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Section 2 of 3 sections

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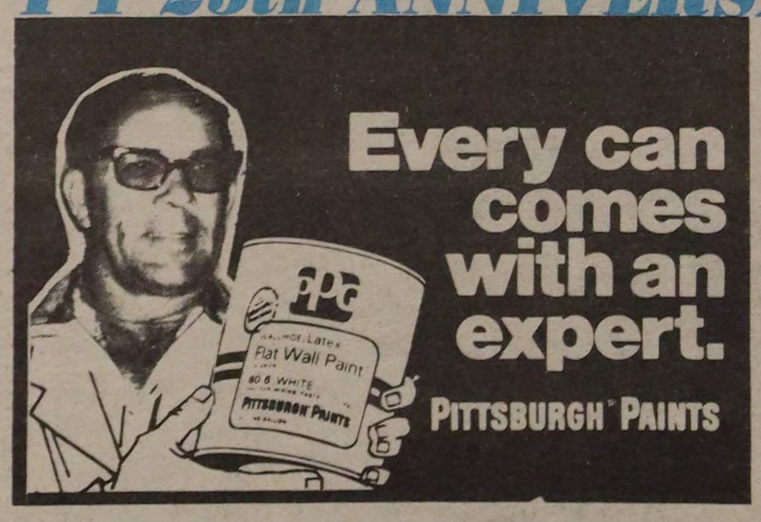

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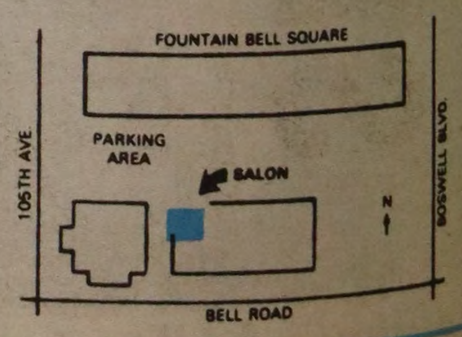

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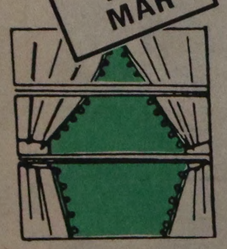

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South to north

Picture of development of Sun City in 1969, above, looks south to Peoria and Olive avenues along 107th Avenue, divided by a parkway. Grand Avenue is in the foreground. At right in foreground is what is known today as Grand Shopping Center, while Hiway House is at left. Below, looking north along 107th Avenue-Del Webb Boulevard, the viewer can see the future La Ronde Centre and Viewpoint Lake.

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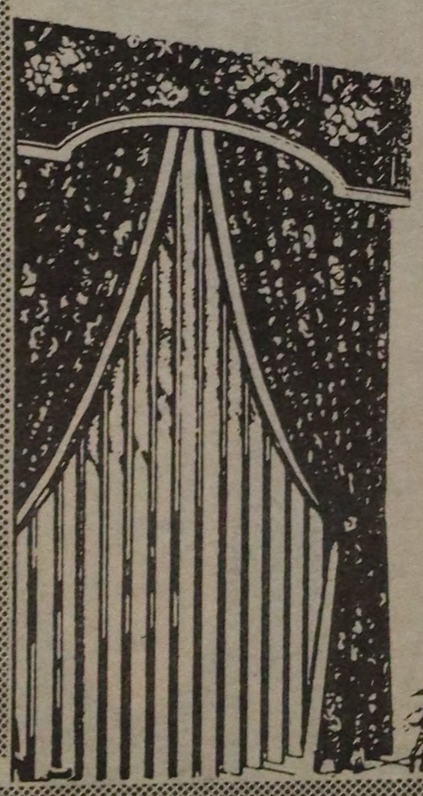

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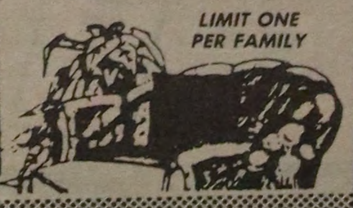

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Law enforcement grows with times

By KAREN S. LEONARD
Staff Writer

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) prides itself with being able to expand with the times.

Although it's undergone major changes in the past 25 years—including the completion of a substation at Dysart and Bell roads—the MCSO continues its public service.

As Sun City grew, so did its need for local law enforcement.

In 1959 200 deputies and civilians worked for the sheriff's department, in comparison with the 1,230 deputies, detention officers and civilians now employed.

In 1959 MCSO employees worked six eight-hour days a week at an average hourly wage of $1.84.

Under the guidance of Sheriff Cal Boies, one of the most politically astute sheriffs Arizona has seen (he was elected to 11 terms), the sheriff's office acquired a new jail.

The new jail, part of a county complex between Jefferson and Madison streets and First and Third avenues in Phoenix, opened in 1964.

The $70,000 annex built at Durango and 34th Avenue was being used to full capacity.

In 1959 the Westside had to rely on one deputy who covered the area bounded by 40th Street and Bell Road to the White Tanks Mountains and from Lake Pleasant south to Glendale Avenue.

The District III Surprise Substation at Dysart and Bell roads was opened in May 1982. The main responsibility of 31 deputies assigned to the district is the Sun Cities area.

The substation is unlike the Glendale facility 13 miles away from Sun City where the deputies formerly worked and shared with the Glendale Police Department. It has a jail which can hold 17 full-time prisoners and 10 to 15 others in the process of being booked.

Five detectives and a full-time civilian are assigned to District III and three of those work solely in Sun City, Wendt said.

Today Sun City alone is divideed into four beat areas and four deputies work those beats.

Response time on those beats for an emergency is one minute, 55 seconds and seven minutes for a non-emergency, District III's Cpl. Larry Wendt said.

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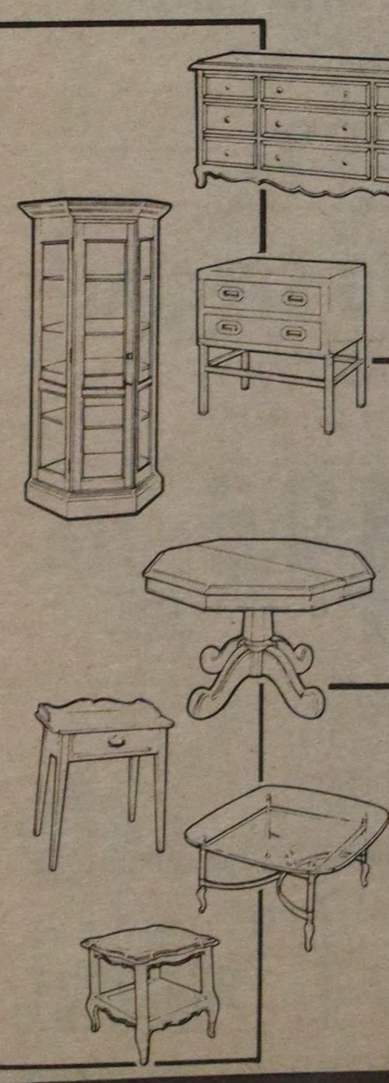

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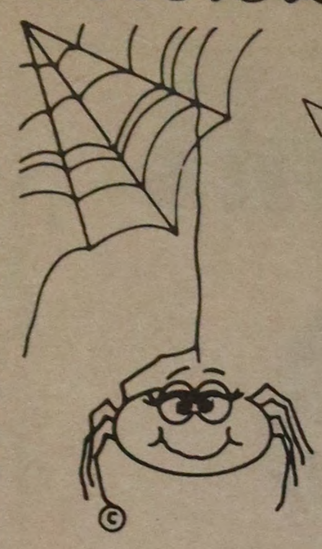

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Women of the Year—voted on by their peers in the Sun City Business and Professional Women—are, from left, Charlean Wells, 1974; Pat Rees, 1976; Ann Marie Hery, 1980; Shirley Scheideman, 1983; Dolores Miner, 1982; Bernie Wilson, 1984; Ethel Behnle, 1977; Nellie Jones, 1981; and Jackie Epley, 1978. Others have been Nina Malcolm, 1975, and Yetta Huntimer, 1979.

(News-Sun photo)

BPW offers career variety

Women from banks, computer desks, sales forces, country clubs, government jobs have joined the Sun City Business and Professional Women's Club since its founding Jan. 20, 1972.

That year, under the leadership of Julia McKnight, a Sun Citian, was relatively late in Sun City's history, but not in the history of Arizona BPW.

These women, all of whom work—and many of whom live—in Sun City, have stayed after hours to build their club, affect the state BPW's political structure and make themselves known.

They take member-taught classes in self-assertion, poise and executive ability. They learn to do their own jobs better. And the road to club meetings has not always been smooth.

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Tom Tam, right, in vest, has won area acclaim for his elaborate Chinese New Year's Eve parties in his El Sol Restaurant on Grand Avenue in Youngtown. Tam's guests enjoy a traditional Chinese celebration, including a dancing dragon. **(News-Sun photo)**

Restaurant goes tricultural

When Tom Tam opened El Sol Restaurant on Grand Avenue in Youngtown, he spanned a lot of territory and three cultures.

The restaurant draws customers from the Sun Cities, Youngtown and from miles around.

It also serves Chinese, Mexican and American food.

El Sol rather sums up Tam's own life, for he emigrated from Red China to Hong Kong, then to the United States, as the Maoists took over mainland China in 1949.

When Tam came to the Valley, he first opened up shop in Scottsdale, where he still owns a popular restaurant. Then he looked westward to the growth possibilities of the Sun Cities-Youngtown area and decided to be a man for all cultures.

The son of a former general under Chiang Kai-shek, Tam managed to get his father out of China just a few years ago, after his father had been released from a Communist prison.

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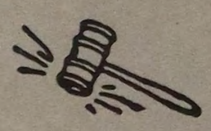

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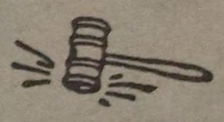

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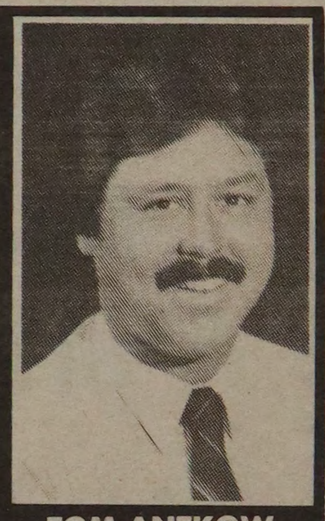

TOM ANTKOW
247-5195

George Swanson, 10322 El Rancho Drive, not only is one of the first Sun City residents, but he also is one of the area's first bankers. Now that Swanson's fully retired from First Interstate Bank (it used to be First National), he gets great pleasure from his special rock garden in the backyard of his home.

(News-Sun photo)

Story on Swanson and other early-day Sun City bankers begins on opposite page.

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Bankers recall 'first old days'

By MIKE GARRETT
Financial Editor

A long time ago when Sun City was in its infancy, there wasn't a bank, savings and loan or brokerage house on nearly every street corner.

It wasn't until the 1970s that Sun City's financial community really began to grow, right along with the boom in home sales.

Sun City banking hasn't really changed that much over the years—just the competition among financial institutions to attract the investment dollar.

SUN CITY has always been a strong deposit base for banks and savings and loan associations, while loans have been minimal and short term.

Two of Sun City's earliest bankers recalled those early days when the community had only two banks.

George Swanson was not only one of Sun City's first residents back in 1960, but he was also Sun City's first banker.

He's proud of the fact that his name was printed in the first Sun City directory published in 1961 and in the most recent one—both at the same Phase I address.

ED COMINS was the first manager of Sun City's second bank, the Sun Bowl Plaza First Interstate Bank in 1966 and still works for First Interstate's La Ronde Centre branch.

Swanson managed the first bank in Sun City, the First Interstate (then First National) Bank at Grand Center from 1960 to 1965, when he retired.

Swanson began his career with First Interstate in 1944 after he had managed the First National Bank in Moline, Ill., for 23 years. He moved to Arizona in 1940 to help relieve his son's bronchial asthma.

He said he actually began as Sun City's first banker in 1959 before the first bank was built. He operated for six months out of Dr. Robert Stump's old office just behind the Grand Center location.

HE DUG the first shovelful of dirt at the Grand Center groundbreaking.

Swanson recalled he had the only bank in the area for at least a couple of years before

* —Bankers,B11

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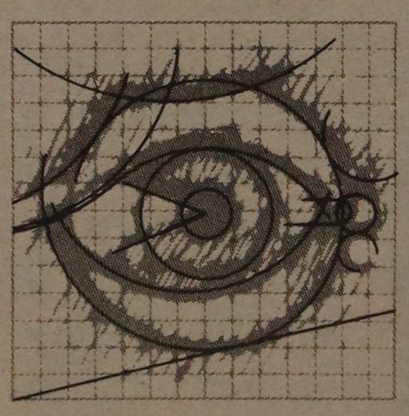

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* Bankers recall

—From B9

Valley National Bank opened a branch in Youngtown.

"We grew awfully fast," said Swanson. "When I retired in 1965, we had about $16 million in deposits."

Swanson recalled that bankers' hours were 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in those days when the bank had only four desks, two tellers and a bookkeeper.

COMINS SAID when he was manager, only the east half of Sun Bowl Plaza had been completed.

Comins recalled those early days when "business-wise, we made a lot of mortgage loans. A lot of our customers were surprised that we would make 30-year loans to 70 and 80-year-old people, which we did. But we've never had a loss on a mortgage loan in Sun City.

"There has never been a big demand for personal loans out here, nor a great demand for business loans. But the reason the banks can be here is basically because they accumulate deposits which can be put to work in other parts of our system throughout the state," said Comins.

"It's really a deposit pool. We like to make loans and we do make some, but the loan business would not justify our having branches out here if we did not have the other branches as places to put it to work.

"IN 1966, they were just starting to build homes south of Peoria. They really had not made a decision as to whether or not they would ever come north of Grand Avenue. Our two branches were the only ones here (in Sun City) at that time.

"It was a gamble of sorts when we put our first bank in. By the time the second bank was built, we had a pretty good record under our belts and felt sure that we could justify it."

Comins was not apprehensive about it, though. He had been exposed to Sun City before taking the position here, playing golf on some of the Sun City courses.

"The models were right down there on Peoria Avenue and it was obvious that they were selling well. There was no apprehension at all at that point. There probably was before we built our first branch and only 16 houses were occupied."

COMINS SEES competition as the biggest difference between 1966 and today.

"The savings and loans are now providing more services than they did then, which

* —Bankers,B12

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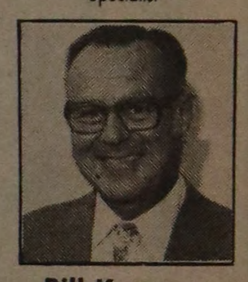

Bill Kummer
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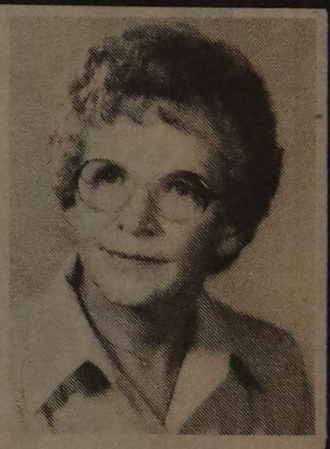

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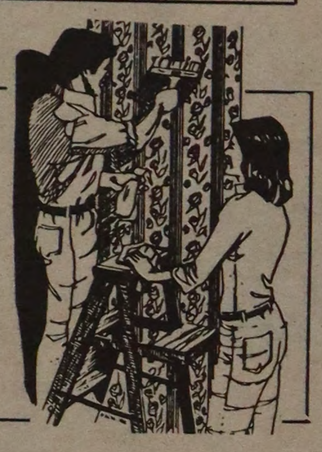

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—From B11

makes them more competitive. They have checking accounts now and are making more personal-type loans than they used to.

"Everyone is trying to be everything to everyone," he commented.

Comins said he had been instrumental in getting the Sun City Symphony started because he knew conductor Jennings Butterfield, who was a customer of the bank.

"**BOSWELL** Hospital also got started when they had some meetings in our bank building in the very beginning.

"I also watched the Sun Bowl being built. It was a very exciting period of time out here."

Comins hasn't noticed any real changes in the kinds of businesses locating in Sun City, other than a large growth in convalesent-type care facilities.

"The Sun Valley Lodge was really the only one here when I came out. Del Webb policy at that time was to kind of let things run themselves."

Golf pro carries SC colors

Golf professional John Schlee captured second place in the Minnesota Golf Classic and earned $12,000 in his first appearance as the official representative of Sun City on the pro circuit.

He had received sponsorship from the Webb Corp. two weeks earlier in 1966.

He was one stroke off the pace of winner Bobby Nichols. Schlee's 271 featured a final round 5-under-par 66.

Schlee was the second pro golfer to carry Sun City's colors on the tournament trail.

First was Dave Marr, who won the PGA championship in 1965.

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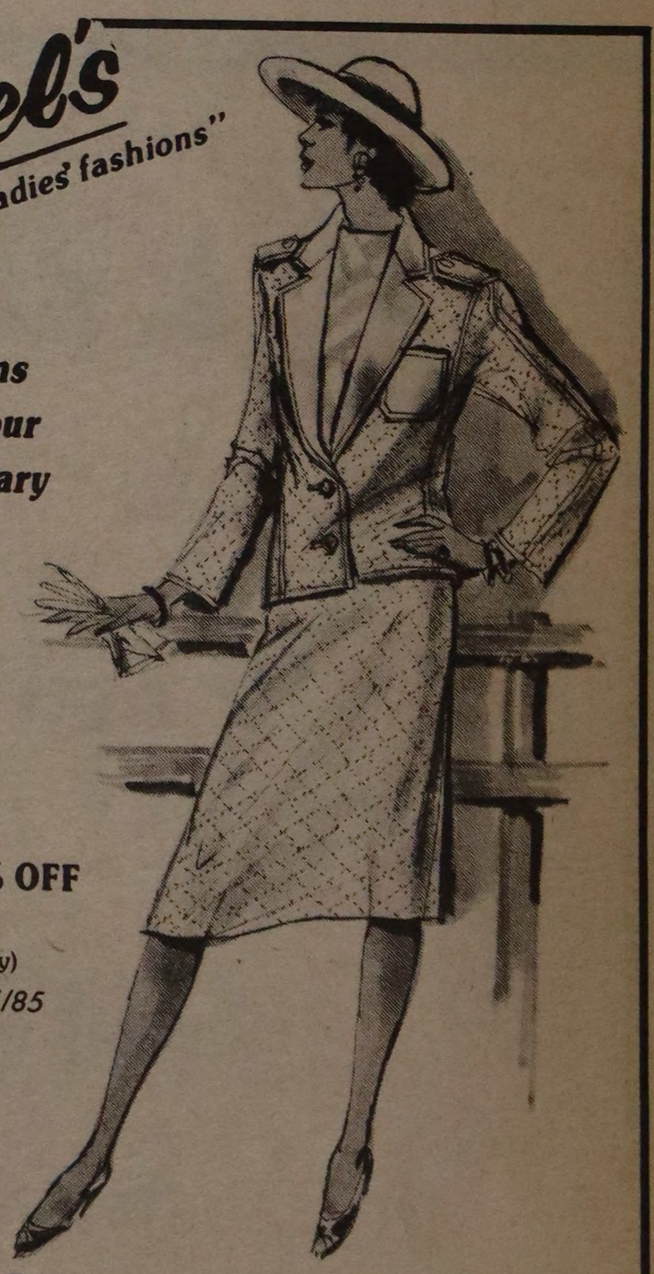

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Name contest had strings tied to Sun City

Naming the budding retirement city developed by Del Webb, according to "Jubilee," Sun City's historical book, was not all untarnished silver.

The News-Sun published the winner of a naming contest Dec. 8, tersely saying that it was E.A. Britton of Eugene, Ore.

However, write the "Jubilee" compilers, this was just a bare outline of the story.

A contest had been announced in newspapers all over the country, notes the book. The Reuben Donnelly Co. of Chicago, a reputable overseer firm, was retained to conduct the contest.

On Dec. 8, Webb executives had joined the Donnelly representatives as they were reviewing the final names. A dozen or more were discussed.

Webb himself walked in, examined some of the names and casually remarked, "I like Sun City."

The Donnelly people objected, since this was not the way they had been hired to run a fair contest and if they were to certify the winners, the choice would have to be under the rules.

"You don't seem to understand," said one of the Webb top-level men. "If Del Webb says that is the name, that's what it will be."

Sun City became the community's official name.

There were to be three winners, so Webb officials had to get an agreement for a drawing for first, second and third places from among five finalists, says the magazine.

So the E.A. Brittons became top winners, but they couldn't be found; they were said to be in a trailer camp in Palm Springs, Calif.

The prize, a house in Sun City, was released to the Brittons through a Palm Springs attorney. The Brittons sold the house because they decided not to live here, the book notes.

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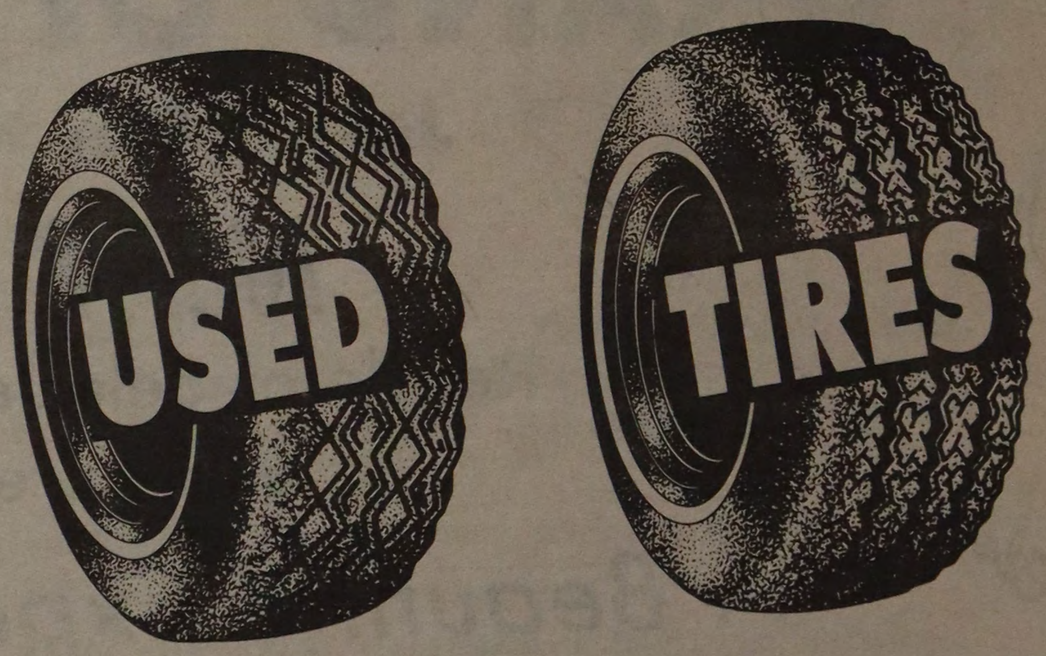

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They went south

Sun Citians sport sombreros and serapes bought during a trip to Nogales back in May 1961. From left, they are Frances Garey, Audrey Herman, Ed Garey and Frank Herman, who at that time had been vacation traveling friends of long standing. At that time the Gareys lived at 1108 Cherry Hills Drive and the Hermans' home was at 11824 107th Ave. Both couples first retired to Los Gatos, Calif., and later moved to Sun City.

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They care for kids

Mrs. Otto Crambuhl and Mrs. Marvca show their Sun City charity collection of children's clothing put together for the Valley's annual drive titled Dress a Living Doll. The time was June 1962 and Sun Citians gave—and gave—and gave—all the years the drive existed, from the time of the community's founding. New clothing was warehoused during the drive until storage facilities were filled, then needy children were given brand-new outfits free.

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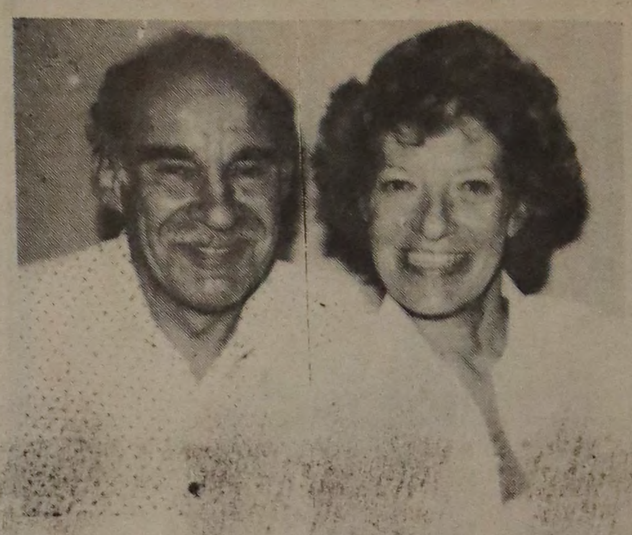

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SC women

The Afternoon Bridge Club meets for a typical afternoon in the Community Center as it was in 1961. Later that same year the Del E. Webb Development Co. was asked to expand the center to accommodate Sun Citians' increased activities and groups.

Early in Sun City's life clubs and women's groups became so active that those little houses out on the desert became noted on the Westside as topnotch fund-raisers.

Events ranged from bridge games and clubs—which later proliferated into country clubs and recreation centers all over the growing city—to fashion shows, plays, festivals and musical concerts.

The Community Center housed a great many bridge sessions until the Del E. Webb Development Co. expanded that center, then went on to build more recreation facilities.

Even in 1960, when a small Community Center was available, Devco announced expansion plans that included a new community building, a swimming pool, an arts and crafts building and a shuffleboard court.

The growing number of

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work on funds

A spring afternoon in 1964 smiles down on this fashion show rehearsal at the home of Hazel Martin. From Sun City's early days, women raised impressive funds for all sorts of good causes with—what else?—home-staged fashion shows, usually doing their own modeling.

churches and their attendant women's groups added their share of events to the Sun City calendar.

Every type of event, from fashion shows to bazaars, midwestern-style, raised money for church buildings, projects and charity to Sun City's not-so-well-off neighbors in El Mirage and Surprise.

As far back as—again, 1960—the News-Sun published a story informing its readers that a $6,000 fire destroyed a storeroom in El Mirage—a storeroom that held clothing and bedding donated by Sun Citians and Youngtowners to the needy.

While men alternated donating skilled labor with relaxing golf sessions, Sun City's women donated their time to fund-raising events that sooner or later would pay such dividends as two Residents Galleries that help Boswell Memorial Hospital, all sorts of church charities and community activities.

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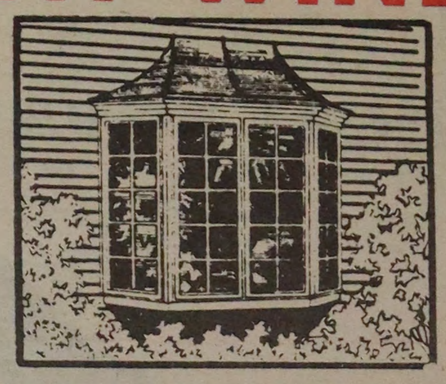

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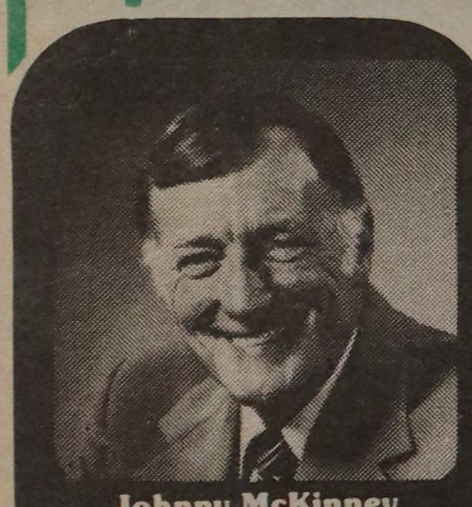
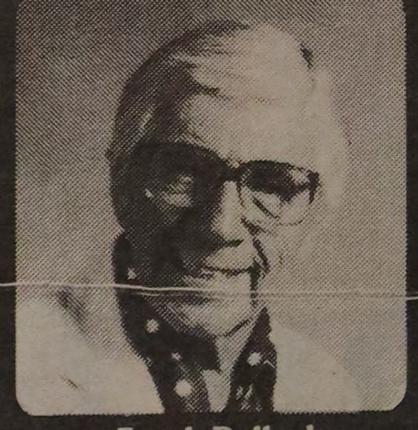
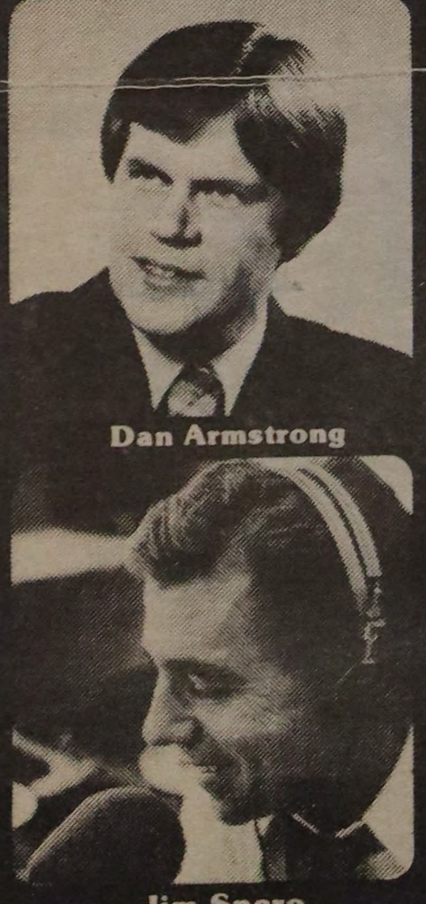
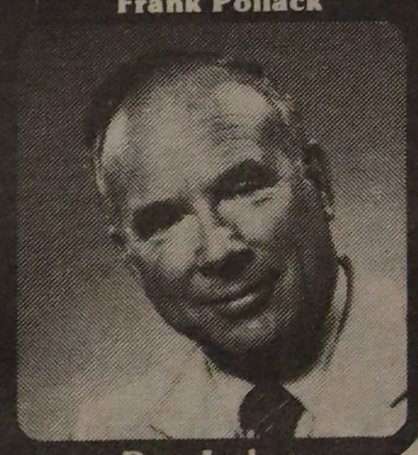

Johnny McKinney


Frank Pollack


Dan Armstrong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Music Of Your Life Club

One golden oldie is Vincent Pucci's 1960s-vintage golf-shopping cart, which will be in the Sun City 25th Anniversary parade.

(News-Sun photo)

'My God, what did you do?'

Puccis pioneered

By HELEN ALLEN
Staff Writer

Vincent and Anna Pucci's sons were sure their parents were being swindled when the Puccis plunked down a deposit on a Sun City home in 1959.

In fact, they were so sure that they had an attorney investigate Del Webb.

And they remained skeptical, even after their Chicago attorney found nothing wrong,

* —They, page B23

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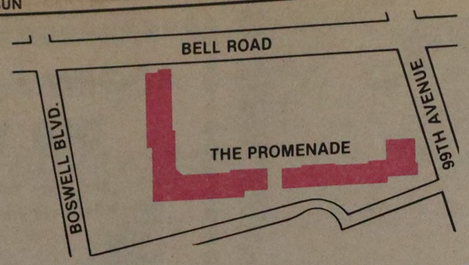

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—From B19

recalls Mariann Greenlee.

HER PARENTS, she explained, came to Arizona on a house-hunting trip after her mother, suffering from severe asthma, was bluntly told by the family doctor "to move to a better climate or make arrangements with an undertaker."

They were almost ready to buy a home in Scottsdale, Mrs. Greenlee said, when they heard about a new retirement community going up in the west Valley and decided to take a look.

What they found was a trailer sitting in the middle of a cotton field near Grand and 107th avenues.

All the salesman had to show at that time, Mrs. Greenlee said, were a bunch of brochures with home sketches and Del Webb's concept of a retirement community.

MODEL HOMES then were in the freshly poured concrete-slab stage.

Despite everything, Mrs. Greenlee said, her father became intrigued with Webb's idea of a retirement community and told his wife to make out a check for a substantial deposit on a home.

When the Puccis returned to Chicago with the news, according to their daughter, the family's immediate reaction was:

"How could you do that with all the swindles going on?"

HER OLDER brothers, she said, continued to be skeptical even when their parents got ready, a few months later, to move to their new Sun City home.

"My brother told Pop, 'You're the only ones who are going to be out there.' "

Accompanying them this time was their 18-year-old daughter.

Mrs. Greenlee mentioned that her own reaction, on seeing Sun City for the first time in early 1960 was, "My God, what did you do?"

LOOKING BACK now, she mused, the move turned out to be the best thing that could have happened to her parents, who still live in their original home on Hacienda Drive.

Her father, she mentioned, is now 91 and her mother, 78.

Among their enjoyments, she said, was being able to grow flowers and vegetables year-round and meet people from all parts of the country.

They also enjoyed scooting around the community in a golf car, Mrs. Greenlee remarked, after poor eyesight forced her father to give up driving the family car.

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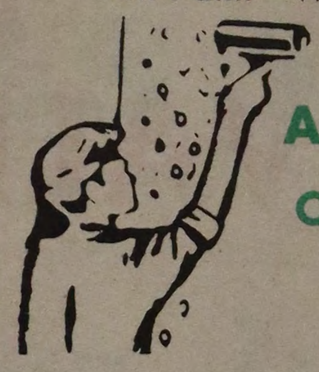

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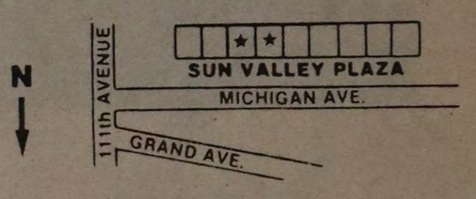

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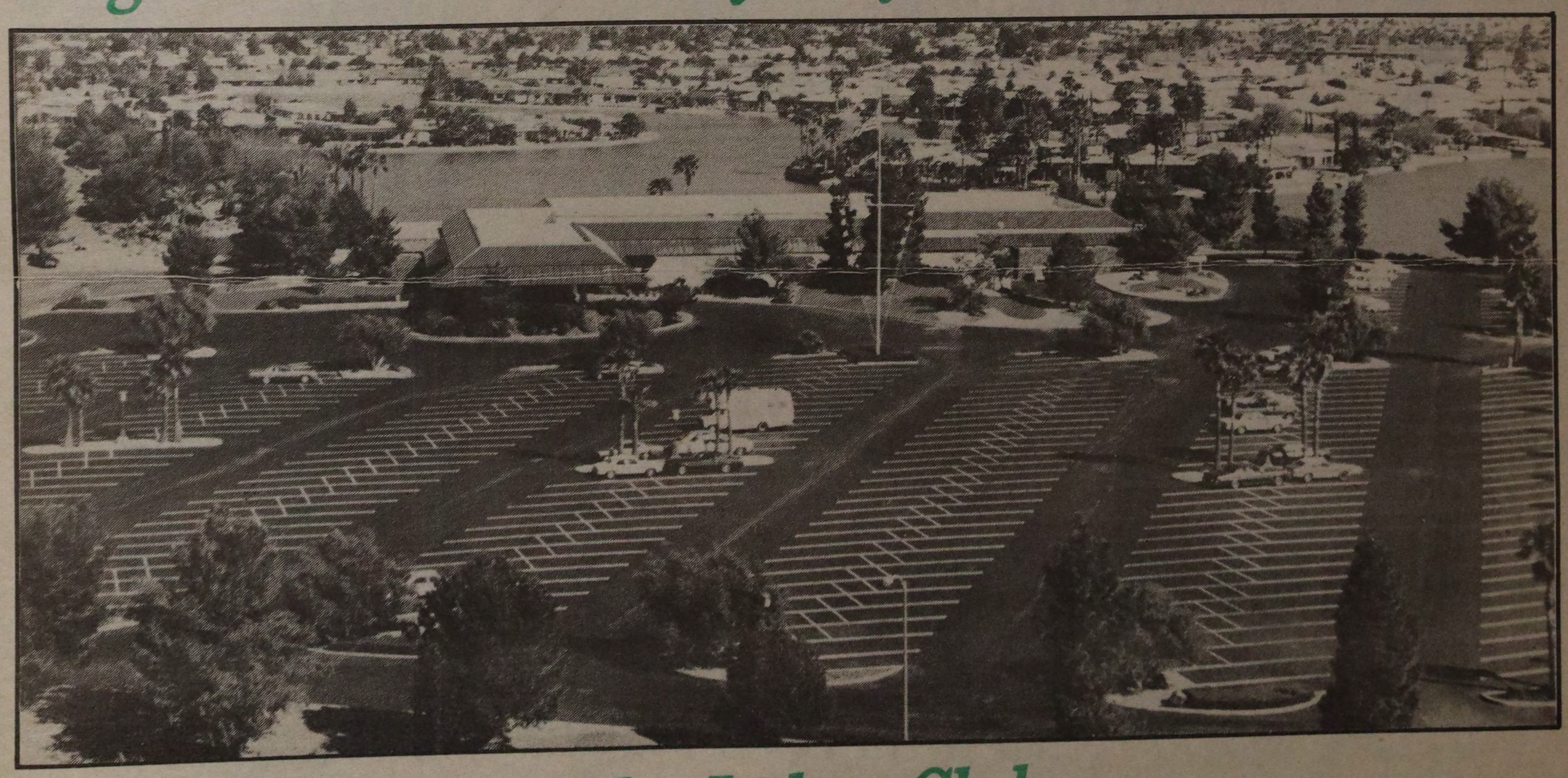

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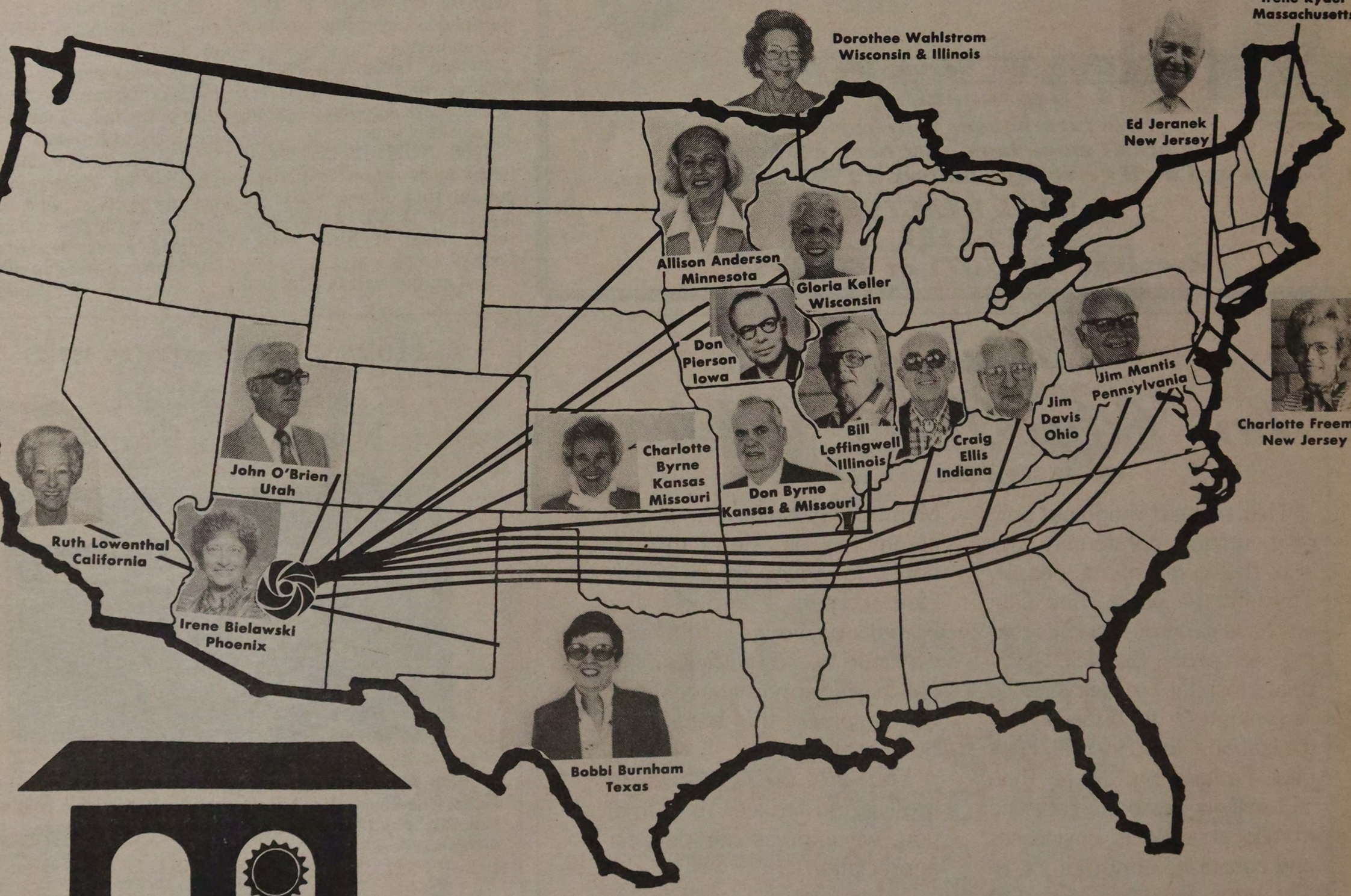

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SV Lodge attains maturity as home that love built

By SUSAN HEROLD
Staff Writer

Like a well-worn glove or your favorite easy chair, this room feels comfortable.

Sun Valley Lodge Administrator Virginia Sylvis, center, has watched Sun City—and her own facility—grow during her 18-year stint with the lodge. With her are two longtime employees, Susie Marshall, left, and Geneva Toon, right.

(News-Sun photo)

There are no stiff, modular business furnishings, no artificial plants adorning rows of file cabinets.

Instead, there is a padded rocking chair facing a heavy wooden desk lost long ago under stacks of paper.

THE NUMEROUS plants in the room are not only alive, but thriving in this warm atmosphere of the administrator's office of Sun Valley Lodge.

And on the wall is a framed administrator's license, proudly placed there by the person whose name it bears.

"I have Arizona license No. 2," said Virginia Sylvis, administrator of Sun Valley Lodge.

"The state began requiring nursing home administrators to be licensed in 1976, so I passed the requirements and was certified. I'm not sure where license-holder No. 1 is, but I think he's out of nursing homes."

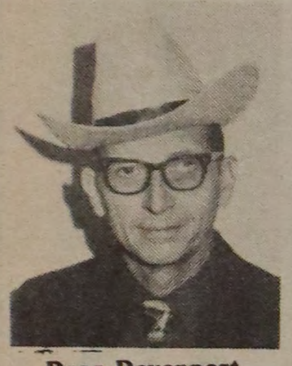
FORTUNATELY, for the residents of Sun Valley Lodge, Virginia Sylvis is still with them.

Although her administrators' license reads 1976, Sylvis actually took over the position three years earlier, when she moved up from executive secretary to the lodge's former director, Richard Kaysen.

That promotion may seem unusual for a secretary, but not for Sylvis, who was as familiar with the workings of the lodge as was her boss.

"I started here in 1967, not

* —SV Lodge,B28



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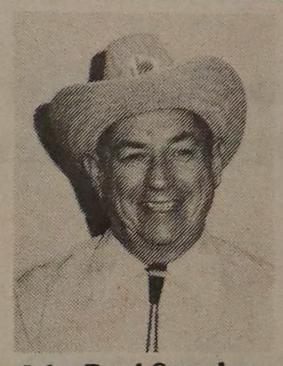

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This is a celebration not only of a unique community but also the spirit of its people. Through the years, Sun Citians have generously supported the non-profit Boswell Memorial Hospital by their gifts to its volunteer fund-raising organization—the Boswell Hospital Foundation. More than $13 million has been received from local residents, businesses and corporate contributors. In fact, your donations helped to make the dream of opening an acute-care hospital in Sun City a reality in 1970.

Today, the 355-bed Boswell Memorial Hospital serves our community as one of the nation's foremost adult health care centers. Through the Foundation, your contributions continue to aid the hospital in purchasing sophisticated medical equipment that benefits all Sun Citians.

You are our partners in growth and service. To each of you, we express our deepest appreciation.

Charles F. Dusing
President, Board of Trustees

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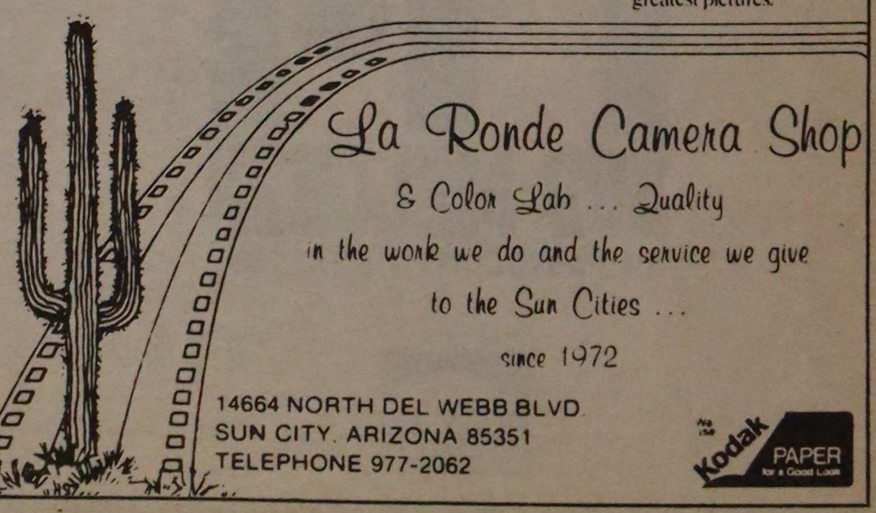

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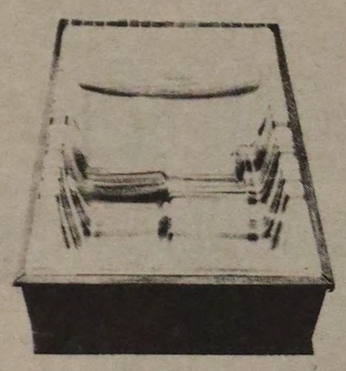

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*SV Lodge first

—From B26

long after the lodge opened, which was Sept. 1, 1965. I guess you could say I watched Sun City grow up around us, while we were growing at the same time," Sylvis said.

SHE RECALLED her early days at the lodge when there were only a handful of residents compared with the 200 who live there now.

"I sort of learned by doing," said the first female administrator of the lodge. "I had never been in the nursing home field before, but I knew I enjoyed working with the elderly."

Although Sun Valley Lodge, 12415 103rd Ave., is filled to capacity today, it has come a long way since 1961, when it was just the dream of two dedicated men.

Rev. Walter Witt, pastor of what then was titled the Community Church of Sun City (now the United Church of Sun City), and Rev. Reinhold Klein of the Retirement Housing Foundation of California, believed a need existed for a "retirement home with nursing care" in this new, growing community.

THE MEN met with other Sun Citians in the Community Church to formulate plans for the new facility.

In 1962, the group of Sun Citians created Sun Val Corp. The goal of these concerned residents was to see their dream of a retirement-nursing home and hospital become a reality.

After many meetings with Del E. Webb Development Co. (Devco), Sun Val board members finally agreed upon the site for the lodge at Coggins Drive and 103rd Avenue, the previous site of the Coulter Cotton Gin.

All that remained of the gin was a large concrete slab, which was difficult and expensive to move. The board considered the slab's removal Devco's responsibility, but Devco did not agree.

Although the board fought long and hard over the issue, it finally had to pay to remove the concrete so work could begin on the lodge.

YET EVEN with all the trouble of removing the concrete slab, the land was too small to accommodate both a nursing home and hospital.

Forced to opt for one item—the retirement-nursing home, board members revised their plans and were off to Washington, D.C., for Federal Housing Administration approval of their nursing home project.

* —SV Lodge,B29

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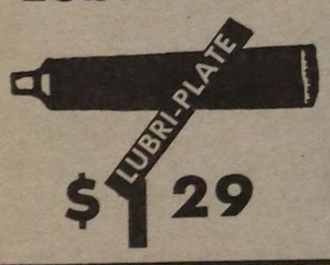

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*SV Lodge first

—From B28

After months of negotiation with mortgage and insurance companies, their dream came true.

The Sun Valley Lodge, at a cost of $1.25 million, became a reality.

WITH THE groundbreaking set for April 7, 1964, memberships to the lodge were selling for $100 each. By the time the doors opened, only 400 had been sold.

Although memberships were going slowly, the lodge administration was not overly concerned.

They believed the slow sales were thanks to Sun City residents'not realizing that someday they would be the very ones to need the accommodations offered by their facility. And slow sales did not last long.

By 1969 more than 2,000 memberships had been sold and by 1980 memberships were no longer available.

THE WAITING list for residency had become so long, Sylvis said, that the board agreed it was no longer fair to sell memberships.

"We're not capable of expanding our facilities further to accommodate the wait caused by land restrictions," she explained. "However, we added 24 garden apartments during the past 15 years, which have given us a well-rounded facility."

Besides the garden apartments, the lodge now consists of in-living apartments, personal and skilled nursing care wings, chapel, recreation lounges, kitchen facilities, dining rooms and offices.

Although the lodge can no longer expand outwardly, many facilities have been added or improved, thanks largely to the efforts of the Sun Valley Lodge Auxiliary.

THIS SUPPORT group was formed by Flora Merman in 1965 to provide residents with a homelike atmosphere.

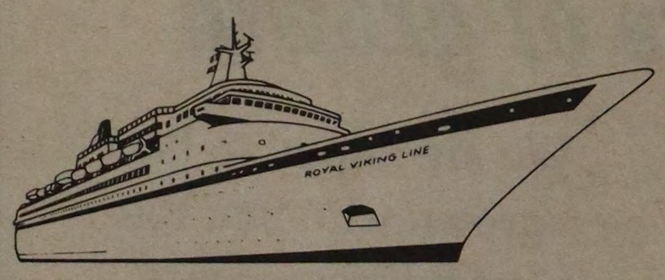
Within four months there were 40 members, and by the time the lodge opened there were more than 200 auxilians.

"The auxiliary is really the backbone of Sun Valley Lodge," Sylvis said. "They visit our residents, deliver mail, read, write letters, plan birthday parties, raise funds—we really couldn't make it without them."

Through assistance from the Sun City Community Fund, churches, service clubs and the auxiliary, the lodge has been able to make many improvements, she said.

* —SV Lodge,B30

Phil Carr Travel



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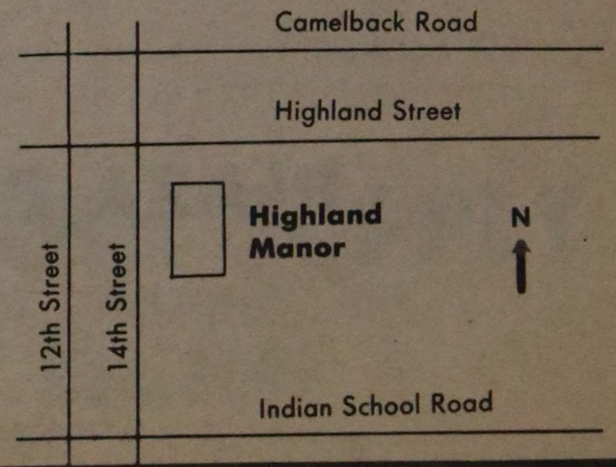

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'Naow yere this—'

Highlight of community life in Sun City's early days was an annual Western Day. Everyone turned out in suitable costumes, heard Western stars play Western music—and took part in such local activities as the Amateur Radio Club, pictured here in 1962. Its volunteers provided public announcements and other audio entertainment.

*SV Lodge first

—From B29

WITH THE approaching 20th anniversary of Sun Valley Lodge, Sylvis looked back on her 18 years of service.

"At first I didn't really know what I was getting into, but once I was here I loved it," she said. "There is nothing more satisfying than working with the elderly. Oh, sure, you have your bad moments and your sad times, but it's the family atmosphere and the great staff that make it easy."

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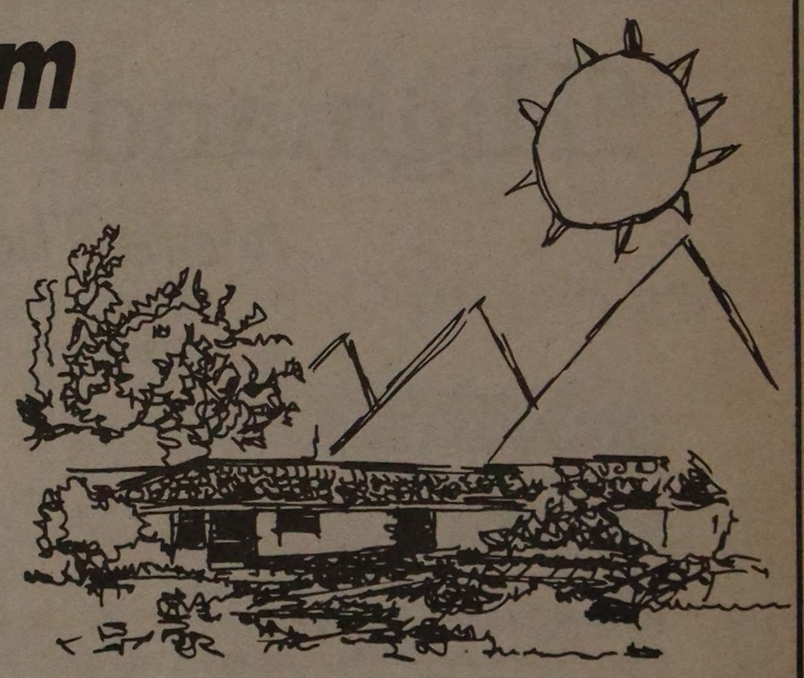

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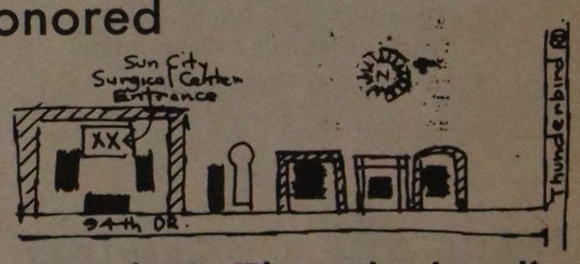

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Where's the fire?

Dr. Leonard Felenski, one of many Sun Citians who found fascination in hobbies when they encountered the Rec Centers of Sun City, shows off his prize fire truck. Built of wood in the craft room at Lakeview Center, the truck is scaled painstakingly for detailed accuracy.

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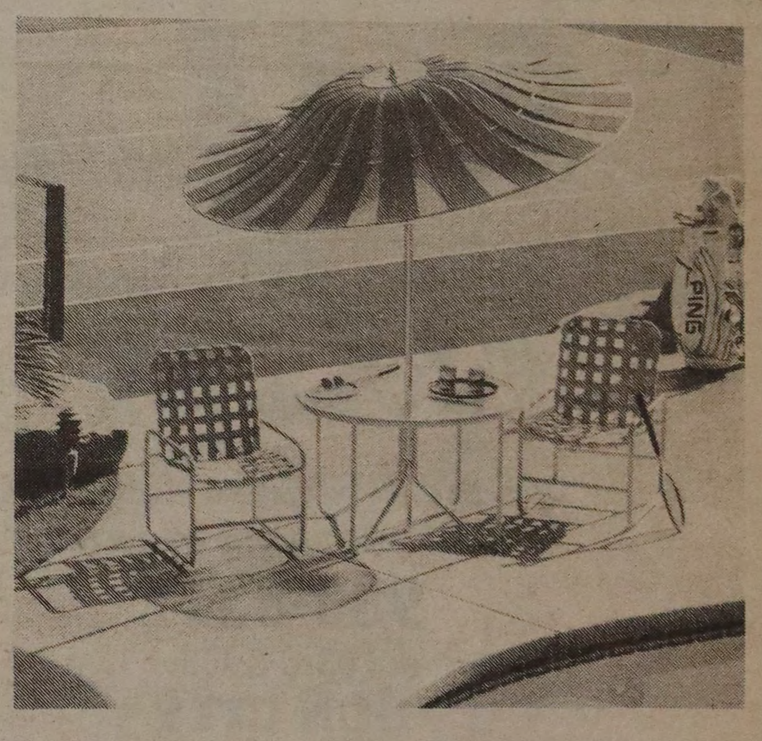

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Sun Citian finds many smiles in her adopted hometown

By ROBERTA LANDMAN
Staff Writer

Beth Olson has been in Sun City for most of its 25 years.

She says she enjoyed the community's recreation centers for 23 of those years—but not as a club or activity participant.

"I was too busy working," says the former Recreation Centers of Sun City secretary.

Having retired March 30, and having had a chance to look around the community as a genuine retiree, Mrs. Olson says the community "certainly has grown."

Growth aside, she says Sun City today offers the same appealing lifestyle it offered her and her husband nearly 25 years ago.

"When we came out we said we're going to like it," said the silver-haired woman. "And we did."

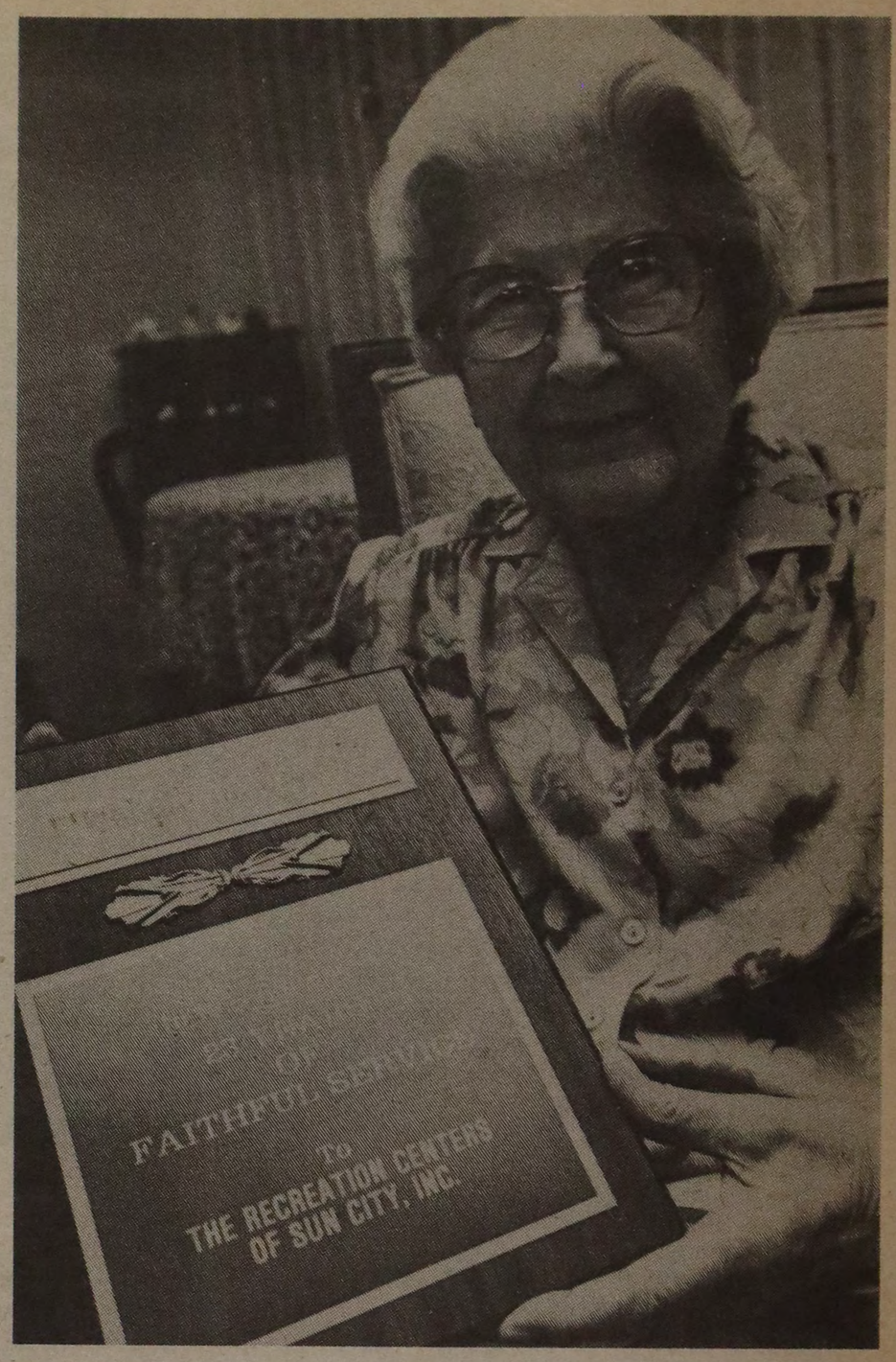
In 1985, she says, "I wouldn't want to live anyplace else."

From her Rec Centers employment position she says she saw people who could "be just as active as they want to," and the growth of clubs change from "not more than 10" in the early days to more than 150 today.

Her job also allowed her to get to know many people in the community.

"People are nice and friendly and hospitable here.

"I just enjoy it a lot. It's a beautiful city."



Beth Olson, after serving the Rec Centers of Sun City for 23 years, finally has retired to retirement.

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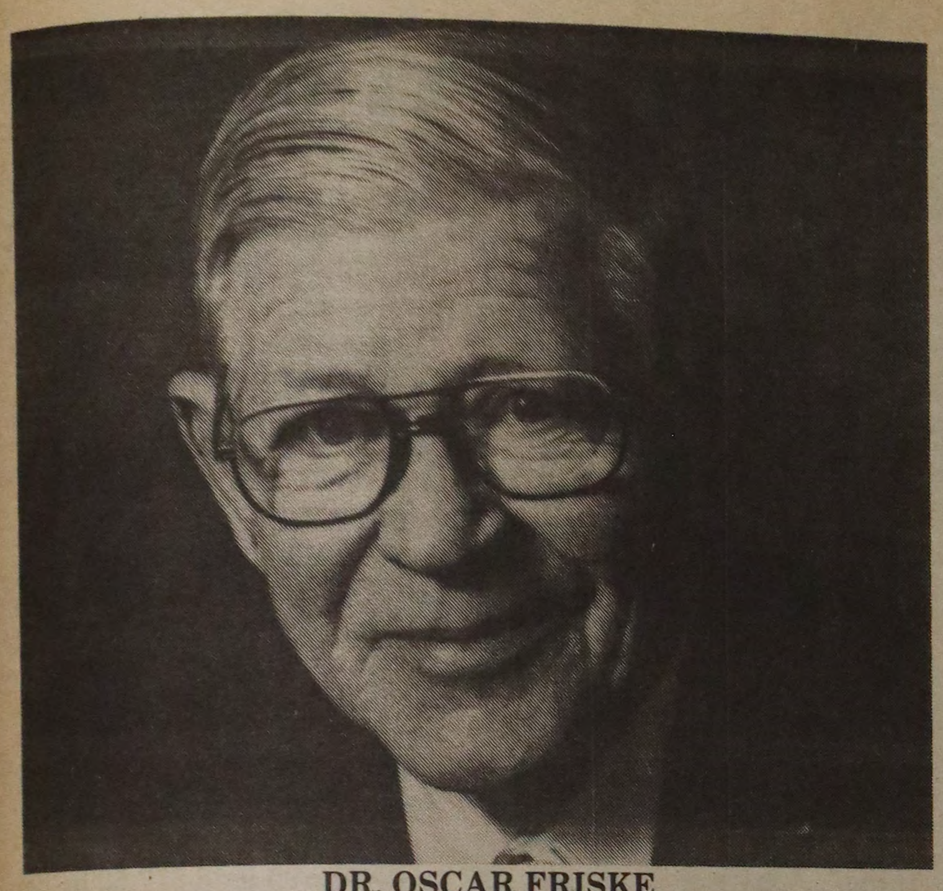

DR. OSCAR FRISKE

From babies to geriatrics

By P. ATWOOD WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Anyone who has ridden in a sleigh through three-wire-high snowdrifts to deliver a baby can appreciate the blessings of Arizona's winters.

Such a man is Sun City's third doctor, Oscar Friske, who hung out his shingle in Youngtown in 1962, because Del Webb's organization wouldn't build him an office or rent him space.

Friske was born in Sparta,

* Dr. Friske, B34

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*Dr. Friske

—From B33

Wis., in 1903 and was graduated from high school there in 1922. He attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison from 1923-1930 and was graduated in the fifth class from the university's four-year med school.

HE THEN took an exchange internship in surgery at the University of Indiana in Indianapolis for the next three years, finishing in Wauseon, Ohio.

He married and bought a medical practice in Beloit, Wis., in 1934. The Friskes raised four daughters.

"In those days we did everything ... obstetrics, surgery ... and had patients of all ages," he said in an interview in the office of his home on Sun City Boulevard.

SURROUNDED by his framed diplomas and admittedly outdated medical books, Dr. Friske might have been waiting for another patient. He keeps his medical certification valid for volunteer work.

"We were fortunate in those days to work with older doctors to gain more knowledge in surgery doing appendectomies, gall bladders, hysterectomies, caesarians, tonsil and adenoid removals," he recalls.

He remembers one patient to whom he gave Congo Red, a dye to kill infections, but not strong enough to prevent the patient, who had an infection in his heart valves, from dying. Next came the sulfa drugs and finally, penicillin.

DURING THESE 15 years Dr. Friske delivered 467 babies.

Fees for delivering babies during the Depression ranged from the two cords of wood he received for the baby delivered after that hectic sleigh ride through the snow with two farmers to deliver a baby at Clinton, Wis., to $125 for a "well-heeled" family.

For babies of people on welfare, he was paid $17.50 by the county. $35 was an average fee, and it included circumcision and pre- and post-natal care.

"WE TIPPED over once during that sleigh ride and had to dig my bag out of the snow before we could go on," he said. "The mother used a coffee cup with ether on cotton as a painkiller. I had carried the ether in my coat pocket on that sleigh ride," he added.

Dr. Friske used the wood to fuel his coal furnace in his home on Grand Avenue in Beloit. At other times he accepted sides of beef, groceries or scrip

*** Dr. Friske, B36**

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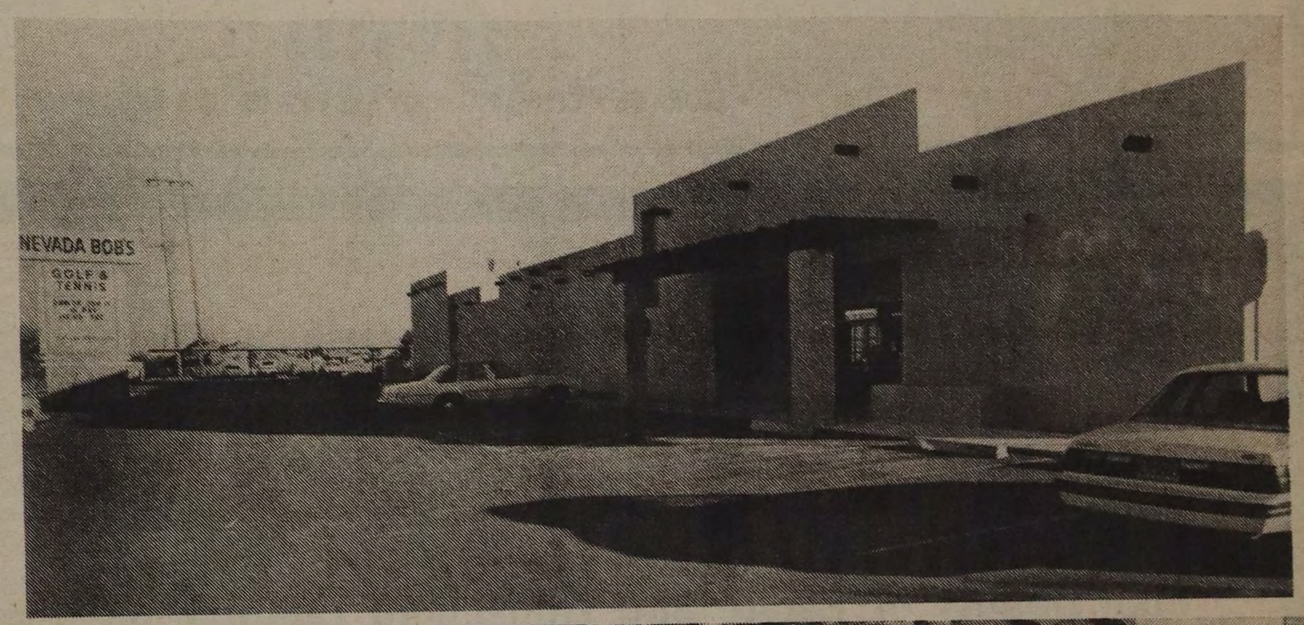

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* Dr. Friske

—From B34

issued by the Chamber of Commerce in payment for services.

He remembers the carnival and circus workers who frequently feigned serious illnesses to be given the one legally permissible shot of drugs.

LATER HIS office was at 902 Fourth Street, and he recalls the Rock River flooding almost up to his office.

During those years, Dr. Friske occasionally assisted the Fairbanks-Morse Co. physician, Dr. Ray Baldwin, in surgery. He also worked on a fee-for-service basis for The Freeman Shoe Corp., Beloit Iron Works, Yates-American Co. and the paper company across from the dam.

During World War II, he was considered essential to the community where engines for subs and landing craft were being made and more than 1,000 Navy personnel were stationed.

HE RECALLS the many hernia operations which were never paid for by workers who finally had the time to have them, but never got the money together after a 6-8 month-long strike.

"Before I left Beloit to move to the Southwest for my first wife's health, I had a Santa Claus-Merry Christmas stamp made and sent bills for $70,000 worth of services stamped "paid" to my indigent patients," he said.

When he arrived in Phoenix, he worked at Good Samaritan hospital for 1½ years before he could be licensed by the state. Then he worked a year at the Butler Clinic in Safford.

HIS BACKGROUND in industrial medicine qualified him for a post at the Phelps-Dodge clinic in Douglas, where a smelter was in operation, and then he worked for the new Cornelia Division of Phelps-Dodge at Ajo. He was chief-surgeon with three other doctors who operated a 30-bed hospital for 2,500 employees.

"Many of our patients suffered trauma due to major accidents with electric shovels loading railroad cars," he reports.

He then got certified in geriatric medicine and demonstrated his knowledge of aging, heart disease, hypertension and chronic debilitating diseases to pass his examination.

DR. FRISKE'S first office here was in the Youngtown Professional Building across from the Town Hall. He and the first Sun City doctors took their patients to Northwest Hospital at Glendale.

*** Dr. Friske, B38**

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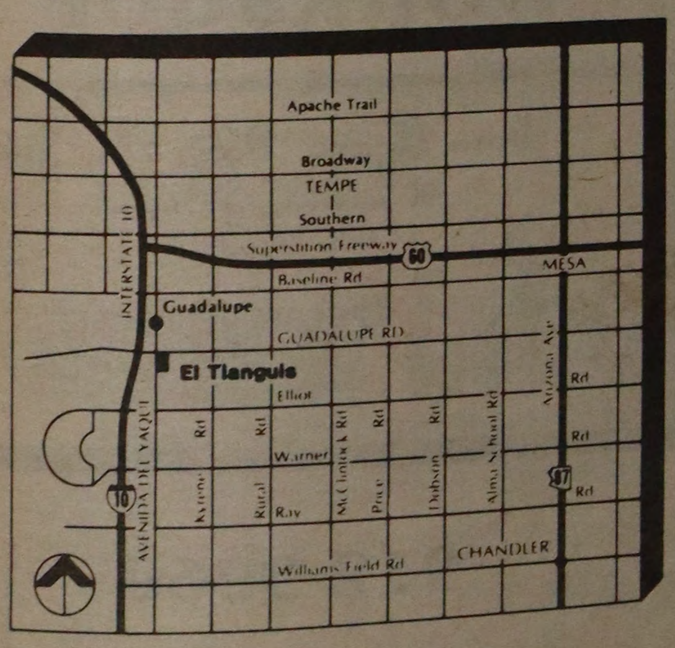

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—From B36

* Dr. Friske

He treated a lot of fractured hips in that office for five years before he moved to 103rd and Coggins for seven years, spending his last six years in an office at Arrowhead Center, for a total of 18 years of active practice here.

Dr. Friske is one of the founders of Boswell Memorial Hospital and furnished the first office used by the administrator. He served as head of the Department of General Practice for six years and is on the board of the library to which he gave his medical books.

HE HAS NEVER had his medical bag stolen nor had a malpractice suit and admits he has seen many changes in the practice of medicine.

"A midwestern real American boy just about doesn't have a chance with all the specialists," he said jokingly, adding that patients don't have to go out of town to get the medical help they need these days.

In active retirement with Judy, his wife of 21 years, he enjoys his leisure home at Pinewood and fishing as a hobby.

DR. FRISKE figures he has added between 2-300 pints of blood yearly to local blood banks by volunteering to certify senior citizens who are capable of making blood donations.

He is one of 240 members in the Sun Cities Retired Physicians Club and attends Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church.

He admits he never really got used to the high mortality rate among geriatric patients all these years, and that he got the most satisfaction in his career delivering babies and doing surgeries back in Wisconsin.

"But I don't like the weather back there," he said recalling the tumble from the sleigh during his race with the stork.

Jan. 31 will find 82-year-old Dr. Friske on the job as physician of the day in the medical office at the state Capitol, the one day a year he annually performs this service.

Keeping in shape

Exercise leaders in foreground direct Sun Bowl crowd in warmup stretching before fun walk during "Fitness After 50" rally Jan. 10. (News-Sun photo by Jim Painter)

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You've heard it before - "It's the people who make these communities what they are." And that is so true here in the Sun Cities. Those of us in the Del E. Webb Development Company take great pride in having built Sun City and Sun City West. Our 25 years here have been a labor of love. But you, the people, are the community. You are the spirit and life that have made the Sun Cities so successful and fun.

We at Del Webb look forward to the future here. We look forward to taking Sun City West into the year 2,000 and beyond. It's going to be exciting.

Happy Anniversary! And thank you for the part you've played in making this a Silver Anniversary worth celebrating.

Sincerely,

F. P. Kuentz

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