 2**

Take a look at renovation of historic Sun City home

THE REPUBLIC

Sun City's first model home, which dates to 1960, is being restored to its original appearance, and the Sun Cities Area Historical Society is inviting the public to take a peek at its progress.

The house at 10801 W. Oakmont Ave. in Sun City is the historical society's home, and was the smallest of the five model homes available when Sun City opened on Jan. 1, 1960, making a bit of history: It was the first Del Webb retirement community in the nation.

Tours of the house and the historical society's exhibits will be given Jan. 13 from 1 to 3 p.m. Tours will begin on the patio of the Oakmont Recreation Center next door, where there will be hot dogs, chips and bottled water provided by Windermere Realty. A nine-member combo will be playing jazz and easy listening music.

Visitors will be escorted through the house in small groups, viewing changes that have taken place and plans for the future.



Paul Meier paints a 1960 Corvair on the carport wall of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society as Bud Rowbotham, owner of the real Corvair, watches.

New exhibits have been added by the society since the first preview of the restoration in November. A painting of a 1960 Corvair also graces the carport, thanks to artist Paul Meier.

Windermere Realty, Latham Construction, Margie's Laundromat & Cleaners and Meredith Andrews Real Estate Professionals are providing funding for the event.



Submitted photo

Society plans event

Windermere Realty will sponsor an open house for the Sun Cities Historical Society from 1 to 3 p.m. Jan. 13 at the historical society, 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City. The society's home is the first model home built by the Del Webb Corporation prior to the community's opening in 1960. Muralist Paul Meier (kneeling) and Sun City resident Bud Rowbotham compare Bud's Corvair convertible with the sketch of a 1960 model that is being prepared for the carport wall of the society's house.

Historical society plans open house

The Sun Cities Historical Society will hold a Community Open House 1-3 p.m. Jan. 13.

The event takes place at the society's headquarters located in the very first Sun City model home built by the Del Webb Corporation. The building, which also serves as a museum, is located at 10801 Oakmont Ave., Sun City.

The public will be able to tour the facility and view steps being taken to restore the home to its original 1960 appearance. The building was the smallest of the first five model homes built in Sun City.

Tours of the house begin on the patio of Oakmont Recreation Center, which is next door to the historical society. Hot dogs, chips and water will be available and entertainment will be provided by a nine-person jazz combo.

Historical Society Community Open House 1-3 p.m. Jan. 13.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society hosts a tour of a '60s-era home undergoing restoration. Includes food and live jazz. Oakmont Recreation Center, 10725 W. Oakmont Ave., Sun City. **FREE.** (623) 975-1815. scazhistory.org.



Submitted photo

Celebrating history

The Sun Cities Historical Society held an open house Jan. 13 at its headquarters, housed in the very first model home ever built in Sun City. Belva McIntosh directs some of about 250 visitors who toured the building that day. The home, originally sold the very first day Sun City opened — Jan. 1, 1960 — is being renovated to look as it did back in the 1960s. Today, the museum is open 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.



JANUARY 11, 2007

calendar.azcentral.com

© THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*
Going in Circles in Sun City

What does "goes inta" have to do with Sun Cities history? Pioneers must have been flexible, adventure seeking people with a sense of humor! However, the very first people who moved here may not have had one problem that faces every new resident today.

That is the problem of learning to drive in circles, and the "goes intas"—the latter being a term coined by Dave Lindsey, the emcee and entertainer at Yesteryears in Phoenix.

As if driving in Sun City with all of its circles doesn't keep you going in circles, the streets that simply change names as one drives (without a turn) will!

Recently a new AAA driver who had never driven in Sun City was assigned to deliver a battery to a resident stalled on Pineaire Drive. The driver called from 32nd Ave. and Olive and heard these directions: "continue on Olive until you reach 107th Ave., turn right and continue on. The street may be named Mountain View for a few blocks, but it will "go inta" 107th Ave.

After crossing Grand Ave., 107th will "go inta" Del Webb Blvd. Continue until you reach Pineaire Dr., and turn right."

The stalled motorist received a second call that 107th Ave. was blocked by road repair at Hope Dr. and which direction should he take? So now they had to deal with circles—and get back to 107th Ave.!

Do you have an interesting story of driving in circles or lost on the "goes intas"? If so, please "come inta" the Sun Cities Historical Society Museum at 10801 Oakmont Drive and see the beautiful aerial views of our "Cities of Circles" and their connecting "goes intas."

Our hours are 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. For more information, call 974-2568.

Happy New Year from all of us here at the Sun Cities Historical Society.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Sun City's Religious Communities

As part of the original design of Sun City, the Webb Corporation set aside land to accommodate churches and synagogues.

There were only 30 couples in Sun City when Dr. Willis Witt and his wife Gladys came to Sun City in May 1960. They eventually developed a growing congregation that consisted of 61 different denominations. The interest shown by this group persuaded Dr. Witt to take an option on a 3 acre site on 107th Ave. Later the tract, located at 11250 N. 107th Ave., was expanded to accommodate a parsonage—Sun City's first church.

A Catholic parish had already been established for Youngtown, but was yet unnamed. The arrival of Sun Citians gave impetus to the parish

and since so many were grandparents it seemed appropriate to name the parish "St. Joachim's" in honor of the father of the Virgin Mary and the grandfather of Jesus.

Please visit the Sun Cities Historical Society, located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, to learn about further developments these religious communities and their leadership in providing community services such as the first nursing home, day care center and the Sun Cities Sunshine Services.

Hours are Tuesday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

For more information, call 974-2568.

Committee sweetens plans for Sun City's 50th birthday

STAFF REPORT

The Sun City 50th Anniversary planning committee wants to draw a crowd to its meeting from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Social Hall of Lakeview Recreation Center, 105th Avenue and Thunderbird Boulevard.

Sun Cities Area Historical Society and Windermere Real Estate are springing for chocolates and coffee and encourage residents to attend and get involved in the community's golden jubilee beginning Jan. 1, 2010.

DAILY NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 12, 2007

How Sun City Got It's Name

Featuring
Ed Allen

This first *Coffee* is for VOLUNTEERS ONLY.

**Call and make your reservations
Belva McIntosh 974-6563.**

**Reservations are required
Seats for 15 only**

DATE: Monday, February 19

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Sun Cities Historical Society

Coffee and goodies will be served.

First of the series

Groups glimpse into past at Sun City's 1st model home

Residents and visitors of Sun City had an opportunity to step back in history to 1960 when they toured Sun City's first model home at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive.

This is home to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society and was the smallest of five model homes available when Sun City opened Jan. 1, 1960.

Visitors on Jan. 13 were escorted in small groups through the house to view the steps taken to restore Sun City's first model home to its original 1960s appearance. Displays featured the changes that have taken place and those planned for the future.

Tour guests found hot dogs, chips and bottled water waiting for them, courtesy of Windermere Realty, as well as a nine-piece combo playing jazz and easy-listening music at the Oakmont Recreation Center. Additional funding for the event was provided by Latham Construction, Margie's Laundromat & Cleaners and Meredith Andrews Real Estate Professional.

For information, call the Sun Cities Area Historical Society's Edson Allen at 975-1815 or Susan Sommers of Windermere Realty at 824-2543.



Submitted photo

Celebrating history

The Sun Cities Historical Society held an open house Jan. 13 at its headquarters, housed in the very first model home ever built in Sun City. Belva McIntosh directs some of about 250 visitors who toured the building that day. The home, originally sold the very first day Sun City opened — Jan. 1, 1960 — is being renovated to look as it did back in the 1960s. Today, the museum is open 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Becoming a City of Volunteers

Sun City: City of Volunteers. How did that come about?

Last month we focused on the need for volunteers to run the Recreation Centers and serve as civil servants to handle Sun City problems. The Pioneers accepted these challenges with zeal. Due to residents' varied backgrounds, Sun City had a uniquely rich source from which to draw volunteers. We have volunteers helping with all the services for which they themselves may find a need at one time or another in the near future. The Sun City branch of the American Cancer Society, for example, came into being under the leadership of five men and women. Five churches—St. Christopher's, Shepherd of the Desert, Church of the Palms, First Christian and First Methodist—joined the effort

between 1963 and 1965 and were responsible for getting education and crusade programs going.

Sun City services have continued to grow and flourish, as has the number of people to aid in providing each service. Most, if not all, of the human services in Sun City originated when caring people recognized a need and took action; do Sunshine Services, Recreational Reading for the Blind, Interfaith or Meals on Wheels sound familiar?

Come see us at the Sun Cities Historical Museum at 10801 Oakmont Drive and learn all the details. We are open from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

For more information, call 974-2568.

April 2007



SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

You are cordially invited to "Coffee for Members"

3/19/07 10:00 am How Sun City Got Its Name
4/16/07 10:00 am The Start of Youngtown
5/21/07 10:00 am Cotton Bolls to Golf Balls

Reservations Required -- Call 623-974-6563

Held at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society
10801 Oakmont Drive



Submitted photo

Cotton balls to golf balls

The Speakers Bureau of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society offers a variety of entertaining and informative talks. One of the most popular talks is entitled, "From Cotton Balls to Golf Balls," a program that traces the history of the local area from development to cotton fields in the early 1900s, to the nation's first master-planned, active-adult retirement community. Edson Allen is chairman of the society's Speakers Bureau. For information or to secure a speaker, call 974-2568.



SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ya'll come to the
Historical Ho Down
April 30 at 10:00 am

Brang yer thinkin' cap and
brang a cupful of appreciation to share
with all the other wonderful volunteers!
Vittles (lunch) provided

RSVP by Monday April 23—Give a holler 623-974-6563

Held down yander at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society

Dr. John H. Ziegler is a retired college philosophy and
film teacher. Through research in legal documents,
photographs, diaries, newspapers, and scholarly studies,
Dr. Ziegler will examine the famous confrontation as it
looked in the late fall of 1881.

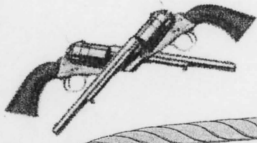
This program is sponsored by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society in cooperation
with the Sun City West Recreation Center and the Arizona Humanities Council.

Arizona
Humanities
Council



Sun City West
Recreation
Center

Sun Cities Area Historical Society
10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-2566 www.scahistory.org



*You've seen the famous gunfight in the movies —
Now find out what really happened!*

**Step back in time to 1881 in Tombstone as
Dr. John H. Ziegler investigates
"GUNFIGHT AT THE OK CORRAL"**

**Friday, March 30, 2007 - 1 p.m.
R. H. Johnson Recreation Center Lecture Hall
19803 R. H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West
(Between the Village Store and the Bowling Pavilion)**

**ADMISSION IS FREE!
Light refreshments will be served.**



Dr. John H. Ziegler is a retired college philosophy and film teacher. Through research in legal documents, photographs, diaries, newspapers, and scholarly studies, Dr. Ziegler will examine the famous confrontation as it looked in the late fall of 1881.

This program is sponsored by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society in cooperation with the Sun City West Recreation Centers and the Arizona Humanities Council.



**Sun Cities Area Historical Society
10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-2568 www.scazhistory.org**

Community Events

Minnesota Club Plans Activities

The social activities of the Minnesota Club have been suspended for the summer months. The board, however, has met and come up with a sizzling calendar of events for 2007-2008. In order to avoid missing any of these get-togethers, we suggest you mark your calendars with these dates:

Saturday, November 10

Welcome Back Luncheon

Union Hills Country Club

Featuring entertainment by The Beach Bums, performing folk songs, music from the 50s and 60s and country and western.

Friday, December 7

Holiday Luncheon

Officers Club, Luke AFB

Dennis Murphy will provide music to

dance by, sing along with or just sit back and enjoy. Lots of prizes and a 50/50 drawing.

Thursday, January 10

Wine and Cheese

Community Center, Sun City West

Wednesday, February 20

Luncheon and matinee performance of "Fiddler on the Roof"

Arizona Broadway Theatre, Peoria

Thursday, March 27

Annual Picnic

Beardsley Park, Sun City West

April

Beer and Pizza Party (time and place to be determined)

For information on events or membership, call 546-0557.

Clay Club Begins Work on "Empty Bowls"

The Sun City Clay Club and friend Duncan Tweed of Ironwood High, a member of Arizona Clay, had a great workday Saturday, April 21. The club members got started on the bowls that they will contribute to

stores in the Valley, since not every one can get into Phoenix for the main event. The 2007 Empty Bowls event will be held in October; the specific date is to be announced.

Over the last 17 years the Sun City

Community Events

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Volunteer Bureau Taps Talent and Volunteer Spirit of Sun Citians

What was your first thought when you read the sign "Sun City—City of Volunteers"? What thoughts did it conjure up? Are you acquainted with the Volunteer Bureau? Its motto is "Caring, Sharing, Serving." Does this tempt you to read on?

The Bureau was conceived in 1981 by the Community Council as a means of tapping the wellstream of volunteers available and needed in the Sun Cities area. After a year of assessing needs, the council voted in 1982 to assist in the organization of such a group.

Today, the Bureau's recruits assume such widely varied roles as office workers, tutors and teacher's aides. They support cultural resources by serving as tour guides and library aides. They man information desks and provide services to museums and theaters, not to mention work with the handicapped, drive and share other special talents.

As of February 1984 over 200 jobs consisting of more than 100 types of services were available through the Bureau.

The work of this group verifies the adage "You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give." The financial generosity of Sun Citians is a matter of record, but the quality of their volunteerism is what sets them apart.

Please come in to see us at the Sun Cities Historical Society, where you can learn more about this active and capable Bureau. The Museum is located at 10808 Oakmont Drive next door to the Oakmont Recreation Center. Summer hours for the Museum are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. For more information, call 974-2568.

SUN VIEWS REC. CTRS S.C. June 2007

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

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A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Sunshine Comes to Sun Citians

Looking back to the early days of Sun City, one must really applaud the manner in which caring residents recognized the needs of fellow Sun Citians—and took action. The development of the Sun City Sunshine Service Inc. is a splendid example. At the prodding of concerned residents, in 1961 the forerunners of the Home Owners Association created a Sunshine Committee to aid those who could not afford to pay the modest \$40 recreation fee.

The committee learned that the cost of renting a hospital bed—not an uncommon need in a retirement community—was \$35 per month, again a prohibitive cost for many. The committee spent half of its remaining treasury to buy three beds and mattresses from Memorial Hospital, and one kind person donated money for a fourth bed. Other items such as wheelchairs and walking aids were added, and these items were loaned

free of charge starting in the spring of 1962.

Eventually the storage of all these items became a real problem. The Del Webb Corporation was consulted and they were willing to provide a lot and, at cost, construct a building. However, before this could happen, the Sunshine Committee would have to be incorporated. On July 1, 1965, the newly named Sunshine Service, Inc. received from DEVCO the key to a 30 by 50-foot building located at 10307 Coggins Dr.

Come visit the Sun Cities Historical Society located at 10801 Oakmont Drive to follow the development of Sunshine Service. The Society is open from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

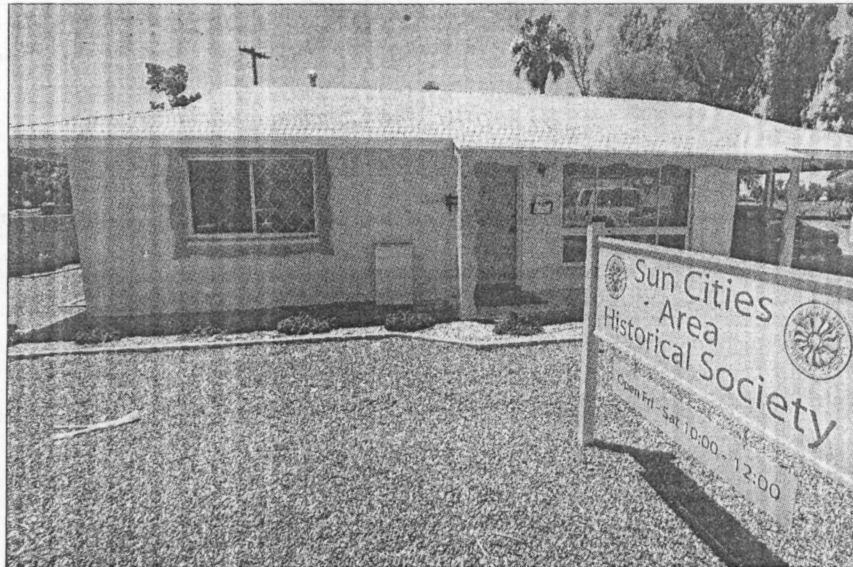
For more information, call 974-2568.

SUN VIEWS

Rec. Cntrs Sun City

May 2007

AZ. REPUBLIC



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL GING/THE REPUBLIC

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society headquarters is housed in one of Sun City's original model homes, which opened in 1960.

Historical society receives helping hand from Pulte

THE REPUBLIC

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society's headquarters got a bit of a face lift this week, thanks to Pulte Homes' interest in preserving local history.

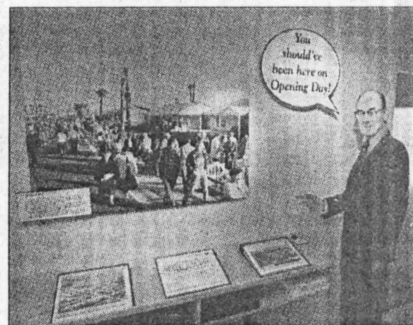
The historical society's museum and headquarters is, appropriately enough, inside the Kentworth House, one of the first five model homes built by Del Webb in 1959. Located at 10801 Oakmont Drive in Sun City, it was to this house that hundreds of buyers flocked on Jan. 1, 1960, when homes went on sale in the original Sun City, the first retirement community of its kind.

David Verble, a historical society spokesman, said business was so brisk that first day that Del Webb ran out of sales receipts. These days, however, the building's sub-flooring needed repairs, as age was causing it to deteriorate and the building was in danger of shifting on its concrete pad.

"The structure sort of crumbled in the floor area," Verble said.

Pulte Homes, which bought Del Webb Corp. in 2001, provided free labor and materials on Tuesday to stabilize the flooring.

The historical society also beefed up some of its exhibits recently and "we're really making strides in attracting the public," Verble said. The museum depicts the history of the area dating back to pre-Sun City days, when it was a cotton farming com-



The Sun Cities Area Historical Society headquarters serves as a museum featuring the area's past.

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The museum's summer hours, through the end of August, are 10 a.m. to noon Fridays and Saturdays. The rest of the year, it is open from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays. More info: (623) 974-2568 or www.scazhistory.org/.

Historic home gets fresh floor

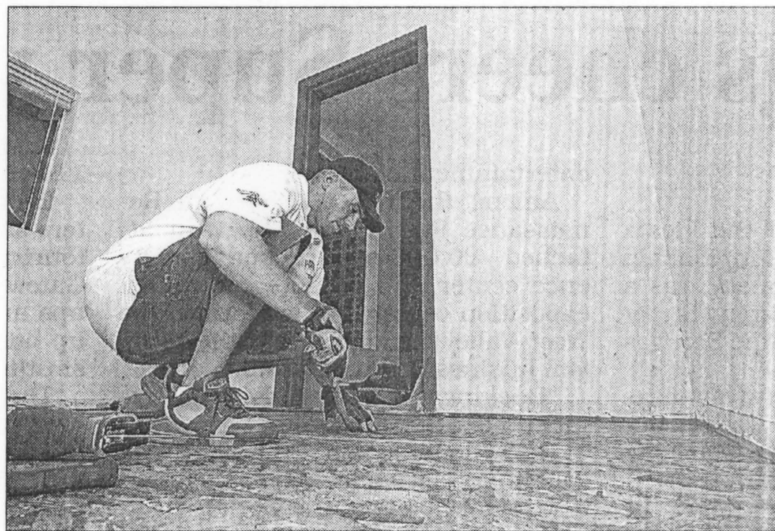
STAFF REPORT

Pulte Homes installed a new floor Wednesday in a room of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society museum, giving it a small facelift.

David Verble, a board member and vice president of the historical society, said the floor began to crumble, so they asked Pulte Homes to replace it. The room, the original sales office for Sun City in the 1950s, is an addition to the home.

"We noticed the floor became spongy and gave way to people's weight," he said.

Crystal Patriarche, a Pulte spokeswoman, said



PETE PALLAGI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A room in the Sun Cities Area Historical Society received a new floor from Pulte Homes Wednesday, with the aid of their customer relations manager Zach Stewart.

they were glad to help replace the floor as one of their community service projects.

"It's an honor to help preserve history with this mu-

seum," she said.

The historical society museum was one of the five original model homes builder Del Webb showed prospective buyers.

From the Editor

Sun City continues to evolve as area expands

By Zach Colick

Independent Newspapers

The landscape of the West Valley has changed considerably over the past 50 years for many living in Sun City — and most noticeably for younger generations like me over the past decade.

I bet many can remember the days when corn and cotton fields were as abundant as the number of car dealerships dotting Bell Road, and Sun City was an isolated community, separated from the hustle and bustle of Phoenix.

I remember a West Valley (barely) 10 years ago that was home to Arrowhead Towne Center — and that's about it.

Give me a break; I am only 23 years old.



Zach Colick

What do you think?

How has Sun City grown since you became a resident?

• Public forums

www.newszap.com

• 24-hour Speak Out line

623-445-2892

• E-mail

zcolick@newszap.com

Some mere 10 years ago, I remember driving west on Bell Road from Scottsdale with my dad for what seemed like hours as we wanted to see a movie that was only playing at the AMC movie theater inside Arrowhead Towne Center.

Heck, I did not even know Sun City was virtually right down the road located just outside the Phoenix metropolitan area.

But I have come to discover during my almost one-year tenure at Independent Newspapers that Sun City offers a wealth of golf courses

and recreation centers to more than 40,000 people.

Last week, the Sun City Home Owners Association reminded me and others how much Sun City has evolved over the past 40-plus years when they invited Ruby Wells from the Sun City Historical Society to speak about the area's growth.

Ms. Wells discussed how Del Webb Corp. heard from people skeptical of the idea that seniors would want to live 17 miles away from the Phoenix metro area, isolated from their children and grandchildren.

However, we all know the active adult retirement living style was a hit from the get go.

Established on 10,000 acres of farmland, Sun City opened in January 1960 when carloads of people lined up for miles on Grand Avenue and converged on the newly ordained active retirement community.

Sun City already had five model homes, a recreation center, golf course and shopping center built

on opening day.

"A new kind of living began to flower," Ms. Wells said.

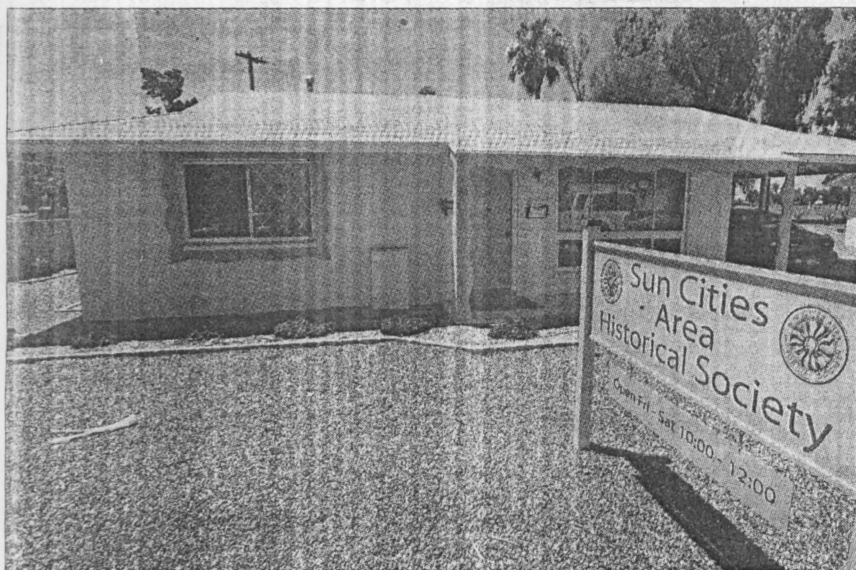
From there, Phase Two and Phase Three were eventually built north of Grand Avenue — once a two-lane road primarily used to travel to Wickenburg — and more recreation centers and golf courses were constructed.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society, 10801 Oakmont Drive, can be reached at 623-974-2568 or by visiting www.scazhistory.org.

It is open 10 a.m.-noon Friday and Saturday or by special appointment in June, July and August.

Share your thoughts on how Sun City has grown over the years and what you enjoy most about living here by sending a Letter to the Editor or visiting www.newszapforums.com/forum29.

Editor's note: Zach Colick is News Editor of the Sun Cities Independent. He can be reached at 623-972-6101 or zcolick@newszap.com.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL GING/THE REPUBLIC

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society headquarters is housed in one of Sun City's original model homes, which opened in 1960.

Historical society receives helping hand from Pulte

THE REPUBLIC

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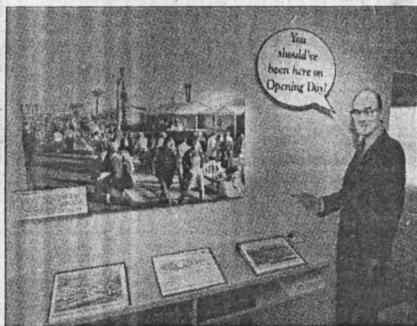
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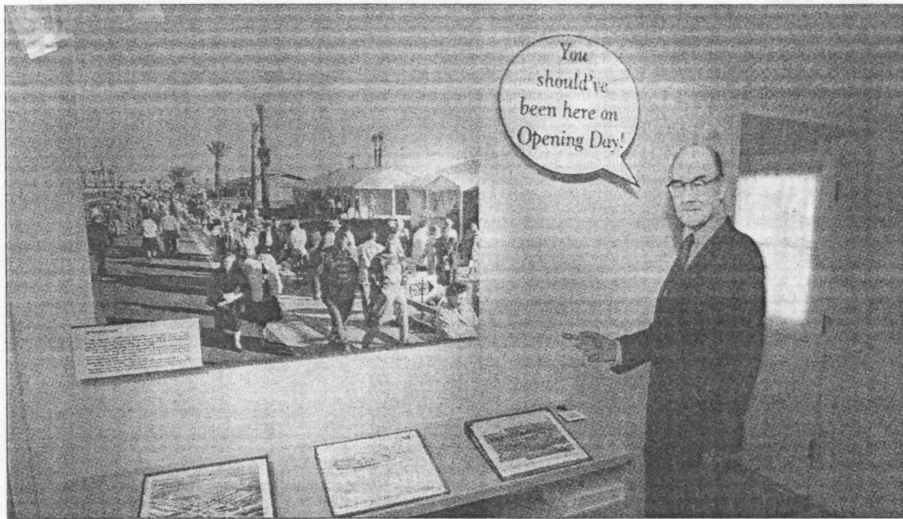
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FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2007

NW VALLEY NEWS
AZ. REPUBLIC



MICHAEL GING/THE REPUBLIC

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society headquarters is a museum dedicated to the area's past. It is getting a face lift, thanks to Pulte Homes.

Pulte shores up historical site

THE REPUBLIC

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See **PULTE** Page 17

Historical building receives face lift

PULTE

Continued from Page 16

City, the first retirement community of its kind.

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MICHAEL GING/THE REPUBLIC

Pulte Homes employees Darryl Dineyazhe (left) and Zac Stewart tear up the floor at the Kentworth House.

The museum depicts the history of the area dating back to pre-Sun City days, when it was a cotton farming community known as Marinette.

Tuesdays through Fridays. More info: (623) 974-2568 or www.scazhistory.org/.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Pioneers Sought a Physician for Sun City

Picture if you will, Sun City as a sleepy village that has just grown to 500 strong, synonymous with quality at its best, with residents enjoying their newly acquired leisure. There was a gnawing, growing concern, however, that they couldn't find some of life's necessities just around the corner. At the top of the list was medical care. There was neither a facility nor a physician nearby.

Long before this, Del Webb had realized that a retirement community without health care would be hard to sell. The DEVCO builders had started construction on a \$75,000 medical clinic and had promised to supply it with all basic medical equipment. There were waiting rooms, treatment rooms, labs and x-ray rooms—but no doctor.

Finally one physician, Dr. Robert Stump, was interested in slowing down and found the sleepy village of Sun City interesting. Dr. Stump had initially started as a Santa Fe Railroad doctor in the

wilds of northern Arizona. After suffering through primitive situations, he finally built himself and his patients a hospital in Winslow. Now, Sun City looked very attractive. As luck would have it, a problem appeared immediately as Dr. Stump had a 10-year-old son. How would you, had you been one of those 500 residents, have solved this? With an up-to-date facility ready to go—and no physician?

Come to the Sun Cities Historical Society located at 10801 Oakmont Drive and learn not only how this urgent problem was resolved, but also about the continuing changes that have been made to bring us the myriad of services we now enjoy today. Summer hours for the Museum are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon, and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. For more information, call 974-2568.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

The Story of Sun City's "Dog-Gone" Fire Hydrants

The "dog days" of summer call to mind a situation that one early pioneering resident brought to the attention of our community. And, like a dog with a bone, he worried about it until he found a solution to his liking. In June 1965 Mr. H.K. Mulcahy, an early resident, learned that if one lived within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant, insurance companies would adjust rates, saving the homeowner \$6 to \$13 per year on insurance. But there were no hydrants in Sun City!

Mr. Mulcahy's next move was to visit the water company where he learned that the company could install a hydrant for \$675. This sent the earnest problem-solver to discuss the situation with his neighbors and friends. Ultimately, he collected \$10 from those who considered this a problem. The *Daily News-Sun* eventually figured prominently in the story when on October 21, 1965, the paper printed an editorial concerning the situation. However, nothing happened until December 2, 1965,

when a resident, writing humorously for his dog, had this letter printed in the *Daily News-Sun*: "The past six months or so, there has been considerable agitation going around here regarding the purchase and installation of fire hydrants. Maybe it means that we dogs may soon get to enjoy this thoughtful addition to the landscape."

Now, the community responded. In time for Christmas 48 hydrants were installed at no cost to the residents; Mr. Mulcahy was refunded his \$675. By July man and beast were smiling and safe!

Come visit the Sun Cities Historical Society, located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, to learn more tales of the problems of our early pioneers and how they were resolved. Summer hours are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

For more information, call 974-2568.

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Getting Around Sun City

Do you ever have transportation problems within Sun City? Have you ever wondered about transportation in the early days or how it changed over the years? Initially, in 1963 Del Webb put a trolley on the street called a "Shop Lifter." The custom-built 25-seat open trailer, pulled by a jeep, carried residents and visitors from the Grand Shopping Center to stops around the neighborhood. Alas, it was discontinued after two years.

Soon thereafter the Sun Cities Merchant's Association met and on December 12, 1965, bus line operator Arthur Lambert of Youngtown announced that bus service would start in January. DEVCO owned the gleaming red and white 18-seat "minibus" but leased it to Mr.

Lambert. In 1969 the popular van was replaced by a new and larger Bluebird bus, freshly painted in bright sunburst colors. The service made hourly rounds from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. six days a week and on Sundays if there were enough requests.

Come visit the Historical Society located at 10801 Oakmont Drive to learn how the Molly Trolley followed the "Bluebird" and about the ups and downs that ensued to provide and maintain local transportation in Sun City. Summer hours for the Museum are Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and other hours by appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program. For more information, call 974-2568.

History museum closes for renovation

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society will close its museum and headquarters for renovations. The museum, located at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive in Sun City, will remain closed through Sept. 4.

The museum will resume

regular hours of 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, beginning Sept. 4.

The Historical Society is an all-volunteer organization that seeks to preserve and record the history of the Sun Cities. Call 623-974-5377 or 623-974-2568 to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

The society's board of directors is also seeking a candidate to serve on its board. If interested,

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT August 8, 2007

Historical society closes for revamp

STAFF REPORT

The museum of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society has been undergoing major renovations.

To complete these renovations, the museum will be closed to the public until Sept. 3. The museum will reopen at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 4, with regular hours from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is an all-volunteer organization. Those who would like to help preserve history in the first home built by Del Webb in Sun City, or act as guides through the museum are asked

to call the society at 974-2568 or Jane Freeman at 974-5377. Materials and training will be provided. Training sessions are scheduled for August and October, when winter residents return.

The board of trustees also is made of volunteers, who serve three-year terms. Candidates are needed for secretary of the board, as well as editor of the quarterly newsletter. Those interested in either position should send their information by mail to David Verble at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351.

DAILY NEWS-SUN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2007

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

How the Sun City Posse Was Born

The Sheriff's Posse of Sun City was the brainchild of Louis Inwood, who proposed the formation of a reserve Squadron to the Sun City Board of Directors in 1962. This idea was lost under the more urgent business of community growth until 1973.

Eventually, Andy Wagner, the Sheriff's Chief Civilian Aide and Director, became the organizer and founder of a new unit called the Sheriff's Posse of Sun City. This new group boasted 52 dedicated men and women. All 52 were given legal status as peace officers after a security check by the FBI and approval of the Sheriff.

On October 30, 1973, the new Posse held its first election of officers. There

was instant confusion when the troops hit the street as no one had considered uniforms, and one could not tell the prowlers from the Posse! A white plastic helmet with a Sheriff's emblem and a whistle on a gold chain became the first uniform.

Please visit the Sun Cities Historical Society located at 10801 Oakmont Drive and learn how the Posse's duties have increased as Sun City grew in number to some 12,000 homes. Hours at the Museum are 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 pm Tuesday through Friday, and other hours by special appointment. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

For more information, call 972-2568.

SUN Views Reprints S.C. OCT 2007

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Taking PRIDE In Sun City

Do you know what "the PRIDES" stands for? They are Proud Residents Independently Donating Essential Services and they've been busy doing just that since 1980—keeping Sun City clean and beautiful.

In 1980 DEVCO turned over to Maricopa County the responsibility for Sun City streets and the beautifully landscaped medians and the parkways that went with them. The County accepted this but the Board of Supervisors found they only could assign six full-time positions for total maintenance. By this time the city had 45,000 residents, spread over eleven square miles, with 210 miles of streets and 32,000 trees and plantings on the medians alone.

Upon reading this, Joseph McIntyre wrote a letter to the editor of the *Daily News-Sun*, calling for volunteers to

meet with him to assist the County in the care and grooming of Sun City. Only three volunteers appeared for that first meeting, but the number was doubled by the next week. By the spring of 1982, the number of volunteers grew to roughly 400. The Sun City PRIDES were ready to incorporate!

Come visit the Sun City Historical Society Museum located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, and learn the details about the PRIDES' organizational structure and funding, as well as their pride in being the PRIDES.

The museum is open from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 pm Tuesday through Friday and other hours by special arrangement. Speakers are available for those desiring a program.

For more information, call 972-2568.

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

October 31, 2007

Meet Your Neighbor: Belva McIntosh

Age: 83

Town/Neighborhood: Quail Run, Sun City

What I like most about living here: Among many others, all the amenities Sun City has to offer.

Changes I'd like to see: Maybe less air pollution.

What I'm excited about: Historical Society, because the history of Sun City is so fascinating and it is fun sharing it with others.

Favorite community cause & why: Interfaith Community Services. They provide so many needed services to people in the community.

When & Why I moved Here: We moved here in 1979. We had

both retired and were looking for a good place to get out of the cold, and Sun City had so much to offer.

Where I lived before & why I left: We lived in Utah and we were both retiring from our jobs.

My family: I have two sons, one in Utah and one in Colorado. I have two daughters, one in Sun City Grand and one living with me.

What I do: I volunteer at the Historical Society, Interfaith Community Services and Meals on Wheels.

What I like most about what I do: The more I learn about the history of Sun City the more pleasure I get out of sharing it. Both Interfaith and Meals on Wheels

make me feel good about helping people.

My interests & hobbies: Crocheting, working and playing on the computer and learning to play the organ.

The best and/or worst time in my life: Best time -- when my children were small. Worst time -- when my husband died.

Best/worst habits: Neatness is both good and bad.

People who inspired me: My mother, by her good example.

Philosophy: Accept people as they are.

Advice to today's youth: Get to know and understand people before making judgments.



SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

RELEASE: week of Oct. 8, 2007

COFFE HOUR FOR SCAHS MEMBERS

Grace Nix Havlik will speak at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society members coffee on Monday, October ²²~~15~~, 2007. She will talk on the legacy left by her father, Fred Kabica, including the mural at the SUNDOME.

The meeting is for Museum members only and starts at 10 a.m. and will be held at the Museum, 10801 Oakmont Drive.

Seating is limited and members wishing to attend are asked to call Ann at 623-486-3201



SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

You are cordially invited to "Coffees for Members"

Oct 22, 2007 10:00 am How the Sundome Got Its Mural^{*}
Nov 12, 2007 10:00 am How Sun City Grew

Reservations Required -- Call 623-486-3201

Held at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society
10801 Oakmont Drive

68

41
Speaker: GRACE NIX HAVLIK

* Father - Fred Kabica

Sun Cities Area Historical Society
10801 Oakmont Drive
Sun City

THE NORTH WESTER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007

Treasures, trivia on sale

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society will hold its annual Treasures & Trivia Sale Oct. 18-19, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds from the sale help pay for operating costs of its museum located at 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City. For information, call 623-974-2568.

Treasures and Trivia

Garage Sale
October 18 and 19, 2007
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
10801 Oakmont Drive



Something for everyone

If you have anything you would like to contribute to the sale, for the benefit of SCAHS, please bring the items in before October 10th. No clothing, please.

Get your kicks with Route 66 flashback

Richard and Sherry Mangum, co-authors of "Route 66 Across Arizona" will describe the golden days of this important highway at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society's annual meeting at 1 p.m. Thursday in the Hoover Room of the Sun City Library in Bell Recreation Center, 16828 N. 99th Ave.

Residents of Flagstaff, the Mangums have published a dozen books and scores of articles about northern Arizona and have been chosen as Arizona Culture Keepers. The Arizona Humanities Council will sponsor their appearance in Sun City.

Route 66 was described as "America's Main Street" by its boosters and as the "Mother Road" by John Steinbeck. Although it crossed eight states, Arizona was the part that stuck in people's minds. The road was of great value to the state, not only for the tourist dollars it pumped into cash registers along the route, but for creating an image of Arizona that drew many people to the area.

The program will be full of old photographs, maps and other illustrations. The meeting is free to the public. Light refreshments will be served. The society is at 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City. For information, call 623-974-2568 or visit www.scazhistory.org.

DAILY NEWS-SUN NOVEMBER 6, 2007

Route 66 explored by historical society

Richard and Sherry Mangum, co-authors of "Route 66 Across Arizona," will describe the golden days of this important highway 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8 in the Hoover Room of Sun City Library, 16828 N. 99th Ave.

Route 66 was described as "America's Main Street" by its supporters and as the "Mother Road" by John Steinbeck. Songs were written about it and a television series celebrated it. Arizona is one of eight states the highway crossed and it provided great value to the state in tourist dollars and creating an image of Arizona that appealed to millions and drew more people to the state.

The presentation is free and open to the public.

Residents of Flagstaff, the Mangums have published a dozen books and scores of articles about northern Arizona and were chosen as Arizona Culture Keepers. Their Sun City appearance is sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council.

WY LIVING

ARIZONA A Republic

20 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2007

MEETINGS

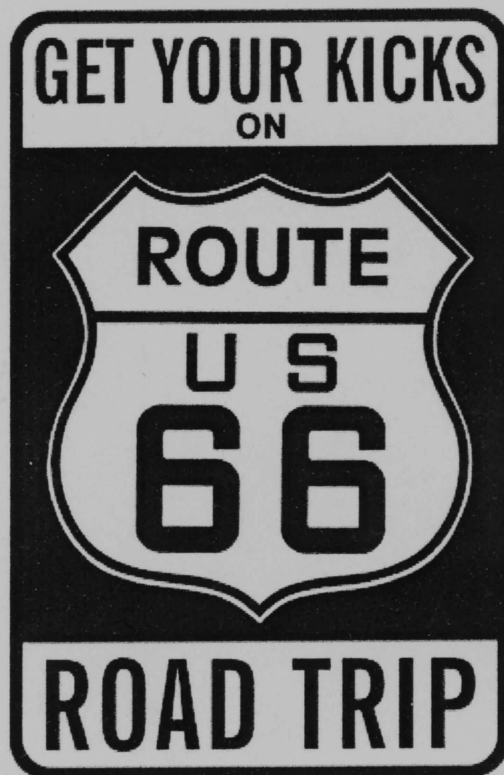
Sun Cities Area Historical Society — 1 p.m. Co-authors Richard and Sherry Mangum will describe the golden days of Route 66, "America's Main Street" by its boosters and as the "Mother Road" by John Steinbeck. In the Hoover Room of the **Sun City** Library, 16828 N. 99th Ave. 623-975-1815.

Annual Meeting
Sun Cities Area Historical Society

1:00 p.m., November 8, 2007
Hoover Room at Sun City Library

ROUTE 66 ACROSS ARIZONA
a Travel Adventure

With Richard & Sherry Mangum



Arizona
Humanities
Council

Sharing cultures. Enriching communities.



Sun Cities Area Historical Society A REVIEW OF 2007

January Open House Jump-Started the Year! On a rainy windy day, more than 250 people showed up for a tour of the Society's house on Oakmont. Thanks to the folks at Windermere West Valley Real Estate, there was food to munch on while waiting, and music to help make the time fly by. Due to the record crowd, tours had to be brief – and many people returned later for a more leisurely look.



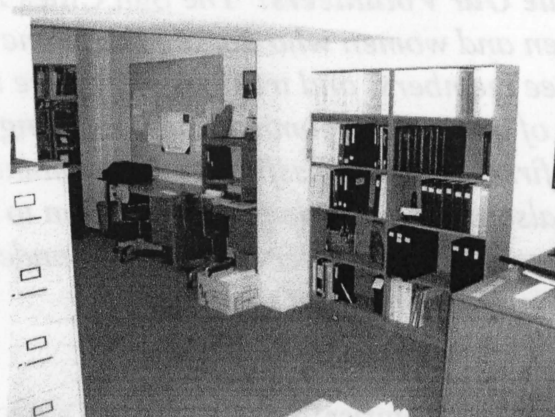
Membership Up 40%!! The Open House brought the Society great publicity, and 13 memberships were purchased at the event. A new membership brochure, an increased number of visitors, and the efforts of the Membership Committee to encourage renewals, all contributed to the largest boost in the Society's membership base since it was formed in 1986.

"Ahead to the Past" Project Nears Completion! In 2006, the focus was on the living room, showing how it might have looked in 1960 when this was a model home. In 2007, new photo enlargements were added to give a better feeling of the exciting Jan. 1, 1960 opening weekend. Other changes this year, included:

A compact Media Center was created in what was once a front bedroom. Film and VHS copies of significant events in the life of Sun City have been transferred to DVDs, and are available for visitors' viewing. The original Del Webb promotional film shown to visitors back in the 1960s – "The Beginning" – has proved so popular that we now have copies for sale. It's an entertaining look at the cars, fashions, and activities popular in that era. Visitors can also listen to taped interviews with early "pioneers," as well as with key individuals that helped shape the Sun Cities.



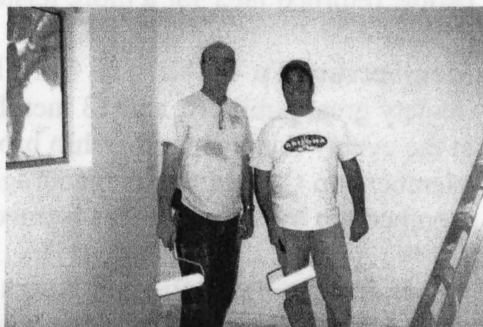
The Office Area was rearranged for greater efficiency, and has a fresh, new look thanks to some great furniture finds at the Habitat for Humanity outlet store. Volunteers spent countless hours reorganizing the content of filing cabinets and shelves, greatly reducing the space required. Long-time member/docent/archivist/trustee Phyllis Street donated a new copy machine to speed up the task of preserving clippings, articles and other documents regarding the history of the Sun Cities.



Transparent cabinet doors were added to a hall closet to display a silver tea and coffee set donated by former, long-time trustee and volunteer, Ruth Morton. Many retirees brought such sets with them when they moved to Arizona – but few have used them since. A '60s period table and chair set was added to the kitchen, and the Society was given a table and chair set from the old King's Inn.

Marinette Room Stabilized! Originally the first Sun City sales office, this small building was added to the house in 1990. It has been used to display photos and history of the Marinette community that preceded Sun City. Over the years, the floor had become spongy and in need of reinforcement. Pulte Homes came to the rescue, and carpenters found that a main supporting joist had turned sideways. They replaced it, strengthened the other supports, and replaced the flooring and carpeting at no expense to the Society. While working on that project, they also examined the attic and offered to add insulation to help reduce our heating and cooling expense. Thank you, Pulte Homes!

Once the room repairs were complete, Al Carter and George Ramsey from Windermere gave the room a fresh coat of paint. New photos provided by former Marinette resident, Amanda Durand, now add to the story told in this room.



Thanks to Other Businesses! Latham Construction was not only a sponsor of the January open house, but sent Brian Toner over to replace rotted fascia around the back and side of our building. Earlier in the year, Benson & Tuffs Financial Services underwrote the cost of printing our new membership brochure.



Creating Interest in History! The society's quarterly newsletter keeps members aware of our communities' past, and the work of the Society. Our friends at Windermere covered the cost of printing and distributing this newsletter during 2007. With the help of the Arizona Humanities Council, the Society hosted a spring meeting featuring the "Gunfight at OK Corral." Another way the Society serves the communities is through a Speakers Bureau that provides informative and entertaining talks about the area's past. Eighteen presentations have been made so far this year, to a collective audience of more than 400 people.

We Salute Our Volunteers! *The Sun Cities Area Historical Society wishes to thank the many men and women who donate their time and energy serving as docents, archivists, committee members, and trustees. They are rewarded by the satisfaction of preserving the past of our unique communities, learning more about the fascinating history of the world's first, truly successful, adult communities, and sharing that story with others. The Society also extends its deep appreciation to the members, businesses, and organizations who donated funds and services to help underwrite its expenses. We couldn't accomplish our mission without all of you!*

A Taste of Sun City History *presented by the Sun Cities Historical Society*

Music to Sun City's Ears

As preparations are underway to celebrate another "milestone" in the life of Sun City, it seems appropriate to acknowledge a group that had its beginnings in 1968: the Sun City Symphony Orchestra.

Early in 1968 Jennings Butterfield, a musician living in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, listened to a radio program featuring Barry Goldwater and as he was extolling the virtues of Arizona, he mentioned a place called Sun City. The next morning Dr. Butterfield called the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and learned that Sun City did not have an orchestra. The Butterfields moved to Sun City. After countless hours and miles of travel, Butterfield managed to recruit an orchestra with players from all over the Valley—the Flagstaff Fes-

tival, Luke Air Force Base, music students from Arizona State, the Phoenix Symphony, as well as local volunteers. Sun City became the first retirement community to have a 65-musician orchestra. Imagine the hours of organizing, securing music and practicing required to have the first concert on November 24, 1968. The concert was given in the Mountain View Recreation Center to a "sellout" audience.

Come visit the Sun Cities Historical Society at 10801 Oakmont Drive for the rest of this fascinating story.

Our hours are Tuesday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and other hours by special arrangement. Speakers are available for groups desiring a program.

For more information, call 974-2568.

Arizona Historical Society
Tucson

Vicki Berger and Les Roe
**Arizona Historical Society
Museum**, Tempe

Sandpainters Questers
Sun City West

Turquoise Questers
Sun City

Terry and Mary Jo Fear
Richardson, Texas

Esther Ismande
Sun City West

Eugene Jensen
Sun City

Constance W. McMillin
Sun City

Carol Petrarca
Sun City West

George Ruck
Sun City West

Roseann Wagner
Sun City West

Scott Wolf
Winchester, California



Sun Cities Area Historical Society

*Located in the first model home
built by Del Webb in Sun City.*

10801 Oakmont Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-2568

Open Tuesday through Friday
1:30—3:30 p.m.
or by special appointment.

E-mail: scahs@frys.com
Web site: www.scazhistory.org



The Sun Cities Area Historical Society

*acknowledges the
businesses,
organizations,
and individuals
that have contributed to
the first phase of our
renovation project . . .*

“Ahead to the Past”



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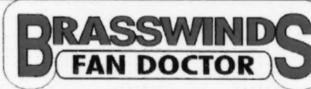
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Jackie Brown

hair stylist

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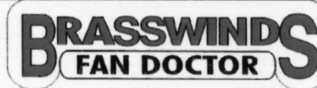
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SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Antique Car Show and Historical Society Open House



Free Refreshments

The C.A.R.S. (Classic, Antique, Reproduction and Sentimental) Club
will display 25 cars, including this beautiful 1925 Ford Model A,
owned by Gene Carter of Sun City West.

Saturday, February 2

9:00 am to Noon

10801 Oakmont Drive

Sun City

Sponsored by

LIBERTY  BUICK

Wheeled history gets a showing

Model home part of
Historical Society
open house Feb. 2

By Rusty Bradshaw
Independent Newspapers

Driving was an adventure in the 1920s and 1930s because it was still a novelty. Today the vehicles from that era are prized collectors items.

Some of those cars, and others from more recent times, will be on display during an antique car show and open house 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Feb. 2 at the Grand Center, 107th and Grand avenues, across from the Historical Society, 10801 Oakmont Drive. The event is sponsored by the Sun City Area Historical Society and Liberty Buick, 8737 W. Bell Road, Peoria.

The show will feature 25 antique cars, many part of the CARS Club of Sun City, another event partner. In addition, Liberty Buick will display some of its newest models, according to Edison Allen, Historical Society president.

The CARS Club was started in 1981 by two Sun City residents who each owned a Model T Ford.

"We had to go all the way to Phoenix to be part of a car club and we wanted something closer to home," said club co-founder Bebe Lovitt.

She owned a 1926 touring car, but sold it about 15 years ago. It is now owned by her grandson, Sun City West resident Gene Carter.

Ruth Martin, the other club founder, owned a 1924 Roadster at the time, according to her son, James Martin. Because it became unreliable, she later sold it and bought a 1930 Model A two-door, which she still owns, he added.

Ms. Martin and Ms. Lovitt remain active in the CARS Club.

"The club has grown quite a bit since we started it," Ms. Lovitt



Submitted photo

This Model T, owned by the grandson of the original purchaser, is one of several cars to be included in the antique car show and Sun Cities Area Historical Society open house.

said. "It now includes reproductions, classics and sentimentals."

While they no longer drive their cars, both women travel on club trips and to various car shows.

Cars in the show will span 60

years, Mr. Allen said.

In addition to the car show, the Historical Society will be open to allow visitors to see local history. They can also view a model home as it might have appeared in 1960, according to Mr. Allen.

Complementary coffee and other refreshments will be available at the Historical Society.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com. Lead News Editor Rusty Bradshaw can be reached at 623-445-2725 or rbradshaw@newszap.com.

THE WESTER



Gene Carter's Model T will be part of a display at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society

Car show held at SC Historical Society

The C.A.R.S. Club of Sun City will be exhibiting 25 antique cars across the street from the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, 10801 Oakmont Drive in Sun City, from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 2.

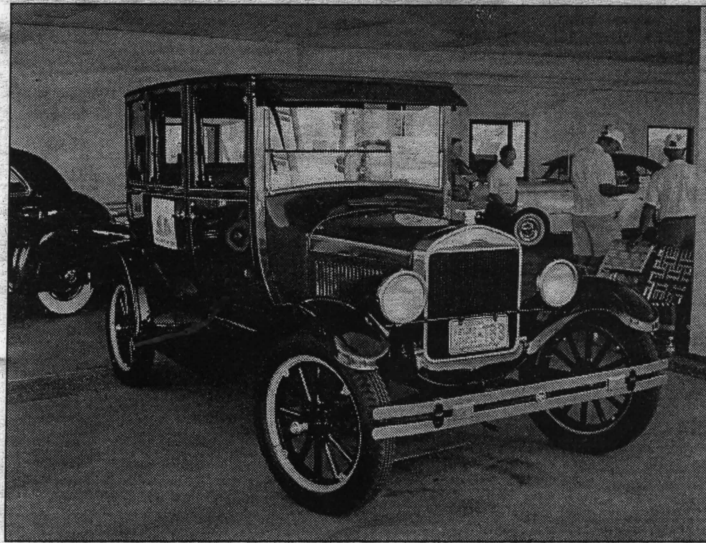
This free event is sponsored by Liberty Buick which will also be displaying some of their newest models.

The society will be open for those who wish to check out displays on local history, as well as view a model home as it might have appeared in 1960. Complementary coffee and refreshments will be available at the Society.

The C.A.R.S. Club brings together owners of classic, antique, reproduction, and sentimental models from throughout the Sun Cities area. Cars exhibited in this private show will span 60 years and include Gene Carter's four-door Ford Model T. The car was owned by Gene's grandfather, and has been completely restored from the frame up, even to matching the original color.

Reshat and Minnie Hassan, owners of the Grand Center at 107th and Grand Avenue, are making the center's rear parking lot available for this car show. Call 623-974-2568 or 623-975-1815 for information.

WEST VALLEY LIVING



EDSON ALLEN

This 1926, 4-door Ford Model T owned by Gene Carter of Sun City West is scheduled to be on display on Feb. 2. Carter's grandfather bought the car new and passed it on.

Club will exhibit cars Feb. 2

Edson Allen, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, submitted this photo and information about an upcoming antique auto show and Historical Society open house.

The C.A.R.S. Club of the Sun Cities will be exhibiting 25 collectors' cars from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 2 at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, 10801

Oakmont Drive, Sun City. The Historical Society building will be open for those who wish to view displays on local history, as well as visit a 1960 model home. This free event is sponsored by Liberty Buick. Complimentary refreshments will be available. For more information, call 623-974-2568 or 623-975-1815.

Club to exhibit 25 collector cars

The C.A.R.S. Club of the Sun Cities will be exhibiting 25 collector cars at the Antique Auto Show and Historical Society Open House from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City.

The Historical Society building will be open for those wanting to see displays of local history and visit a 1960

model home. The free event is sponsored by Liberty Buick. Information: 623-974-2568 or 623-975-1815.

Classics draw visitors to Historical Society

JEFF DEMPSEY
DAILY NEWS-SUN

David Verble, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, had more visitors Saturday than he had seen in a long time. As it turns out, classic cars have that effect.

"Yes, it looks like our plan definitely worked," Verble said. "I can't believe how many people came."

The society sponsored the car show and open house in cooperation with the C.A.R.S. Club of the Sun Cities.

More than two dozen antique and collector cars were on display in the parking lot across from the society's home at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive. The show attracted hundreds of people were there to look at the cars. That, Verble said, was exactly what he hoped would happen.

"The history of the Sun Cities is very important to us, obviously, but we want to share

that with other people," Verble said. "We want to help create more interest in how this community came to be. We were hoping that having a car show would bring people here, at which point we could direct them to our office, which is in the first model home in Sun City. From there we can hopefully share our interest in the history of this community."

Throughout the morning, Verble said, that strategy seemed to be working.

"A lot of the people who came are looking at the cars and then coming across the street to visit with us," Verble said. "Not all of them are, but a lot of them are, which is fine with me. I can't blame them for staying over with the cars; there are some real beauties over there."

The main attraction of the car show was Gene Carter's 1925 Model T, which he said has been in his family since it

SEE SOCIETY, A5



PETE PALLAGI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

John Swickard of Sun City is reflected in the fender of a 1926 Ford Model T at a car show presented by the C.A.R.S. Club of the Sun Cities and the Sun Cities Historical Society Saturday.

SOCIETY:

Cars spark interest

FROM A1

was made.

"I restored it all myself," Carter said. "I even called historians in Washington, D.C., to make sure the paint I used matched the original."

Also attracting a lot of attention was a 1953 Hudson Hornet, a model that has gained new attention in recent years from the animated film "Cars." The owner of the vehicle clearly knew this, as a toy figurine of the movie vehicle was resting on the dashboard.

Verble said he was thankful to the people who showed up, as well as to Liberty Butch for sponsoring the event.

"The only thing that matters is that we keep the history of this place alive," Verble said. "I just hope the new people who move here take the time to visit with us and really get an understanding of why the Sun Cities are so special."

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

Sun City West has...



**Find out WHY
at the**

**Sun Cities Area
Historical Society**

**FREE EXHIBIT
*PLAY BALL!***

**10801 Oakmont
Sun City
(Behind Grand Shopping Center,
turn right off 107th on the way to the Sun Bowl)**

**Open 1:30-3:30 Tues-Fri
or for groups by appointment
Call 623-974-2578**

'Play ball' at historical society

The Sun City Historical Society, 10801 Oakmont Drive, offers a new exhibit featuring baseball in Sun City.

See Del Webb as a baseball player and Yankees owner, or check out the gals known as the Saints who brought fast-pitch softball, and a world championship, to Sun City.

Learn the story of the Brewers' early training site in Sun City and trace the evolution of today's men's and women's softball in the Sun Cities.

The Society is open 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Tuesday – Friday. There is no charge.

The society is located in the

first of five model homes that were available when Sun City opened on Jan. 1, 1960.

You'll see how the house might have been furnished as a model, along with exhibits about opening weekend. In addition, check out the story of Marinette, the cotton plantation that preceded Sun City, and the early days of Sun City West.

Call 623-975-1815.

**PAGE
16**

**STEPPING
out**

The West Valley Newspaper

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008

**YOUR MOST COMPLETE WEST VALLEY
ARTS, CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE**

SPECIAL EVENTS

SC Historical Society looks at region's baseball roots

A new exhibit on baseball in the Sun Cities has been developed for the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, 10801 Oakmont Drive.

The society is open from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. There is no charge.

Much of that history was related to Del Webb, who at one time was a part owner of the New York Yankees and worked to bring the Milwaukee Brewers to train in Sun City for spring training.

For information, contact Ed Allen, 623-975-1815.

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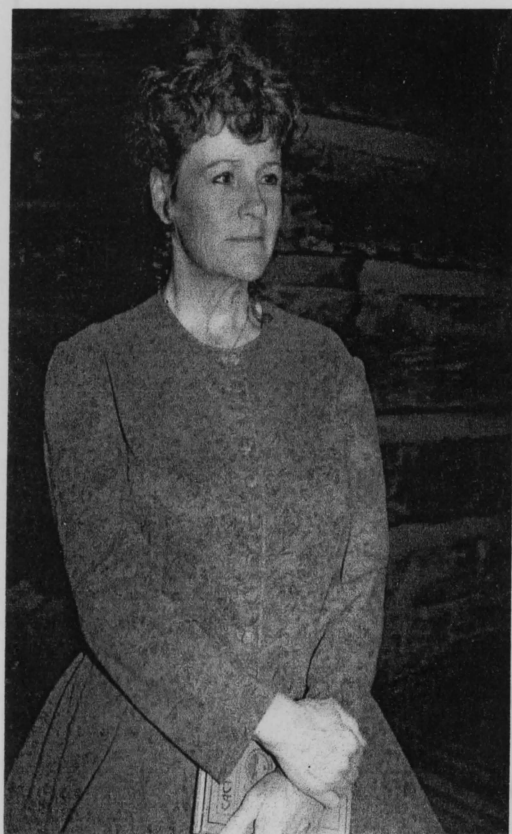
SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

presents

Sharlot Hall Territorial Historian

1:00 PM, Friday, March 28, 2008

Heritage Traditions
19303 New Traditions Way, SCW



Jody Drake, a Prescott native, has won many awards over the past ten year for her portrayal of Sharlot Hall – an unusual woman of the frontier.

Hall grew up on an isolated ranch and developed a keen interest in collecting stories of other pioneers. This led to her being appointed Territorial Historian in 1909

Her extensive collection of artifacts and documents formed the basis for the museum complex in Prescott that bears her name.

This program is FREE and sponsored by:

Arizona
Humanities
Council

Sharing cultures. Enriching communities.

Prescott native sets Hall portrayal

A portrayal of territorial historian Sharlot Hall will be offered 1

p.m. Friday, March 28 at Heritage Tradition, 19303 New Traditions Way, Sun City West.

Jody Drake, a Prescott native, will portray the Arizona historical figure. She has won many awards over the past 10 years for her portrayal of Sharlot Hall. The presentation is sponsored by the Sun Cities Area Historical Society

through a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council.

Sharlot Hall was an unusual woman of the frontier. Her family moved to Arizona when she was 12 and she grew up on an isolated ranch. She had a knack for poetry and a keen interest in collecting stories of other pioneers. Call 623-974-2568.

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT July 2, 2008

NEWS BY YOU

220 WEEKEND EDITION, MARCH 22, 2008

Sharlot Hall portrayer plans appearance in Sun City West

Edson Allen of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society submitted this notice about an upcoming historical presentation.

Jody Drake, a Prescott native, has won many awards over the past 10 years for her portrayal of Sharlot Hall. The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is pleased to bring her to Sun City West through a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council. Drake will perform at 1 p.m. next Friday at Heritage Traditions, 19303 New Traditions Way, Sun City West. The public is invited to this free presentation.

Sharlot Hall was an unusual woman of the frontier. Her family moved to Arizona when she was 12, and she grew up on an isolated ranch. She had a knack for poetry and a keen interest in collecting stories of other pioneers. Her interest in history led to her being appointed territory historian in 1909. In 1927, Hall moved her extensive collection of artifacts and documents into the Old Governor's Mansion and opened it as a museum. After her death in 1942, a historical society continued to build the museum complex in Prescott that bears her name. Drake has performed as Sharlot Hall



DAVE SEIBERT/THE REPUBLIC

Jody Drake is noted for her appearances portraying pioneer Sharlot Hall.

for Gov. Janet Napolitano, former Gov. Jane Hull and retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, among others. She has been nominated for the Governor's Art Award six times, and is honored to be one of 10 Arizona Culture Keeper award winners for 2007.

For more information, call the historical society at 623-974-2568 or 623-975-1815.

New exhibit depicts baseball in Sun Cities

The Sun City Historical Society, 10801 Oakmont Drive, offers a new exhibit showcasing the history of baseball and softball in Sun City.

The display explains Del Webb's interest in baseball - as a player and then owner of the New York Yankees. Mr. Webb was the founder of Sun City and Sun City West.

The exhibit details the history of professional baseball in Sun City, which once served as the spring training home to the Milwaukee Brewers.

A special display features the history of the Sun City Saints, a women's fast-pitch softball team that brought a world championship to Sun City.

The society is open 1:30-3:30 PM, Tuesday-Friday. Admission is free.

The society is located in the first of five model homes that were available when Sun City opened on Jan. 1, 1960. Guests will see how the house might have been furnished as a model, along with exhibits about opening weekend.

In addition, guests can check out

the story of Marinette, the cotton plantation that preceded Sun City and early Sun City West days.

Jody Drake, a Prescott native who has won many awards over the past 10 years for her portrayal of Sharlot Hall, will be a guest of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society at 1 p.m. March 28 at Heritage Traditions, 19303 New Traditions Way in Sun City West. The public is invited to this free presentation.

Hall was an unusual woman of the frontier. Her family moved to Arizona when she was 12, and she grew up on an isolated ranch. She had a knack for poetry and a keen interest in collecting stories of other pioneers. Her interest in history led to her being appointed Territory Historian in 1909. In 1927, Sharlot Hall moved her extensive collection of artifacts and documents into the Old Governor's Mansion and opened it as a museum. After her death in 1942, a historical society continued to build the museum complex in Prescott that bears her name.

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Call 623-974-2568 for information.

Historical society lists summer hours

The Sun Cities Historical Society will have altered hours during June, July and August.

During those months, the society facility, 10801 Oakmont Drive, will be open 10 a.m.-noon Fridays and Saturdays. Private tours can be scheduled by calling the society office, 623-974-2568.

Located in the first Sun City model home built by Del Webb, the society collects, preserves and presents the history of the Sun Cities.

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT June 18, 2008

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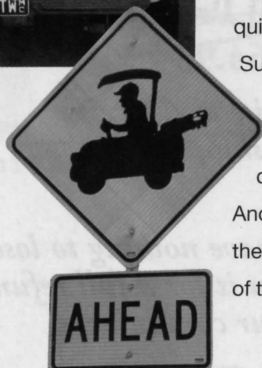
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SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT July 2, 2008

looking back

A R I Z O N A ' S P A S T

Sun City



THESE DAYS, A REFERENCE TO SUN CITY evokes images of leisure-minded retirees tooling the streets in golf carts, but in 1960 a master-planned community centered around active seniors was the yet untested brainchild of developer Del E. Webb.

Tensions ran high over the untried concept, but doubts proved to be unfounded. The idea caught fire immediately, its success garnering national recognition. Opening day of sales saw traffic stacked into the nearby town of Peoria and the community was quickly billed as "Arizona's Fastest Growing City."

Sun City continues to thrive, with Peoria's snowbird-fortified fall traffic regularly hearkening back to that opening-day gridlock. Today golf courses, recreation centers and civic spirit constitute the cornerstones of the community.

And though the model has spawned countless replicas throughout the nation, Arizona will always remain the birthplace and prototype of the modern retirement village.

The life of Del Webb examined



Submitted Photo

David Verble, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society readies for the groups next meeting where the life of Del Webb will be looked at by residents.

While the real Del Webb will not be able to attend, David Verble, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, promises a stand-in will be present to greet guests during the group's 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6 meeting in the Hoover Room of the Bell Center Library, 16828 N. 99th Avenue.

Following a brief business meeting and election of new trustees, Edson Allen will present the story of the remarkable Del Webb — a great American success story.

Mr. Webb rose from humble beginnings as a carpenter and semi-pro baseball player, escaped a near-death brush with typhoid fever, and started a business in the midst of the Great Depression that grew into one of the nation's largest construction firms.

Along the way, he made many famous friends including Presi-

dent Franklin Delano Roosevelt, J. Edgar Hoover, Bob Hope, Howard Hughes, but never lost the ability to relate to everyday people.

It was commonly accepted by early Sun City residents that if something went wrong with their homes, or in the community, "Mr. Webb will fix it!"

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society seeks to expand interest in the history of Sun City and Sun City West and is dedicated to the acquisition, preservation and presentation of the records and artifacts for two of the worlds' first successful, adult communities.

The Society is located at 10801 Oakmont Drive in one of the five original Sun City model homes opened in 1960.

Call 974-2568.

Meet Del Webb

at the Historical Society's
Annual Meeting, November 6

Learn the extraordinary tale of the man who built Sun City. Starting with little more than a toolbox and a fastball in 1928, he went on to build one of the nation's largest construction companies – and fulfill his love of baseball by owning a major league team.

Thursday, Nov. 6, 1:00 pm

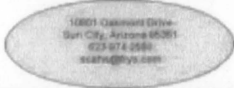
In the Hoover Room of the Library at the Bell
Rec Center, 99th Ave. south of Bell Road

Free -- Open to the Public

While Mr. Webb can't attend, his stand-in will be present. Attendees will get a free, color souvenir photo with Webb's stand-in like this one of Society President David Verble.



Sun Cities Area Historical Society -- 974-2568



Join the

Sun Cities Area Historical Society

On a
Bus Trip to Sharlot Hall Museum

In Prescott, Arizona

Wednesday, November 19, 2008



Explore the colorful panorama of Central Arizona's history while visiting the Museum's nine buildings and four special gardens.



Jody Drake portrays Sharlot Hall
Attendees at the SCAHS 's meeting on the Life of Sharlot Hall last March were enthralled by Jody 's Presentation

Enjoy Jody Drake, Prescott resident and Director of the Blue Rose Theatre, during her historical portrayal of Sharlot Hall.

Don't miss this trip!!

TRIP DETAILS

\$55.00 for SCAHS members

\$60.00 for non-members

Cost includes bus trip, museum entrance fee and buffet lunch at the COLDEN CORRAL RESTAURANT

Bus leaves **7:30 AM** from R. H. Johnson Recreation Center in Sun City West and Bus leaves **8:00 AM** from Bell Recreation Center in Sun City

Arrive in Prescott—10:00 AM

Return to the Sun Cities—5:00 PM

Please call Sandy Goldstein

623-584-1946

By November 10, 2008, to make your reservation

Seating is limited.

Prescott Bus Trip Sign-up Form



NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Member YES _____ NO _____

In case of emergency call: _____

Special Health Needs _____

Bus trip departs for Sharlot Hall Museum

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society invites members and nonmembers on a bus trip to the Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott Nov. 19.

Actress Jody Drake, director of Prescott's Blue Rose Theater, will reenact the "Grand Dame of Arizona history, Sharlot Hall," in conjunction with a tour of the Sharlot Hall Museum's nine buildings and four gardens.

Seats for the day trip are limited and cost \$55 for members and \$60 for nonmembers. Cost includes motorcoach, museum entrance fees and all-you-can-eat buffet lunch. Departure from the Bell Recreation Center in Sun City and R.H. Johnson Recreation Center in Sun City West is at 7:30 a.m. Return is scheduled for 5 p.m.

For reservations, call Sandy Goldstein, 623-584-1946, by Monday.

SUN CITY WEST INDEPENDENT

History of Sun Cities discussed by group

Nov. 2008

**By Ed Allen
Volunteer Contributor**

Are you looking for an entertaining and informative speaker for your club or organization? Call the Sun Cities Area Historical Society for a talk that brings the past alive.

"Cotton Bolls to Golf Balls" tells the story of the events leading up to Sun City — the nation's first active adult community — and how Del Webb refused to listen to the experts who claimed that "old people wouldn't leave their families."

"The Legendary Del Webb" recounts the life of the man who had to leave high school after his freshman year and went on to build one of the nation's largest and most successful construction firms.

"From Lizard Acres to Lush Oasis" describes the conversion of a large cattle feedlot and desert land to today's attractive Sun City West, and provides anecdotes of its early years.

For meetings next spring, consider "Fields of Dreams" the his-

tory of baseball in the Sun Cities that started in a weed-choked lot along Grand Avenue, and included the national champion, women's fast-pitch "Saints," a major league training facility, and culminated in today's softball leagues.

If a group is 15 or less, consider a morning meeting at the Historical Society where members can tour the exhibits after a brief talk — and have an opportunity to have their questions answered.

There is no charge for a speaker, but donations are appreciated. Call the Historical Society at 623-974-2568. The Society is located at 10801 Oakmont in one of the five original Sun City model homes opened in 1960.

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society seeks to expand interest in the history of Sun City and Sun City West; and is dedicated to the acquisition, preservation and presentation of the records and artifacts for Sun City — the world's first successful, adult community — and its sister city, Sun City West.

Sun City historians offer speaking opportunities

By Ed Allen
Volunteer Contributor

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DAILY NEWS-SUN, NOVEMBER 20, 2008

Historical society has speakers on call

Entertaining and informative speakers are available through the Sun Cities Area Historical Society.

"Cotton Bolls to Golf Balls" tells the story of the events leading up to Sun City, the nation's first active adult community, and how Del Webb refused to listen to the experts, who claimed that "old people wouldn't leave their families."

"The Legendary Del Webb" recounts the life of the man who had to leave high school after his freshman year and went on to

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"From Lizard Acres to Lush Oasis" describes the conversion of a large cattle feedlot and desert land to Sun City West, and provides anecdotes of its early years.

For club or organization meetings next spring, consider "Fields of Dreams" the history of baseball in the Sun Cities that started in a weed-choked lot along Grand Avenue. It included the national champion, women's fast-pitch "Saints," a major league training facility, and culminated in today's softball leagues.

For groups of 15 or less, consider a morning meeting at the Historical Society where members can tour the exhibits after a brief talk, and have an opportunity to have their questions answered.

There is no charge for a speaker, but donations are accepted. To schedule a speaker or a group visit, call the Historical Society at 623-974-2568. The Society is at 10801 W. Oakmont Drive in one of the five original Sun City model homes opened in 1960.

Area SC historical group shows vintage Christmas tree

* The vintage silver Christmas tree at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society Model Home Museum is considered by some as "the ultimate in Christmas Camp by collectors;" this is according to Money magazine.

* Manufactured from 1959 to 1969, the gleaming aluminum tree might have been the type of tree first used in the model home next to Oakmont Recreation Center built in 1960. A six-foot aluminum tree with blue ornaments is now traditional in the museum having been donated many years ago by Phyllis Street. Many originally were lighted by revolving color light wheels.

* Former American Specialty Company chief engineer Richard Thomsen relates that after a way was found to produce the tree "at a reasonable price," the company made between 100,000 and 150,000 Evergleam aluminum

trees a year for Ben Franklin, S.S. Kresge and Western Auto stores. The trees ranged from two-foot miniatures to eight-foot models.

The Manitowoc, Wis., Company ran three shifts of ten women each who glued and wound strips of aluminum foil needles on wire rods to form branches. Meanwhile, one or two men drilled precisely angled holes for the branches that were inserted into wooden trunks. Even Charlie Brown in his 1965 "A Charlie Brown Christmas" is told by bossy Lucy to "Get a great, big, shiny, aluminum tree!" They were available in red and several other colors. Society President David Verble invites the public to visit The Model Home Museum at 10801 Oakmont Drive from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Docents are available to give tours. The museum will be closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1.

Call 623-974-2568.



Submitted Photo

Docents Belva McIntosh and Judy Sciola decorate the vintage aluminum Christmas tree that greets visitors to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society 1960 Model Home Museum just west of Oakmont Rec Center. Visitors are welcome to drop in during the holidays.

December 24, 2008

SUN CITY WEST INDEPENDENT

Here & Now



Submitted Photo

Docents Belva McIntosh and Judy Sciola decorate the vintage aluminum Christmas tree that greets visitors to the Sun Cities Area Historical Society 1960 Model Home Museum just west of Oakmont Rec Center. Visitors are welcome to drop in during the holidays.

Historical club shows tree

The vintage silver Christmas tree at the Sun Cities Area Historical Society Model Home Museum is considered by some as "the ultimate in Christmas Camp by collectors;" this is according to Money magazine.

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