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BRIEFLY



Gary Johns (center) poses with a plaque that will be installed at the city's new downtown park recognizing the land the park sits on as the former site of The Desert Inn.

DESERT INN PLAQUE: Long before there was a new city park on land at the intersection of Belardo Road and Museum Way, there was The Desert Inn. The inn, owned by Nellie Coffman — known as The Mother of Palm Springs — put the city on the map as the place to go for healthy, sun-soaked leisure. There will be no doubt now about what sat on the site of the park after a plaque was commissioned by The Palm Springs Preservation Foundation (PSPF). The 16-by-34 bronze plaque will be installed today, but members of the PSPF, including President Gary Johns and Secretary Ron Marshall, were on hand Tuesday afternoon to present it to the city and make sure it would fit on a rock marker. Desert Promotions of Cathedral City produced the plaque. The story told on it was written by former Mayor Will Kleindienst, Palm Springs Historical Society President Tracy Conrad, Ken Lyon from the city's preservation office, and members of the PSPF.
