

Del Webb®



Sun Cities

MUSEUM

The Official Newsletter of the

Sun Cities Area Historical Society

Fall 2024 | Volume 31 | Number 2



History-Makers Share Their Stories

Those who lived Sun City's history share
their recollections in new video project

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Ben Roloff honored!

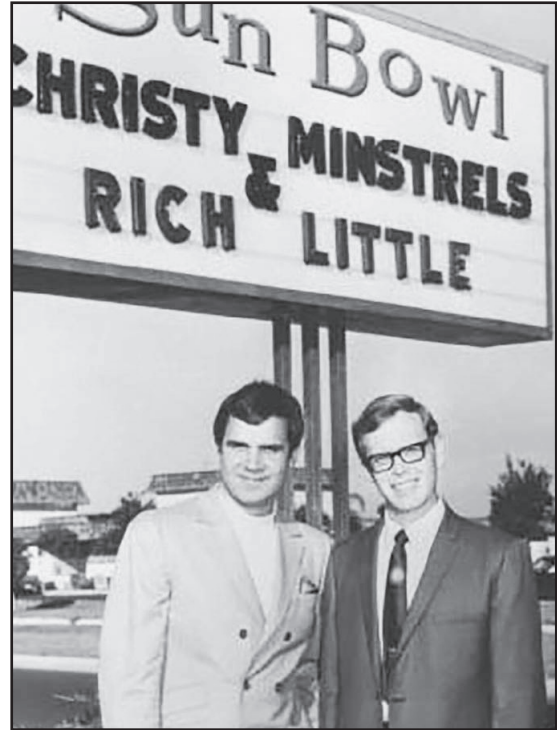
SCHOA presents
local historian
with Hometown
Hero honor!

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Jerry Svendsen, public relations manager for the Del Webb Development Company during the early days of Sun City, is featured in two "History Maker" video films to be available at the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum and on its YouTube channel.



New video project offers first-person recollections of Sun Cities' history

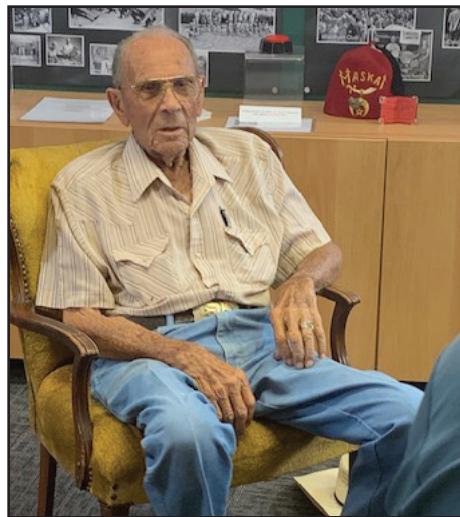
Museum partners with media firm to create five films

Since the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum first opened its doors to the public, visitors were given the opportunity to learn about the history of the communities and their impact on the world through a vast selection of photographs, exhibits and displays.

Visitors now have the unique opportunity to see -- and hear -- newly created films telling stories of the past shared directly by those who experienced that history first-hand.

Thanks to a grant provided by the Del E. Webb Foundation, the Sun Cities Area Historical Society -- owners of the Del E. Webb Museum -- has launched a project to record first-person recollections of local history makers in what they're calling a "living history" video presentation.

Each video is about 15-20 minutes in length and available to view in the Sundome Jr. Theater at the museum



Wally Britton being interviewed in August for the museum's oral-history video project.

and the museum's You Tube channel.

The Del Webb Foundation awarded the grant to the museum last fall. The

museum hired a professional video production team to create five individual history-maker videos. All five have been filmed, and three are available for viewing. The final two are in the final stages of editing and should be available in December.

The museum contracted with Mojo Inspired Media, a professional video production company in Tucson, to create each video -- from beginning to end. Each video includes an interview with a local "history maker" and professionally edited with photos from the museum's archives, music and graphics.

"We can't thank the Del Webb Foundation enough for their continued support of the museum," said Bret McKeand, president of the Board of Trustees.

Continued on next page



Upper left, Ed Allen being interviewed by Mojo Inspired Media for an oral-history film where Ed shares the story of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society turned its headquarters into an open-to-the-public historical museum. Upper right, Don Tuffs answers questions after the debut of the museum's first oral-history video where Don shares his recollections of the heyday of the Sundome Center for Performing Arts. Bottom left, Wally Britton prepares for his interview, filmed this past summer.

"We really think these History Maker videos bring an exciting new dimension to what we have to offer and an opportunity for visitors to learn about our local history -- from those who actually lived it!"

The following is a brief description of each video:

■ The first History Maker video features Don Tuffs speaking about the history of the Sundome Center for Performing Arts in Sun City West.

Don was the initial manager of the Sundome when it first opened in 1980. He also is a past president of the historical society's Board of Trustees.

When the Sundome first opened it was billed as the largest single-level auditorium in the Southwest. Performers who appeared at the Sundome included such stars as Bob Hope, Milton Berle, Kenny Rogers and more.

Don shares his recollections of the building's construction and its importance in the community, as well as funny stories about the many performers who appeared on the Sundome Performing Arts Center stage.

■ The second History Maker

features Ed Allen, a former president of the society's Board of Trustees and author of a history on Sun City West.

Ed shares his thoughts and recollections of the early days of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society and how the museum has changed over the years. The historical society purchased the house in 1989 and Ed shares stories related to the creation of the Del Webb room, the restoration of the 1960s-era living room and his memories of Jane Freeman, founder of the historical society.

■ The third video presentation in the series features an interview with 98-year-old Wally Britton, who served as vice president of construction for the Del E. Webb Development Company during the 1960s.

Wally shares never-before-heard tidbits about construction of Sun City homes and challenges faced in building one of the nation's fastest growing communities.

■ Jerry Svendsen, who served as the public relations manager for DEVCO during the 1960s and early '70s, is the focus of the last two films (both still in

production).

In the first film, Jerry shares his memories of how popular Sun City was throughout its first decade and the innovative strategies his team adopted to promote Sun City to the rest of the world.

It was "the residents" who made Sun City what it became, recalls Jerry. His fond memories of those early pioneers -- many of whom he says "adopted him" as a member of the family -- will bring smiles (and maybe even a few tears) to your face!

■ The final film also features Jerry Svendsen and his recollections of the Sun Bowl, the outdoor amphitheater built in 1966. Jerry served as the emcee and he shares his stories of working with such entertainers as Lawrence Welk, Guy Lombardo, Bob Hope, Rich Little and more.

The five new History Maker films will be added to the list of 10 archive films already available in the Sundome Jr. Theater.

Annual Meeting planned Jan. 13 in SCW

The Sun Cities Area Historical Society will conduct its 2025 annual meeting 2-4 p.m. Jan. 13 at Palm Ridge Recreation Center, 13800 W. Deer Valley Drive in Sun City West.

An update on the museum's activities will be provided by the president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, owner of the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum.

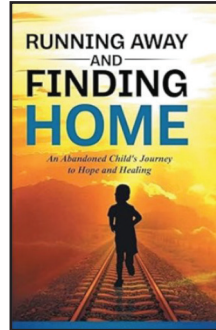
A videotaped interview of Jerry Svendsen, former public relations manager for the Del Webb Development Corporation in the 1960s and 1970s, will be shown.

The video is part of a special "History Makers" oral history project produced by the museum thanks to a grant from the Del Webb Foundation.

Guest speaker is Judge Tommy Webb, whose story focuses on making a positive impact on individuals and their communities.

He is the author of "Running Away and Finding Home: An Abandoned

Judge Tommy Webb will be the guest speaker at the annual meeting on Jan. 13.



Child's Journey to Hope and Healing." Judge Webb was born in Korea in 1952, was adopted and moved to the United States in 1959.

He served in the U.S. Marines and retired as a Kansas District Magistrate Judge. He has the distinction of being the first Asian judge for the state of Kansas.

The annual members meeting is a great way to come together, so feel free to invite friends to join as new members of the Del Webb Sun Cities

Museum. All members are encouraged to participate.

To register for the Sun Cities Area Historical Society/Del Webb Sun Cities Museum annual members meeting, please call the museum at 623-974-2568 or email scahsm@gmail.com.

Your RSVP is kindly requested by January 9th for planning purposes. Thank you!

Admission is free to museum members; \$5 for non-members.

Museum Trustee Ben Roloff honored by SCHOA

SCHOA's May Hometown HERO Honor was presented to long-time Sun City resident Ben Roloff, a local historian whose years of effort will live on for generations.

The surprise tribute was presented to Ben at an event focused appropriately on history: the 125th Birthday Bash for Del Webb held May 17 at the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum

Ben has served our community in many ways along with dedicating countless hours researching and preserving history. In 2015, he began making trips to the Arizona State Archives and compiled five large binders of detailed and extensive research of Sun City's formative history. On tiny microfiche, he reviewed every Sun City newspaper published from 1958 to 1985, and today leads regular history lectures through the Sun City Lifetime Learning Club.

"The history of our community – the original active adult community



Ben Roloff, a member of the museum's Board of Trustees, was named a Hometown Hero in May and honored by SCHOA for his contributions to the community.



– has been well documented by Ben, not only for us, but for future generations," said Lisa Gray, General Manager for SCHOA. "He is so deserving to be recognized and thanked for his ongoing years of service to this community, that will provide memories and education for years to come."

SCHOA's Hometown HERO Program was created to recognize and honor Sun City residents who are making a difference in the lives of others within our community.

Recipients are chosen monthly and could be an individual or group, but they must live in Sun City and serve Sun City residents. To nominate your SCHOA Hometown HERO, visit <https://suncityhoa.org/hometownhero>.

Del Webb Sun Cities Museum: More than just an historic building!

Thousands of visitors each year tour the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum, the headquarters of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society and located in one of the very first homes ever built in Sun City.

Obviously, our members are well aware of what awaits those who step inside the museum: Visitors are treated to exhibits and displays that provide a glimpse of the history of the Sun Cities and tell the story of how Sun City was the “community that changed a nation.”

But thousands more each year visit the museum’s website to find an even greater array of historical information pertaining to the Sun Cities.

Visitors to the website are often surprised – and amazed – at the vast array of digital information and incredible depth of additional historic material available simply by clicking a button.

Among the items available online that one can’t find on physical display at the museum:

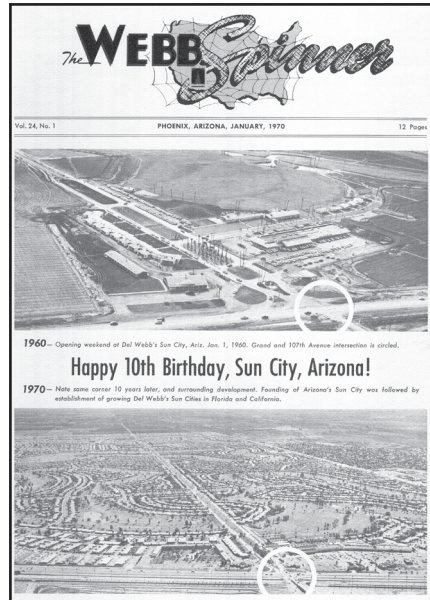
- A collection of every single Sun City model home brochure published between 1960 and 1978.

- A treasure-trove of historic photographs taken by the Del Webb Corporation during the community’s first two decades.

- Remember what a telephone book was? You can find every Sun City phone book published between 1961 and 1970.

- Clubs and organizations play a huge role in the history of our community, and the museum’s website has several digitized club scrapbooks, photo albums and more. You can find the history of groups such as the Oakmont Men’s Club, Sun City Sportsmen’s Club, Sunshine Service, The Sun City West Business and Professional Women’s Club and more!

- The museum is proud home to a complete collection of The Webb Spinner, the Del Webb Company’s in-



A complete collection of The Webb Spinner, the official newsletter for the Del Webb Company, can be found on the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum’s website: www.delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org.

house newsletter. Every issue between 1946 and 1983 can be viewed online.

- Take a Lizard Acres “walking tour” of Sun City West, learn how Sun City West residents pulled together to secure a community post office despite steep resistance from Washington, D.C., or re-visit the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Sun City West Visi-

tors Center – again, all available only by visiting the museum’s website.

And there’s much, much more! So, if you’ve been to the museum and enjoyed your visit, visit us online at www.delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org to explore even more history of the Sun Cities!

Stay Connected!



Del Webb Sun Cities
Museum website:
www.delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org

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Visit the Del Webb Sun Cities
Museum Channel



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*The Sun Cities Area
Historical Society is
certified by the Arizona
Historical Society*



The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the preservation and presentation of the records and artifacts for Sun City, Arizona, (the world's first Active Adult Retirement Community), and its sister city, Sun City West. The Society's headquarters are located in the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum, in one of the five original Sun City model homes.

Museum Hours:
noon-3 p.m. Sunday
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday
(Or for groups of six or more
by appointment)

Admission: \$5 (18 and over)
Free to Museum Members
Museum open Thursdays January
through May. Hours reduced beginning
in June.

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Message from the President

Sun City: Living proof unity begins with sense of common purpose

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum this summer has been interviewing several key people involved in the creation and development of the Sun Cities. The interviews are part of a History Makers project, and the finished videos will eventually be presented in the Sundome Jr. Theater at the museum and also shown on our website.

Their stories are absolutely incredible to hear! Stories about the Sundome Center for Performing Arts, the history of the Sun Cities Historical Society (and the building that now houses the museum), construction of homes in Sun City during the first decade and more!

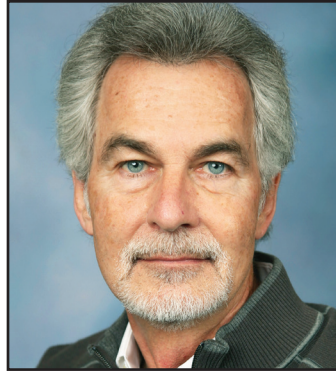
Once completed, museum visitors will be able to see and hear first-hand recollections about the community's history from those who were there and lived through it.

Our final interview -- with Jerry Svendsen, Del Webb's head of public relations for Sun City during the community's first decade -- was especially interesting, captivating and meaningful.

Jerry shared stories of many of the innovative marketing ideas he created to promote Sun City. He shared his experiences as emcee of the many Sun Bowl shows held in the 1960s -- and of the many great celebrities who appeared on that stage.

He talked about how the community grew in popularity and national stature over the years, and how fun it was to be part of the Sun City "experiment" as it was just taking off.

What struck me more than anything else (and believe me, I could have listened to Jerry all day!), was his singular



Bret McKeand

2024 President
Sun Cities Area Historical Society

thought on why Sun City succeeded: *It was the people.*

Looking back, he is convinced the secret to Sun City's success was the ability of residents to come together for a united purpose.

Residents who relocated here in the 1960s came from all over the country -- north and south, east and west. They had different backgrounds -- from company executives to factory union workers. They exercised different faiths. Their interests, education and skill levels varied.

Yet, he witnessed people putting aside their differences and uniting for a common cause: enjoying their golden years! Regardless of their backgrounds, those who moved to Sun City were intent on meeting new friends, experiencing new adventures and thoroughly enjoying their lives -- and were not going to allow anything to stand in the way!

Neighborhood socials, potlucks and community gatherings were commonplace in the first decade. People tended to focus on the positive, rather than the negative. It's no coincidence that nearly

every 1960s-era photo of Sun City on display at the museum shows active people having fun together. Always smiling.

It wasn't an image created by the Del Webb Company or Jerry's PR department. It just happened. Those early residents cared for their new community and their new neighbors. They wanted their community to be a friendly place to live. They wanted it to be successful.

I'll be honest, it almost brought me to tears hearing Jerry describe the incredible sense of community created by those who moved here in the 1960s. It didn't happen by chance. These residents wanted to build a new community. They were purposeful and deliberate in their actions.

People can be kind, generous and friendly when they want to, and when it serves the greater good. That culture -- that image of Sun City -- created in the 1960s continued throughout the ensuing decades and can still be found in the community today.

Maybe there's a message there for all of us. We live in a highly polarized society these days where we tend to focus on our differences rather than those common ties that bind us together.

Maybe we can learn something from those faces depicted in those 1960s-era photos on display throughout our museum.

Del Webb famously once said: "Concrete, steel and lumber can make the buildings, but People make the community. Together we can realize a Way-of Life unprecedented in America."

Sun City is living proof.

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The Sun City Shop-Lifter was an early mode of public transportation during Sun City's first decade. The trolley was sponsored by the Del Webb Development Corporation.

Hop Aboard!

Looking back on the days when trolleys traversed Sun City

In the early growing years of Sun City, public transportation was viewed more as a novelty than the necessity it has become for many of our residents who have given up driving.

In 1963, Del Webb put a trolley on the streets called the "Shop-Lifter." It carried residents and visitors from the Grand Shopping Center to stops around the neighborhood.

The Shop-Lifter was a 25-seat capacity open trailer, pulled by a Jeep. It was custom built, patterned after similar conveniences seen at such places as Disneyland. It was equipped with seats covered in all weather washable plastic and roofed over completely with a colorfully striped canvas canopy to afford passengers protection from the elements.

The conveyance was equipped with passenger signals to indicate stops. Despite its early popularity, the Shop-Lifter was discontinued after two years.

At a meeting of the Sun City Merchants Association on December 12, 1965, busline operator Arthur Lambert



Blue Bird buses served Sun City in the late 1960s and were operated by the Del Webb Development Corporation (DEVCO). From left, Helen Taylor reviews the schedule with Tony Fay, Al Stobbia and John Haffey.

of Youngtown announced bus service would start in January.

Soon a gleaming red and white, 18-seat "mini-bus" appeared on the scene. The bus was owned by DEVCO but leased to Lambert who had the bus franchise in Sun City.

Lambert said at the time, "The bus will make the rounds of Sun City every hour from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. six days a week. If there are enough requests, we will do a Sunday run."

Bus signs were to be erected every

1,200 feet along the streets. Monthly tickets were \$2. A single ride anywhere in town costs 25 cents.

In 1969 the popular van was replaced by a new and larger Bluebird bus freshly painted in Sun City colors and sunburst. It had tinted windows, a chime system for disembarking passengers, 34-inch-wide plush seats and stainless steel handrails.

Sun Valley Lodge nurse Margaret Steffek became the first person to climb on board the new bus and was given a lifetime pass. Mrs. Steffek would walk one-half mile to board the bus at 107th and Peoria avenues to ride to her job at the lodge.

Bus driver Tony Far brightened the already colorful bus with his cheerfulness, and passengers could count on him for a smile as he helped them on and off with their packages. Far occasionally strayed from the designated route to drop a handicapped passenger off at his or her door.

Although the buses were vital for those who needed transportation, there

Continued on next page

A Walk Through History

Evidence reveals ancient presence of Hohokam in what is today SC West

By Anne Levig

Between about 500 and 1400 A.D., prehistoric people known as the Hohokam lived in what is now southern Arizona. They left behind many artifacts and a variety of other evidence of their culture.

When the Del Webb Corporation commissioned an archaeological study of the land purchased for the expansion of Sun City West, the archaeological survey team found evidence of the past presence of the Hohokam. Hohokam pottery shards and rudimentary tools were found in an area now located north and south of Tom Ryan Drive and between the intersections of Dusty Trail Boulevard and Veterans Drive with Tom Ryan Drive.

It is assumed from the types of evidence discovered in the area that is now Sun City West that the Hohokam probably used this particular area for seasonal planting. The Sun City West agricultural site was north of the areas normally inhabited by the Hohokam. While the Hohokam may not have built dwellings here, they resided close enough to cultivate the land here.

The Hohokam society is primarily associated with the Gila and lower Salt River drainages in the Phoenix Basin, making the Phoenix Basin the Core Area for the Hohokam. Adjacent areas where the Hohokam culture extended, such as the Sun City West site, are

The Hohokam built homes like this reconstructed dwelling at the S'edav Va'aki Museum (formerly Pueblo Grande) east of downtown Phoenix.



known as the Hohokam Periphery. The Hohokam Core, located mainly along rivers and irrigation systems, supported the largest population in the Southwest by 1300.

To support the agriculture for their large population, the Hohokam used the waters of the Salt and Gila Rivers to build an assortment of sophisticated, yet simple, canals and barriers. In modern-day Phoenix, the Hohokam are recognized for these large-scale irrigation networks. A portion of these ancient canals has been renovated for the Salt River Project and currently help to supply water to the city of Phoenix.

These Hohokam irrigation networks rivaled the complexity of those of the ancient Near East, Egypt, and China. Although they were constructed using relatively simple tools and engineering technology, they allowed the Ho-

hokam to cultivate varieties of cotton, beans, squash, maize, and tobacco. They also harvested a variety of wild plants.

The Hohokam dwellings, probably in the area of modern day, Phoenix, were individual homes, pithouses excavated below ground level. By 1150, their dwellings were above-ground structures with central courtyards. Later, rectangular platform mounds were constructed.

The word Hohokam is borrowed from the O'odham language and is used by archaeologists to identify groups of people who lived in the Sonoran Desert. Some archaeologists prefer to identify the Hohokam as Oasisamericans. The Hohokam are one of the four major cultures of the American Southwest, according to Southwestern archaeology. The

Continued on Page 10

were not enough riders to make it a profitable operation. DEVCO had been subsidizing the services and with the company phasing out its operations in Sun City, the bus service was stopped on June 30, 1982.

The Red Cross and Easter Seal Society operated vans for persons with medical appointments and for shoppers only when space permitted.

In the meantime, Del Webb contacted the Molley Corp. of Scottsdale to

initiate the Molley Trolley for a five-month period. The Molley Trolley was an open-air vehicle, a colorful replica of late 1800's street-cars.

Two trolleys, "Molly" and "Dolly" gave residents free shuttles between shopping centers and businesses every 30 minutes from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. Cost of the service was borne by merchants who bought advertising on the sides of the trolleys.

The trolley service stopped for the

summer after a five-month run, and was intermittent thereafter until it was eventually ended.

Despite the absence of merchant-supported transit services in Sun Cities, over the years a number of nonprofit organizations have since stepped in to provide free or low-cost dial-a-ride services.

The original story recounting "Trolley's Traversed Sun City" was written by Museum Trustee Albert B. Foster in 1997.

Museum specializes in telling the life story of Del Webb

By Bill Pearson
Sun City Historian

In 2019 I wrote a 19-piece series on Del Webb, his business exploits and ultimately the creation of Sun City. It was a labor of love and it helped me better understand how valuable both Del's history and Sun City history was and still is to this day.

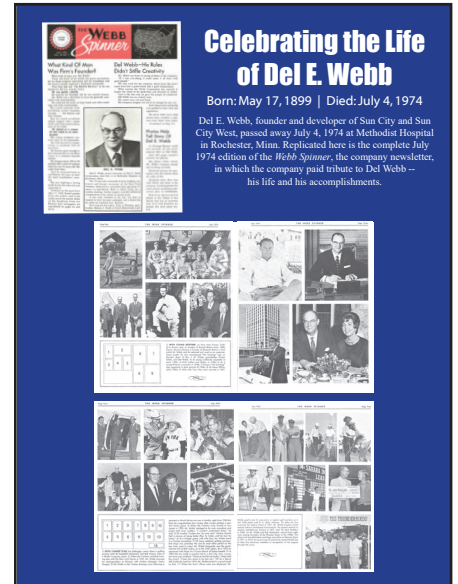
It literally was "Reader's Digest" like, as the weekly journey was fun, educational and short. We know these days everyone values their time, so we tried to make each week's release a quick read.

It was especially powerful because we have now seen at least a couple of Del Webb communities abandon the Webb name. We know it was done for branding and marketing purposes as they wanted to create communities that differentiate from the original Sun City AZ.

Del Webb died 50 years ago this year -- on July 4, 1974.

To commemorate his life and passing, the museum re-produced on panels the special edition of the company newsletter -- The Webb Spinner -- published in 1974 to celebrate his life.

The panels remain on display in the Del Webb Room at the museum.



We get it. Our purpose, the vision of the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum is 100% percent different. One of our goals is to keep the Webb name front and center as we help readers understand how and why "Sun City Became The Community That Changed A Nation."

We hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed writing it.

Check out the Del Webb's Sun City Series:
<https://delwebbsuncities-museum.org/del-webbs-sun-city/>

Visit the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum website for more stories:

<https://delwebbsuncities-museum.org/research-resources/>

Museum shares Del Webb story to Chicago clubs

Bret McKeand, SCAHS president, recently presented (via Zoom) the talk, "Del Webb: An American Success Story," to a men's club in Aurora, Ill. Joining the meeting were members of the

Baseball Writers Association of Chicago. More than 50 people were on the call to hear the story.

Of particular interest to the clubs: Del Webb's history as owner of the New York Yankees!

Continued from Page 9

archaeological name refers to "past human life."

It is believed that the Hohokam first occupied the Sun City West area between 500 and 900 A.D. Most of their settlements in the Southwest were abandoned

by 1400. What made them leave? Most likely the Hohokam left because of a long period of drought and unpredictable rainfall.

Anne Levig is a member of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society Board of Trustees.



Yesterday ... and Today!

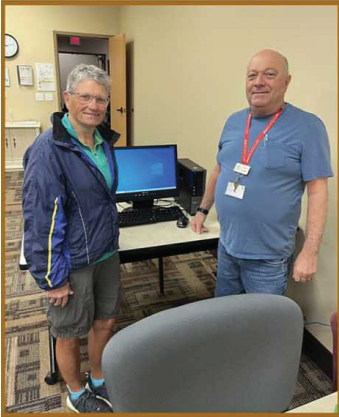
The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum has introduced a new talk to its list of Speaker's Bureau programs: "Sun City: Yesterday and Today." The program tells the history of the community using archival photos from the past of buildings and locations -- and how they appear today. Visit the museum's website to see a list of topics and to arrange a program for your organization.

Museum's small collections now available for researchers to view

The museum's boxed collections of historical items and memorabilia can now

be inspected by visitors during museum hours.

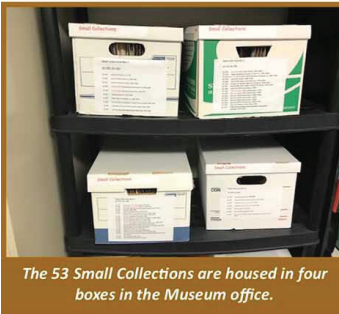
Visitors can review on our computer a list of collections and request to physically review items.



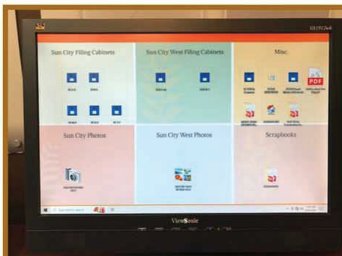
Barb Wagers, a member of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society Board of Trustees, accepting a computer and monitor from Alan Ruda, president of the Sun City Computer Club. We extend our gratitude to President Ruda and the Sun City Computer Club for their generous donation.



Historical Society President Bret McKeand is familiarizing himself with the digital materials available at the new Reference Desk at the Museum.



The 53 Small Collections are housed in four boxes in the Museum office.



There are six categories of digital materials available at the Museum's new Reference Desk: Sun City & Sun City West "filing cabinets" (newspaper clippings etc.), Sun City & Sun City West photographs, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous materials including floor plans for homes and the new collection of Magazines with articles about Sun City.



Museum hosts holiday celebration on Dec. 10

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum will celebrate the holiday season with its annual Christmas Party planned 4-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10 at the museum.

The event will include light refreshments and festive entertainment.

Admission is \$5; free to museum members.

History buffs encouraged to join Acquisitions & Preservation Team

The museum's Acquisitions & Preservation Team has put out the call for volunteers interested in assisting the team in preserving our community's history.

The team's focus is scanning, digitizing and appraising items donated to the museum.

Volunteers are needed to assist in the following areas:

- Inventory and describing maps;
- Inventory and describing artifacts;
- Appraising and digitizing the recently donated Easley Collection;
- Appraising and creating a checklist for library books.

Email bawagers742@gmail.com.

Become a docent: Preserve and share our rich history!

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum is actively seeking volunteers interested in serving as docents. Docents play a crucial role in guiding museum visitors through the house, narrating the fascinating story of Del Webb and the Sun Cities. Extensive training will be provided to prospective docents, who will have the opportunity to collaborate with other dedicated docents and volunteers.



Docents Jim Baker and Dick Goossen.

For those with an appreciation for local history and

a passion for our museum, this is an excellent oppor-

tunity to contribute to the community while enjoying interactions with people. If you are interested or require more details, please call 623-974-2568 or visit the museum's website and complete the volunteer form at:

<https://delwebbsuncities-museum.org/docent-information/>

Join us in preserving and sharing the rich history of the Sun Cities.

"Stained Hearts," a film created by students at Huntington University, was partially filmed at the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum. The film, set in the 1960s, used the museum's 1960s-era living room and kitchen for several of its scenes.



Lights, camera, action!

Museum featured in Huntington student film

"Stained Hearts," a film created by students at Huntington University in Peoria and partially filmed at the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum, made its world premiere earlier this fall at the Peoria Film Fest.

Several scenes of the movie were shot in the living room and kitchen of the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum.

The film takes place in the 1960s, and the students needed a setting that replicated a 1960s-era home. The museum opened its doors one evening earlier this year for the student film crew to use the museum for filming several scenes.

The film was an all-student project created as part of the film-school curriculum.

"It was the first time we've ever had a request to film a movie here at the museum," said Bret McKean, president of the SCAHS.

"The students were very professional -- and very respectful of the museum -- and it was fun to watch them film these two scenes."



"Stained Hearts" was shown in October at the Peoria Film Fest, held at Harkins Arrowhead in Peoria.

Huntington University Arizona film and animation students received 14 nominations for student production awards from the Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for 2024.

Watch the 2024 Rocky Mountain

Emmy Student Nomination Reel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUPNimb-1h8>



The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum has partnered with the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. to host an exhibit in 2026 to showcase the items included in the time capsule located in the base of the Liberty Bell at Bell Recreation Center. The time capsule is set to be opened during a special ceremony in 2026, marking the 50th anniversary of the creation of the bell.



Welcome to Sunshine Service

People, meeting needs of people is what Sunshine Service is all about. Sunshine Service lends medical and children's equipment to residents of Sun City and we have been doing so for over 52 years. We are a charitable non-profit Arizona corporation and are funded by voluntary contributions and memorial gifts.

While the equipment is available for the use of all residents or visitors staying with residents, the equipment must not be taken out of Sun City on a permanent basis. As a matter of control, equipment is loaned only to Sun City residents.

Records show that as the population of Sun City grew, so did use of our medical equipment. Savings for Sun City residents have been calculated periodically; in 2015, it was estimated that residents saved over two million dollars in cost of equipment for that year alone.

Sunshine Service, Inc has received local, state and national recognition. Awards received include the George Washington Honor Medal for services to the sick and handicapped from the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge in Pennsylvania.

"The Cleanest and Most Sanitized Equipment Around"



**New
Knee
Scooters
Arrived!**



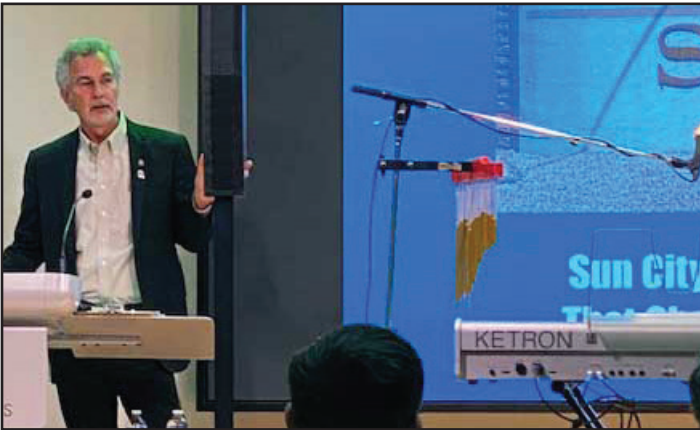
Some Of The Many Items We Carry:

Arm Exerciser • Bath Bench • Bed Rails • Bedside Commodes • Companion Chair Crutches • Foot Massager • High Chairs • Hospital Beds • Lift Chairs • Overbed Tables • Pack-N-Play • Ramp - Aluminum • Rollaway Beds • Strollers • Trapeze Walkers • Weights • Wheel Chairs • Translator Chairs • Knee

Monday-Friday • 9am-4pm
9980 W. Santa Fe Dr. • Sun City 85351-3197

623-974-2561

Museum: In the Community



Bret McKeand, president of the Sun Cities Area Historical Society, earlier this year presented a talk on the history of Sun City at a meeting of The Rotary Club of Sun City. The museum's Speaker's Bureau has a variety of talks that can be shared with clubs and organizations.

The museum can often be found at local events and expos. Visitors to our booth are always surprised to learn about the museum and its offerings. Linda Borton, left, the museum's office manager, recently participated in an event hosted by the West Valley Genealogical Society, located in Youngtown.



Members of the Ridgeport Condominium Association spent an afternoon enjoying the museum during a field trip in June.

Del Webb Sun Cities Museum Group Tours



Friendship Force Northern Colorado

The Del Webb Sun Cities Museum offers group tours of the museum with fascinating stories about Sun City and Sun City West. Give us a call at 623-974-2568 to book a group tour. We look forward to welcoming you to the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum soon.

Did You Know?
Group tours available when the museum is closed.

If you have a group of people from a Club, Organization or Business wanting to tour the museum - give us a call at 623-974-2568.



Peterson Family from Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York



Grace Bible Church



Michigan Club

South Korean visitors visit the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum

Twenty members of the Gyeonggi Housing & Urban Development Corporation traveled from South Korea to Arizona in June and stopped by for a tour of the Del Webb Sun Cities Museum.

The visitors were impressed and intrigued with the story and creation and long-term success of the nation's very first active-adult retirement community.

Thanks to the Sun City Welcome Center for inviting us to participate!



Speakers Bureau has a story -- or stories -- to tell!

Is your club, organization or business looking for a speaker to present a program showcasing the history of the Sun Cities and the Northwest Valley?

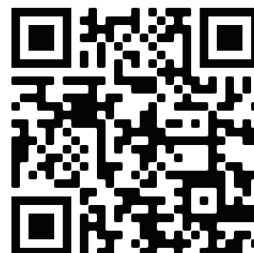
The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is pleased to provide professional speakers to share programs on several interesting topics, including the history of Sun

City and Sun City West, as well as talks highlighting the careers and companies built by Del E. Webb and Jim Boswell, two men hugely responsible for the success of the Sun Cities.

Talks are presented free of charge, although donations to the museum are always appreciated!

Visit our website or scan

the QR code below with your phone camera; find speaker topics under "Contact Us."



Alan Schlemmer presenting a talk on the history of Sun City West during a recent TORCH Academy class.

Sun Cities Area Historical Society/
Del Webb Sun Cities Museum
10801 Oakmont Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351

"Success - it's simple. I listen"

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