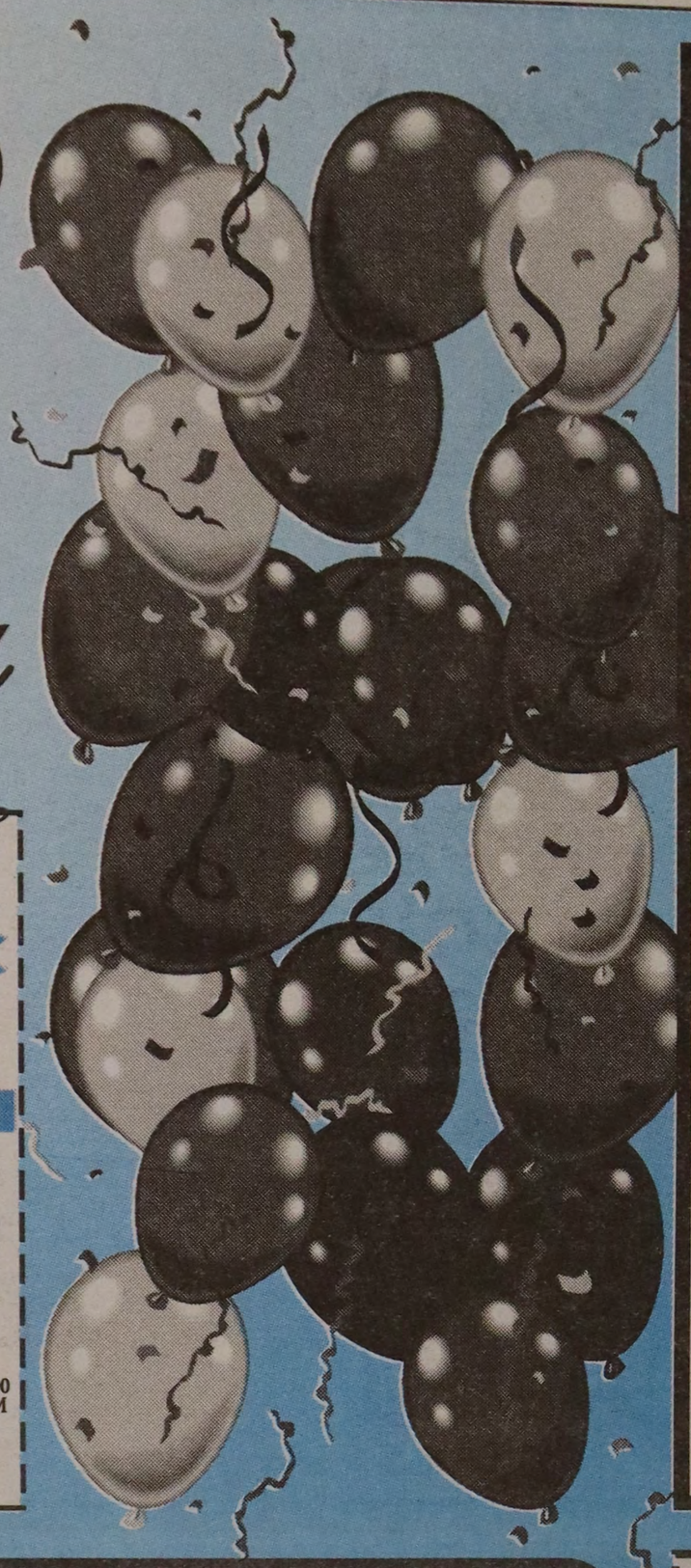
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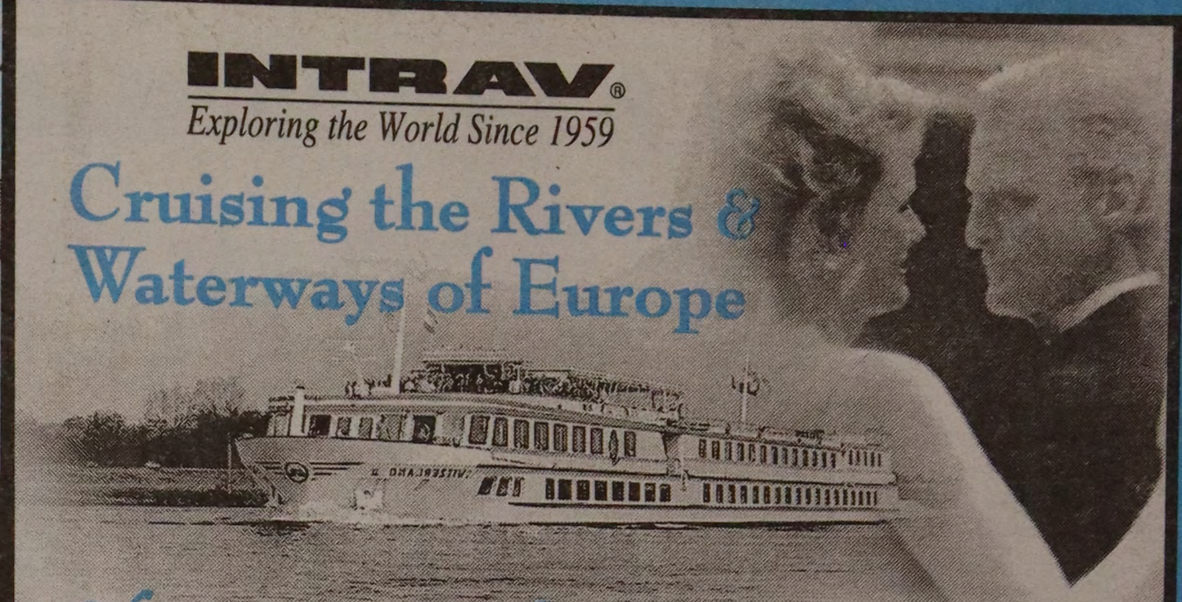
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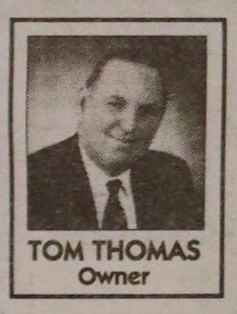
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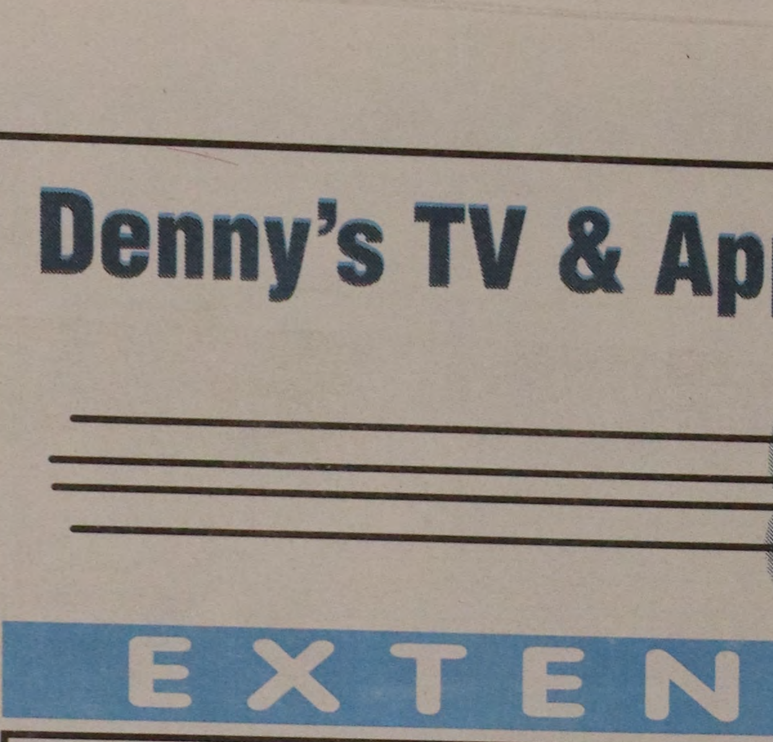
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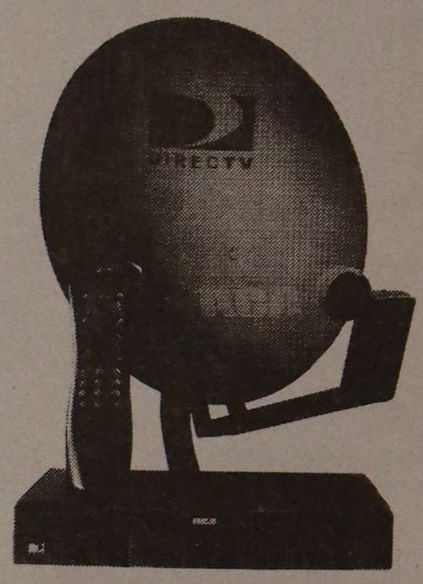
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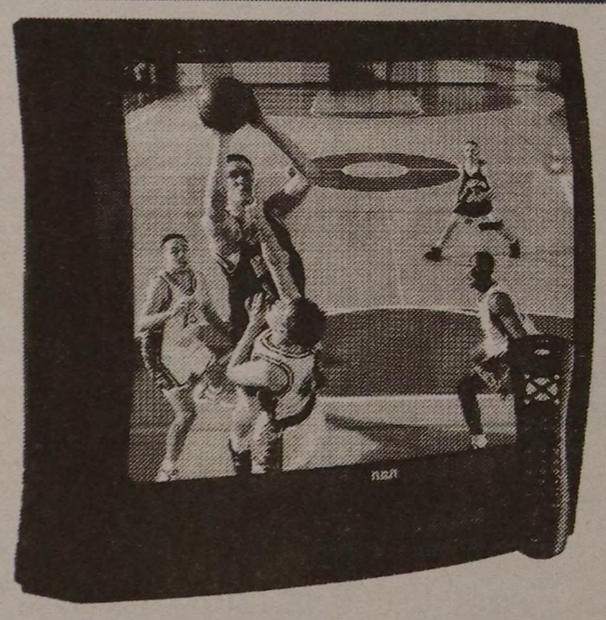


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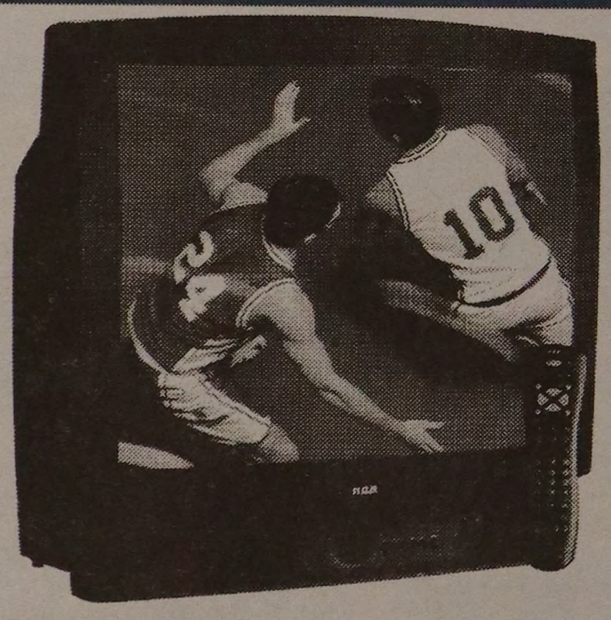
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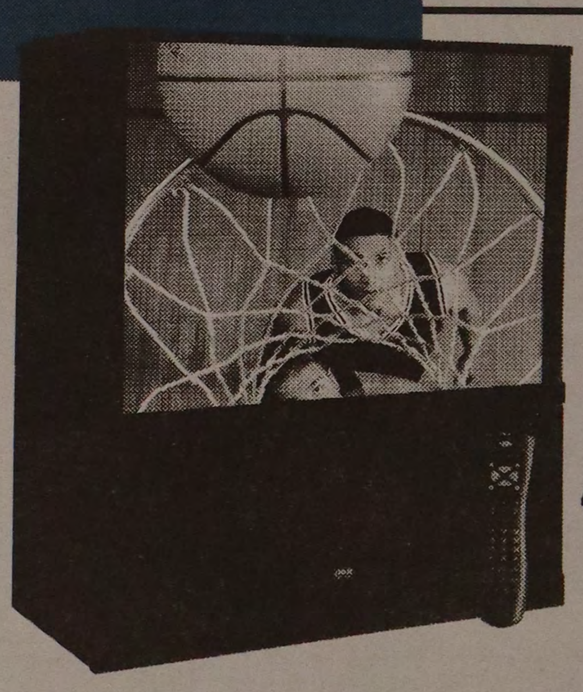
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Stadium was diamond in Sun City rough

Brewers were kings of spring

RICH BOLAS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sal Bando wouldn't recognize Sun City Stadium today.

The former major-leaguer and one-time member of three World Series winners with the Oakland Athletics still remembers the ballpark that used to be at the northwest corner of 111th and Grand avenues.

"I remember the concrete walls in the outfield and the fans who used to drive their golf carts into the stadium for games," said Bando, now a front-office executive for the Milwaukee Brewers.

"There was always a certain quiet about playing in Sun City. You always felt like you were away from the hustle and bustle of the city."

Built in 1971, Sun City Stadium served as the Cactus League home for the Brewers from 1973 through 1985.

The Brewers left for Chandler following the 1985 campaign, sending Sun City Stadium into a spiral of inactivity.

Unable to lure another Cactus League tenant, the 5,000-seat facility was demolished in the mid-1990s and is now the site of Fountains at the Sun City apartment complex, which opened in March 1996.

Bando played for the Brewers from 1977 through 1981, which gave the third baseman plenty of time to familiarize himself with the idiosyncratic qualities of Sun City Stadium.

Imagine a place where fans could literally drive their golf cars into the ballpark and never leave their vehicles as they watched the game from the stadium concourse.

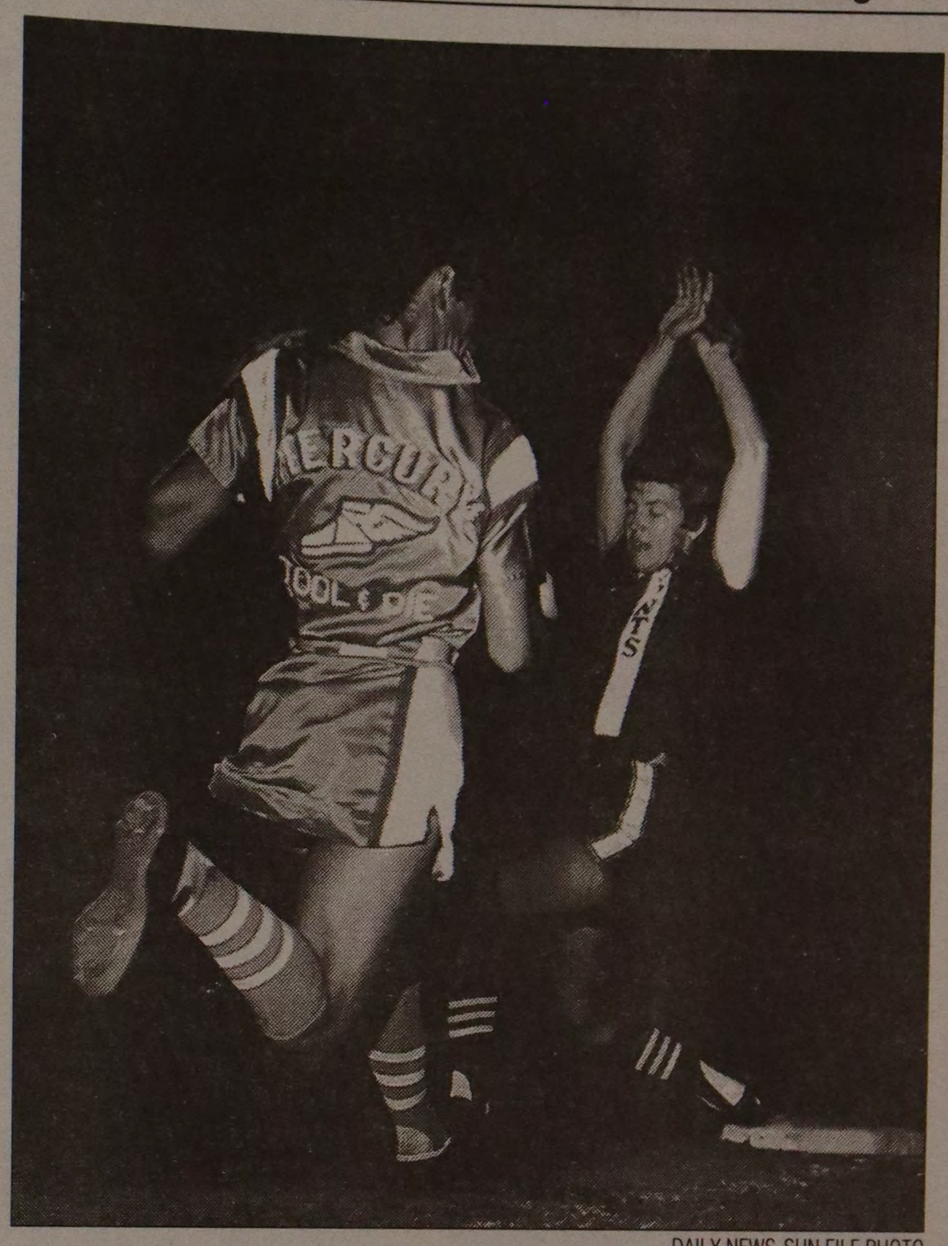
While enjoying the game, fans also frequently had a chance to watch and listen as trains whistled by on the Santa Fe tracks that paralleled the third base line.

The Brewers changed addresses and began to change their fortunes after the team moved its training headquarters from Tempe to Sun City in 1973.

Milwaukee followed a 65-win season in 1972 with 74 victories under manager Del Crandall in 1973.

That first spring in Sun City featured players such as first

See Saints ruled, 36



DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO
The Sun City Saints were the fast-pitch softball tenants of Sun City Stadium from 1971 to 1984.



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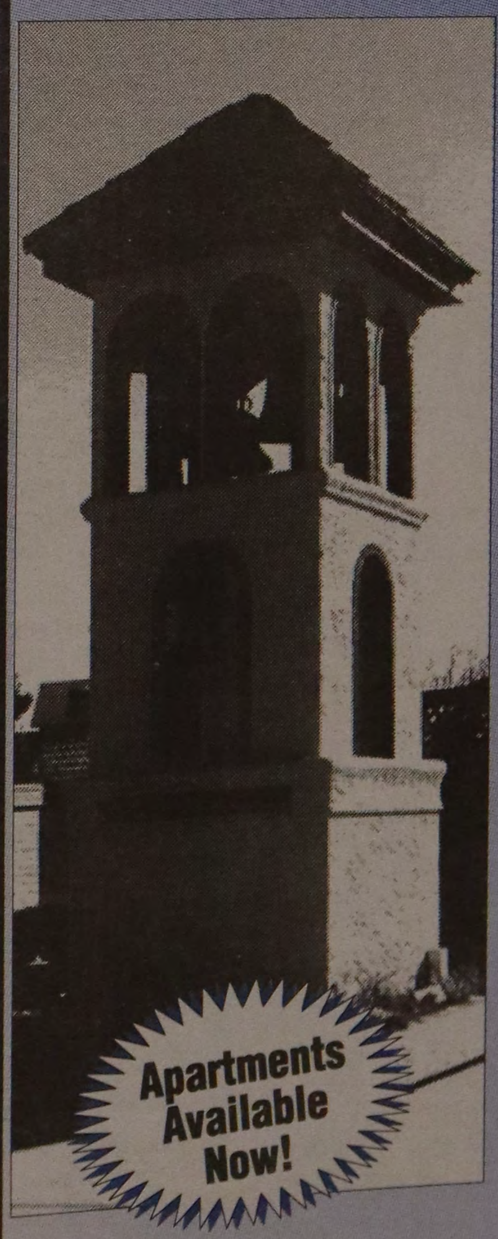
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Saints ruled stadium for 14 years

From Page 35

baseman George Scott, third baseman Don Money, and pitcher Jim Colborn, who posted a 20-12 record that season.

The Brewers must have felt right at home in the West Valley since so many Sun Cities residents hail from Wisconsin.

Milwaukee's run of success during its stay in Sun City culminated in the franchise's lone trip to the World Series in 1982.

St. Louis edged Milwaukee in a seven-game series, but the Brewers were feted as the American League champions upon their return to the desert in 1983.

Three seasons later, Sun City had faded from the team's rear-view mirror.

●●●

Two other teams made Sun City Stadium their home: the Sun City Rays and Sun City Saints.

The Sun City Rays had a brief fling in 1990 as part of the ill-fated Senior Professional Baseball Association, a league designed for former major-league players at least 34 years of age.

The SPBA attempted to do for baseball what the Senior PGA Tour did for senior golf: showcase big-name players with diminished skills in their respective sports.

The six-team baseball league featured four teams in Florida, another in Southern California, as well as the Rays.

The Rays didn't lack for marquee value, featuring future Hall of Famers in pitchers Ferguson Jenkins and Rollie Fingers.

They had a former big-league skipper in Chicago Cubs manager Jim Marshall as well as a roster full of ex-major-leaguers. The roster included: pitchers Bill Campbell and Pete Falcone; infielders Bert Campaneris and Lenny Randle; and outfielders Joe Charboneau and Joel Youngblood.

While the Sun City franchise led the league by averaging more than 1,000 fans per game, other teams struggled financially, and the league disbanded before completing its lone season in Arizona.

If the Rays had a brief fling, then the Saints had a long-term romance with Sun City.

The Saints called Sun City Stadium their home for 14 seasons beginning in 1971.

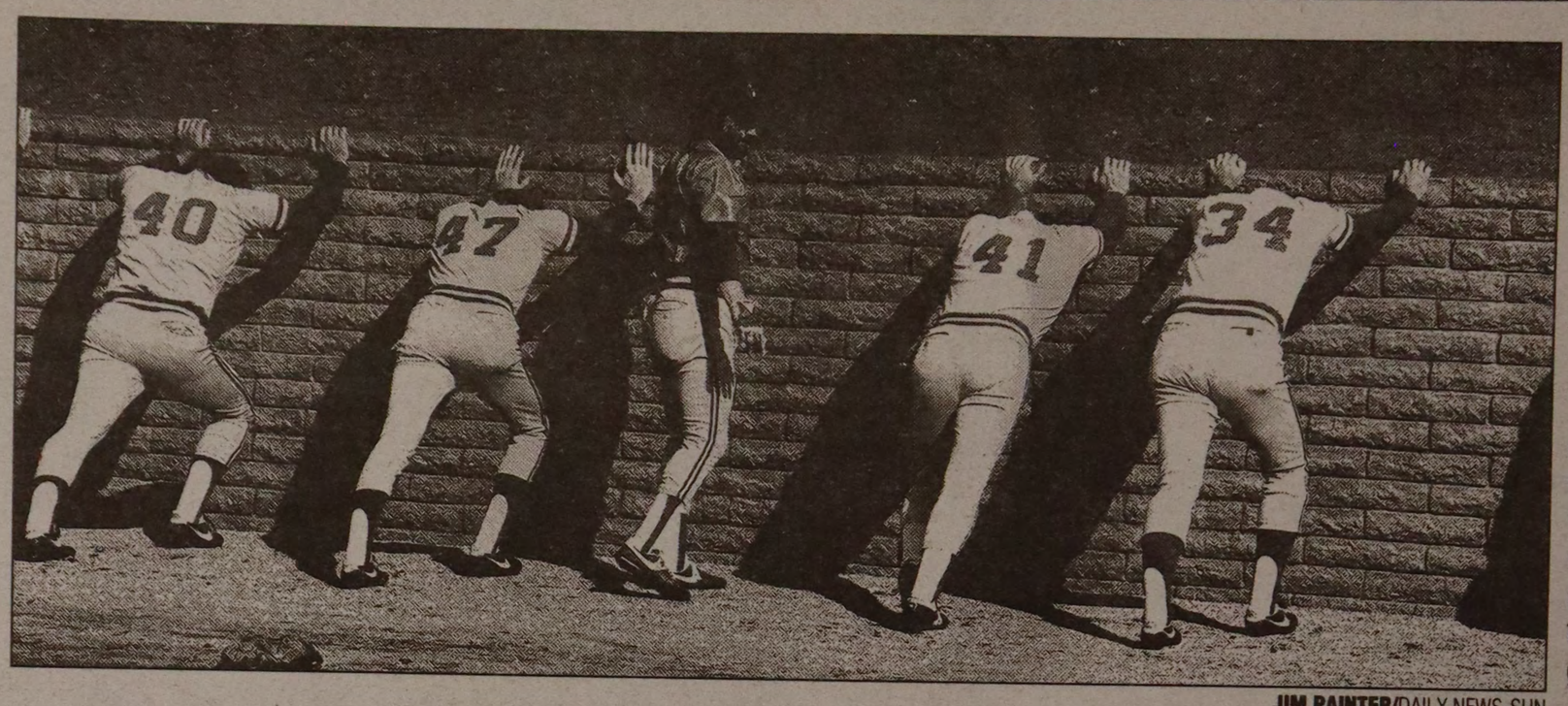
The Saints evolved from the Phoenix Ramblers fast-pitch women's softball team, which disbanded in 1965.

During its heyday, the Saints featured a booster club, which followed the team to all its games as well as frequent national tournament appearances.

The Saints actually started play in Sun City before the stadium was built. The Saints began play in Sun City in 1966 and used a park at 108th and Grand avenues for its home games.

In 1970, the Saints played home games at Peoria High School before moving into Sun City Stadium the following season.

The Saints disbanded in 1984 and moved to Phoenix.

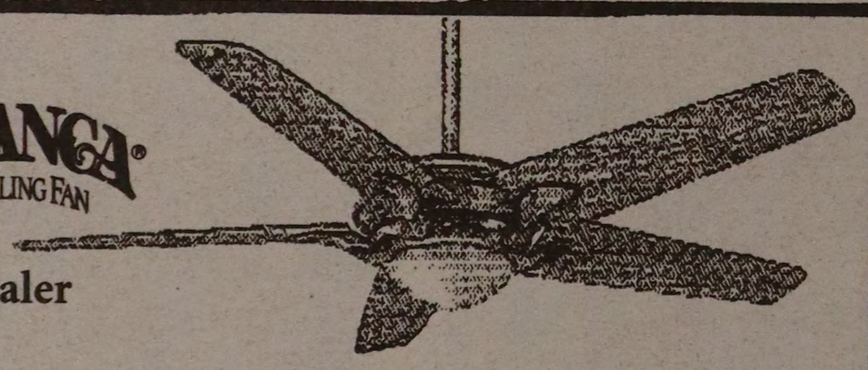


JIM PAINTER/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun City Stadium had a spacious outfield allowing pitchers to jog and stretch during workouts and sometimes during spring training games.

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Golf headlines Sun City's sporting life

STAFF REPORT

Sun City and recreational sports go together like wine with cheese and 100- degree days and July in the desert.

Golf, lawn bowling, senior softball, tennis, bowling, swimming, shuffleboard, mini-golf and bocce are all a part of the Sun City lifestyle.

GOLF

Sun City has eight championship golf courses as well as three executive courses.

North has the distinction as Sun City's first course, opening for play in 1960. Four other championship courses complete the lineup of layouts that are part of the Recreation Centers of Sun City Inc.: Lakes East, Riverview, South and Willowcreek.

The recreation centers also feature three executive courses: Lakes East, Quail Run and Willowbrook.

Three championship courses are at private country clubs: Sun City Country Club, Palmbrook Country Club and Union Hills Country Club.

Sun City golfers are involved in tournament golf almost every week, but here some of the more prestigious events:



LISA GOETTSCHE/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A Sun City golfer taps in one of the billions of putts made each year on the community's 11 golf courses.

● The Sun City men's golf championship is a 54-hole event featuring the top golfers from recreation centers courses. Sponsored by the Sun City Men's Golf Association, it is played every March on three of the recreation centers championship courses.

● The Sun City Women's Champion of Champions Tournament is played every April and features the top four golfers from each of the recreation centers' courses. Sponsored by the Sun City Women's Golf Association, the 54-hole tournament is always a premiere women's golf event.

● The Octogenarian Tournament celebrated its 20th anniversary in March and features the best golfers who are at least 80 years old.

● The Daily News-Sundial Classic will likely become an annual tradition. The inaugural tournament is slated to run from March through May and feature the best players from country clubs and public courses in Sun City. Patterned after the Ryder Cup, the event will determine the best team and individual players in Sun City.

SENIOR SOFTBALL

National and American league teams play twice a week during the fall and spring at Sun Bowl Field.

Top players from the various teams also make up a traveling squad known as the Del Webb Sidewinders, who play in tournaments across the country.

LAWN BOWLING

Lawn bowling greens at Marinette, Fairway, Sundial, Bell and Lakeview give lawn bowlers plenty of practice.

TENNIS

Courts are located at Bell and Marinette recreation centers.

BOWLING

Lanes are located at Lakeview and Bell recreation centers. The Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame honors the area's best bowlers with an annual induction ceremony in February. Bowlers are inducted based on performance on the lanes as well as contributions to the sport in Sun City.

SWIMMING

Senior swimmers are regular winners at the Arizona Senior Olympics as well as master swimming events throughout the state.

SHUFFLEBOARD

Courts are located at Bell and Sundial recreation centers. The indoor courts at Sundial give players year-round access.

MINI-GOLF

The Sun City Mini-Golf Club has numerous events and also co-sponsors the annual Friendship Tournament with its counterparts in Sun City West.

BOCCE

The bocce courts at Sundial Recreation Center are the site of Arizona Senior Olympic action every February.

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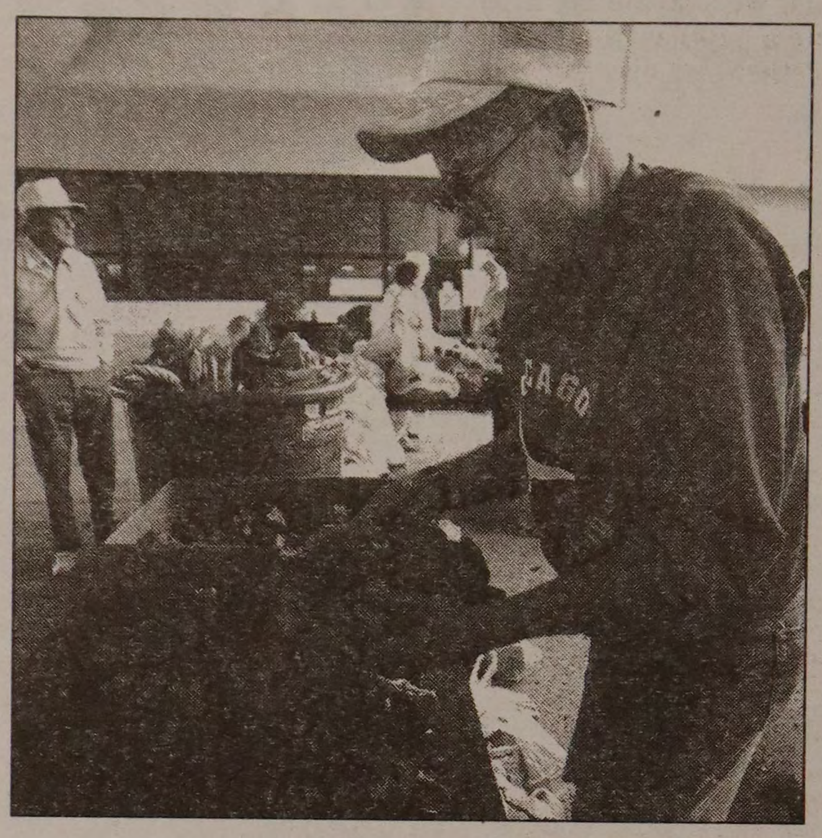
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STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Fun spills over at the Fairway Fun Fair. Each recreation center hosts a festival annually.



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Cliff Ludkowski works at the Sun City Agricultural Club table during the Sundial Fun Fair in 1999.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Janet Moran paints a rabbit on a birdhouse during a class taught by Shirley Ball at Bell Ceramics Club.

Lure of it all

Recreation draws folks from near, far



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Lois Mueller and Edward McKenzie demonstrate weaving at the Artistic Weavers Club at the 1999 Oakmont Fun Fair.

STAFF REPORT

The idea was a new one in 1960: a retirement community in what is now called the Sunbelt, with amenities — places where residents could go for fun and recreation, for cards and crafts, for tennis and golf, swimming, bowling and softball

But it was one of the things that made Sun City what it is today: a national model that proved just how good an idea amenities could be for the developer, for the residents and for the resale value of homes.

Almost before the first residents starting arriving in Sun City in 1960, there was a community center, a place for them to gather. Just off Grand Avenue at 107th Avenue, it's still there, now called Oakmont Recreation Center.

There also were two golf courses within a year.

With newcomers flocking to the new Sun City, a second rec center was soon needed; it was announced in 1960 and opened in January 1961 as Town Hall Center, now Fairway.

But it didn't take residents long to figure out that they ought to manage the centers themselves, for although the Del Webb Development Co. had a lot of talented folks, its employees weren't residents by and large.

And so was born the Sun City Civic Association, and trouble, as some residents wanted an annual assessment on property owners to fund recreation operations, and others objected.

The result was competing groups for a time, with the new Town Hall Center and homes around it subject to mandatory contributions which Devco wrote into deeds, while residents around the original Community Center had no such requirement.

It took a lot of arguing — and years — for that dilemma to be resolved, but in the end, an outfit that eventually became the Recreation Centers of Sun City Inc. was crafted, and deeds in the original area were changed, to require mandatory membership.

The price, of course, has changed in four decades, but what price hasn't? The original cost was $20 a year; now it's $130.

That, plus golf and bowling fees and club contributions, gives the centers some $14 million a year to operate, using about 400 full-time and part-time employees.

As Sun City succeeded beyond even Del Webb's expectations, the number of recreational amenities quickly rose.

They increased in size and complexity and included golf courses.

Oakmont, the original center, opened early in 1960; Town Hall (now Fairway) came in January 1961.

Mountain View opened in June 1967; with Lakeview, north of Grand Avenue, coming into use in 1970.

Even as Sundial, then the largest, was being dedicated in 1973, the Webb company was at work on Bell Recreation Center, which opened in 1976, two years after Delbert Eugene Webb, who created the idea, died. A Del Webb Memorial Garden in the Bell Center memorializes him.

Later, as the Webb company built what is now Phase III north of Bell Road, there appeared to be need for another recreation center.

It was built on former Peoria School District land on the northeast corner of 99th Avenue and Union Hills Drive.

Now called Marinette, after the original settlement at 103rd and Grand avenues, the center, and the need for it, was controversial, as Webb first planned the center, then let it slip off the plans.

Parts of it were built in 1979 and 1980, with other parts finished in 1984. It still seems remote from the rest of the community in many ways.

Golf also came into its own, with homes along the golf courses snapped up.

The community of 38,000 people now hosts 11 golf courses, three of them private country clubs.

Residents are served by the early North and South courses in Phase I and the later Quail Run course; by Lakes East and Lakes West and Riverview in Phase II, and by Willowbrook and Willowcreek north of Bell Road in Phase III.

The original Sun City Country Club is in Phase I; Palmbrook Country Club on Greenway Road is in Phase II and the Union Hills Country Club anchors Phase III.

In addition, it didn't take residents long to recognize the desirability of a dining club, a private club without golf, for those who wanted an evening out but who didn't need the links.

The Lakes Club and its magnificent view of Viewpoint Lake from the main dining room, was the result, though the building you see today is the second on that spot.

The original structure was destroyed by fire in 1972 almost on the day it was to open, and rebuilt in the same design on the same spot.

While they're not recreational activities per se, the service clubs that dot Sun City were and remain an important part of resident lives.

Altrusa, Civitan, Kiwanis, Lions and Lioness, Optimist and Soroptimist, and Rotary were soon established, in more than one club.

And the military groups, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars were soon operating too, as were Masons, Moose, Elks and similar benevolent and social groups.

Interests spawn clubs

MONICA ALONZO-DUNSMOOR
DAILY NEWS-SUN

If you like to quilt, paint china, make baskets, walk, run or jog or discuss politics or religion, there's a place for you and a club to join in Sun City.

Those are just a few of the activities that abound in the community celebrating its 40th anniversary. There is virtually something for everyone. From arts and crafts to sports and fitness to service and fraternal — there are 143 chartered clubs in the Recreation Centers of Sun City alone; dozens more in the community at large.

Patricia Bruyn is the clubs and activities manager for Sun City's recreation centers.

Although she said there haven't been too many changes in the club scene during her five years of service, she said she gets calls about the computer club nearly every day.

She said that the interest in exercise clubs is also picking up.

"Most people already pretty much know what they're interested in," Bruyn said. "But newcomers to the city will generally call and ask for information on different clubs."

Helen Boothe is the president of the Sun City Doll Study Club, a club that has been around since 1981.

"We meet every Tuesday and we sew," she said. "They're not formal meetings, we sit and we sew costumes for antique dolls. We also attend other events. It's quite a popular hobby. It's a place to get together and play."

The Doll Study Club has 13 active members and two associate members.

Boothe joined the club nearly 15 years ago.

"My particular reason (for enoying antique dolls) is that when I was a little girl and after the Depression, there was no money and I didn't have any dolls," she said. "So when I grew up, I bought myself one, and one thing led to another."

And when the need arises, a new club is usually formed to meet the need.

Richard Bondon, president of the Auto Repair Savings Club, recently founded the club that meets four times a year.

"We had our first meeting this month," he said. "Auto bills are very high, particularly for seniors. What we're trying to do is find reputable repair shops with knowledgeable mechanics that do quality work and charge fair prices."

For information on rec centers clubs, call 876-3000. For other clubs, read the Daily News-Sun calendar each Monday.



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Year-long events celebrate seniors

Longest golf-car parade to wind through Sun City

HAYLEY RINGLE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Parades, dances and concerts. Oh my!

Along with the 40th anniversary of Sun City comes a year-long hoopla of events galore that have taken nearly two years to organize.

"We're trying to affirm and re-define what Sun City is all about," said Fran Park, chairman of the steering committee for the anniversary.

What is being touted as the longest golf car parade will begin at 10 a.m. April 1 at the Bell Recreation Center. The parade will proceed along Hutton Drive to Del Webb Boulevard, turning onto Burns Drive to Boswell Boulevard, ending on 103th Avenue at Sundial Recreation Center.

More than 300 golf cars are expected to participate.

Every car has to be decorated, and the winner will receive two tickets and four days in London, with a representative from British Airways judging, Park said.

Along with the cars, the parade will include the Sun City Poms, 100 Shriners and the Dysart High School Band. Free finger foods will be provided by The Macaroni Grill, and Coca-Cola will be sold.

The anniversary calendar is full of events, including "A Tribute to Broadway" concert April 16 at the Sundial Auditorium, led by Patti Bell and The Arizona Jamboree.

Ice cream socials will be featured throughout the summer months at Lakeview.

And Sun City authors will be honored at library luncheons throughout the year.

"Our role as retirees is to manage, direct and coordinate all volunteer communication," said Park, a Sun City resident for 16 years. "We have very important things to talk about."

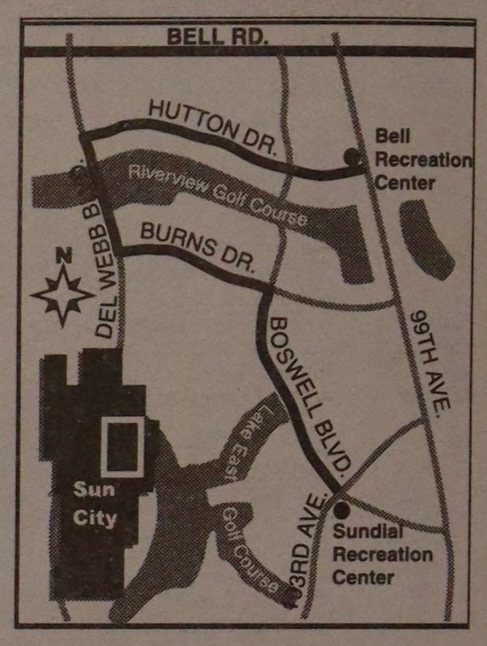
A raffle is also being offered, with tickets available at the 40th Anniversary Office at 99th Avenue and Greenway, for $10 each or three for $25. The money generated will go toward the purchase of vans to help Sun Citians get to and from activities, Park said. A drawing will be Dec. 17, with prizes including a new Cadillac, a golf car, a cruise, a home air conditioner, London tickets, lifetime supply of gas, a hand-made quilt and more.

"Everything we do, whether artistic or cultural, we're trying to celebrate older adulthood," Park said.

Life enrichment seminar series continues with programs planned for September and December.

The theme for the Sept. 30 program is "Continuum of Care," with Dr. Walter Nieri, director of geriatrics at Sun Health; Jan Sherriffs, director of the gerontology program at ASU West; and Don Willes, director of the Sun Health Advantage Program.

On Dec. 2, the theme will be the "Impact of Age-Related Research," with Marcelle Beauregard-Morrison, assistant director of the National Institute on Aging; Dr. Joe Rogers, director of Sun Health Research Institute; and a panel of experts from the research institute.



The location of the seminars will be announced at a later date.

"We're just trying to celebrate and have fun," Park said.

'Everything we do, whether artistic or cultural, we're trying to celebrate older adulthood.'

Fran Park
Steering committee chairman

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Valid at Arrowhead Miracle Mile Deli only.
Not valid with any other offer. Expires 4-30-00.

Sun City's 40th Anniversary
Calendar of Events

Dates subject to change. Call 623-974-1541 for updates and additional information regarding times and locations.

April

April 1 — Parade: Golf cars, antique cars, bands, floats, etc. Starts at Bell Center and ends at Sundial
April 3 — Sun Cities Chamber Music
April 8 — Fun Fair at Oakmont Center
April 9 — Sun Cities Symphony of the West Valley
April 12 — Library honors Sun City authors at a luncheon
April 15 — Fun Fair at Sundial
April 16 — "Tribute to Broadway" by the Arizona Jamboree at Sundial
April 18 — Sun City Musicians Concert
April 22 — Fun Fair at Bell Center
April 23 — Easter Sunrise Service at Sun Bowl
April 28 — Apple Dumpling Festival at Lakeview Center
April 29-30 — Sundial Men's Club Golf Tournament
April 29-30 — Sun City Annual Open Bowling

May

May 5 — Pizza Party & Ice Cream Social at Sundial Center
May 6 — "Special Event" at Sundome
May 6-7 — Sundial Men's Club Golf Tournament Final
May 6-7 — Bowling Tournament
May 10 — Library Honors Sun City Authors at a luncheon
May 10 — Harmony Organ Club Concert
May 12 — Mother's Day Program at Bell Center
May 29 — Sun City Concert Band
May 30-Aug. 13 — Millennium Project by the West Valley Art Museum

June

June 6 — Ice Cream Social at Lakeview Recreation Center
June 14 — Library Honors Sun City Authors at a Luncheon

July

July 4 — "Ring That Bell" Ceremony & Freedoms Foundation at Bell Center
July 4 — Firecracker Bowling Party
July 5 — Ice Cream Social at Lakeview Center
July 12 — Library Honors Sun City Authors at a Luncheon

August

August 5 — Fraternal/Service Men's Day at Bell Center
August 9 — Library Honors Sun City Authors at a Luncheon
August 23 — Ice Cream Social

September

Sept. 13 — Library Honors Sun City Authors at a Luncheon
Sept. 15 — "Back to School" Quiz
Sept. 25 — Variety Show at Sundial

October

October 1 — Ballroom Dance at Sundial
October 9 — Food Fair & Entertainment at Sun Bo
October 11 — Library Honors Sun City Authors at a Luncheon
October 15 — Sun City Players Presentation
October 17 — Sun City Musicians Concert
October 31 — Turkey Barbecue/Halloween Costume Contest at Sun Bowl

November

Nov. 5-7 — Palmbrook Country Club "Hole in One Tournament
Nov. 8 — Library Honors Sun City Authors at a Luncheon
Nov. 13 — Sun Cities Chamber Music
Nov. 17 — Women's Invitational Golf Tournamen at Lakes West
Nov. 18 — Women's Invitational Golf Tournamen at Willowcreek
Nov. 24-25 — Sun City Arts & Crafts Festival at Sun dial

December

Dec. 4-5 — 21st Women's Senior Championship Bowling Tournament
Dec. 13 — Sun Cities Chamber Music; Library Honors Sun City Authors at a Luncheon
Dec. 15 — Christmas Decorated Boat Parade
Dec. 17 — SC 40th Anniversary Finale

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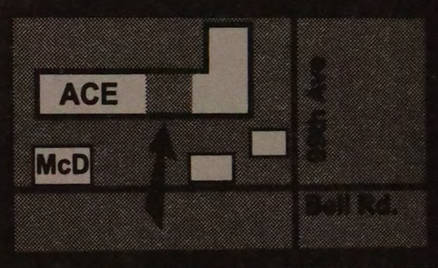
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History Highlights

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office District III Substation at Dysart and Bell roads was opened in May 1982. The main responsibility of 31 deputies assigned to the district was the Sun Cities area.

Five detectives and a full-time civilian were assigned to District III and three of those worked solely in Sun City.

In 1985, Sun City was divided into four beat areas and four deputies worked those beats.

●●●

In the spring of 1980, the Sun City PRIDES went to work to keep the community clean.

●●●

On May 6, 1983, Ronald Reagan visited Sun City. Hundreds lined the streets to catch a glimpse of the president as he honored the Sun City Posse.

●●●

In December 1983, no-smoking policies were implemented at all recreation centers, a decision that sparked controversy among members.

●●●

In the fall of 1984, Marinette Recreation Center opened. The last of seven multi-purpose centers was built to accommodate Sun City's growing population.

●●●

On May 15, 1986, Sundial Center was closed. Roof repairs of $1.3 million topped the center's fix-it list.

●●●

On June 24, 1988, the Sun City school tax was imposed. It later was ruled unconstitutional and pulled from the lawbooks by Arizona legislators.

●●●

The Sun City Fire Board severed ties with Rural/Metro Corp. on Jan. 1, 1989.

●●●

The minimum age for Sun City residency was increased from 50 to 55 on Aug. 10, 1989, by the Maricopa Country Board of Supervisors.

●●●

On Nov. 5, 1989, the Sun City Visitors Center opened. It was the first focal point for prospective home buyers since model homes opened in 1960.

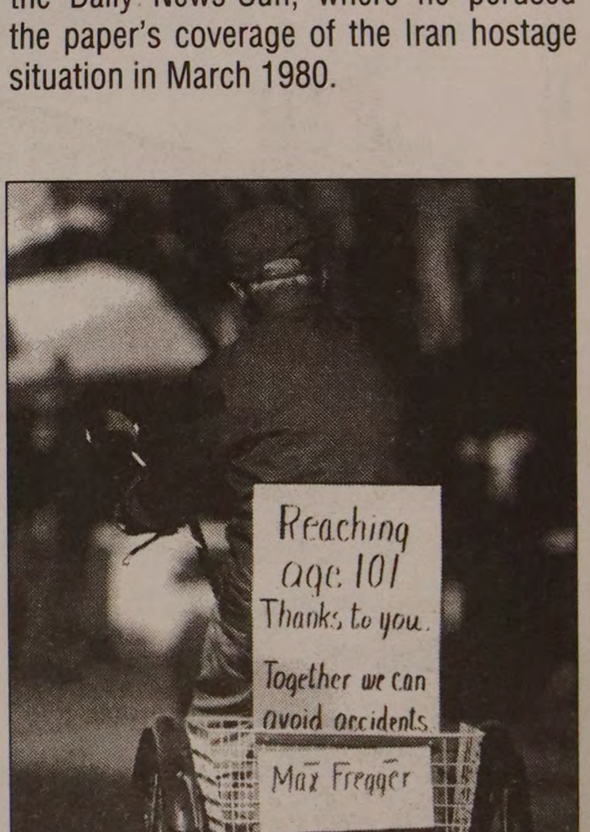
The '80s

Sun City reaches completion



JIM PAINTER/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Former President Ronald Reagan visited Sun City on May 6, 1983, to praise the efforts of the Sun City Posse.



JIM PAINTER/DAILY NEWS-SUN

The late Sen. Barry Goldwater was a frequent visitor to Sun City and the offices of the Daily News-Sun, where he perused the paper's coverage of the Iran hostage situation in March 1980.



DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO

A woman awaits the vote of the Sun City Fire Board in 1988 to start a self-managed fire department.

JIM PAINTER/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Centenarian Max Freggar could often be seen riding his adult trike among the streets of Phase I in the early '80s. Fregger was a resident of Camelot Manor.

Social Services web embraces Sun City

JOSH KRIST
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The web of social services in Sun City started, in many ways, in 1962.

The Rev. Dr. Walter Witt began the Sun Cities Area Ministerial Association then, which eventually spawned the Sun Cities Area Interfaith Services in the early 1980s.

Interfaith Services is a non-profit, all-volunteer, non-sectarian human service organization which assists aging individuals with maintaining their dignity and independence through programs such as adult day services, care management, counseling, grocery shopping, home care assistance and a handyman service.

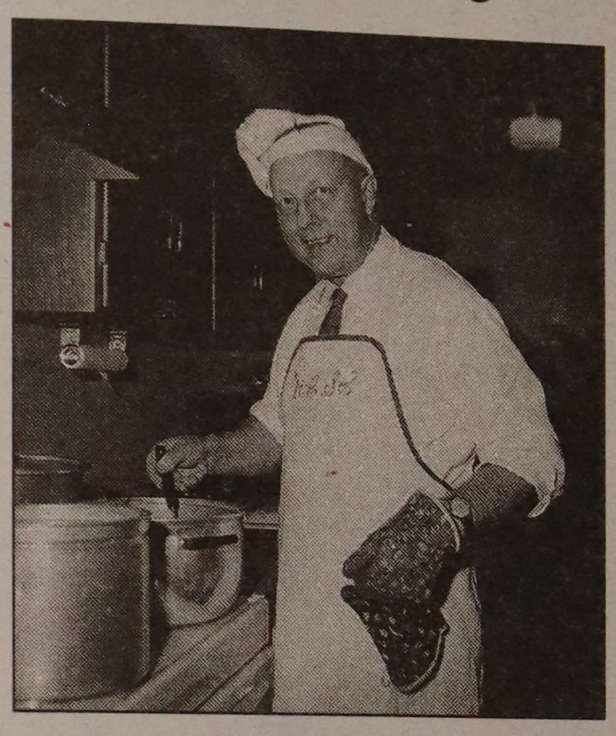
"Our mission is to help people remain independent in their own homes as long as possible," said Rich Kenney, organization spokesman.

"We're opening up a new center, hopefully in May, In Sun City. And that's a dementia-specific center," he said.

The handyman service, he noted, has taken a contemporary twist.

"We're proud to say we have two women who are handymen, we call them handymams," he said.

Through March, Kenney said, new counseling groups are starting, although residents can join a group at any time.



DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO

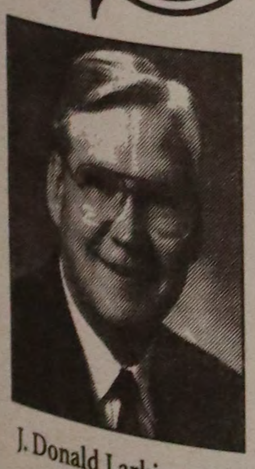
The Rev. Walter Witt, shown doing some kitchen work in January 1966, began the Sun Cities Area Ministerial Association, which established the Sun Cities Area Interfaith Services.

The new groups are: Living through loss, for those who have just lost a loved one; Stress management; and a couples communication group.

"A very important program is our

See Services, Page 46

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Services

From Page 45

peer counseling. This is a free service, and we train volunteers to go into people's homes to counsel them," Kenney said.

Interfaith relies on about 400 volunteers, he said.

Their efforts will be recognized at an April 8 breakfast, details forthcoming.

To reach Interfaith Services, call 584-4999.

Some additional Services in the community:

- **American Red Cross** provides free transportation for the elderly and disabled. For information, call 972-3407.
- **The Recorded Recreational Reading for the Blind** is a local, all-volunteer group that produces tape-recorded community news and recreational material for Sun City area residents unable to read print. For information, call 933-0985.
- **Meals on Wheels** provides hot and cold meals seven days a week. For information, call 974-9430.
- **Northwest Valley Regional Community Council** oversees a number of programs including a Wake-Up-Tuck-In telephone service, and studies, plans and recommends action on social, health and related issues. For information, call 583-4100.
- **Olive Branch Senior Center** operates in the Sun Bowl Shopping Plaza and offers programs for seniors. For information, call 974-6797.
- **Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic** is a non-profit organization providing free recorded textbooks for blind or print handicapped students from elementary through post graduate college levels. For information call 977-6020.
- **Sun Cities Information and Referral Service Inc.** is a non-profit corporation financed by the Sun City Community Fund/United Way. Free and confidential telephone service is provided. For information, call 974-4713.
- **Sun Cities Lions Foundation Inc.** is a part of Lions Clubs International, the largest service organization in the world. For information, call 933-2604.
- **Sun City Community Fund Inc./ United Way** is an all-volunteer organization that provides financial and human service aid to needy Sun City residents. For information, call 876-0178.
- **Sunshine Service** lends medical equipment, roll-away beds, cribs, high-chairs and car seats. For information, call 974-2561.
- **Sun Cities Area Transit System** provides demand response Dial-A-Ride for $2.50 each way. For information, call 977-8363.
- **Veterans Administration Northwest Clinic** is located at 10147 W. Grand Ave., just east of 103rd Avenue in Sun City. For information, call 602-222-2630.

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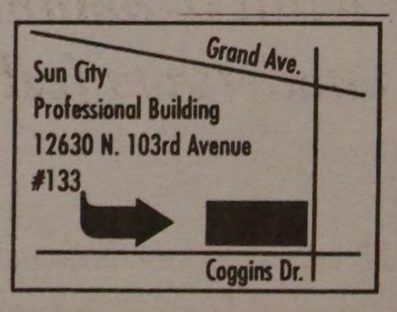
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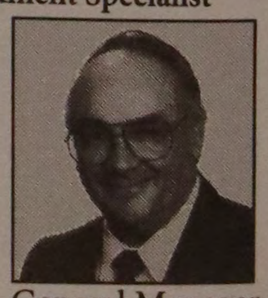


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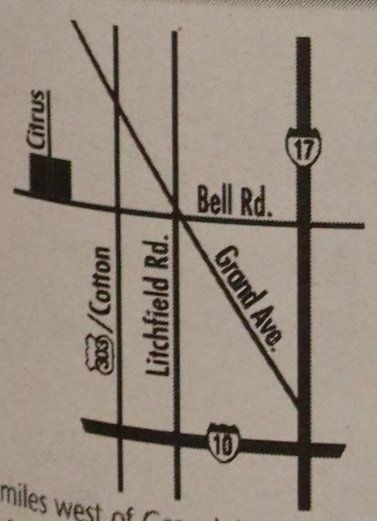


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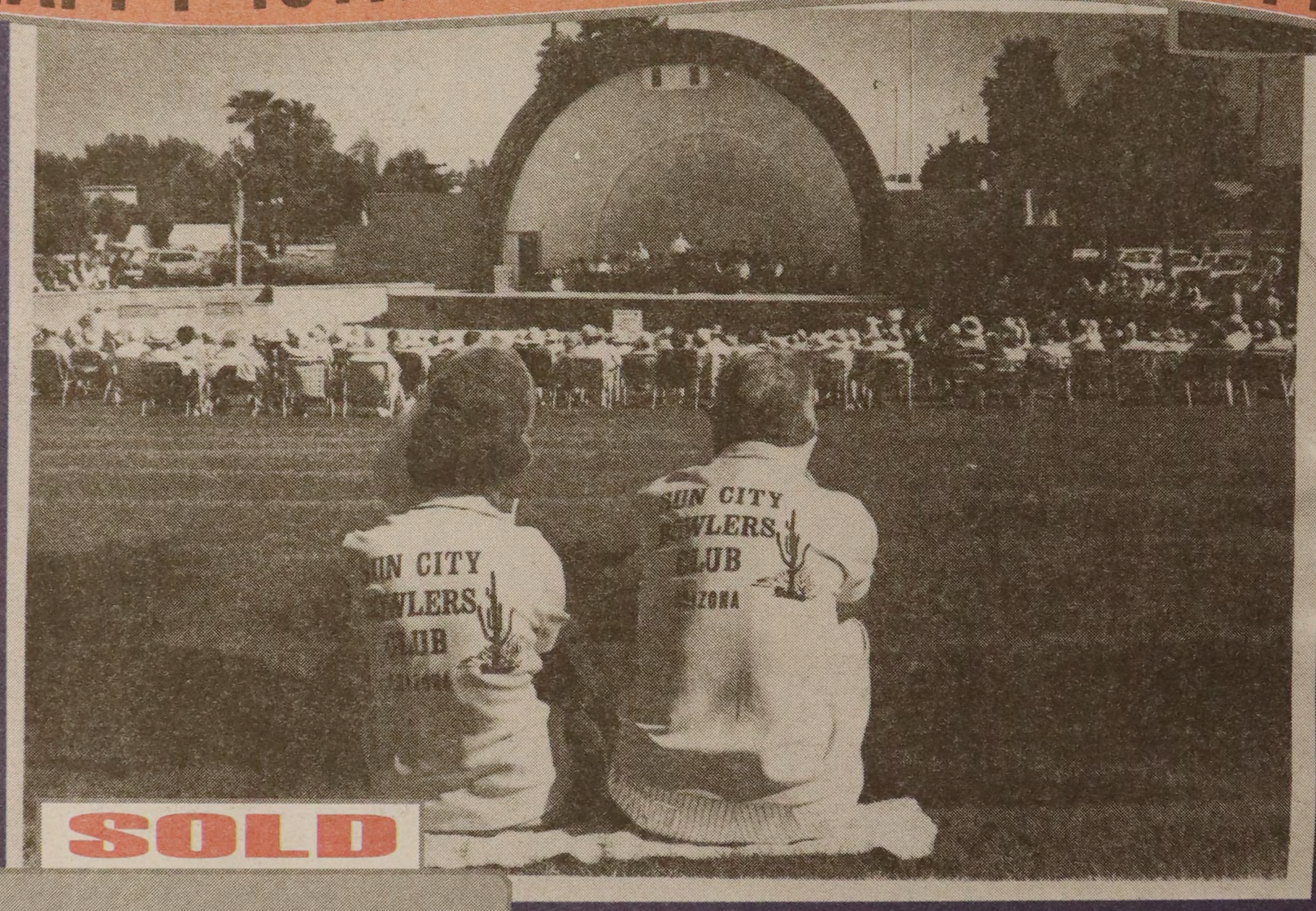
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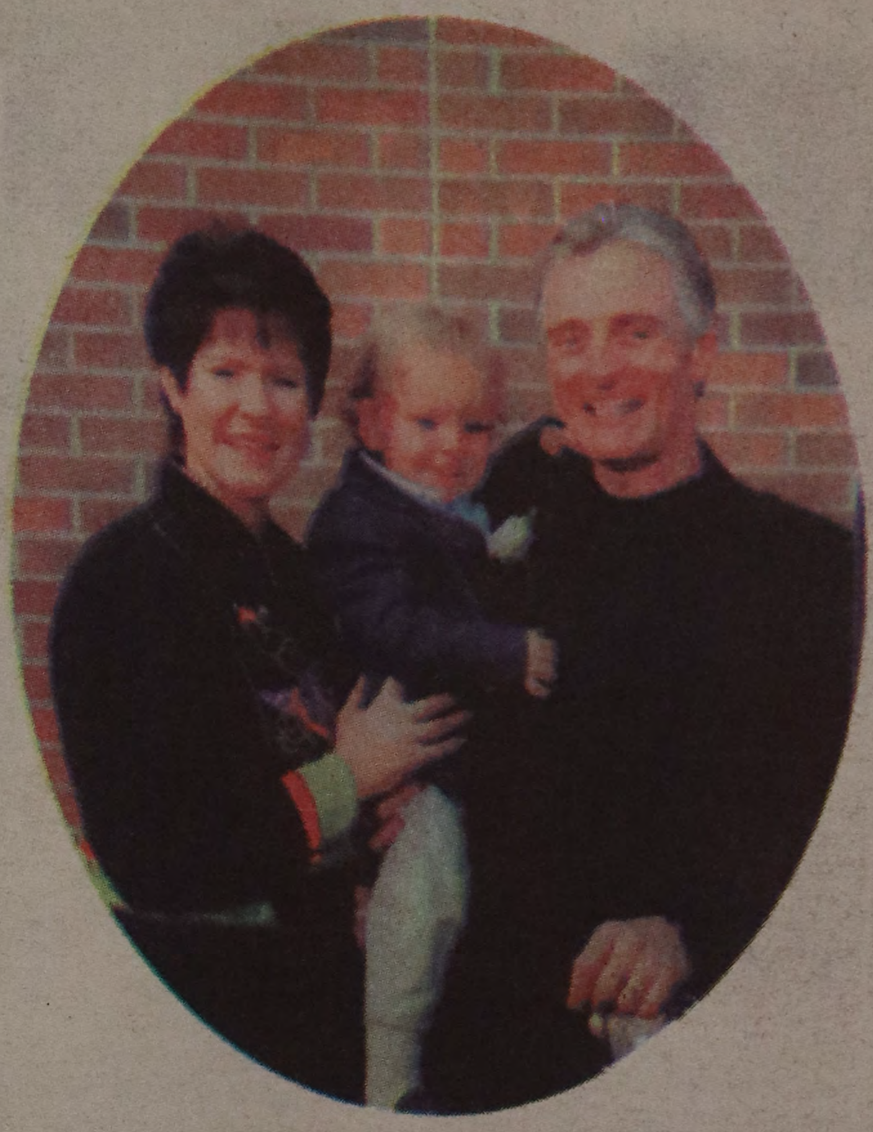
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City earns world-class reputation

Ambassadors, Chamber, Realtors promote community

JOHN GUZZON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Upon the 40th anniversary of the original Sun City, it is appropriate to say that what was begun here in 1960 has given birth to a new standard of life for those approaching their senior years.

According to Lila Stephens, manager of the Sun City Visitors Center, 9903 W. Bell Road, the standards-setting nature of Sun City promotes the area like nothing else could.

"We are known worldwide. We have had people from Germany, Canada and England. Just last week, we had a family from Denmark," Stephens said. "That comes from when Del Webb first built Sun City. The acclaim went worldwide. He has built many Sun Cities, but this is the first, so that is why many people come here."

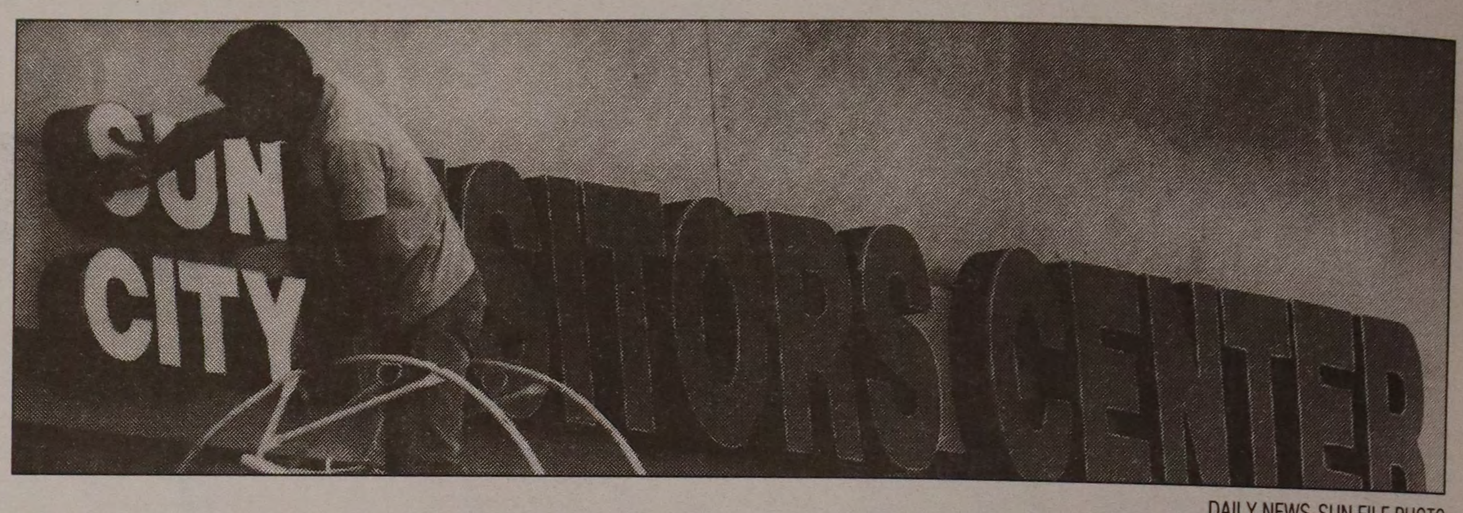
Consequently, she said, many interested in Sun City are friends of current residents.

"Many of the people that wind up moving here know someone already here," she said. "They come, like it, and then try to find a place to rent or buy."

For those who may not be quite ready to decide to take the plunge and relocate out West, a video story of Sun City is available for viewing at the Visitors Center.

The center, opened Nov. 3, 1989, is operated by the all-volunteer Ambassadors, whose primary mission is to promote Sun City. It was organized by business people, clergy and residents who were concerned there was nobody to promote the community after the departure of the Del Webb Corp.

Residents and members of the business community sit on its board and conduct an annual fund drive to underwrite the marketing campaign.



DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO

The sign goes up at the Promenade Center for the opening of the Visitors Center in 1989.

Contributors of $25 or more receive a free video when they visit the center in the Promenade Center.

For information, call 977-5000.

According to Donna Lewis, CEO of the Sun Cities Area Association of Realtors, the video is currently the best promotion of Sun City.

"The video is really getting a lot of exposure because it is good, positive and upbeat. It is easy to send out and tells the story very quickly," Lewis said.

The Realtors Association also promotes Sun City in other ways, Lewis said, such as through the Internet, open houses and advertisements in newspapers and television.

Sun City comes under the umbrella of the Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce, which also serves Sun City West, El Mirage, Surprise and Youngtown.

The chamber's mission is to advance the civic, economic, cultural and social betterment and interests of the residents and businesses of the Northwest Valley.

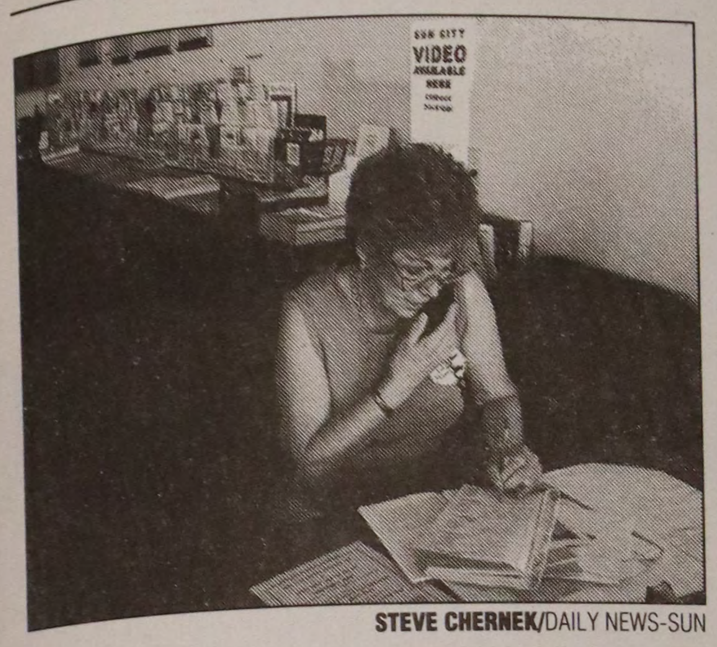
It encourages new business location, as well as provides information to potential residents.

Ryan Peterson, president-elect of the Northwest Valley Chamber, said the chamber supports and promotes a variety of events including the Better Living Expo, held annually at the Sundome, to showcase area businesses.

"We are extremely event-oriented, which serves as a service to the community," he said.

The chamber has a Website: www.northwestvalley.com or interested people may call 583-0692.





STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Volunteer Lee Schumacher answers the telephone at the Sun City Visitors Center, where Ed and Mary Jane Banfield of Sun City West, below, look over information. The Ambassadors, the group that oversees the operation of the center, has produced a video of Sun City. Contributors of more than $25 may go to the center in the Promenade Center to receive one free.



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2 groups look out for residents' interests

JOSH KRIST
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Two home-grown organizations for Sun City, the Home Owners Association and the Sun City Taxpayers Association, have each, in its own way, looked out for Sun Citians in a special way.

People have been turning to HOA for 38 years now to help them get acquainted with community services, enforce deed restrictions, protect age-restricted zoning and voice concerns with the governing bodies of neighboring jurisdictions.

HOA is the progeny of the long-defunct Sun City Civic Association, and is the closest thing to a city council Sun City has. Twelve elected directors work to solve the problems and improve the quality of life for the 20,000 voluntary members.

When HOA incorporated in April 1963, it had 2,500 members and was housed in a small office in Grand Center. Today, the directors and staff work out of an association-owned building at 10401 Coggins Drive.

Annual start-up dues in 1963 were $2 per person. Now, members pay $5 per person.

Among other current activities, HOA annually publishes the Official Homeowners Directory, listing residents of Sun City, Sun City West, Youngtown and retirement communities in adjacent communities. HOA helps homeowners find reputable home and auto repair and other consumer services, and staffers investigate more than 1,000 resident complaints during the year.

Thousands of residents across Sun City have been getting invitations to join the Sun City Home Owners Association.

"Our goal is to get 6,000 additional members. The residents of Sun City are requesting more and more services, and we either would have to increase our dues or get additional members to provide the services everyone wants," said Blaine Donaldson, HOA president.

Plastic-bag door hangers were placed on doors by members of the Lions Club.

In each is a letter of invitation to join HOA, an explanation of the benefits of membership, a membership application and pledge card.



HOA past presidents from left: back, Dixon Wightman, Paul McCleester, Paul Schwartz, Kenneth Powers; middle, May Huber-White, Howard Matthias, Marge Greenhalge, Jack McLaughlin; seated, Ellis Danner, Byron Healy.

BETH McGOVERN/DAILY NEWS-SUN

The application also can serve to update the HOA/PORA Sun Cities telephone directory, since numbers in that book are listed and corrected at resident request, not by U S WEST.

The Sun City Taxpayers Association, founded in 1969, has intervened in numerous utility rate cases over the years, resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings to Sun City ratepayers.

Depending on what happens to a controversial stadium bill, SCTA might soon rally against another taxpayer-funded stadium.

In 1994, SCTA lost a battle with the Maricopa County Stadium District over the imposition of a quarter-cent tax to finance a major league baseball stadium.

The SCTA's past accomplishments include successful challenges to the state sales tax on food and the so-called "Sun City School Tax."

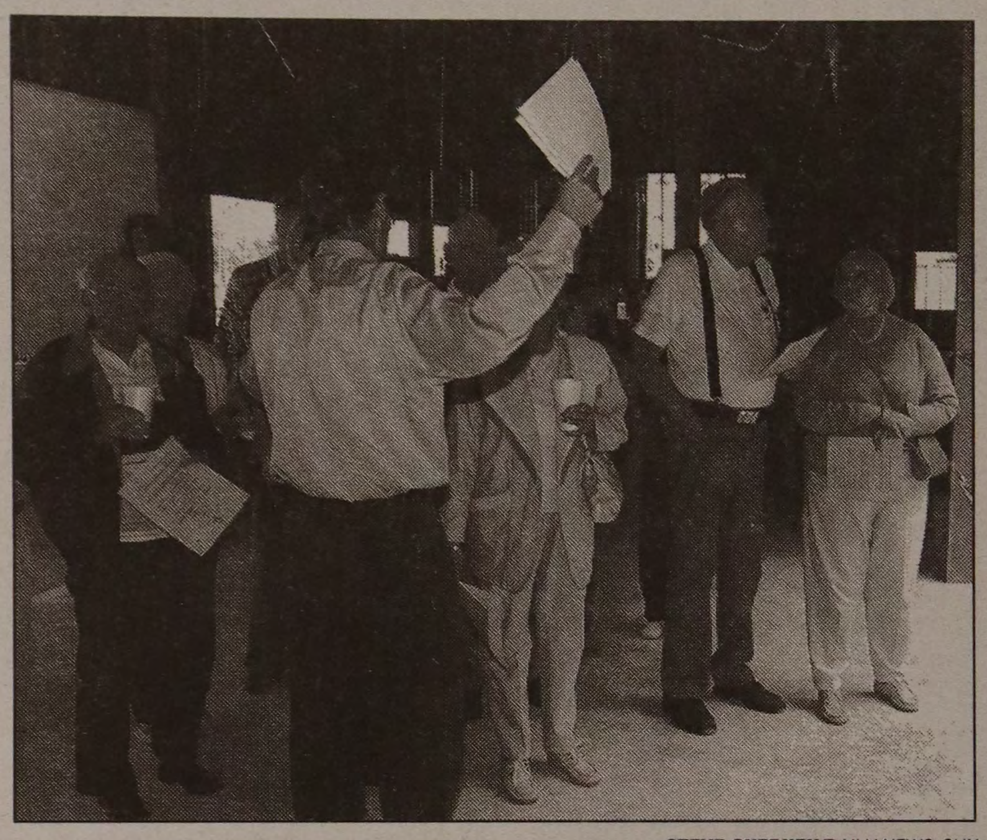
The organization is run by a 15-member elected board of directors, which monitors the activities of other community organizations and keeps close tabs on county and state legislation.

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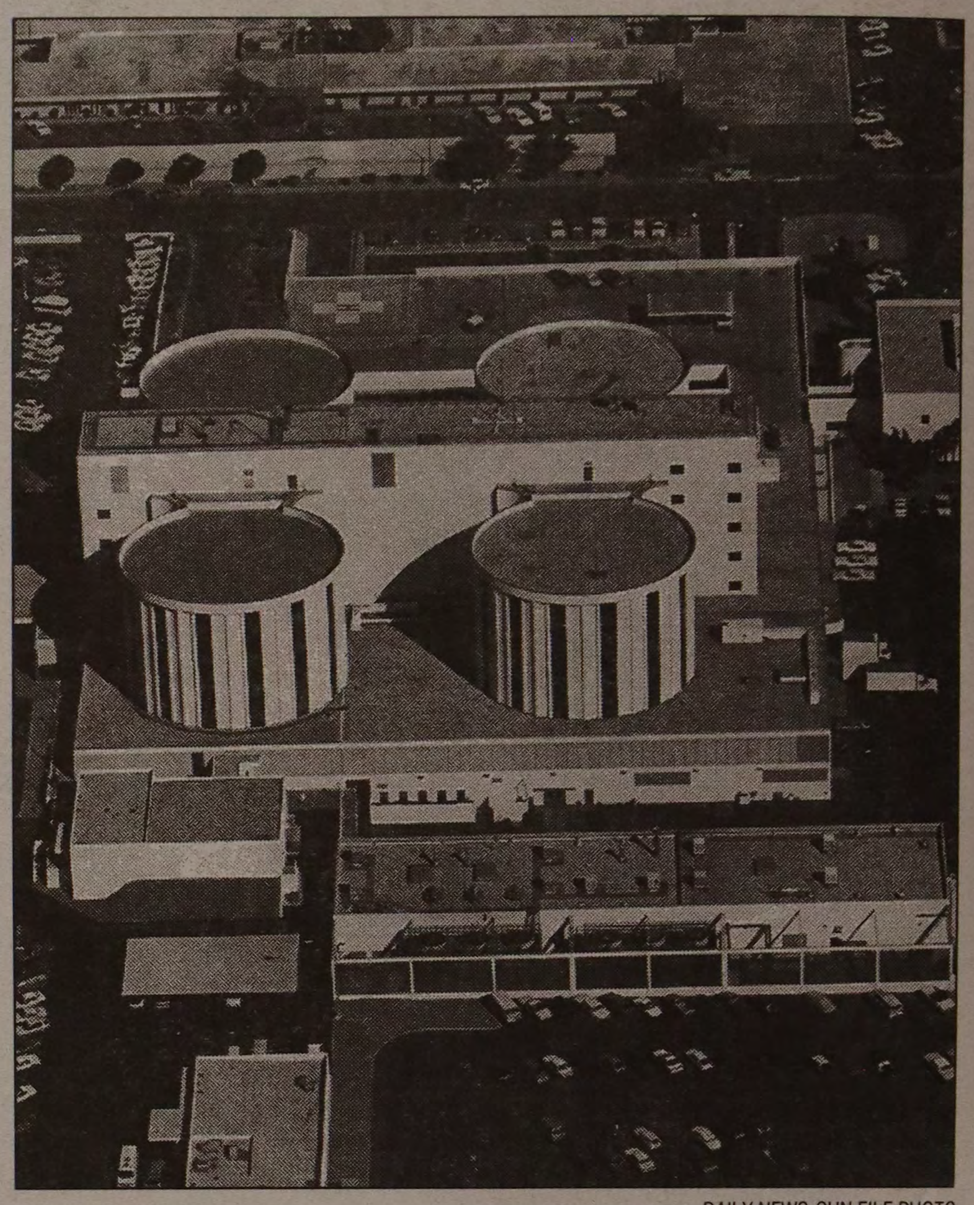
Boswell blooms at 30

Addition buoys cardiac care



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

John Kimball, director of risk management for Sun Health, leads a "dusty shoe" tour of the "Heart Hospital within a Hospital" under contruction to the north of the present medical center.



DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO

MONICA ALONZO-DUNSMOOR
DAILY NEWS-SUN

It was supposed to be a quaint 50-bed Spanish-style hospital — Sun City Community Hospital — that would serve residents of Sun City.

What was intended for Sun City turned into a four-tower, 319-bed hospital — which continues to expand — that serves the Northwest Valley.

The idea for a local hospital stemmed from the community which was aware that ambulance service was non-existent in 1965 and the closest hospital at the time was in Phoenix.

The following year, plans were made for the 50-bed hospital and were received with overwhelming joy from the retirement community.

Del Webb Development Co. agreed to donate land for the hospital and build it at cost.

When the community members received a $1.2 million grant from the Boswell family, plans were expanded to include at least 100 beds, top-notch accommodations and the services would be for all surrounding communities, not just Sun City.

In 1968, the hospital's board of directors decided to start an auxiliary. It started with 31 founders and 127 charter members. That year, the first thrift shop opened and donations started pouring in.

By 1969, community support was high and strong, vigorous efforts were made to raise money and another $25,000 was donated by the Boswell Foundation.

A hospital was born — Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital. On Dec. 16, 1969, the local fund drive exceeded $1 million.

"I joined the Sun Health Auxiliary in 1970," said Marjorie Clifford. "It was really wonderful. Everyone was for the hospital."

She remembers knocking on doors, asking residents to donate money to support the hospital.

About 5,000 people, including Clifford, gathered in the west parking lot of the newly completed building on Nov. 6, 1970, to celebrate the dedication of the $5-million hospital.

"When we had the grand opening in the parking lot, they were so happy for having a hospital there. Everyone was pulling together," Clifford said.

Before the first patient was admitted to the hospital at 12:30 p.m. on Nov. 16 1970, four emergency cases made their way through the emergency room.

From that day, Boswell Memorial Hospital continued to grow under the umbrella of Sun Health.

With continued community support, the 435,000-square-foot hospital is adding 151,000 square-feet to create a "Heart Hospital within a Hospital" to consolidate Sun Health's heart-related services for comprehensive cardiac care for the more than 8,000 heart-related surgeries performed each year.

But the services don't stop there.

During the past 30 years, Sun Health has continued to expand its community health and wellness services to include Alzheimer's care, behavioral health services, a cancer program, two community education centers, hospice and personal care services.

Institute makes notable advancements

MONICA ALONZO-DUNSMOOR
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Imagine a research center where scientists study and perhaps find cures for diseases associated with aging.

Boston, New York and Los Angeles might come to mind. But in a community of 38,000 people, imagination flies out when you enter the door of the Sun Health Research Institute.

It wasn't enough for Sun Health officials to offer medical services to the community through Boswell Memorial Hospital — they wanted to go a step further.

The idea for a research institute came from several people, mostly those associated with Sun Health Corp., said Joseph Rogers, president and senior scientist of the Sun Health Research Institute, originally known as the Institute for Biogerontology Research.

There were four people who were instrumental in the institute's inception — Austin Turner, then chief executive officer of Sun Health; Hokie Bang, chairman of the Sun Health board; and Bob and Cleo Roberts, two prominent residents.

"Bang and Turner had the idea that not only should Sun Health be concerned about giving citizens the best possible medical treatment when they are sick, but also that Sun Health should be concerned with keeping the residents of Sun City from getting sick in the first place," Rogers said. "They wanted to expand from the hospital to a research institute to find cures to keep people out of hospitals in the first place."

And so, in 1986, with seed money from the Roberts family and Bob and Ruth Hoover, another prominent family in the area, the Sun Health Research Institute was created.

"They conducted a nationwide hunt for someone to run the institute and I was fortunate enough to be selected," Rogers said.

During the past 14 years, the research institute has been a driving force in research on age-related illnesses.

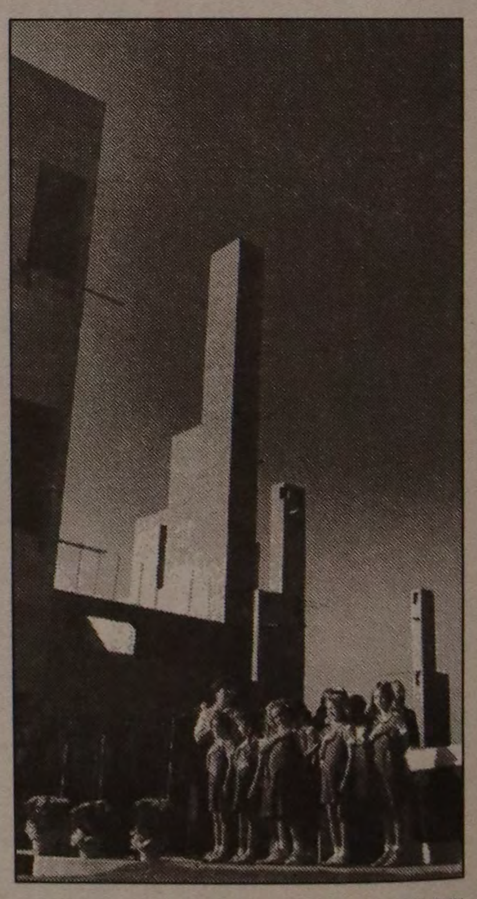
In Alzheimer's research, the institute is one of the best-known centers, having made discoveries that anti-inflammatory and cholesterol lowering drugs may be useful in the treatment of Alzheimer's.

In Parkinson's, we're just beginning to make discoveries.

"It's grown like lightning. There is no other institute that I know of like it. It's experienced phenomenal growth," Rogers said. "Our mission is to understand and develop cures for the major age-related illness that plague our community, particularly Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, arthritis and vision impairments. The whole idea at Sun Health is to manage all the major health and age-related illness, and to go beyond that to try to cure them before people need to go to the hospital."

Roger is confident that the upcoming years hold great things for the institute.

"I think the future is very bright," he said. "We're coming here very soon to prevent Alzheimer's disease from ever occurring, and though the work, a lot of things (diseases) are going to yield."



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun Health Research Institute takes shape on the Boswell Campus.



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

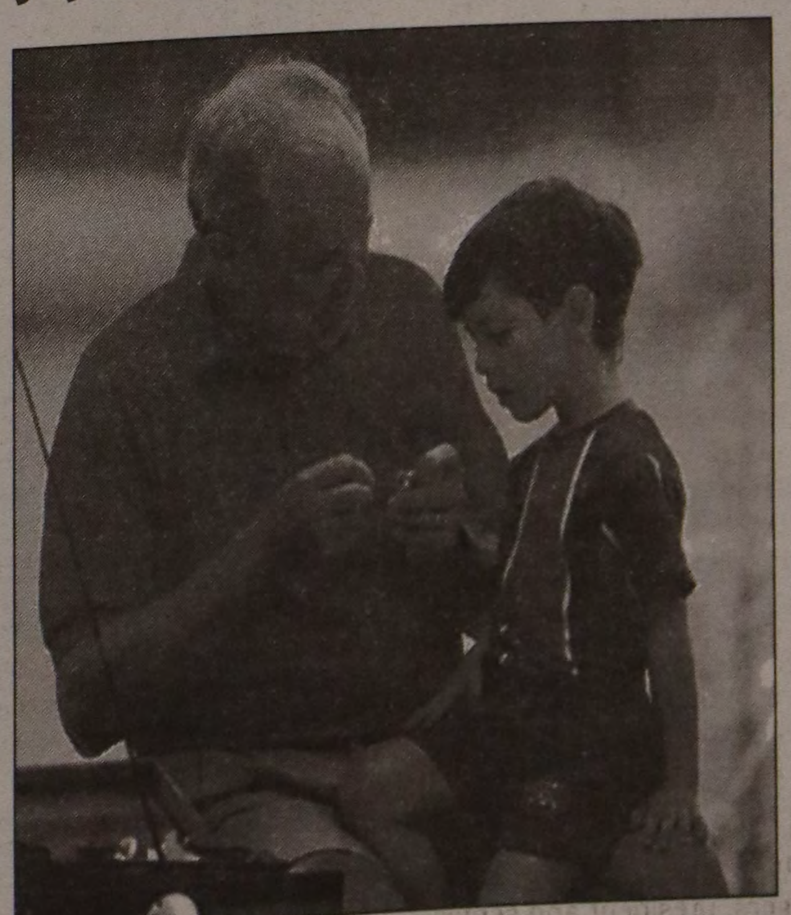
Veterans have been a part of the community since its inception and pay homage to their fallen comrades by placing flags on graves at Sunland Cemetery.



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The '90s:

A community basks in the warm glow of its first 40 years

History Highlights

The Kings Inn Restaurant, dating from the founding of Sun City, was closed and razed in 1990.

●●●

In 1990, Sun City landed a Senior Professional Baseball League franchise.

●●●

Michael Drummond died in 1990. Drummond, a former grocery-store worker in Sun City, was the first person to receive an artificial heart followed by a human heart transplant.

●●●

A nationwide comparative study of cost containment in community hospitals published July 31, 1995, in "Modern Healthcare" magazine ranked Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital No. 1 and Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital No. 6 overall.

●●●

In September 1995, the Sheriff's Posse of Sun City hoped its new speed radar system would create awareness among speeders.

●●●

On Jan. 17, 1996, GOP presidential contender Steve Forbes visited Sun City.

●●●

On Feb. 21, 1996, another candidate, Pat Buchanan, was the clear favorite of the crowd of about 400 Sun Cities area residents.

●●●

On Aug. 14, 1996, Daily News-Sun readers who responded to a questionnaire identified what they considered the top campaign issues of 1996. Social Security, tax-code simplification, crime, campaign-finance reform and illegal immigration were the top national issues.

●●●

On Sept. 12, 1996, a crowd of about 3,000 cheered President Bill Clinton as he visited Sundial Recreation Center Auditorium while on his 1996 presidential campaign. The cheers also included some laughs as the 50-year-old commander-in-chief joked about having just received his membership card to the American Association of Retired Persons.



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A banner welcomes President Clinton to the Sundial Auditorium on Sept. 11, 1996.

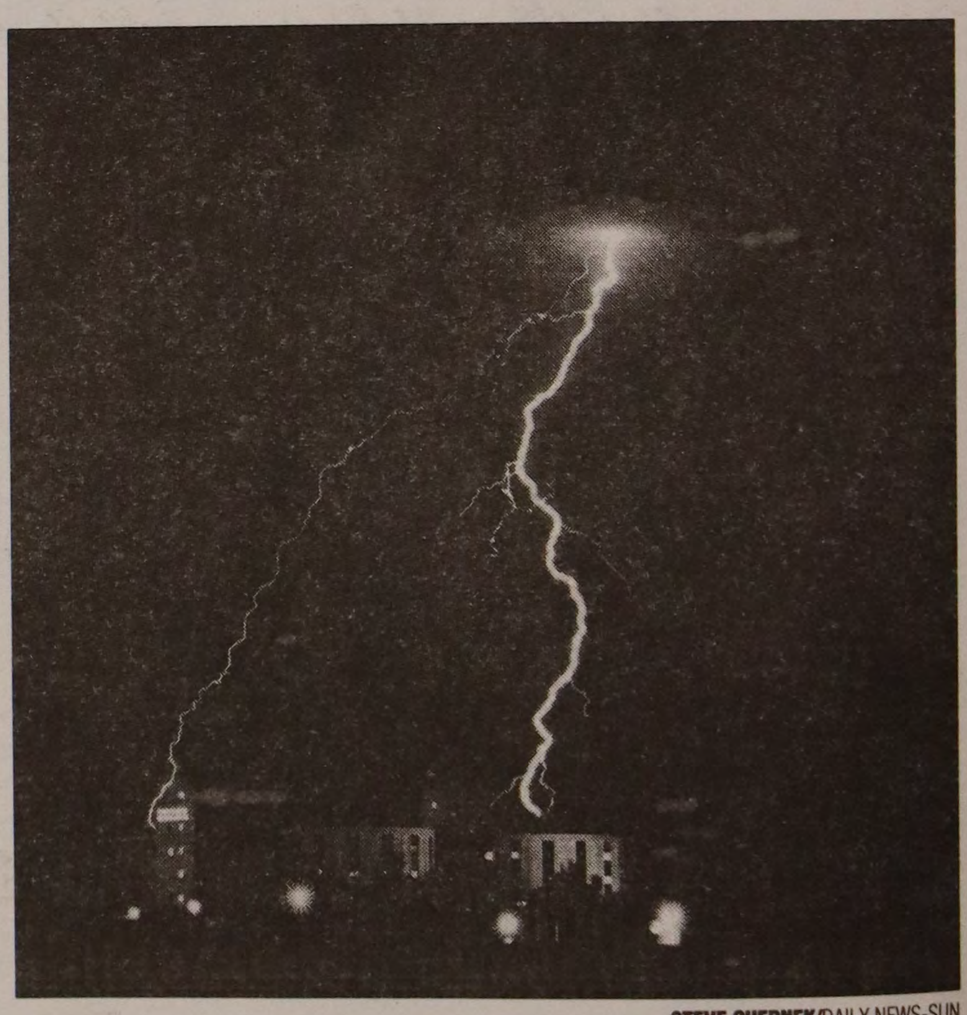


DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO

Skaters continue to be drawn to the roller rink at Mountain View Auditorium in the '90s.



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

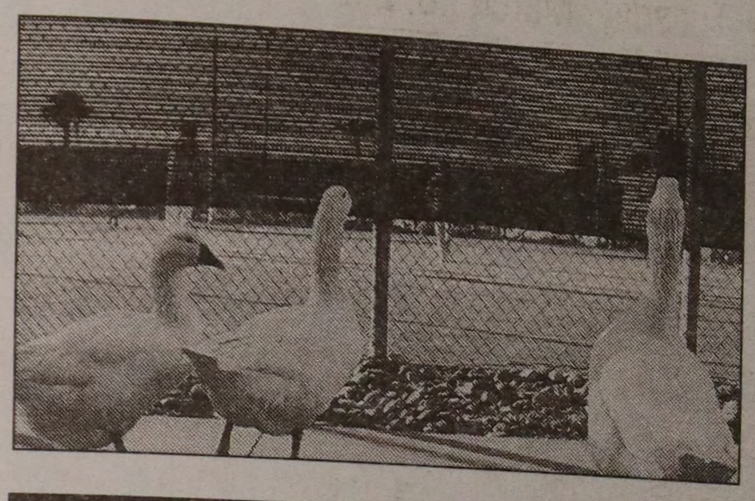


STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Once-tall trees lie across Peoria Avenue at 108th Avenue, above, following a severe thunderstorm that blew through the Northwest Valley on Aug. 14, 1996. Another storm, right, produces spectacular lighting in the sky around Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in September 1995.

Nosy neighbors







DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTOS

Pelicans, geese and swans began flocking to Sun City when the barren desert was developed with green areas dotted by lakes.

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Sun Bowl attracts galaxy of stars

FROM DAILY NEWS-SUN FILES

Cock an ear in an empty Sun Bowl and listen for the memories — the music of Liberace and Lawrence Welk, lip-smacking strawberry sundaes at Mother's Day Strawberry Festivals, foaming root beer at Father's Day Root Beer Busts, rustling flags massed in patriotic splendor on Veterans Day.

The Sun Bowl in the beginning ...

Nov. 28, 1966. The Luke Air Force Base Band plays at the Sun Bowl's dedication, a beginning for Sun Bowl sounds of music that span years and styles: college bands, military bands, Lawrence Welk, Rosemary Clooney, Harry James, Benny Goodman ...

The Sun Bowl, with its landmark band shell and grassy seating room by Mother Nature, has its history in the Del E. Webb Development Co., creators of Sun City, and its present owners, Recreation Centers of Sun City.

Former Devco President John Meeker was there during the planning stages of the Sun Bowl. Was the Sun Bowl his idea?

"I get credit for it," Meeker said in 1985.

FACTOID

Sun Bowl can seat up to 5,000 people, more if everyone squeezes in.

The Sun Bowl, he said, was planned with a dual purpose.

Devco was looking for a way to give entertainment to residents, as well as attract people to look at Sun City.

Names like Liberace and Lawrence Welk, offered at a reasonable price, were the drawing power to bring Arizona winter visitors and people from Phoenix out for a look-see at Sun City's homes and Sun City's retirement lifestyle.

Show biz headliners and community events like states' day picnics made the Sun Bowl an instant success.

The Webb Sun Bowl marketing tool-entertainment formula fared especially well when

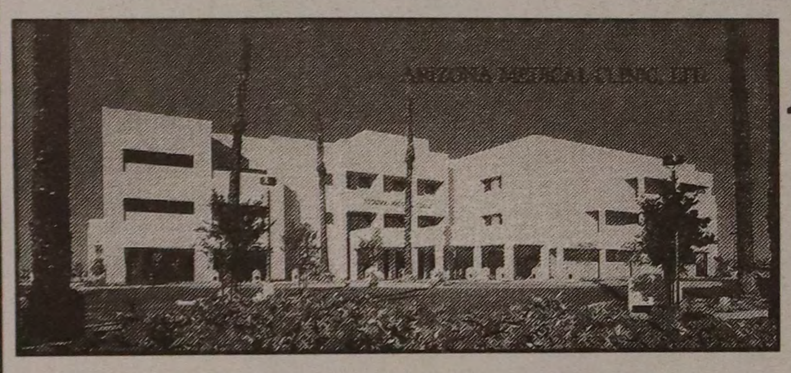
See Sun Bowl, Page 59



DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO

Fans surround Lawrence Welk during a Sun Bowl show in the 1960s.

Sun City, Congratulations On Your 40th Anniversary!



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Sun Bowl

From Page 58

Devco was building Sun City's Phase I.

Under Meeker's leadership, the company offered the Sun Bowl for sale to the rec centers.

"I did that before I left," said Meeker, who died earlier this year. "We were phasing out of Sun City and a decision had to be made whether they wanted it, or we'd sell it," he said.

Because the Sun Bowl had become a part of the community and because the facility had been created for the "use of all Sun City residents," Meeker said he had "felt strongly it was their (Rec Centers) shot to call, whether they wanted it."

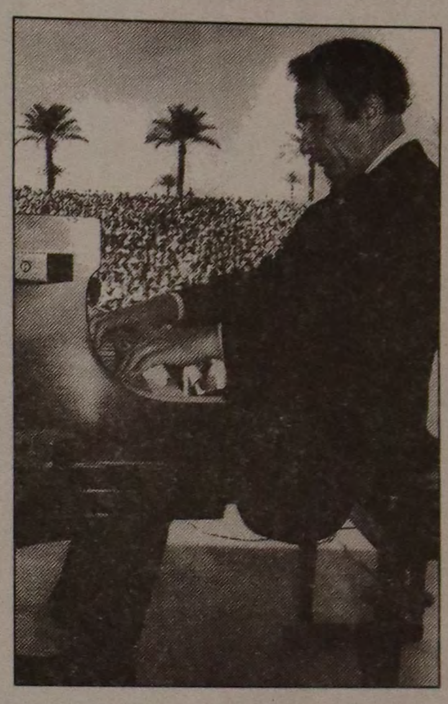
After a 1981 canvassing by the rec centers of its membership showed member interest in the facility, an additional $2-a-year Sun Bowl-dedicated fee was added to members' $50 annual assessment.

On Sept. 1, 1984, the Rec Centers paid Devco a consideration fee of $10 after having operated the Sun Bowl under a $1-a-year, three-year lease/option to buy contract signed July 7, 1981.



DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTOS

Wisconsinites have packed the Sun Bowl for their annual party since the outdoor amphitheater was completed Nov. 28, 1966.



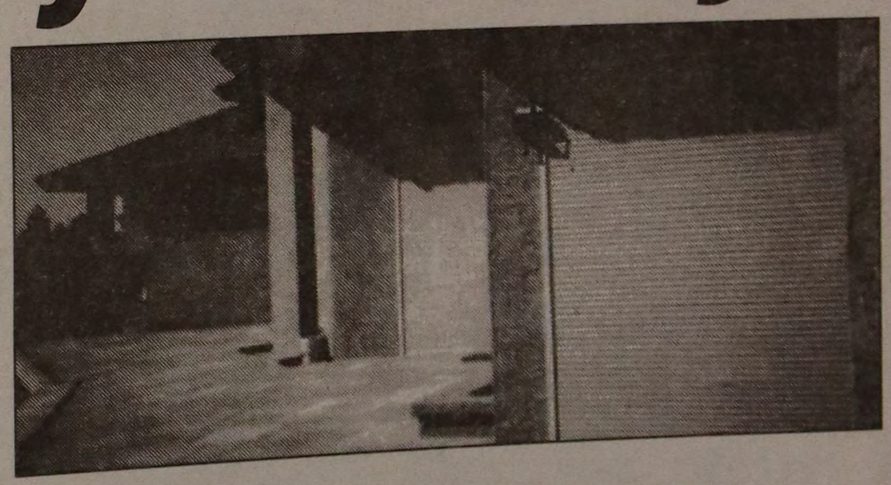


Entertainer Victor Borge, above, tickles the ivories for a Sun Bowl crowd. Pat Boone, left, dazzles an audience on March 6, 1973.

Happy Anniversary Sun City!

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A wide array of living styles

From the very beginning, Sun City offered housing to accommodate people at any level of health

BRUCE ELLISON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

When homes in Sun City first were offered to the public in 1960, there was only a handful of models — and they were all one-story, single-family homes on relatively small lots.

But over the 40 years since, a variety of housing styles has appeared, some of them offered by the Del Webb Corp., and others — a few — by private developers.

Facilities for those who could no longer live alone were among the first new housing types. They developed as church leaders realized there would need to be a community answer to that problem of aging.

Remember that in the 1960s, life expectancy at the normal retirement age of 65 was only a few additional years.

Sun Valley Lodge and Royal Oaks are two examples of that type of housing.

But in the early years, in Phase I south of Grand Avenue, the Del Webb Development Co. (Devco) experimented with other housing types.

There's a set of two-story units overlooking South Golf Course near Fairway Recreation Center, for instance; and some two-story homes south of Peoria Avenue off 106th Avenue near the Sun Bowl.



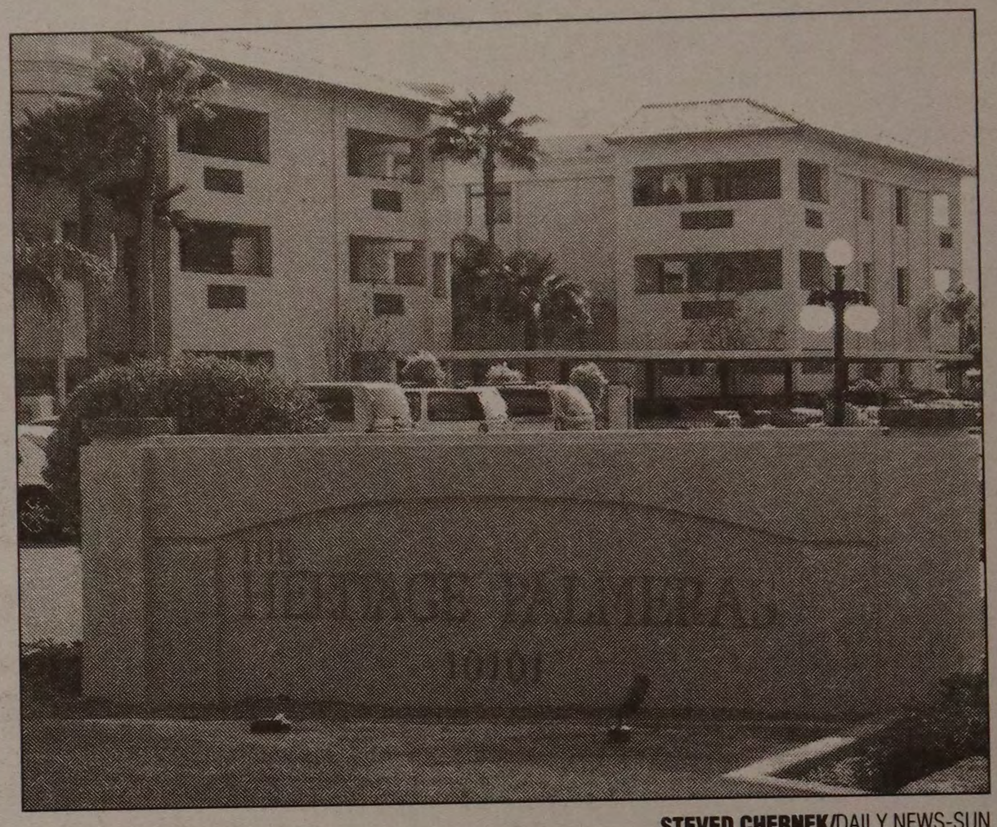
DAILY NEWS-SUN FILE PHOTO
In 1963, members of the United Church of Sun City stand on the future site of Sun Valley Lodge.

There's even a large tract with three- and four-acre lots, outbuildings and separate garages and adjacent pastures where horses graze. Yes, in Sun City. (It's called Rancho Estates, west of 111th Avenue south of Peoria Avenue.)

But there aren't a lot of any of them, for the Del Webb folks eventually concluded that the single-family home was where it was at.

However, after Webb completed the community about 20 years ago, it became apparent that other housing lifestyles would be needed as residents aged.

That would mean everything from what were then called retirement homes to nursing homes, assisted living facilities and apartment complexes.



STEVED CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN
Luxurious condos such as the Heritage Palmeras attract retirees who no longer want the responsibility of home ownership.

Of course, as the community expanded over 20 years, housing styles changed: homes became larger, with more amenities and accessories.

By the time Webb was working on Phase III, north of Bell Road, you could spend $100,000 for a Sun City home.

And you certainly can today, as golf course lots command a $20,000 premium while the few lake lots available bring even more.

Older homes are fast being remodeled and upgraded, as a trip around the community's side streets will document.

Some retirees even make a living buying run-down estate homes, upgrading them, and reselling them at a profit.

The result is that newcomers can find a variety of styles and sizes. Even the Baby Boomers who might afford Sun City Grand or Scottsdale have moved in.

When it comes to housing today, new arrivals just starting a retirement lifestyle and those having a hard time living on their own have all the choices they had before, and then some.

Here's a look at some choices available in this 40-year-old, but still vibrant, community:

- New homes are one thing now missing in Sun City, though they can be found in Sun City Grand and other nearby master-planned communities. Sun City itself is built out, with perhaps a few odd spots available for the odd home.
- Existing homes are on the market regularly in Sun City. Prices range from the mid-$50s for one-bedroom condos to a quarter million dollars for an opulent home on a golf course lot. One Sun City property changed hands last year at just below $300,000.
- Rentals. There are fewer rental options in the Sun City than in most big cities. Many condo units now are owned by individual investors and offered for winter visitors or on a year-round basis, but not all condos permit rentals.

In the south part of Sun City, just off 99th Avenue north of Olive Avenue, are two large rental complexes.

At first glance, looking at the structures and their location, many residents would say they are in Peoria, but they're not. They are officially part of Sun City, were built by Webb, and carry recreation centers privileges.

Individuals, sometimes after inheriting them, often rent out single-family homes; they are cheaper on a year-round basis than monthly in season.

There is a limited number of new rental apartments in major complexes. One example is the Fountains in Sun City, off 111th Avenue and Grand.

- Independent Living. Rental apartments are called independent living facilities if they provide meal service or limited other services such as changes of linen, maid service or scheduled or on-demand

See Housing, Page 61

A new generation joins its parents in embracing retirement lifestyle

JOHN GUZZON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

For every Sun City resident, there is a long and rich life history that has resulted in the retirement times of today.

Relocation often brings separation from the retirees' families, but in some cases, parents and children both have retired to Sun City, beginning a new, unique life together.

Such is the case with Nancy Root and her mother, Beryl Brandes.

Brandes moved to Sun City in 1972 from Pennsylvania and was joined 18 years later by Nancy and her husband, Bob, who formerly lived in Washington, D.C.

"I was a little frightened for her (Nancy) because she is so much younger than those who normally come to Sun City, but she fit right in," Brandes said. "She found places for herself. She has been a wonderful addition to Sun City and it has opened up my eyes to what Sun City can be."

Root said that after she moved to the area she was followed by her daughter and granddaughter, although they live in nearby Avondale.

"They followed the trek out when they saw the lifestyle and didn't want to suffer through the winters," Root said.

Beryl and Nancy attend the opera, Theater Works, the Sun City Chamber Music Society and will become involved with the Sun Cities Symphony of the West Valley later this year. While they share activities, Beryl said, individuality is a must.

"I want them (Nancy and Bob) to have their own life so I

See Generations, Page 61



LISA GOETTSCHE/DAILY NEWS-SUN
Beryl Brandes, left, and her daughter Nancy Root both live in Sun City.

Housing

From Page 60

transportation.

Such units appeal to those who don't care to handle their own home maintenance chores, or who physically can't do the work, and to those who don't care to cook often. Generally, those facilities include breakfast and one other meal a day as part of their fee.

One example is the independent living area at Brighton Gardens by Marriott in Sun City.

Some of the rental and independent living facilities have recreation centers privileges — that is, the renters may use the swimming pools, golf courses, club rooms and bowling at recreation facilities in Sun City that are intended for members only.

There may be an additional yearly fee for that Centers use.

● Assisted living. For those who can no longer be fully independent, but who do not need medical care, an assisted living facility is a good choice. These facilities often are part of a total complex that ranges from independent living to assisted living, and even to skilled nursing units. They also often included an Alzheimer's or dementia unit for those whose condition is troubling but not debilitating..

The co-location of the facilities is intended to assist in fostering the ability to age in place — to become less able to care for oneself without having to move out, away from friends and spouses, to get the care needed.

Generations

From Page 60

don't have to share anything with them," Brandes said. "We don't have to do this business of I have to call her every day. That is important."

Make no mistake, however — they enjoy the closeness that family brings.

"It really is nice to have family so close because it just makes life a nicer experience," Root said. "We have all of our family out in the West now. I enjoy the weather and the boards I serve on in Sun City and I enjoy being associated with the boards my husband serves on."

For Brandes, the main source of help she needs from her daughter is handling the computer age. A prime example of this occurred recently when she purchased a portable phone that was not as easy to operate as simply picking up the receiver.

"I don't know a thing about computers or anything like that. That's where it is nice to have a family member living close who is younger and can decipher things for me.

"The main thing is if I ever get in any sort of jam, they (Nancy and Bob) are here," Brandes said.

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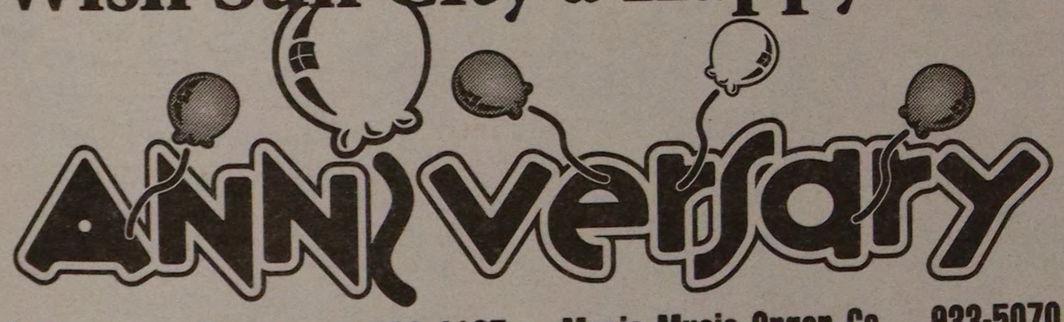
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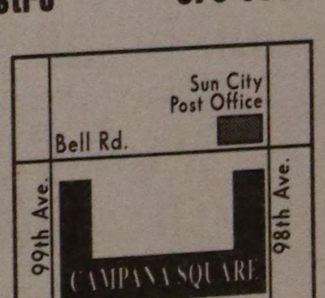


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Economic might: Retirees fuel business boon

BRUCE ELLISON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

When Del Webb planned Sun City in the late 1950s, he foresaw a retirement community, not an economic powerhouse.

But the idea he created 40 years ago nowadays does have considerable economic might.

Consider:

- Sun Citians have about $1.5 billion in the bank, an average of $40,500 for each resident, and a figure that's far above the national or even state average per person.
- Social Security checks poured $24 million into Sun City alone in December 1998, the latest month for which data are available. With two benefit hikes, the total is higher now, and likely comes to more than about $300 million a year.
- Medicare estimates that it pays about $6,000 a year on behalf on the average recipient, much more in the final year of life. So the estimated 38,000 people in Sun City are getting about $225 million in Medicare benefits, most of it going to local doctors, hospitals and other health care providers.
- The homes that the Del Webb Corp. built are worth far more today than what residents originally paid for them. Phase I homes went for $9,000 or so, while the typical models in Phases II and III rose into the $30s and $60s.

Today, typical condos and homes condos sell for $50,000 to $85,000, and values have been rising rapidly in the last few years.

The age-restricted population, seniors all, soon led to the rapid development of a medical complex to serve it. Today, Sun Health Corp. is the major player, and with its operations in Sun City West, Surprise, Litchfield Park and Wickenburg, is a $250-million a year powerhouse operating its own Medicare HMO.

It has attracted more than a hundred medical practitioners to its Sun Health Properties office complexes, and operates a nationally recognized research institute, nursing homes, two retirement complexes and specialized Alzheimer's and even special-needs care centers.



SUN CITIES AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Business boomed at Del Webb's Hiway House when it opened New Year's Day 1960.

An offshoot of the aging population has been the development of apartment, independent living and assisted living complexes in Sun City, or near it, to serve residents who no longer can, or want to, live in their own single family homes.

The Webb company initially provided many commercial services for Sun City residents in the early years, building a sewer and water system and treatment plants — later sold to Citizens Utilities Co. — putting in a cemetery and funeral home (Sunland), now part of a national chain; and developing shopping areas and using them to lure in new grocery, drug and other stores to an area that than was far from the populated areas of Phoenix.

The growth in Sun City also spurred commercial construction in Youngtown, where lower rents and less restrictive use rules allowed golf car and other repair-related services to flourish.

But one service Webb once provided in Sun City — temporary lodgings for visitors — disappeared completely when the Kings Inn at 107th and Grand avenues, a motel that accommodated visitors who might want to buy a home, was torn down and replaced by a supermarket.

There are no motels or hotels in Sun City, though many are close by and some call themselves Sun City hostelries.

Today the Sun City shopping areas have been sold, in some cases more than once, and have different owners.

While Sun Citians may not have much current income, they do have wealth, one reason why a state study found retirees are able to spend more than their reported income for many years.

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Pictured left to right: Connie Collins, Jane Malley and Carol Von Tersch

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Carol Von Tersch has been with the company for 16 years and earned her CTC. She has traveled to Six Continents. She enjoys the out of the way places like Papua New Guinea, Machu Picchi and Turkey. All parts of Africa are her favorites. She has been to most of the countries in Europe as well as China, Thailand, Singapore, India, Nepal and Australia. Her most recent plans are South America.

Connie Collins has been with Carlson for 15 years. She loves European travel especially Germany and Austria. She has traveled to most Mexican cities including their unique Spas. She loves water and cruises. We're here to help with all your travel needs, and are especially good at organizing a Family Cruise or Reunion.

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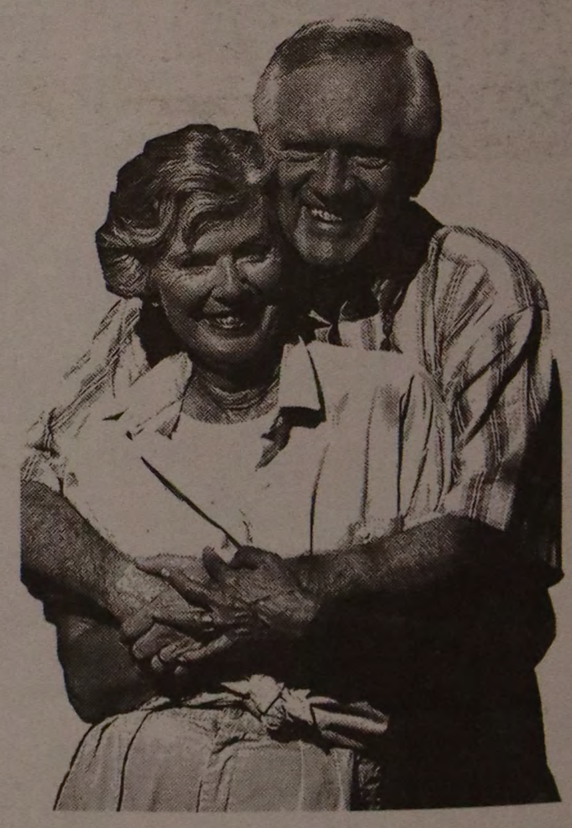
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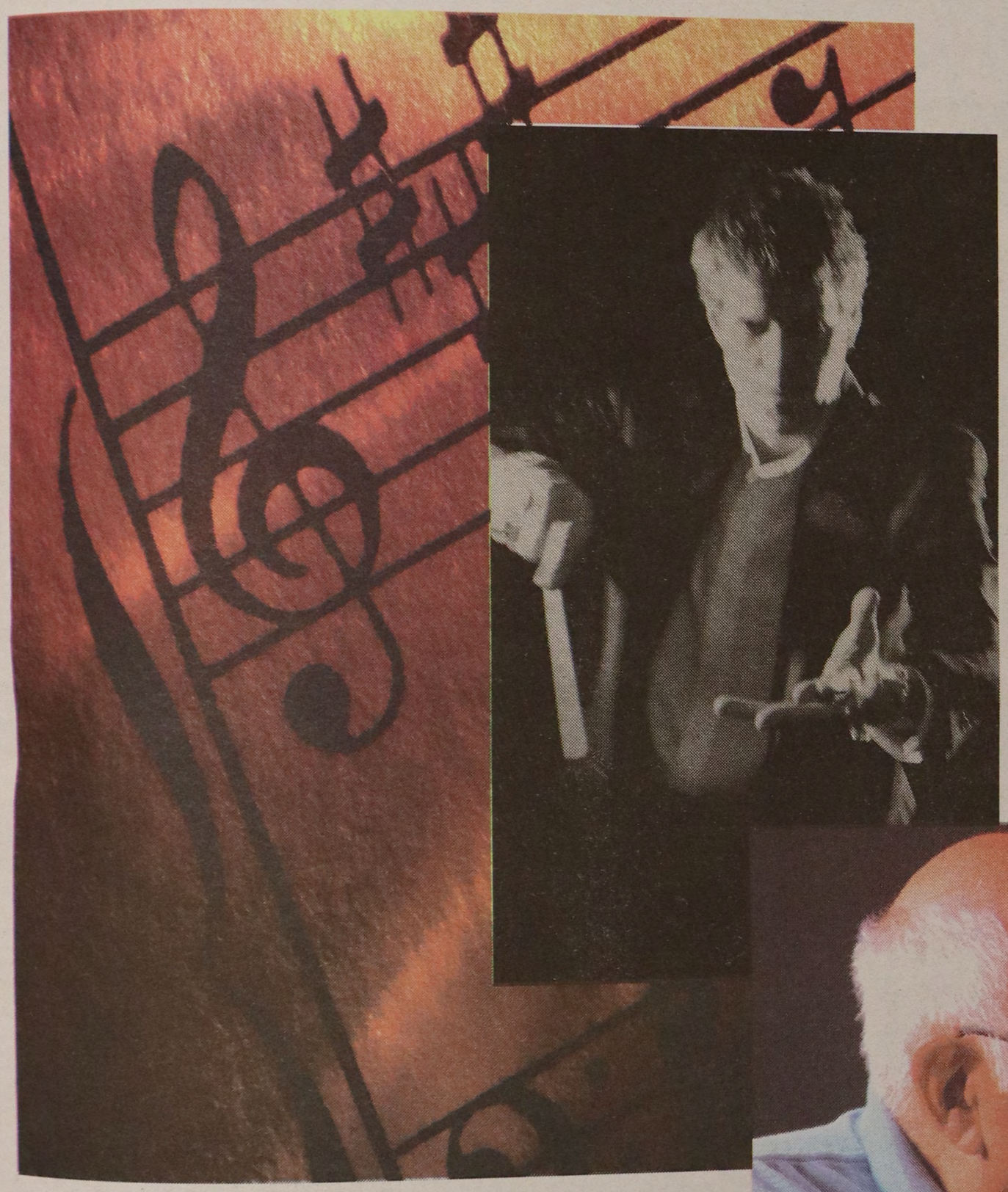
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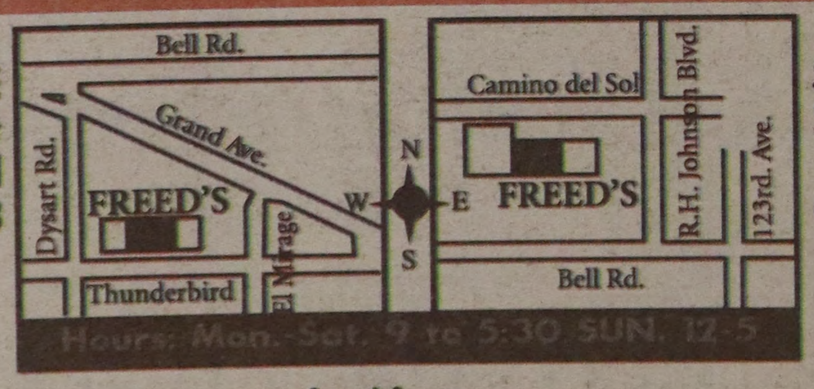
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