

# River of Time Museum Signage

## **Background:**

The Fountain Hills and Lower Verde River Valley Historical Society was formed in 1989 with the purpose of “preserving the rich heritage of the lower Verde River Valley and educating residents and visitors about the area’s history.” A small museum was proposed, planned and opened in 1991 in the Chamber of Commerce office which was then located at Fountain Park. In fall 1998, the society took over the entire building when the Chamber relocated. The museum was closed in April 1998 to make room for the Plaza Fountainside project. A decision was made to build a joint Library/Museum building on town property adjacent to the Community Center. Town voters passed a \$3.7 million bond issue to fund construction on May 17, 1999. Architect Don Ryden was hired to develop a concept and layout for the museum. It was Ryden who created the “River of Time” theme. The architect for the construction project was Rob Dietz and the contractor was Target General. The Historical Society embarked on a major fund-raising campaign to raise money for exhibit displays and other interior furnishings. More than \$500,000 has been raised. A nationally recognized design-build firm, Sunbelt Scenic Studios of Tempe was awarded the contract for the design and construction of the exhibit displays. Production Management Services created the graphics boards that tell the River of Time story for visitors as they walk through the museum. The Grand Opening celebration was held during the weekend of Feb. 28 through March 2, 2003.

## **Listen to the Trail - A Poem Written for our River of Time Museum**

The trail seeks an ending  
But we know not where,  
'Till we travel the rough and winding path  
That leads us over there  
Beyond the hill, a secluded spot;  
To a place some dreamers share.

The path is a hint of joys to come,  
A scenic view around the bend;  
A destination sought by some,  
Or a memory lost in the desert wind.

As we wander we should listen  
To the whispers of long ago,  
When Indians – miners – ranchers, too,  
Made this trace in the rocks that glow  
With the fires of old, and the sun's fierce glare.  
We can live with the past – if we but dare.

These messages lead to exciting new lore  
That widens our scope of this place.  
These images show us remarkably more,  
Their presence, when summoned, still lingers in space.

The trail is a record of centuries past,  
When these hills were known by few.  
But here we can grasp a hint of their deeds  
And see as they saw the view.  
All it takes is a pause – be silent, and listen.  
And the path will speak to you.

- *Robert Mason, 1996*

### **River of Time Orientation room script of Yavapai Woman:**

Welcome, to the River of Time Museum – It's a journey that begins millions of years ago when the waters of the Verde River flowed in the opposite direction through this valley. Your path will lead you to the different peoples who have walked these lands from the Native Americans who lived and played along the banks of the Verde a thousand years ago to the neighborhoods of modern planned communities.

Along the way, you'll see how inhabitants have utilized water to help them adapt to the conditions of the Sonoran Desert. My people, the Yavapai, have lived on these lands for centuries.

We've watched the many people come and go – the explorers, the trappers, those prospecting for riches, the soldiers of Fort McDowell Army Post, the ranchers and homesteaders, the men who tamed the rivers with a series of dams and those who have become our neighbors today in the communities of Fountain Hills, the Verdes and Goldfield Ranch.

Where now do new trails lead? Follow the eagle as it soars above these lands of the lower Verde River Valley from the Four Peaks of the Mazatzals to the McDowell's.

Now listen. Listen to the waters of the River of Time as it tells its story for all to see and hear.

## **Geology of The Lower Verde Valley**

**Our area is remarkable for its diversity of rocks and the multitude of geologic processes that created the Lower Verde Valley and surrounding mountains.**

### ***Mazatzals - A Jumbled and Folded Mix of Rocks***

Before 1700 million years ago, Arizona was at the edge of a great sea. Sand dunes, beaches, shallow sea deposits and river mud became sedimentary rock; some became metamorphic rocks such as quartzite. During the Mazatzal Orogeny (mountain building period), rocks were folded, broken and intruded with igneous material. Erosion and deposition followed. About the time the dinosaurs disappeared, 65 million years ago, compressional forces uplifted the Mazatzal Mountains. Volcanic cones of rhyolite and basalt formed. The jumbled mix of rocks are now extremely rugged and beautiful mountains.

### ***The Verde River - The River That Reversed***

25 million years ago this area was higher than Northern Arizona, so the Verde River flowed north. Ancient river deposits exposed in terraces along today's river show that the Verde was many miles wide. Between 5 and 10 million years ago, uplifting of the Colorado Plateau caused the Verde to reverse its direction and deposit enormous amounts of sedimentary conglomerate rock (visible at Lousley Hill in McDowell Mountain Park, and Needle Rock, north of the Verde Communities). Today, the Verde joins the Salt River just east of Red Mountain (Mount McDowell).

### ***Four Peaks - Ancient Seas & Amethysts***

The Proterozoic (1700 million years old) rocks at the top of Four Peaks were once mostly sand and mud at the bottom of a sea. Over time, the deeply buried mud became shale, and sandstone became tough quartzite. Amethyst crystals formed between some layers. Then, about 1500 million years ago, a mass of molten rock rose through the earth and came to rest below the quartzite. When the magma cooled, it crystallized into solid granite which forms the base of Four Peaks. The resistant quartzite protected the granite below from erosion, leaving Four Peaks as the highest visible landmark (7,600 feet).

### ***Superstitions, Goldfields and Weaver's Needle***

The Superstitions are the weathered remnants of a huge caldera complex, formed as a volcano collapsed into its partially emptied magma chamber. Tremendous volcanic explosions produced millions of tons of fractured rock and small fragments. Highly gaseous, the enormous red-hot ash cloud spread along the ground for miles in all directions, creating deposits up to 2,000 feet deep. This tuff forms Goldfield Mountains, the pale band on Usery Mountain and golden cliffs at Saguaro Lake. Weaver's Needle is not a volcanic neck, but hard igneous rock which resists erosion better than softer surrounding rocks.

### ***McDowell Mountains - Heat, Pressure, Intrusions***

Buried deposits from the Proterozoic era, over 1700 million years ago, changed by heat and pressure into schists and other metamorphic rocks - some of the oldest in Arizona.

Later (1400 million years ago), igneous material forced its way up under these rocks creating the granite of the northern mountains and the base of the southern peaks (visible in Sunridge Canyon and Stone Ridge). Heat, chemical interaction, and quartz intrusions created green epidote. After the Verde Valley dropped (faulted) during the Basin and Range formation (15-8 million years ago), erosion of the mountains created gentle slopes.

### ***The Salt River & Saguaro Lake***

In 1698 Father Kino named the river "Salado" because of salt springs along the upper stream where Native Americans obtained their salt. The lower Salt River cuts through tuff deposits from volcanic eruptions in the Superstitions. The golden cliffs at Saguaro Lake are tuff. Dams form Roosevelt, Apache, Canyon and Saguaro Lakes. Over 13,000 square miles of watershed flow into the Salt & Verde Rivers. Just below their confluence, Granite Reef Dam diverts water into canals throughout the Valley. The Salt River flows into the Gila River, which flows into the Colorado River, then the Gulf of California.

### ***Shea Boulevard Volcanics***

The black rocks along Shea Blvd. southwest of Fountain Hills are weathered lava flows from fairly recent volcanic activity (30-20 million years ago). The vesicular (porous) basalt in Saddleback Mountain, south of Mayo Clinic, was prized by Native Americans for use as metates and manos because the many small pores provided sharp grinding edges. Some dramatic igneous intrusions (dikes) can be seen as dark vertical stripes in the roadcuts on the north side of the highway, just west of the Eagle Mountain entrance.

### ***Red Mountain & Gunsight -- Erosion at Work***

Sand and granite boulders from northern highlands washed into a basin about 30 - 20 million years ago. As sand became rock, iron oxidized (like rust) causing the red color. (Papago Buttes near Phoenix Zoo are the same age rock.) Lava flows covered areas and volcanic materials intruded into seams of the sedimentary rocks. Tilting and uplift created vertical fractures. Erosion separated sandstone bluffs and buttes into columns. Gunsight is a nearly vertical 100 foot fracture widened by wind and water erosion (15 feet wide at base). Boulders pop out from freezing and thawing pressures, continuing the erosion process (Tafoni).

## **Geology Timeline - Verde Valley Through The Ages**

1820-1750 million years ago: A long and violent period of volcanic activity created lava flows and eruptive deposits (welded into "tuff").

1750-1700 million years ago: A huge sea covered this area; sediments of mud and sand were deposited then subsequently buried and changed into metamorphic rock by pressure and heat at great depth.

1700 million years ago: Subterranean magma intruded into the rocks creating pools which cooled into massive granite deposits below the surface of the Earth (exposed later by erosion).

- 1675-1650 million years ago: Great mountain ranges in Central Arizona were pushed up as colliding continental plates buckled and crumpled during the "Mazatzal Orogeny."
- 1650-1400 million years ago: The mountains were eroded away, leaving their "roots" of granite.
- 1400-1000 million years ago: Several mountain building episodes were followed by the sea advancing across the land, leaving deposits of sand, silt, clay, limy mud and shallow marine sediment alternating with volcanic ash and lava flows. Periods of uplift and fracturing also occurred.
- 1000-600 million years ago: A long period of erosion erased much of geological evidence from the area.
- 600-240 million years ago: Shallow seas advanced and retreated periodically. This area was near the shore - sometimes a beach, sometimes an underwater continental shelf. The Paleozoic era, "age of fishes," was remarkably free of volcanic and tectonic activity.
- 240-100 million years ago: No rock record exists; this area was probably above sea level.
- 100-75 million years ago: Drainage patterns were created, channeling the water to a sea in northwest Arizona.
- 75-50 million years ago: Compression forces pushed up the Mogollon Highlands and created folds, faults, and volcanic activity during the Laramide Orogeny (mountain building period). The central highlands were higher than northern and southern Arizona.
- 50-30 million years ago: As the crust was stretched, undrained intermountain valleys formed and filled with debris from erosion of nearby mountains. The land here was higher than Northern Arizona so water flowed north. Local "rim gravels" have been found north of the Mogollon Rim.
- 30 million years ago: Volcanic action produced lava flows, such as in the Red Mountain area.
- 0-21 million years ago: Mid Tertiary Orogeny formed mountains and the Colorado Plateau in Northern Arizona was gradually uplifted.
- 21-18 million years ago: Large-scale volcanic action, such as in the Superstition Mountain area, created the ash and igneous rock debris which has contributed to the natural fertility of this valley.
- 20-8 million years ago: Extension of the continental crust caused separations; huge blocks dropped down creating valleys including this one. Higher areas become northwest to southeast trending mountain ranges.
- 10-5 million years ago: The Verde River reversed its direction as a result of uplifting in the north (which also led to the creation of the Grand Canyon).
- 5-present: Erosion lowered the mountains and filled the valleys.

## Archaeology

### **Ancient Cultures In Our Valley**

#### ***Paleo & Archaic Indians***

Sloping land, fertile soil, and water attract people to our valley. Spear points amid bones of ancient bison indicate the presence of Paleo Indians in the Southwest 10,000 years ago. As early as 1000 B.C., Archaic people followed seasonal routes along waterways here to hunt and harvest desert plants for food, shelter and medicine.

#### ***Hohokam Culture***

Primitive gardening evolved into complete agricultural systems and permanent settlements. Over 10,000 people lived along the Lower Verde River. Azatlan, a significant city with four ball courts, trash mounds, firepits, tools and pottery was discovered during construction of Rio Verde. Remnants of their canal system still exist.

#### **Trade Items - Clues to Past Cultures**

The Hohokam trade network stretched from Mexico to Utah, from the Pacific Coast to the Great Plains. Cotton, surplus crops and shell jewelry were traded for shells, turquoise, obsidian, other minerals, and foreign pottery. From Mexico came macaws, parrots, obsidian, pyrite mirrors and copper bells. The northeast corner of Hohokam culture was a major trafficway.

"Verde Artifacts" found during construction of the first golf course at The Verdes, 1972-1973, are courtesy of Bob Brethauer, golf superintendent at that time.

#### **Hohokam Pottery Marks Cultural Changes**

***Pioneer Period*** (300 B.C. to 500 A.D.) - Hohokam settled along Santa Cruz, Gila and Salt Rivers. Gila Plain Ware (150 A.D.) is the earliest pottery. Red Ware was made after 400 A.D.

***Colonial Period*** (500-800 A.D.) - Hohokam moved northward along Agua Fria, New, and Verde Rivers. Pottery evolved, imitating styles of neighboring people: Anasazi, Sinagua, Salado and Mogollon. The earliest painted pottery, Red-on-Gray, came about 650 A.D. The peak of excellence was 700 - 900 A.D.

***Sedentary Period*** (900 - 1150 A.D.) - Mass production came with a larger population and bigger villages. Quality of Red-on-Buff pottery deteriorated, but Red Ware had a variety of pleasing shapes.

***Classic Period*** (1000 - 1150 A.D.) - Pottery had elaborate black-on-white, naturalistic and abstract motifs. Communities were more compact. In 1358 A.D., after 30 years of extreme dryness, the Salt River swelled to its highest level in 450 years. Unpredictable water flows may have forced changes and disintegration of Hohokam lifestyle.

## **Written in Stone**

Long ago people living here moved seasonally searching for food and shelter. They communicated orally and by “writing” on the rocks. We call the images they carved on the rocks “**petroglyphs**,” from the Greek word *petro* (rock) and *glyph* (carved, incised). Paintings found on cave walls or sheltered rocks are called “pictographs.”

Rock surfaces naturally darken over time, acquiring a “rock or desert varnish” on them. The incised Petroglyphs expose the lighter rock color underneath the surface patina. There are many interpretations of their meanings.

**Preservation of Petroglyphs** – We continuously learn and discover more information about the past. Petroglyphs are one of our national treasures. Federal law protects them. They must not be moved or touched. Their location may yield important clues to learn more. Oils from our hands accelerate their deterioration.

## **Early-Day Yavapai**

### **The Five Mountain Spirit Dancers**

“Mountain Spirits still live in sacred places at Fort McDowell. They keep watching over us all the time.” *Mike Harrison and John Williams from The Yavapai at Ft. McDowell*

According to Yavapai stories told only in the winter months, the five Mountain Spirits inhabited Four Peaks, the Superstitions, Red Mountain and Granite Mountain long before other people came. They moved about like the wind. They are always there helping us; they never die.

Singing and dancing are ways people expressed themselves and prayed to the Creator. The dance itself was like a prayer.

The Mountain Spirit Dancers wear headdresses called Crowns. The sacred colors of yellow, black, red, blue and white create symbols on the crowns. During the 25 years that the Yavapai were forced to live on the San Carlos Reservation, the two tribes learned from each other. Some aspects of their cultures were shared. The Apache Crown Dance is not the same as the Yavapai Spirit Dance.

### **Ramada Exhibit - Ancient Yavapai**

"We are the Yavapais. We are the descendents of a great people... people who have fought hard to keep our tribal identity. Arizona is our home."

### **Our Beginnings**

“Our creation story begins in the Verde Valley in the Red Rock of Sedona. Our people emerged from underground at Ahagaskiywa, also known as Montezuma’s Well. We made our first home in Sedona in a place called Wipuk. That’s where the first woman (Kamalpukwia) created her daughter and the daughter created Sakarakaamche, her son. That’s why we are born people of the sun; people of the water.” – *As told by*

*Clinton Pattea and Dixie Davis in Fort McDowell Yavapais - People of the Red Mountain*  
© 1997.

### **Our Homeland**

“Originally our homeland stretched 12 million acres. We had four major bands. The Yahvehbeh and Wihpuhkpayaya who lived in the Verde and Sedona area; the Tolkopaya made their homes near Wickenburg and the Qevkapaya were the ones who called Fort McDowell home. Life was good for our people, but change was in the wind. Spanish explorers passed through. Little by little other non-Yavapais found their way to our home. In 1863 it was the lure of gold that brought the most non-Yavapai to our area.” *As told by Clinton Pattea from Fort McDowell Yavapais - People of the Red Mountain.*

### **Yavapai Warrior**

“But instead of finding peace the Yavapais found hunger and disease. Gifts of blankets were infested with the smallpox virus, killing many of our people. Overwhelmed by these conditions our people fled for their lives. It was a war we would fight for years.” *Narrated by Clinton Pattea in Fort McDowell Yavapais - People of the Red Mountain © 1997*

### **Living With The Land**

“Experts say our people have been around for centuries. We lived off the desert (seasonally) hunting deer and other game and eating desert plants like the fruit of the saguaro cactus. Our women wove baskets and made pottery. Our men built homes (wickiups) from what the desert offered. A long time ago people were friendly. They helped each other and gave each other things.” *As told by Molly Starr Fasthorse and Clinton Pattea in Fort McDowell Yavapais - People of the Red Mountain © 1997.*

### **United States Army Brings Change**

“Camp McDowell was formed and soldiers were assigned to protect the gold-diggers from our people. Then ranchers arrived and wanted all of our land for themselves. The United States government decided to end the friction by sending our people to live at forts such as Camp Date Creek, Camp Verde and Camp McDowell.” *As told by Clinton Pattea from Fort McDowell Yavapais - People of the Red Mountain © 1997.*

## **Explorers, Trappers, and Prospectors**

The first to record the presence of the Verde River were the Spanish in the late 1500's but then little in the way of written history is present until the diaries of trapper Ewing Young in the 1820s. He wrote about the confluence of the Verde River, then called the San Francisco, with the Salt River. Here they battled Apaches and lost 18 of the party of 24. But Young returned the next year to this area, with Kit Carson as a member of his group, and recorded harvesting as many as 30 beaver per night in their traps. The ancient Verde River was known as a meandering, slow-moving stream with many opportunities for water to soak into the subsoil. Beaver dams were one of the reasons for this. For decades the beaver has been missing from the lower Verde, but in 2000-2002 period, 2 dams were found. Prospectors were certain that the McDowell

Mountains contained rich ore deposits but although traces have been found in several locations, no commercially profitable mines were developed. Some silver mines were located along the spine of the Mazatzal Mountains, but no "bonanzas" were realized.

### **The Dixie Mine**

Our surrounding mountains beckoned many prospectors, only to fail them. The closest "glory hole" was the Dixie Mine, located in the southwest corner of McDowell Mountain Park northwest of Fountain Hills. By 1917 about 500 feet of shafts and tunnels had already been blasted. Assays of 18 samples showed traces of silver, gold and copper but no commercial shipments were made. For many years the 240-foot shaft has been flooded with 100 feet of water.

### **Four Peaks Amethyst Mine**

Some of the world's best amethyst comes from a small mine high on the steep slopes of nearby Four Peaks Mountain. Native Americans chipped it into arrowheads. In the 1600s, Spanish explorers shipped amethyst to Spain and it became part of the crown jewels of several countries. The deposit was rediscovered around 1900 by gold seeker Jim McDaniels. The claim is remote, difficult to access and hazardous. Al and Cecile Storer owned and operated the mine for a number of years. They packed amethyst out by burro, 100 lbs. at a time. Later, helicopters flew in supplies and shipped out rocks. Crystals 18 inches by 24 inches, weighing 85 pounds, have been found.

The mine was bought in 1997 by Kurt Cavano and Jim McLachlan. Ed Davis is manager. "Coyote Hole" is 4 ft. x 4 ft. x 50 ft. long, and sparkles with crystals. Miners use sledgehammers, chisels and shovels. Dynamite and diesel-powered air hammers and drills break through quartzite, but when soft, earthy veins are reached, material is shoveled and amethyst is picked out by hand.

Rough material is transported to Commercial Mineral in Scottsdale. Cutters in the Far East facet gemstones. Four Peaks Amethyst is prized for its fine color.

## **Ranching**

As pioneers moved into Arizona Territory in the 1860s and 1870s, they looked for fertile farm land and grass for their cattle and sheep. The lower Verde River valley had both, plus adequate water. It also had Fort McDowell, which provided protection against Indian raids.

The primary sheep trail in the state, the Heber-Reno Driveway, is located just a few miles east of the Verde River and is still being used.

### **P-Bar Ranch**

Fountain Hills and McDowell Mountain Park were once a 30,000+ acre cattle ranch. Homesteaded in the early 1900s by Henry Pemberton, the ranch passed to pioneers "Pink" Cole and son Bill, then to Lee and Delsie Barkdoll in 1935, and to Delsie and second husband Dick Robbins. During the Barkdoll/Robbins years (1935-1955), area

cattlemen pastured and watered their stock on the P-Bar for about a dollar a month per head and one cent per pound gained. Fort McDowell Indians helped with the roundups.

### **Box Bar Ranch**

In 1915, just three years after Arizona became a state, W.W. Moore and Frank Asher formed the Box Bar Ranch. They leased 91,000 acres from the U.S. government for cattle grazing. This land ranged throughout the Verde Valley as far as the present Bartlett Dam area eight miles north and the Maverick Mountain high country in the Mazatzals. Today the Verde Communities have been developed on a portion of the former Box Bar Ranch.

### **White Ruins Artifacts**

Annie and Patrick White were pioneer homesteaders, claiming their land on the Verde River just north of Fort McDowell in 1876. A tragic mistake caused soldiers to burn their home in 1880, destroying their property and nearly their lives. This epic story is told in the book, "The Burning" available in the museum gift shop. The artifacts here are from the ruins of the White's home and are on loan from the Tonto National Forest.

## **Fort McDowell**

### **Fort McDowell Army Post**

The establishment of a military fort in the Tonto Basin on or near the confluence of the Rio Salado (Salt) and Verde Rivers was authorized on May 21, 1865 by General John S. Mason. Troops arrived on Sept. 7, 1865 at the present Fort McDowell site. The fort was initially named Camp McDowell, but a few months later was changed to Fort McDowell in honor of Major General Irvin McDowell, who served under Gen. Winfield Scott in the Civil War. Lt. Colonel Clarence E. Bennett was the first commander of this key Arizona military location.

### **Building the Fort**

An area contained within 2 miles east and west and 3 miles north and south of the center of the parade ground was reserved for the use of the post. In 1870 this was enlarged to include all of the land 5 miles north and south of the center of the parade ground and 2 miles on each side of the Verde River. By November 20, the men of the command had made 100,000 adobes, beginning the task on October 26 and the company quarters were almost ready for roofing.

Most of the attention of the soldiers during the first year was devoted to digging irrigation canals to bring water to about 250 acres of land. This was probably part of the same land now being irrigated on the reservation. Some of these canals followed ancient Hohokam routes.

### **Life Was Grim**

The fort was intended as a basing point for soldiers to protect the ever-increasing flow of white settlers, but it was also used extensively as a place of refuge from the Apaches

for friendly Indians, including the Yavapai. On different occasions, famous leaders such as Geronimo and Cochise visited or were imprisoned there.

Life on the post was described as grim. The extreme heat, long hours at work on the post farm and a diet lacking fresh fruits and vegetables resulted in illness and sometimes even death. There was much hostility and cruelty between the Apaches and whites and a great deal of discontent and personal hardship among the soldiers.

### **Cavalry Campaigns**

On Christmas day 1872, Captain Burns and his troops joined forces and marched with forces from Camp Grant to scour the Mazatzal Mountains in one of the major campaigns to force the Indians onto reservations.

On August 21, 1874, Lt. Parkhurst reported that eight Apaches were killed and 119 were captured and delivered to Fort McDowell. This action took place just east of the Verde River in the Mazatzals.

Troops stationed at Fort McDowell made their last contact with hostile Indians at Big Dry Wash in 1882. During the Geronimo uprisings of 1885 and 1886, they scouted in the vicinity of the post when small bands escaped from San Carlos. Occasionally detachments from McDowell participated in expeditions that guarded the passes between Arizona and Mexico.

### **Fort McDowell Army Post (1865-1890)**

1865 California volunteers of the 7th Infantry Regiment (seven officers and 464 men) led by Major Clarence Bennett established Camp Verde for the purpose of subduing hostile Indians hiding out in the Verde-Salt River Wilderness.

When it became a permanent post it was named for General Irvin McDowell.

The first Arizona volunteers, 194 Pimas and Maricopas, did most of the scouting for the alleged enemy while the California volunteers constructed adobe buildings.

1866 One cavalry and three infantry companies of the United States Army replaced the California Volunteers. The Pimas and Maricopas continued to scout until 1872.

Captain George Sanford took over the command of Fort McDowell, serving intermittently as commander for over five years.

1867 Lieutenant Richard DuBois and two infantry companies constructed wagon road to Camp Reno.

1868 Delche and other Indian leaders came to the post seeking peace. Peace was not possible because the commander had no authority to make peace and reservations had not been established.

1871 Commissioner Vincent Colyer, personal representative of President Grant, and representatives of four Indian bands held a peace conference at McDowell. General George Crook prepared to bring the hostile Indians to submission.

1872 General Oliver Howard came to Fort McDowell to preserve the peace.

Crook began his offensive against the hostile Indians.

Troops from McDowell led by Captain James Burns, Chief Scout Al Sieber and Company G left the post to destroy the enemy. The major engagement was in the Salt River Canyon where 35 Yavapais, mostly women and children, died and 35 were captured.

1873 Several Yavapai bands led by Chalipun surrendered to General Crook.

Delche, Crook's most wanted Indian remained at large until Crook placed a bounty on his head.

1874 Yavapais were forced to live with Apaches on San Carlos Reservation.

Troops helped settle confrontations between Maricopa and Pima Indians and white settlers.

They protected travelers from Indians who were out on pass or had escaped from San Carlos.

1875-78 Lieutenant Jack Summerhayes and his wife Martha were stationed at McDowell.

1882 Troops led by Captain Adna Chaffee defeated hostiles at Big Dry Wash (Mogollon Rim). It was the last major confrontation of U.S. troops with hostile Indians in Arizona.

1883, 1885-86 During Geronimo uprisings, small bands escaped from San Carlos. Troops scouted for renegades. McDowell detachments occasionally guarded passes between Arizona and Mexico.

1889 McDowell had become a popular resort for visitors from the East.

1890 Lt. James M. Baldwin, the last of 52 officers commanding McDowell, was relieved of his command, and the post was turned over to the Department of the Interior.

### **The Living Quarters**

The officers' quarters were a long low line of adobe buildings with no space between them; the houses were separated only by thick walls.

Fort McDowell's mild winters and its proximity to the Verde and Salt Rivers and the Mazatzal and Superstition Mountains attracted many visitors from the East. By 1889 the post had become a popular resort where visitors could obtain board and room for \$16 a month. Hunting rabbits and quail was a favorite sport.

### **Last Bugle Call**

Lieutenant James Baldwin arrived at Fort McDowell in 1889 and commanded the post intermittently for the last six months of its existence. He was the last of 52 officers to command the post during its life span of 35 years. Fort McDowell was closed as a military post in 1890, but in 1903 the area was designated as an Indian reservation.

"The old post is long since abandoned . . . the army life of those years is past and gone, and Arizona as we knew it, has vanished from the face of the earth." From *Vanished Arizona* by Martha Summerhayes, wife of Lieutenant Jack Summerhayes, 1875-1878.

### **Fort McDowell Artifacts**

The items shown were found at the former site of Fort McDowell Army Post. The collection was given by Dr. Sam Palmer to the Fountain Hills and Lower Verde Valley Historical Society.

## **Water**

### **Canals of the Desert**

As long ago as 200 B.C., water from the Verde and Salt Rivers was diverted to irrigate crops. The Hohokam people built 250 miles of canals in the Salt River Valley to grow cotton and vegetables. Then around 1400 A.D., for unknown reasons, the greatest irrigation achievement by ancient man on this continent was abandoned.

### **Ancient Canals Lead to Modern Development**

In 1867, John Y.T. Smith and John W. (Jack) Swilling recognized the potential of the ancient ditches. They harvested Galleta hay, which grew wild along the Salt River near 40th St. to feed the cavalry horses at Fort McDowell. By clearing the ancient ditches they could grow more crops.

The Swilling Irrigating Canal Company began construction of the first modern canal in December of 1867. Homesteaders began arriving and one year later, there were 100 permanent residents. Because of Fort McDowell and the Hohokam canals, the town of

Phoenix originated as a hay camp. By 1888 several more canals had been built and more than 100,000 acres were under cultivation.

### **Control of the Water**

Floods, droughts, and conflicts over water rights led the Maricopa County Board of Trade to investigate the feasibility of a water storage system. The most practical site was 80 miles upriver from Phoenix, where Tonto Creek flowed into the Salt River. Its estimated cost was \$2-5 million.

President Theodore Roosevelt recognized that water development in the West was essential to future prosperity. On June 17, 1902, the National Reclamation Act provided that money from the sale of Western public lands could be used for reclamation projects. Revenue from water and power would pay back the funds.

The Salt River Valley Water Users Association was incorporated in 1903 for the benefit of landowners who pledged their lands as collateral for the loan. The organization ensured the equitable distribution of water and costs; it also represented landowners in negotiations and assumed responsibility for the operation and management of the project. Today, we know the association as SRP (Salt River Project).

### **Constructing the Dam**

The original plan for the dam at Tonto Creek was solely for storage and control of water. But a 20-mile long power canal was built for dam construction; not until 1909 was electricity delivered to Phoenix to operate well pumps.

First, roads to the dam site had to be built. The most difficult was the Mesa-Roosevelt Road through the rugged canyons and mountains of the Superstitions. Built for half a million dollars, the two-rut trail was an engineering marvel. Today it's known as the Apache Trail.

Roosevelt Dam was constructed using "cyclopean rubble." The faces of the dam are hand-hewn stones; large boulders and mortar fill the center. The world's highest masonry dam is 184 feet thick at the base, 16 feet wide at the crest and rises 280 feet. The lake has a capacity of 1.38 million acre-feet and a shoreline of more than 88 miles.

### **Granite Reef Diversion Dam**

Granite Reef was built by the Salt River Project about 50 miles downriver, directly below the confluence of the Verde and Salt Rivers. Only 29 feet in height, but 1000 feet long, it diverts water into canals north and south of the river supplying agricultural interests and municipalities in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

Subsequent dams have been built on the Salt River including Mormon Flat Dam that created Canyon Lake; Stewart Mountain Dam, forming Saguaro Lake; Horse Mesa Dam that created Apache Lake. Additional SRP dams have been built on the Verde River. They are Bartlett Dam and Lake and Horseshoe Dam and Lake. Both are located north

of the Verde Communities. In addition to their uses for water storage, all of the SRP reservoirs offer recreation opportunities such as boating and fishing.

### **President Theodore Roosevelt and the Roosevelt Dam**

President Theodore Roosevelt's support of the National Reclamation Act led to the building of Roosevelt Dam. In his words: "Great storage works are necessary to equalize the flow of streams and to save the flood waters. The government should construct and maintain these reservoirs as it does other public works."

Roosevelt was present at the dedication of the dam and was obviously pleased about its name. ". . . I want to thank you for having named the dam after me. I do not know if it is of any consequence to a man whether he has a monument. I know it is of mighty little consequence whether he has a statue after he is dead. If there could be any monument which would appeal to any man, surely it is this. You could not have done anything which would have pleased and touched me more than to name this great dam, this great reservoir site, after me, and I thank you from my heart for having done so."

### **The Big Redwood Pipeline**

In 1922, this section of a redwood pipe (shown above) was part of the 36-inch line used to deliver water from the Verde River to a reservoir at 52nd Street and Thomas Road in Phoenix. A 38-inch redwood pipeline then delivered water from the reservoir to the concrete pipes which were part of the city's water distribution system.

The redwood pipe was made of staves, but in an arc of 1-9/16 inches thick and 5-1/2 inches wide. The staves varied from 12 to 18 feet in length and were held by steel rods, 1/2-inch thick. Hauling the wood from California to Phoenix required 118 freight cars.

The 36-inch pipeline, which was 30- miles in length, remained in service until 1930, when it was replaced with reinforced concrete pipe.

Some of the portions of the redwood pipeline were above ground and thirsty cowboys would shoot holes into the pipe so they could quench their thirst or take a quick bath. A water employee would patrol the line and pound wooden plugs into the holes to stop the leaks.

### **Where Our Water Comes From . . .**

#### ***Fountain Hills***

The Fountain Hills "New Town Development Plan" was prepared in the late 1960s by a planning group headed by C.V. Wood, President of McCulloch Properties, Inc. The plan included an adequate water supply from water wells drilled within the Fountain Hills project. Three such wells were drilled in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The right to pump water from these wells was challenged by the Salt River Project (SRP). Ultimately, the challenge was upheld and Fountain Hills' options at this point were to buy water rights in the Verde from SRP or to obtain rights elsewhere to provide its water supply. An agreement was negotiated with the Central Arizona Project for a

Colorado River supply of water that was accepted by the Arizona Department of Water Resources and SRP, which enabled McCulloch to complete its development program at Fountain Hills.

### ***The Verdes***

On November 9, 1981, Rio Verde received from the state a 100-year certificate, which verified that hydrologists had tested the water reserves of a developer and found that the supply was adequate for the ultimate capacity of the area for at least 100 years. This certificate is now required before developers can proceed anywhere in the state. The Verdes were also designated as a “service management area” with an assured water supply – an even more desirable rating.

The water is supplied from wells located on the Rio Verde Ranch. Use of water is very efficient. A new jet aeration sewage disposal plant, the first of its kind in Arizona, now saves much of the water that is used by residents. This water, after purification, is pumped into the golf course lakes and used for irrigation of both courses. The new plant, completed in 1996 is considered a “state-of-the-art” facility and allows for reduced per-capita consumption in line with Arizona’s water conservation program. Additional wells have been drilled to assure adequate water supplies for expansion at Tonto Verde. There are now eight wells with depths of 160 to 1073 feet.

### ***Fort McDowell***

After the establishment of the present day reservation in 1903, the Fort McDowell Yavapai became successful agriculturalists, but it soon became apparent that periodic flooding of the Verde made maintenance of the irrigation system costly. Assistance was sought from the U.S. government for funding a permanent irrigation system, but the request was denied. In 1939, after construction of Bartlett Dam on the Verde River minimized flooding, the Fort McDowell community received funding for a small concrete intake dam for their irrigation works.

More recently, after five years of negotiations between local parties and representatives of the Federal Government, the Fort McDowell Indian Water Settlement Act of 1990 became law. This agreement settled all water rights claims of the Indian community as well as dismissing a number of pending lawsuits. The Act authorized the appropriations necessary for the United States to fulfill its legal and trust obligations to the community. Under the settlement, the Fort McDowell Indian Community received 36,350 acre feet per year of water as well as sufficient money to develop agricultural and other beneficial uses of water on the reservation (Congressional Record 1990).

## **Yavapai History 1872-1981**

### **Mistaken Identify**

“In 1872 Gen. George Crook ordered all 'Apache' Indians be put on reservations... all others would be hunted down and killed. Many people mistake Yavapais for Apaches. One reason could be a misunderstanding of the word 'Abaja' which sounds like

'Apache,' but is really a Yavapai word that means 'people.'" *From Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of the Red Mountain* © 1997

"Perhaps (calling them Apaches) was a very convenient excuse for the English-speaking Americans to kill the Yavapai and take over their land." *Sigrid Khera, anthropologist from The Yavapai of Fort McDowell*

"This case of mistaken identity led to one of the worst massacres of our people... about 100 Yavapais found themselves trapped in a cave near Fish Creek. Thinking they were outlaw Apaches, Gen. Crooks' troops fired on them, killing all but one girl." *Narrated by Clinton Pattea from Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of the Red Mountain*

The massacre of Skeleton Cave occurred Dec. 28, 1872.

"Our people were attacked again in the spring of 1873 when they went to Bloody Basin to gather mescal. All those who were together were killed, but they weren't renegades. They were simply gathering mescal beans."

"Sacred, angry, but determined to stay in their homeland many Yavapais fled to their sacred Four Peaks and the Superstition Mountains to find sanctuary."

"By the mid-1870s the captive Yavapais were living on the reservation near Camp Verde... but once again white settlers convinced the government to move us off the land." *Narrated by Clinton Pattea in Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of Red Mountain* © 1997

### **Captivity and Slavery**

"In March of 1875 U.S. soldiers rounded up Yavapais and marched them to the San Carlos Indian Reservation. Our people walked hundreds of miles, finally coming to San Carlos. Any child that was born, they left behind. Many were choked to death by the soldiers. The story goes that because of killing all those babies mothers and women would cry a lot. Those tears shed at that time turned into stone. We call them 'Apache tears' but they were really Yavapai tears." *Recalled by Dixie Davis, Yavapai Elder from Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of Red Mountain* © 1997

"For the children who fell into the hands of the Pima and Maricopa (who were aiding the army), captivity led to slavery."

"Another young child, Wassaja, was probably five to seven years old when the Pimas caught him and sold him to Italian photographer Carlos Gentile in Florence, AZ. He was later to play a vital role in our survival. Carlos Gentile adopted him. His name was changed to Carlos Montezuma, and he was educated in Illinois. He went to medical school in Chicago and became the first Yavapai medical doctor. He published the Wassaja newsletter. Most importantly he never forgot his true people. In 1922 he returned home."

“Wassaja was uniquely qualified to carry on the Yavapai battle with the United States government. He led us to victory. Our people were able to stay at Fort McDowell. He died Jan. 31, 1923 and was buried as he requested, in his homeland.” *From Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of the Red Mountain © 1997.*

### **Life at San Carlos**

“The Yavapais lived at San Carlos for 25 years, always under the close watch of the United States military. Our people never lost their desire to return home. In 1900 they got their wish and were able to return home.” *From Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of the Red Mountain © 1997.*

“Can you imagine what it was like to walk from here to San Carlos? When they were told they were free to come home they simply dropped everything and just took what they had in their arms, and walked home. They found settlers living on the fertile land around the Verde River. Our people were forced to make their homes on the barren hillsides.” *Dixie Davis, Yavapais Elder recalling the San Carlos years in Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of the Red Mountain © 1997.*

“The wife of Yuma Frank began to write letters demanding the Yavapai rights to the reservation land. One man traveled to Washington, D.C. but was turned away and told to come back with more Yavapais. In 1903 Yuma Frank, Tom Surnama and Charles Dickens felt that fighting for their traditional homelands was worth the risk of being arrested and left secretly for Washington. That year President Theodore Roosevelt issued an executive order that created the Fort McDowell Reservation, and the Yavapais moved closer to their precious water.”

“The homecoming didn’t end our struggles. We had to endure the government attempts to assimilate us. Children were sent off to boarding schools where they learned English and forgot our traditional ways. Even though we had a bonafide homeland the Bureau of Indian Affairs tried to move our people to the Salt River Reservation. If we went we would lose most of our claim to the water from the Verde River. We petitioned the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in 1910 and appointed Dr. Carlos Montezuma as our representative in these affairs.” *From Fort McDowell Yavapais: The People of the Red Mountain © 1997.*

### **Fighting for Our Land**

“We didn’t get the right to self-government until the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. That was a good thing for the tribe. They can govern themselves and do the things to control their own destinies within our community.” *Spoken by Larry Doka, Yavapai elder in Fort McDowell Yavapais: People of the Red Mountain © 1997.*

### **Battle Against Orme Dam**

“Before his death Wassaja warned us we would have to fight for our land. The Orme Dam battle began in 1947 when a plan was made by the United States government to dam the Verde River to provide water to Arizona from the Colorado River. That was part of the Colorado River Project. Congress enacted the bill in 1968 but no one

consulted the Yavapai even though this proposed dam would flood our homes. Years of hearings regarding the proposed dam construction followed. A lot of non-Yavapai people helped us out. Study sessions were held. A vote was taken on the reservation, and the ballot was reworded at the last minute to simply say 'yes' or 'no'. The vote was 144 to 57 against selling our land for the Orme Dam site. A three-day 'Trail of Tears March' to the state capital aroused public support."

"On Nov. 12, 1981 Secretary of the Interior James Watt announced his findings. He had selected Plan Six, an alternative to the Orme Dam site. The Fort McDowell Yavapai Reservation represents the last of the 12 million acres of aboriginal lands in central Arizona that were once the territory of the Yavapai. We have learned to remain ever alert to maintain our right to sovereignty and self-determination." *Clinton Pattea and Pat Mariella, The Yavapai of Fort McDowell.*

## **New Town Builders**

### **Fountain Rib**

This archway is a re-creation of a portion of one of the rib sections of the Fountain's base. The free-form concrete design was built by J.S. Hamell Engineering Company of Pasadena, California. The idea of building the "world's tallest fountain" as the centerpiece of the new desert community was originated by C.V. Wood Jr. after reading a column in the Phoenix Gazette newspaper suggesting a unique large fountain be built as an area landmark.

### **They had a dream . . .**

Town founders C.V. Wood Jr., and Robert P. McCulloch, Sr., review development plans for their new community of Fountain Hills. In 1968, the Page Land & Cattle Co. sold the P-Bar Ranch to the McCulloch Oil Corporation. Originally planned for more than 70,000 people, development work on the 12,000-acre project was initiated in late 1969. Property sales to custom home builders were initiated in fall 1971 and lot sales to individuals began in February 1972.

Many people were introduced to Fountain Hills in the early years through a unique "fly to see before you buy" sales program conceived by McCulloch Vice President Lorne Pratt. Prospective buyers were flown to Phoenix in a McCulloch International Airlines Electra, then bussed to Fountain Hills. Upon arriving in Fountain Hills, the customers were assigned to individual salesmen who drove them to look at lots in their white Jeep Wagoneers.

### **The World Famous Fountain**

When it first rose upward on Dec. 15, 1970, the unique fountain attained a height of 560 feet, making it the world's tallest at that time. Its nozzle weighs nearly a ton and is more than seven feet in length; the nozzle was built in Zurich, Switzerland; the 30-acre lake is kept full with reclaimed effluent. An 18-inch diameter cement-coated and cement-lined steel pipeline connects the nozzle and pumps. The three-part nozzle was designed to mix air with the incoming water to form the unique jet stream. Its three pumps are driven

by 600-horsepower turbine engines, delivering 7,000 gallons per minute when all three pumps are operating.

### **Building The Spirit of Community**

While December 15, 1970 is recognized as Fountain Hills' birthday (that's when the fountain was turned on for the first time), sales of lots to builders began in fall 1971 and the sales to private individuals began the following February. The first people began moving into their new homes in March 1972. As more people moved in, clubs and organizations began organizing and meeting on a regular basis. By 1975 we had our first elementary school opening. New businesses opened their doors to customers in early 1973. Take a visual journey down this panel of some of the early-day faces and places in Fountain Hills.

Photo A: Fontana by Dell Traylor Construction Co. was the first multi-family residential project in Fountain Hills. The models were opened in summer 1972.

Photo B: The Sales and Reception Center was the first permanent structure built in the community. The building was used as a number of restaurants. Today it is the Messenger Mortuary.

Photo C: Lorne Pratt, president of McCulloch Development, Inc., oversaw the marketing operations for the community in its early years. He originated the successful "fly to see before you buy" sales program that brought many Midwestern couples and families to Fountain Hills. Pratt Properties, Inc., a company bearing his name, served as the community's master developer in the late 1970s.

Photo D: Sally Ballee (Atchinson) unlocks the door to her home on Calaveras Avenue in early 1972. She and her two children, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bunting and Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Robinson occupied the first three homes in Fountain Hills.

Photo E: Cocopah Construction partners Dick Hadley and Dick Jordan watch as concrete footings are poured for construction of the first home in Fountain Hills. It is located on Calaveras Avenue.

### **New Businesses . . .**

Photo F: U-Tote-M convenience market opened the first business in the community at Saguario Boulevard and Panorama Drive.

Photo G: Valley National Bank opened the first bank in Fountain Hills in April 1972. It later became Bank One.

Photo H: Bashas' opened the first supermarket in the community in June 1974. The grocery store was re-located to a larger building in April 1986.

Photo I: The Comfort Inn opened as Fountain Hills' first hotel facility in 1996. It is located on Shea Boulevard, east of Saguario Boulevard.

## **New Faces . . .**

Photo J: The first commercial buildings in the community were built by Vic Peterson and Wendell Fugate. With them, at right, is Bill Fisher, long-time Fountain Hills project manager for the master developer.

Photo K: The first officers of the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce were (clockwise from upper left) Vice President Chuck Uhlig, President Larry Ryerson, Treasurer Mike Mayper and Secretary Cherie Forsmark.

Photo L: The Noon Kiwanis Club became the town's first service club organizing in 1975. Board members were (back row from left) Bernie Comeau, Glenn Gauthier, Paul Brockman, Doyle Bauserman and Ed Mast. Officers were (front from left) President Leo Lanzon, Vice President Bob Connor and Treasurer Bill Hale.

Photo M: Hank Diulus (standing) was the first principal and first administrator of the Fountain Hills School District. With him is his successor, Phil Capozzi.

Photo N: The town's first Miss Fountain Hills, Linda Anderson (center), was crowned in 1976. Her court included Elaine Haemmerle (right) and Mary Ryan.

Photo O: Members of the original board of directors of the Fountain Hills Builders Association were (from left) Gill Knoll, Phil Savittieri, Matt Cuomo, Archie Archambault, John Becker, Larry Ryerson and Fred Yoder.

Photo P: The Fountain Hills Women's Club organized in March 1974. The original five presidents were (from left) Mildred Richards, Jane Haynes, Lee Troyer, Rose Hoyer and Ann Stavely.

*Photos courtesy of The Fountain Hills Times*

## **Little John's**

There aren't too many towns that have a bar scene as an element of an area history museum. But the bar area of one of Fountain Hills' earliest restaurants, Little John's, holds a significant place in the town's early history. It was the site of the first service of the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church and the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce held its first meeting in the restaurant as well.

## ***Town's First Four Dining Establishments***

The Fountain Mountain Inn was the community's first bar and grill. Partners in the business were Robert Farrell and Robert Drkula. The building on Enterprise Drive later became the Silver Stein.

Huck Finn's was the first coffee shop. Built by Don Franklin, it was located on the corner of Saguaro Boulevard and Panorama Drive. Franklin later sold the restaurant concept to Carnation, which built several more Huck Finns in other locations in Arizona.

Little John's was opened by Tom Colosimo in Coplaz II on Saguaro Boulevard. Larry Ryerson conducted the first meeting of the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce there and the Rev. Glenn Atchinson held the first service of the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church giving his sermon from this bar stool.

Fountain Hills' first full-service restaurant was Stan's Beef 'N Burger. It was built by Bob Munson and Stan Davies. It was located on the northwest corner of Saguaro and Shea Boulevards. It later became more well known as Appelwick's. The building was gutted by a major fire in April 1986.

### **Special Events**

In the early years of Fountain Hills, the developer held numerous special events to invite Valley residents to visit the new community. The first special event was a chili cookoff in 1972 at Fountain Park featuring world champion chili cooker C.V. Wood, Jr. and western movie personalities Pat Buttram and Chill Wills. Participants received one of these commemorative aprons.

A series of Phoenix Symphony concerts with celebrity guest conductors (Henry Mancini shown at piano) were held in the late 1970s. The Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce and other organizations have maintained the special events tradition holding most of them at Fountain Park and along the Avenue of the Fountains.

A unique series of special events in the community were the White Castle hamburger promotions in the early to mid 1980s. These "world's largest takeout orders" of the small mid-western hamburgers attracted world-wide publicity for the community.

The two largest events held annually are the Fountain Festival of Arts & Crafts in November and the Fountain Hills Great Fair in February. Hot air balloons (shown above) are a crowd favorite at the Great Fair. The festival and fair are coordinated by the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce and each event draws more than 100,000 people during their annual weekend runs.

### **We Became A Town**

After two earlier attempts had failed, Fountain Hills became an incorporated municipality on December 5, 1989. Below is a document filed with the city of Scottsdale asking for permission to hold an incorporation election. Several hundred Fountain Hills residents showed up at the Scottsdale City Council meeting each wearing one of these white hats when the Declaration For Independence was presented.

#### *Declaration for Independence*

*When in the Course of Human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to demand the separate and equal status in which the Laws of Nature and Nature's God entitle them, Public Notice of such demands becomes our primary course.*

*Therefore, we the People of Fountain Hills, hold these truths to be self evident, that Fountain Hills is endowed with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, the Pursuit of Happiness and the Right to determine our own form of government. Whenever an adjoining government becomes obstructive, it is the Right of the People to demand their just Powers, and to demand that the Council of Scottsdale not interfere with the Rights of the Citizenry of Fountain Hills to determine such Government as seems most likely to best affect their mutual Goals and general Happiness. Prudence, not greed, such dictate the actions of the Council of Scottsdale and the Rights of the following should be honored as submitted to a candid world.*

*Therefore, we the undersigned hereby petition the Council of Scottsdale to shrug off their leanings toward despotic expansionism and reconfirm the existing and historic Right of Self Determination for the People of Fountain Hills. We ask only what is ours by due process, the immediate and inalienable Right to hold a free and independent vote to determine our Manifest Future.*

The first Town Council was appointed by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. Members included, from left, Joe Bill, Mike Minarsich, Charlie Fox, Mayor John Cutillo, Harry Barber, Marty Lemieux and Dick Haugen. The town's first official town manager was Paul Nordin, Cassie Hansen was the first Town Clerk and Stuart Shoob was the first Town Magistrate.

### **Kasterlee, Belgium - Fountain Hills' Sister City**

On September 16, 2000, Fountain Hills Mayor Sharon Morgan and Kasterlee Mayor Walter Otten signed a document designating the two communities as Sister Cities. The north-central Belgian community was established in 1977, combining the three villages of Kasterlee, Tielen and Lichtaart. Kasterlee has 17,000 residents and is approximately 50 kilometers from Brussels. The photo on the right shows Kasterlee Mayor Walter Otten and Fountain Hills Mayor Jerry Miles (also pictured is then Fountain Hills Vice Mayor Marianne Wiggishoff) signing a letter of intent in May 1999.

Items in the case are gifts to Fountain Hills from the people of Kasterlee -- a carved stone pumpkin (Kasterlee is known as the "Pumpkin Village") and a ceramic plate with painted scenes in the north-central Belgian town.

### **When it was news . . .**

The Fountain Hills Times (It was called The Times of Fountain Hills the first 20 years of its existence) has been reporting news and activities since June 27, 1974. Above are some of the top headlines through the years and in the case is the typewriter used by Publisher L. Alan Cruikshank to write stories for the first edition.

### **Floats in the Fiesta Bowl Parade**

From 1976 through 1981, Fountain Hills received much acclaim in the Phoenix area for its award-winning floats in the Fiesta Bowl Parade. The Fountain Hills Civic Association sponsored the floats, under the volunteer leadership of Paul May. Developer McCulloch Properties provided the funding and residents came up with the designs and did the

decorating. Themes were creative and colorful – “City at End of the Rainbow”; “Castle in the Hills”; “Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Fountain Hills”; “Showtime Fountain Hills” (which featured a live tiger); “Happiness is Being Ten Years Old”; and “Up, Up and Away to Fountain Hills.” Each year the floats won one of the prominent awards.

## **Preservation in Fountain Hills**

Since its inception the Town of Fountain Hills has recognized the need to preserve the desert environment. In 1995 the Town Council initiated a Task Force to appraise remaining underdeveloped land that climbs into the McDowell Mountains. The following year the Town Council appointed a McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission (MMPC) to guide them in creating an Open Space Preserve that protects both wildlife and flora in our rugged Sonoran desert but also captures forever natural, unblemished views that are the trademark of our western skyline. The MMPC established the Sonoran Conservancy of Fountain Hills in 1998.

### ***Preservation***

Approximately 1,000 acres has been set aside as a Town Preserve.

### ***Preserve and Open Space***

The Preserve is the passive use component of a large number of parks and recreation facilities. By December 2001, the Town's purchases, with the support of local taxpayers, and other acquisitions mean 740 acres of the highest portions of the mountain area within the Town's boundaries will remain as open space.

### ***Vegetation***

A comprehensive study was conducted in 1995 to document the native plants in our Town.

### ***Trails***

The central trailhead will allow entry into Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve and Maricopa County's McDowell Mountain Park. It provides an overlook of the lower Verde Valley, access to rich Sonoran vegetation and a great place to start your daily hike. There is a shorter trail, east of Fountain Park, that has a pleasant view of the park.

## **The Verdes**

### **Beautiful Setting**

The Verde communities are being developed approximately 8 miles north of Fountain Hills on the west side of the Verde River. The Rio Verde Ranch is one of only two privately owned properties on the lower Verde River. Once the headquarters of the 100-year-old Box Bar Ranch, it is now home for an active saddle club, allowing resident horse owners to preserve this Western tradition in the Tonto National Forest wilderness. All Verde residents use this pristine river setting for nature walks, guided hikes, or for watching bald eagles that nest here each winter. A scenic picnic area on the riverbank

becomes a magical place for cookouts, residents' parties or a family picnic. The ranch gives an added dimension to the Verdes.

### **How It Began**

In the 1960s Page Land and Cattle Company acquired the Box Bar Ranch. In 1969 the ranch and the Verdes property was purchased by a group of Minnesota investors. The principals were John and Jane Mooty and Rudy Luther.

Starting with one golf course and seven townhome models, progress was slow during the oil "crisis" and the period of rapid inflation. Since 1980, growth has been steady. The majority of residents have Midwestern roots but owners now claim more than 35 different "home" states. Four 18-hole golf courses and an 18-hole putting course anchor a complete set of amenities catering to all tastes.

### **The Verdes Today**

The Verdes, nine miles north of Fountain Hills, are unique among retirement areas in that they are surrounded on all sides by open public land – the Tonto National Forest, McDowell Mountain Park and the Fort McDowell Indian Community. This scenic paradise is guarded by mighty Four Peaks, the McDowell and Mazatzal Mountains and the Verde River.

A new church campus is shared by all denominations, adding to the small-town feeling that is cherished here. A sparkling new Oasis Community Center and new clubhouses, fitness centers and pools add to the elegance in the midst of history, geology and scenery.

Growth continues. New areas are being opened and both golf course and interior lots are becoming available. An active rental program and real estate office on-site provides retirement and near-retirement persons a variety of choices.

## **Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation A New Season, A New Beginning**

### **Milestones of the 20th and 21st Centuries**

*"Never Give Up, Always Give Back"*

#### ***Orme Dam***

As part of the Central Arizona Project, the Bureau of Reclamation proposed construction of a dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde Rivers to create a storage lake. It would have flooded two-thirds of the reservation, including the most fertile farmland, homes, archeological sites and a cemetery. After nearly a decade of struggle, Orme Dam was defeated in 1981. The victory is celebrated with Orme Dam Days in November.

### ***The Right to Vote***

Although Native people were recognized as U.S. citizens and had fought in the nation's wars, Arizona Indians could not vote until 1948 when two World War II Veterans from Fort McDowell, Frank Harrison and Henry Austin, took a stand and won their case in "Harrison v. Laveen."

### ***Water Rights, Land Rights***

"In 1903 President Theodore Roosevelt established the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation by executive order. The Federal Government assured the Yavapai that as long as the river flowed in the Verde River, the Yavapai people could live on the land forever . . . Negotiations for our water rights began in the mid-1980s and continued for seven years before an acceptable settlement was reached with water users and the Federal government. The proceeds of this settlement enabled the tribe to develop its farmland." (*President Clinton Pattea Inauguration speech 3/4/2000*)

### ***The Casino, Gaming & Sovereignty***

In the predawn hours of May 12, 1992, federal agents attempted to remove gaming machines from Fort McDowell and four other Arizona Indian gaming centers, charging that the tribes had violated the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Fort McDowell resisted, blocking casino exists with vehicles and large equipment. After a stand off of several months, the Yavapai and Governor Symington signed a compact allowing the machines. In the fall of 2000, the passage of Proposition 202 extended Native American gaming rights for several years.

### ***Prosperity***

Indian gaming and revenue from Fort McDowell Casino has greatly improved the lives of Fort McDowell residents. The community has been able to build homes, roads, community buildings and infrastructure. Healthcare and education programs are priorities. The tribe also gives back -- donating to Arizona's universities and programs in neighboring communities such as Fountain hills. "The progress we have made in the past several years is unparalleled . . . I anticipate more economic progress for our Yavapai people, but along with that progress, we will continue to strengthen our cultural identify and ties to our glorious past." *Clinton Pattea, Tribal President (1996 annual report)*

### **Economic Development & Enterprises**

***"The Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation takes pride in its economic development and the expansion of direct services to meet the changing needs of all tribal members while at the same time preserving traditional values."***

### ***Fort McDowell Yavapai Materials***

In operation since 1980, Fort McDowell Sand and Gravel was the first tribal enterprise and the main source of revenue for years. To service a burgeoning housing market, the company expanded into ready-mix concrete by purchasing Fountain Hills Concrete and opening four new plants in Maricopa County.

### ***Fort McDowell Casino***

The turning point for Fort McDowell was gaming, starting with Bingo in 1981. After the FBI raid in 1992 failed to remove slot machines, a compact was signed with the state insuring the continuation of gaming for Arizona tribes. The 150,000 sq. ft. casino has hundreds of gaming machines, card rooms with table and poker games, live Keno and a 1700-seat Bingo Hall. Five restaurants, live entertainment and special events also attract large crowds. The casino continues as the main income producer for the tribe and provides seed money for other ventures.

### ***We-Ko-Pa Golf Club***

The club opened in 2001 with Cholla, 18 holes designed by Scott Miller. Saguaro, designed by Bill Coore and Ken Crenshaw, opened in 2006. Both highly-acclaimed courses have dramatic views without surrounding houses. A 21,000 sq. ft. clubhouse houses a golf shop, restaurant and conference room.

### ***Fort McDowell Farms***

Farming and ranching have been a way of life for many years, but agriculture has expanded greatly due to improved technology and winning legal battles for water rights in the 1990s. Over three million pounds of citrus and a million pounds of pecans are sold annually, as well as barley and alfalfa.

### ***Asah Gweh oou-o (Eagle's View) RV Resort***

Opening in 2004, the resort has easy access from route 87 and is close to Fort McDowell's casino and other attractions. The 150 sites have electric, water, phone and internet service and can accommodate RV rallies and caravans. Guests enjoy a resort-style heated pool, spa and clubhouse with a library and computer room.

### ***Radisson Fort McDowell Resort, Wassaja Conference Center & Ahnala Restaurant and Lounge***

Opening in 2005, Arizona's only Four-Diamond resort and casino incorporates elements of Yavapai culture. Its 246 rooms have desert and mountain views. Amenities include two heated pools, whirlpools, a spa, salon and fitness center, plus concierge and event-planning services. Wassaja Conference Center has 25,000 sq. ft. of event space. Ahnala (Mesquite) Restaurant serves Southwestern cuisine and produce from Fort McDowell. Awards include "Hotel of the Year" from Radisson in 2008, and in 2009, a Smart Meeting Platinum Choice Award as a top Western meeting hotel.

### ***Baja Gas Station and Convenience Store***

Another early enterprise, the Baja Gas Station was rebuilt in 1995 with a high-tech system and expanded to include a 4200 sq. ft. convenience store. The state-of-the art facility was designed to be harmonious with the culture, land and native vegetation.

### ***Fort McDowell Adventures***

Since 1989, Fort McDowell Adventures has capitalized on its naturally beautiful desert setting by hosting guests from resorts and conventions. Activities include trail rides, cattle drives, hay wagon rides, jeep tours, river floats and cookouts. Up to 1600 people

can be accommodated. Smaller events are held at the Boulder House. The "Yavapai Experience" gives an overview of the tribe's heritage and culture.

### ***Poco Diablo Resort in Sedona, Arizona***

Continuing to diversify its enterprises in 2005, Fort McDowell purchased Poco Diablo Resort in Sedona - 137 rooms and 22 lush green acres in the heart of the famous red rocks. Amenities include four tennis courts, a fitness center, heated pool, chip-and-putt golf course, restaurant, lounge and 8500 sq. ft. of meeting space.

## **The Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation -- Preserving A Culture, Building the Future**

Fort McDowell has 40 square miles and is home to over 900 residents. About 600 are tribal members. Over 300 members live elsewhere. With prosperity brought by gaming, Fort McDowell strives to build a better community and keep its heritage.

### ***Government***

The Constitution of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation provides for a tribal government with stability to pursue economic development and opportunity for the Yavapai people while preserving their land, language and culture. Decisions are made by a six-member tribal council. A general manager and staff oversee daily operations. The Yavapai Nation court has 3 divisions, Tribal and Juvenile Courts and the Nation's Supreme Court. Tribal enterprises provide revenue for the welfare of members plus government operations and programs.

### ***Quality of Life, housing, the environment and planning***

Fort McDowell has made dramatic progress since the 1950s when there were no utilities, running water or telephones and homes had dirt floors. More than 200 of the 300 houses have been built since 1990 when the casino brought prosperity. A better future requires careful planning. As infrastructure and facilities are improved and new businesses developed, proposals are reviewed for potential environmental impact.

### ***Community Safety & Services***

Wellness is facilitated by Wassaja Memorial Health Center and Family Services which offer high quality health services while being culturally sensitive. The fire and police departments handle safety and emergency services for residents and visitors.

The Library is a source for information with books, computers, reading programs, and homework labs. The Senior Center hosts exercise programs, health discussions, visits by social services and fun outings. Sports and activities, from t-ball and basketball to yoga and golf, are organized by Parks and Recreations. Young people also enjoy Camp Yavapai, Spring Break and intertribal games.

### ***Culture -- Linking Past, Present & Future***

A New Cultural Center in an historical building stores and displays artifacts, and hosts cultural events. Fort McDowell is committed to continuing the Yavapai language

through programs for children and adults. Cultural awareness and ties with other Native Americans are promoted through the Gathering of the Pais; pow wows with traditional dancing and crafts; all-Indian rodeos and sports tournaments. History is honored with monuments, recognition of veterans, Orme Dam Days and Sovereignty Day. A community newspaper builds a sense of community.

### ***Children & Education***

Many members are under age eighteen and the future depends upon their education. A strong foundation starts early. H'man Shawa Early Childhood Development Center cares for and teaches children from birth to kindergarten. More than 400 students are tracked in several states. To have all Fort McDowell students graduate from high school is one goal. Through financial assistance, tribal members are encouraged to continue education after high school. Leadership and vocational skills are developed through the youth council and summer work programs.

### ***Fort McDowell Yavapai Tribal Council (Picture to be updated with each election)***

Pansy Thomas, Secretary; Ruben Balderas, Council Member; Bernadine Burnette, Vice President; Dr. Clinton Pattea, President; Pamela Mott, Treasurer; Paul Russell, Council Member.

## **Fountain Hills Arizona In Pictures - Past and Present**

Ninety-six pictures in this hallway give a glimpse of our community since before its founding in 1970 up until 2009.

These pictures were taken from many collections, primarily those of Keith McMahan, MCO Properties, the Fountain Hills Times, Cassie Hansen, Don Kinder, Jean Linzer and Jerry and Jackie Miles. But many other local photographers are also represented.

Selecting, editing, printing and mounting these pictures was the work of Jerry and Jackie Miles, Jean Linzer, Alan Cruikshank and Debbie Skehen with the invaluable assistance of many others.

Enjoy our Town.