

Robert Simon overlooks Washington Plaza at Lake Anne, where Reston's opening ceremony was held in 1965. Simon died Monday, Sept. 21, 2015 at home at Lake Anne in Reston. He was 101.

Robert E. Simon, 101, Reston Founder, Dies

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Robert E. Simon, 101, Reston Founder, Dies

Reston founder's legacy remains immortal.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Paul Hartke invited Bob Simon on his pontoon boat on Lake Audubon when Simon was in his 90s. "He stood on the back of the pontoon boat and we revved the motor and he beamed, 'This makes you feel like a kid.' That's what kept him going I think."

"It was fun to see him around all the time. He's been the guy who's always symbolized what everybody likes about Reston," said Hartke.

"I wanted to talk to somebody about him today, because I wanted to say what a good guy he was," he said.

"I think we lost one of the true giants today," said John Lovaas. "He was the only person that I met personally in my life who was a true visionary of gigantic proportion. He could look at something and see what it really might be in 25 years."

"We sure did lose a wonderful, wonderful person to Fairfax County," said Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. "He has been a real visionary. But more than that, he has been the heart and soul of Reston and has been so much fun."

"I really enjoyed spending time with him. He lights up whole events," she said.

Sridhar Ganesan, president of Reston Citizens Association, enjoyed Simon's daily presence in Reston.

"It was fantastic to see the founder of Reston setting an example as an active member of the community. We were lucky to have Bob around, run into him on his walks or have other opportunities to interact with him. Reston will miss his guiding hand voice and hand," Ganesan said.

"He was a good friend and liked everyone. We at Cornerstones feel blessed to have worked with him," said Kerrie Wilson, of Cornerstones.

"Everyone is going to benefit from the legacy he leaves. ... He has been an inspi-



ration to all of us for so long."

"Of course, it's with sadness, but we also all say, 'Thank you.' Thank you for having a Bob Simon," said Supervisor Cathy Hudgins.

"He gave all he had to our community," she said, "and showed what a model community can be. He built Reston, he came back, and he continued to give."

ROBERT E. SIMON died Monday, Sept.

21, 2015 at home at Lake Anne in Reston. He was 101.

Simon grew up in New York, where his father ran a real estate business whose holdings included Carnegie Hall. Also among Robert Simon Sr.'s holdings was part of Radburn, N.J., America's first Garden City that was founded in 1929.

When his father died in 1935, Simon was 21 and had just graduated from Harvard. Within a couple years, he was running the

family real estate business.

Part of his responsibilities involved running Carnegie Hall. Most of Simon's co-workers lived nearby in Manhattan, while Simon commuted by train from Syosset, a suburb in Long Island. His long commute and other suburban experiences translated directly into his vision for Reston of working, playing and living in the same area.

Simon also saw the value of convenient, local recreation and shopping centers at this time in his life. During this period, Simon also developed his appreciation for the value of housing opportunities for all income levels, not just the very wealthy.

In 1961, Simon purchased a 6,750-acre parcel of land in Northern Virginia, located 18 miles from D.C. Simon inspected the land and instantly fell in love, even though at the time it was in the middle of nowhere. Fairfax County was then the fastest growing county in the country and nearby Dulles International Airport was being built.

Simon decided to develop Reston into a New Town, a large-scaled development that includes all functions of a well-rounded community — residential, commercial, industrial, cultural, recreational and civic. The team first developed Lake Anne and the more traditional Hunters Woods simultaneously. The first families started moving into their homes in November 1964.

In the fall of 1967, Reston's population had grown to 2,500, though it had fallen short of projections. The development group headed by Simon made an agreement with Gulf Oil to get loans of millions of dollars to cover some of the debts Reston was quickly accruing. But the new managers forced Simon out.

"What happened was we were going full blast and running out of money," Simon said in an interview with the Connection on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

"They said, 'you'll have to leave,' and he said, 'no, you'll have to fire me,'" said Simon's stepdaughter and Reston Museum board member Lynn Lilienthal.

At the time, Reston was one of the only places in Virginia where housing was not segregated.

Simon left Reston and moved back to New York, but returned to Reston in 1993.

SEE SIMON'S LEGACY. PAGE 4

101 Years of Robert E. Simon Jr.

1914: Robert E. Simon Jr. Born 1922: Robert E. Simon Jr.'s Grand Tour of Europe, School in Paris
1925: Robert Simon Jr.'s Father Purchases Carnegie Hall from Louise Carnegie
1931: Robert E. Simon Jr. Graduates from Horace Mann
1935: Robert E. Simon Jr. Graduates from Harvard
1935: Father, Robert E. Simon Sr. Dies 1942: Robert E. Simon Jr. Enlists in the U.S. Army
1946: Robert E. Simon Jr. Leaves U.S. Army as a Captain

1960: Robert E. Simon Jr. Sells Carnegie Hall to New York City for \$5 million
1960: Robert E. Simon Jr. signs contract to purchase 6,750 acres of farmland and woods located between DC and the airport under construction (to be named Dulles)
1962: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopts Residential Planned Community Ordinance (RPC)
1964: Singer Electronics Laboratory and Air Survey Corporation open for business. First residents move in.
1964: Carnegie Hall Declared a National Historic Landmark

1966: Official dedication of Reston with presentations by Poet Laureate Steven Spender and NYC Parks Commissioner August Hecksher, interior Secretary Stuart Udall and representatives of 37 countries with "New Towns"
1967: Reston's population grows to 2,500, but far short of projections. New financing from Gulf Oil resulted in Simon being forced out of the project, and he returned to New York.
1993: Robert E. Simon Jr. returns to Reston and move into condo on 13th floor of Heron House
1998: Robert E. Simon Jr. meets Cheryl Terio, his fourth wife

ROBERT E. SIMON
1914~2015



2002: Reston designated a National Planning Landmark
2004: The first Founder's Day was celebrated on April 17, 2004, on Reston's 40th Anniversary.
2015: Robert E. Simon Jr. dies at his home at Lake Anne in Reston on Sept. 21, 2015.
SOURCES: Robert E. Simon Jr.; Reston Museum Biography of Robert E. Simon Jr.; George Mason University Libraries; Reston Connection Archives.

ROBERT E. SIMON 1914~2015



Bob Simon's Best of Reston

Reston founder on his favorite events and places in Reston.

First published in Reston Connection in 2010.

Events

1960—Signing of contract to purchase 1750 acres of farmland and woods located between D.C. and the airport under construction (to be named Dulles)

1962—Adoption by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors of Residential Planned Community Ordinance (RPC)

1964—Singer Electronics Laboratory and Air Survey Corporation open for business. First residents move in.

1966—Official dedication with presentations by Poet Laureate Steven Spender and NYC Parks Commissioner August Hecksher; Interior Secretary Stuart Udall

and representatives of 37 countries with "New Towns"

1997—I return to Reston and move into condo on 13th floor of Heron House

1998—I meet Cheryl Terio

2009—Dedication of Nature House at Nature Center

2010—Asian Festival at Brown's Chapel

Places

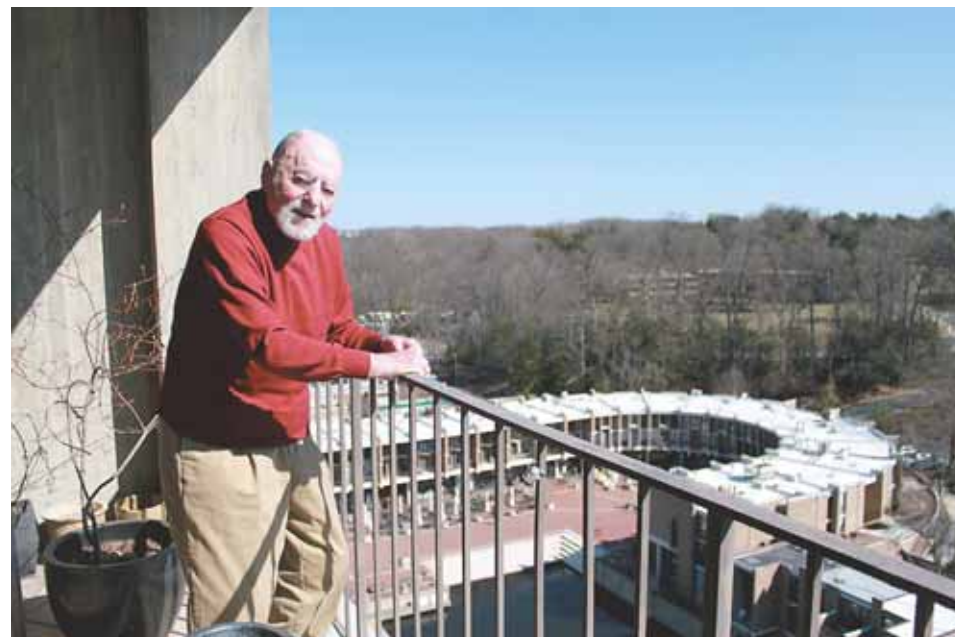
❖ My bed in 1301—I love to sleep and nap

❖ Lake Anne Plaza (officially designated Washington Plaza)—Modeled after plazas throughout the rest of the world as the social glue of communities

❖ Jasmine and Montmartre restaurants on Lake Anne Plaza—good food, reasonable prices

❖ Pathways going all around Lake Anne—beautiful views, lovely gardens

❖ Fountain Square in Town Center—a true gathering place with its pavilion for skating in winter and events the rest of the year; restaurants and shops



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Robert Simon overlooks Washington Plaza at Lake Anne, where Reston's opening ceremony was held in 1965.

❖ Nature Center—70 acres of natural beauty and its Nature House for permanent exhibits and frequent classes

❖ CenterStage at Reston Community Cen-

ter, Hunters Woods—a fully equipped stage with orchestra pit, seating 300 and offering a full schedule of concerts, plays and events

Simon's Legacy

FROM PAGE 3

NOW HIS LEGACY starts.

"We don't expect this even though he's 101. We see him in public, we see him talking. You expect him to go on forever," said Ganesan, of the Reston Citizens Association.

Joseph Letteri, a junior at South Lakes, said Simon just a couple of months ago "opened his house and took time to meet with me" for Letteri's leadership project for high school.

"I am so honored to have met a visionary like Mr. Simon. I learned a lot," he wrote The Connection.

Hartke recalled the Nature Fun Run earlier this year, when Simon was the one to call the beginning of the race. "Before he

said, "Ready, Set, Go," said Hartke, "he said, 'It's so nice to see so many children running here today rather than moving their thumbs on a cell phone.'"

"Bob Simon created Reston in pursuit of a far-sighted vision of what a community should be like, a community that is inclusive for people of all ages, backgrounds and income levels, a place where people work, live and enjoy their leisure time to the fullest within the same community," said Ganesan. "My family and 65,000 others today are the beneficiaries of Bob Simon's vision to establish Reston."

MANY OTHERS have made statements about the importance of Bob Simon.

U.S. Rep. Gerald Connolly wrote, "I was

We Owe Him a Special Debt

Leila Gordon, executive director, Reston Community Center:

Reston Community Center's Board, staff, volunteers – all of us – felt that Bob was a part of our working family. He spent many happy and productive hours in our company, working on projects and initiatives and enjoying the many programs, activities and events that RCC offered. We owe him a special debt because as our landlord at RCC Lake Anne, Bob took care to build into our special lease an option to buy the facility in the future for \$1. He was thinking of how to

"build community" his whole life.

I loved Bob for his intellect, vision, passion and kindness. I personally will miss his ever-ready wit and his delight in the company of others with great food, champagne, a chilled martini and wide-ranging conversation. I am so glad he is part of Reston's name because Reston means so much to all of us and to our nation. That "R-E-S" will last for generations upon generations. Although we mourn his passing, like everyone, I rejoice in having had the pleasure of his company and the joy of his friendship.

Eva Desrosiers had the best seat in the house in front of Lake Anne next to Bob Simon, the bronze version, with her daughter Michelle and granddog Rusty, during the Founder's Day celebration in April this year.



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/
THE CONNECTION

extremely saddened to learn of the loss of our beloved Bob Simon. To the end of his 101 years, he was a grand man of extraordinary vision, heart, and charm. Most people know Bob as the founder of Reston, but his insistence on making Reston the first racially integrated housing development in Virginia also made him a civil rights pioneer. He was an environmentalist before the term was invented, a patron of the arts, and passionate advocate for social justice. The Northern Virginia region owes much of its character and success to Bob. I feel this loss sharply and shall miss his dedication, his laugh and his friendship. A local giant is gone from our midst."

"Bob Simon was not only the founder of Reston, he was the person who conceived and helped implement the way Reston was and continues to be governed," said Reston Association CEO, Cate Fulkerson. "He placed his trust in the association and residents to protect the founding principles – principles which have led to Reston setting

the standard for all planned communities. Bob Simon will be dearly missed, but his work and vision will continue on through the efforts of the association, its members and volunteers."

"Bob was a man ahead of his time," said Reston Association Board president, Ellen Graves. "His wisdom throughout the years is what still guides us today. His passion for this community was evident in everything he did, whether in advising the board or in just having a friendly conversation with a neighbor at Lake Anne."

Simon and his family have asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to Cornerstones.

"As you might imagine, we were very humbled by it," said Kerrie Wilson, who tried to choke back her grief.

"Here, we loved how we would light up when he talked and had the opportunity to be with the kids from our programs.

"He was such a good friend and mentor," said Wilson.

ROBERT E. SIMON 1914~2015



Robert E. Simon, Jr.

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

I don't know why I was surprised at Bob Simon's passing. After all, he was 101 years old. Few people reach that age, and fewer still live beyond it. Yet Bob was such a prominent figure in his namesake community that unconsciously those of us who were surprised by his death may have thought he would always be there. His passing was so noteworthy that it received coverage in all the major news outlets.

He will be greatly missed by those who knew him and by those whose life was touched by him: by the little children who huddled around the pedicab when he was brought to the Founder's Day Program or to the Bike-to-School program at Lake Anne Elementary; by the children at a daycare center named for him; by residents and visitors alike as he ambled around Lake Anne; by everyone who saw him in the annual Holiday Parade at Town Center; and by politicians at all levels of government with whom he shared the podium at numerous public events in his town and who witnessed his popularity and couldn't help but be a bit envious.

Surprise and sadness at the passing of Bob Simon are quickly replaced by overwhelming joy at having known him. Few times in life do we get to know a visionary: a person who can see beyond the immediate to a better society. That sizable chunk of Virginia countryside in which Bob Simon invested in the 1960s could have easily been turned into a subdivision for quick profit, but for Bob and his vision it represented an opportunity to create a better place for people where they could live, work and play.

Better than anyone I know, Bob Simon knew and appreciated community. His plan for Reston did not start with designing a government structure. Some land use laws had to be changed to accommodate his plan, but the governance of that place he named Reston was left to the community. While there have been healthy debates about issues over the years, there has been a recognition that local neighborhood citizen organizations and nonprofits formed by the residents could resolve those issues without the need for another layer of government or partisan involvement. While it is difficult to discern the elements that create the sense of community in Reston, it is undeniable that it is there and that it was nurtured by its founder Bob Simon. The basic principles he



Del. Ken Plum welcoming Bob Simon to the General Assembly in 2014 when he was recognized with a resolution.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

outlined in the beginning for his new town give us the best insight into what he envisioned. The most radical notion at the time and place of Reston's founding that people of all races could live together in harmony has become a societal norm.

Robert E. Simon, Jr, our immediate surprise and sadness at your passing have quickly turned to joy at having known you. Rest in peace inspirational leader, wise counselor and good friend; you made a wonderful difference for all!

What Some May Not Know About Bob Simon

Reston Connection, April 18, 2007: 20 questions not often asked of Reston's founder.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC
THE CONNECTION

1. When you were little, what did you want to grow up to be?

I was between following my father into real estate and for some reason, rather, I thought I might want to be a psychiatrist. The idea was to help people do better to overcome things that hit them that they didn't have any control over.

2. Did you have a role model growing up?

My father. He was an office boy at a real estate company and at 21 he made partner. He obviously showed some talent fairly early.

3. What do you collect?

I'm not a collector. I don't need possession of things to make me happy.

4. What do you have in your pockets?

Keys, credit cards, cash, handkerchief and glasses.

5. Who is your favorite author?

Probably [Charles] Dickens.

6. What book should everyone read?

The Bible, the King James version. It

is a combination of history and our language. It's a part of our culture. I am an atheist if that's of interest.

7. What is your favorite Broadway show?

"Guys and Dolls," Frank Lesser. His lyrics are great.

8. What is your favorite drink?

Martini. Big olives, straight up.

9. What is your favorite food?

If I was stuck on a desert island and I had to choose four things to eat and drink, I would choose milk, bananas, peanut butter and smoked salmon. I love peanut butter.

10. What is your favorite sport?

Tennis.

11. What was your favorite speaking engagement?

High school graduation at South Lakes, some seven, eight, nine years ago. I told the kids if they didn't like what they were getting, they should drop out.

12. What is your favorite vacation destination?

Europe. It has wonderful history, architecture and the people know how to live much better than we do. They have plazas

all over the place. They have humor in their communities and many parks.

13. Name three things that annoy you.

Bureaucracy, hypocrisy and that we're scared of sex and scared of the human body.

14. Is there anything you haven't done yet that is on your 'To do' list?

Certain travel and writing a book on education.

15. What is Reston's hidden treasure?

Lake Anne

16. Is Reston diverging from the vision you had for it in the 1960s?

The pluses are 50 miles of trails and 26 underpasses, which probably rates in the Guinness Book of Records. The respect for the open spaces has been very good. The negatives are that the town center was a 476-acre piece of ground from Target to Home Depot. They destroyed town center by selling 50 acres to the county. Town center will never work as a whole because of super highways that run by it. This is not to be misunderstood, I take great pleasure in what's now called town center, the area around the pavilion. It's a great gathering place, it's a wonderful place.

There is only one village center, the others are shopping centers. I am hoping over the long haul these shopping centers will become village centers. We put a lot of stress in architecture [in the 1960s]. All around Lake Anne there are little bits of fantasy — the fountain and the pyramid.

17. Who in Reston would you ask these 20 questions?

My wife.

18. Where is a good opportunity to build the next Reston?

China. They will have an awful lot of building.

19. What is something that people would be surprised to learn about you?

I rode a steer in a rodeo. I was 19 years old, in Snowflake, Arizona, and they asked for a volunteer to do it, and I was dumb enough to volunteer. I didn't follow the rules, and the ride lasted 10 seconds.

20. As a 93-year-old, what would you say is important in life?

Happiness. Pursuit of happiness is what the Founding Fathers said we should have and we have lost track of that in this society.

OPINION

Remembering Reston's Civil Rights Icon

"A local giant is gone from our midst. But his spirit and legacy will remain in Reston and beyond."

BY GERALD E. CONNOLLY
U.S. REP. (D-11)

No one can say Bob Simon didn't lead a full life, but that fact doesn't make his loss any easier. To the end of his 101 years, he was a grand man of extraordinary vision, heart, compassion, humor and charm.

Last year my office embarked on a project to celebrate the Civil Rights Movement by capturing the histories, memories and stories of those who fought for equality. Our goal was to make sure we allowed these brave voices to share their accounts, firsthand, and preserve them for future generations. Today, that archive is available at <http://ethnography.gmu.edu/collections/the-northern-virginia-civil-rights-archive>.

I was fortunate to bring Bob into this project and sit down with him for a few hours to hear his civil rights story. Most of us know Bob as the founder of Reston, but it is his legacy as a civil rights icon and its lasting impact on our community, that I will forever hold in my heart. You see, Bob hated discrimination and bigotry

because he experienced anti-Semitism firsthand as a young man. That experience forged in him a passion – a quiet passion – to build a small corner of the world where equality would be a reality.

Bob's insistence on making Reston the first racially-integrated housing development in Virginia made him a civil rights pioneer. It was not the popular thing to do, and he lost critical investment opportunities because of this decision. But to Bob, it was not a matter of doing the easy thing, or the popular thing. It was about doing the right thing. He had great clarity that to realize his vision of Reston there could be no racial barriers. To fulfill Reston's goals we had to be inclusive and welcoming.

Throughout his long life, Bob's moral compass remained true. He was an environmentalist before the term was invented, a patron of the arts, and passionate advocate for social justice. Northern Virginia owes much of its character and success to Bob. I feel this loss sharply and shall miss his dedication, his laugh and his friendship. A local giant is gone from our midst. But his spirit and legacy will remain in Reston and beyond.



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Congressman Gerald E. Connolly:
"Bob's insistence on making Reston the first racially-integrated housing development in Virginia made him a civil rights pioneer."

INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

BY JOHN LOVAAS
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

We retired from foreign service life with the U.S. Agency for International Development in 1994 and came back to our home in Reston to stay. While we had lived in Reston during a couple of tours in Washington, we had never put down actual roots in the community before. But, I was fortunate. I met Priscilla Ames, who was already a Reston legend. Well into retirement herself, Priscilla was a fixture at Lake Anne and was concerned about the future of Reston's first (and last) real Reston village center. One day, Priscilla asked me if I would be interested in teaming up with Founder Robert Simon to run for the Reston Association's Board of Directors. At that point, I had not even met Bob who had recently returned from his long exile in New York. She introduced us; we ran for the Board as a mini-slate, and we won.

Bob's priorities were to energize RA, and get the Association to do some serious community building. At Lake Anne Plaza, retail was in a downward spiral, with scant traffic in the spring and summer, none in the winter months. Bob was anxious to breathe new life into



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The last time we saw Bob at the Market, just a few weeks ago, he was perched on the seat of his Swedish walker in front of Arnest's Seafood, happily eating oysters and clams out of the shell.

the Plaza which he now called home. I had never met anyone like Bob. He was a true visionary, able to look at a place and imagine what it could become in 20 years. And he had a new idea every minute.

One evening we got lucky. A group calling themselves the Friends of TOMATO (The Organic Market At Tall Oaks) led by Debbie Shprentz came to the RA Board meeting and asked for RA support to start a farmers market. TO-

MATO wanted the market at Tall Oaks, but the grocery store anchor at the time, Giant Food, would not allow it. So, Debbie explained that the Fairfax County Park Authority agreed to locate it at struggling Lake Anne Village Center, if TOMATO could get support from the RA Board. Bob and I thought it sounded like a great idea. At Bob's urging, the Board agreed to provide modest funding for start-up publicity and I raised my hand to be the volunteer Market Master.

The market opened Spring 1998 with just 12 farmer-vendors. Bob Simon and Delegate Ken Plum were the featured speakers at a joyous opening day that I'll never forget. The Reston Farmers Market was an instant success, thanks in no small measure to Bob's personal promotion efforts, in addition to being a regular customer Saturday mornings. He and Cheryl shopped at the Market nearly every Saturday right up to the end of his life. The last time we saw Bob at the Market, just a few weeks ago, he was perched on the seat of his Swedish walker in front of Arnest's Seafood, happily eating oysters and clams out of the shell.

Many years later, Bob would finally achieve his longtime goal of getting plans approved for revitalizing his beloved Lake Anne. After years of shepherding a new master plan for Lake Anne through Fairfax County's approval processes so that development could proceed, he played a leading role in identifying the developer with a grand plan to make his vision a reality. Ground may be broken for the project late this year. Sadly, Bob will not be with us physically for the big day, but you can bet he will be there.

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OBITUARY

Mary Tindal Rainey, of Reston, Dies

Mary Tindal Rainey - geophysicist, nature lover, sports enthusiast and artist - passed away on Aug. 17, 2015 after a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. Her husband Jack Medlin, and long-time friend Roger Austin, were at her side. In her last weeks she was surrounded and supported by her wide circle of friends in the Reston area, as well as family members and expert hospice care.

Mary was born and raised in Atlanta, Ga. Her father taught English for many years at Georgia Tech, so Mary lived and played on campus, as well as in the Ansley Park area near-by. She earned her BA in Geology at West Georgia College, where she met favorite professors Dr. Jack Medlin, Dr. Roger Austin, and Mr. Tom Crawford. After graduating with a master's degree in geophysics from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Mary went to work in the oil industry in Houston, starting out at Exxon. She remembered



with fondness and gratitude being mentored by several more experienced colleagues, particularly Bob Mitchum in sequence stratigraphy. Over the next couple of decades she built her reputation as a creative and intelligent seismic interpreter, working at Exxon, Kerr McGee, Pennzoil and other companies.

In 1998 Mary married her former professor, Jack Medlin, leaving behind her career in Houston for a new life in Reston. And what a full life she built with Jack. She loved the concept and reality of Reston, and took advantage of the walking paths, natural wooded areas, and parks. She explored several interests, including:

❖Animal lover - Mary was a volunteer at a humane center and worked as a professional dog walker. Over the years Mary and Jack took several "unadoptable" beagles into their home. With Mary's direction and attention, they became well-loved pets. It

SEE OBITUARY, PAGE 13

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OBITUARY

Robert E. Simon Jr. Dead at 101



1966

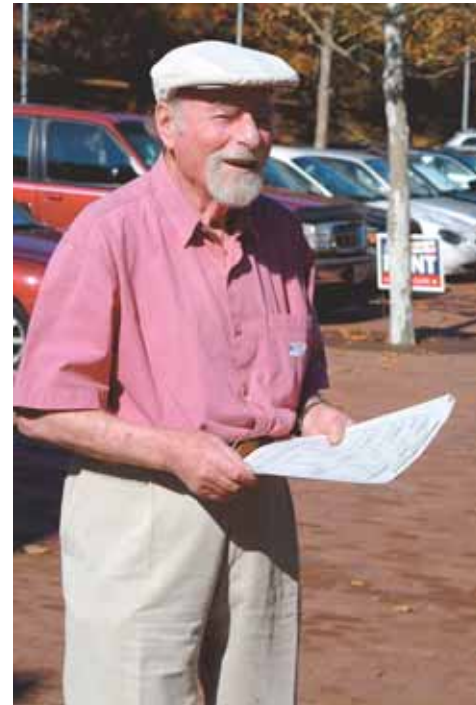
Robert E. Simon Jr., was born in New York City in 1914. After graduating from Harvard, Simon took over the family real estate management and development business. In 1961, with the proceeds from the sale of a family property, Carnegie Hall, Simon purchased 6,750 acres of land in Fairfax County which would become Reston. Simon died at home in Reston on Monday, Sept. 21, 2015 at the age of 101.



1968



1986



2004

TIMELINE: 101 Years of Robert E. Simon Jr.

1914: Robert E. Simon Jr. Born
1922: Robert E. Simon Jr.'s Grand Tour of Europe, School in Paris
1925: Robert Simon Jr.'s Father Purchases Carnegie Hall from Louise Carnegie
1931: Robert E. Simon Jr. Graduates from Horace Mann
1935: Robert E. Simon Jr. Graduates from Harvard
1935: Father, Robert E. Simon Sr. Dies
1942: Robert E. Simon Jr. Enlists in the U.S. Army
1946: Robert E. Simon Jr. Leaves U.S. Army as a Captain
1960: Robert E. Simon Jr. Sells Carnegie Hall to New York City for \$5 million
1960: Robert E. Simon Jr. signs contract to purchase 6,750 acres of farmland and woods located between DC and the airport under construction (to be named Dulles)
1962: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopts Residential Planned Community Ordinance (RPC)
1964: Singer Electronics Laboratory and Air Survey Corporation open for business. First residents move in.
1964: Carnegie Hall Declared a National Historic Landmark
1966: Official dedication of Reston with presentations by Poet Laureate Steven

Spender and NYC Parks Commissioner August Hecksher, interior Secretary Stuart Udall and representatives of 37 countries with "New Towns"
1967: Reston's population grows to 2,500 but far short of projections. New financing from Gulf Oil resulted in Simon being forced out of the project, and he returns to New York.
1993: Robert E. Simon Jr. returns to Reston and move into condo on 13th floor of Heron House
1998: Robert E. Simon Jr. meets Cheryl Terio, his wife
2002: Reston designated a National Planning Landmark
2004: The first Founder's Day was celebrated on April 17, 2004, on Reston's 40th Anniversary
2015: Robert E. Simon Jr. dies at his home at Lake Anne in Reston on Sept. 21, 2015

SOURCES: Robert E. Simon Jr.; Reston Museum Biography of Robert E. Simon Jr.; George Mason University Libraries; Reston Connection Archives.

"Everyone is going to benefit from the legacy he leaves. He has been an inspiration to all of us for so long."

— Kerrie Wilson
 Cornerstones



2008: Chuck Veatch leads the community in singing "Happy Birthday" to founder Bob Simon.



2009: The honored couple, Cheryl Terio Simon and Robert E. Simon Jr., Reston's founder, watch the Reston Community Orchestra's Brass Quintet.



2011



2012: Robert Simon cuts the birthday cake at the annual Founder's Day celebration at Lake Anne Saturday, April 14, on the occasion of his 98th birthday.



2008: Reston founder Bob Simon and resident Lee Rau listen as Jennifer Lapple conducts the Flute Force during its performance on Founder's Day.



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

2012: Reston residents sing "Happy Birthday" to Reston founder Robert Simon on the occasion of his 98th birthday.



2013: Reston founder Robert Simon blows out his birthday candle as the crowd sings "Happy Birthday" at Lake Anne Saturday, April 13, 2013 on Simon's 99th birthday.



2013: Reston founder Robert Simon gets a 99th-birthday hug from Beverly Cosham during the Founder's Day celebration Saturday, April 13, 2013 at Lake Anne.



2007: Bob Simon with a bust of his father at Carnegie Hall. Simon sold Carnegie Hall, using the money to buy the land that would become Reston.



2009: Bob Simon, who had just turned 95, toasts the people of Reston, the town he founded 45 years ago.



CONNECTION FILE PHOTOS AND CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



2011: Mary and David Supley Foxworth of the 'Mallow Drama' bakery watch Bob Simon cut his birthday cake at the celebration of his 97th birthday.



2014: Robert Simon smiles while holding the U.S. President's proclamation honoring him for his 100th birthday.



2015: Bob Simon cuts the cake celebrating his 101st birthday on April 11, 2015.



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CALENDAR

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 23-27

Reston's Big Blowout Book Sale.

Sept 23: 5-8 p.m. Sept. 24: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sept. 25: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sept. 26: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sept. 27: 12-3:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Come and browse thousands upon thousands of great books in great condition. From the latest popular titles and classic favorites to the rare and unexpected fiction and non-fiction. The Reston Friends have something for everyone.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 23

Meet Me at the Movies-Senior

Movie Day. 10 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Reston Association presents "I'll See You In My Dreams." Refreshments and door prizes provided prior to movie. Free to 55+. Information at Ashleigh@reston.org, 703-435-6530, or reston.org

THURSDAY/SEPT. 24

Live More Block Party. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Learn the benefits of new transportation options, including Silver Line Metro, plus entertainment, face painting, refreshments, giveaways and more.

Fun Run. 6:30 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. For beginners or competitive runners, come out for a fun, low-key run that's safe and social. potomacriverunning.com

SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

Reston Multicultural Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. The Reston Multicultural Festival celebrates all the entertainment, dress, food, and cultural treasures from all over the world that are all here in Reston. Rain or shine. Free. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/MulticulturalFestival.shtml

Dog & Cat Food. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. PetMAC - Lake Anne Plaza, 11412 Washington Plaza West, Reston. Come to PetMAC at Lake Anne and talk to representatives of Fromm Dog and Cat Food. Learn more about their all-natural pet foods and get free samples to take home. www.frommfamily.com/

Walk to End Alzheimer's. 10 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Walk and fundraise to further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Visit http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=7382&pg=entry.

Cooking Class at Il Fornaio. 12 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Includes three-course luncheon with wine and recipes. \$55. Tax and gratuity not included. Reservations at banquetsRES@ilfo.com or 703-437-5544.

OKTOBREWFEET. 12-10 p.m. Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Music, food and beverages, vendor booths and fun all day.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 27

Stride Forward 5K and Family Health Fair. 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion and Streets. Join family and friends in Pediatric Specialists of Virginia's first fundraiser to benefit all children under their care. 5K race begins at 9 a.m., followed by a Tot Trot. Create your own fundraising team or join one of the specialty-based teams. Strollers and pets welcome. psvcare.org

NatureFest. 1-5 p.m. Runnymede Park,



Attend Colors of Life opening reception on Oct. 4 from 3-5 p.m. at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Color is a major inspiration for Reston-based fiber artist Anne Smyers, and a central feature in her vibrant work. Her solo show Colors of Life highlights several series: recent works in her signature "floral landscapes" style, created by layering flowers into fanciful landscape designs; and a five-element series inspired by the concept of unity and healing intrinsic to traditional Chinese acupuncture.

Ongoing

JamBrew. Every Friday in September, through Sept. 25. 6-10 p.m. Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Outdoor music festival. <http://jambrew.com/>.

Celebrating Vintage Disney at ArtInsights. Through Oct. 6 at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Original production art from classic Disney movies for fans and Disney lovers of all ages: Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, Aladdin, Beauty and the Beast, and many more. 703-478-0778 artinsights.com

"Ephemeral" Exhibition at GRACE. Through Nov. 14 at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Explore the nature of non-permanent, three-dimensional works addressing the concept of ephemerality. Presented in conjunction with the Washington Sculptors Group. restonarts.org

"No Spring Chicken." Playing Sept. 24-Oct. 11 at NextStop Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. This one woman comedy presents a poignant and funny look at pregnancy at 40. Visit <http://www.nextstoptheatre.org/> for show timings.

195 Herndon Parkway, Herndon. Explore various nature stations throughout the park including butterflies, bees, life in the meadow, web of life and much more with live animal shows throughout the day. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

Reston Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon. Saturdays, May 2-Nov. 14. Named the best farmers market in Northern Virginia by Virginia Living Magazine. Lake Anne Village Center, 11401 North Shore Drive, Reston.

MONDAY/SEPT. 28

Mr. Knick Knack. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Unique, heart-centered music for kids and their grown-ups. Free. restontowncenter.com

TUESDAY/SEPT. 29

Reston Station Movie Nights.

Saturdays starting Sept. 26-Nov. 1. 7-10 p.m. at Reston Station Metro Plaza, 11389 Reston Station Blvd., Reston. Reston Station's "Watch Under Our Stars," a six-week fall family-friendly movie series. Films start at sunset. The plaza area is lined with concrete pavers, so attendees are encouraged to bring low chairs or cushions. <http://www.restonstation.com/RSMovieNightPoster.pdf>

Colors of Life Exhibit. Oct. 1 - 30 at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Color is a major inspiration for Reston-based fiber artist Anne Smyers, and a central feature in her vibrant work, which will be featured at the Hunters Woods branch of Reston Community Center from. Her solo show Colors of Life highlights several series: recent works in her signature "floral landscapes" style, created by layering flowers into fanciful landscape designs; and a five-element series inspired by the concept of unity and healing intrinsic to traditional Chinese acupuncture.

Fun Run. 6:30 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. For beginners or competitive runners, come out for a fun, low-key run that's safe and social.

THURSDAY/OCT. 1

4th Annual Reston Town Center Help the Homeless Walk. 11:30 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11959 Market St, Reston. Walk from Mayflowers Floral Design Studio on The Promenade to the Embury Rucker Community Shelter and back. Funds will enable Cornerstones to provide essential resources and services for individuals and families in the community who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

OCTOBER

10/7/2015.....Wellbeing Senior Living Pullout
 10/14/2015.....HomeLifeStyle
 10/21/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools
Halloween is October 31
 10/28/2015.....Election Preview

NOVEMBER

11/4/2015.....Wellbeing
 11/11/2015.....HomeLifeStyle
 11/18/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools
 11/19/2015.....Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I
Thanksgiving is November 26
 11/25/2015.....Celebrating Gratitude, Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

12/2/2015.....Wellbeing
 12/9/2015.....Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II
 12/9/2015.....HomeLifeStyle; Home for the Holidays
 12/16/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools; Holiday Entertainment & Gifts Pages
 12/23/2015.....Special Issue – Safe for the Holidays
 12/30/2015.....Children's Connection

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- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

NEWS

Celebrating Diversity at Lake Anne Plaza

Reston Multicultural Festival to be held on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Each fall, the Reston community is invited to "Discover the World" at the Reston Multicultural Festival. This signature Reston event honors the diversity that is one of the community's greatest assets, and brings to life the vision that Reston founder Robert E. Simon had for this unique place. The 2015 Reston Multicultural Festival returns to Lake Anne Plaza on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to dress in native attire and share the uniqueness of their cultural roots.

The Festival will open with a Naturalization Ceremony where some of America's newest citizens will take the Oath of Allegiance. The World Stage, Global Stage and the Gallery Stage will feature an all-day series of free performances representing many of the world's cultures. Fans of dance will enjoy Spanish, Brazilian, Burmese, Indian, Russian and Chinese dances, among others. Numerous musicians performing a variety of world music styles will also appear. Two National Heritage Fellows will join the festivities this year: Master luthier and guitarist Wayne Henderson and an Iraqi virtuoso oud musician and composer Rahim AlHaj.

In addition to performances, the Festival will feature an array of arts and crafts activities and Multicultural Book Fair for the entire family.

Also new to this year's Festival is the unveiling of the "We Make Reston" exhibit, an INSIDE OUT Project, created by the people of Reston to showcase the community's greatest strength – the multitude of perspectives and histories people bring to Reston. The exhibit will be on display on the Lake Anne sea



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The World Stage, Global Stage and the Gallery Stage will feature an all-day series of free performances representing many of the world's cultures.



wall (located across the water from Heron House) and inside the Jo Ann Rose Gallery at Reston Community Center Lake Anne. This exhibit features large-scale photographic portraits representing the diverse faces of Reston. In addition to these two locations, images will also be at South Lakes High School, and the Comstock properties located at the Wiehle-Reston East Metro Station.

The We Make Reston public art project launches a series of community dialogues to explore issues of diversity, disproportionality, how the justice system in our country functions, and how we can achieve greater opportunity equity – not just equality. RCC and its partners will present these dialogs in the coming months to help us reconnect to and sustain our founding values. All are invited on Sept. 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. for the first conversation in the Jo Ann Rose Gallery at Reston Community Center Lake Anne. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com for more information.

2015 Reston Multicultural Festival

Where: Lake Anne Plaza
1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston
When: Saturday, Sept. 26, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Parking: Off-site Parking is available at Brown's Chapel, and the Tzu Chi Foundation. All are within a short walking distance to the Festival site.

The Reston Multicultural Festival is presented by Reston Community Center, hosted by Lake Anne Plaza, and co-sponsored by Reston Association, Lake Anne of Reston Condominium Association, and the Lake Anne Merchants Association with partners from a variety of Reston-based organizations and businesses. Reston Lifestyle Magazine is the official media sponsor of this year's Festival.

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10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6
Music 4 years to 2nd grade
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service
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- Logo on rules sheet
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- Two (2) hole sponsorships
- Opportunity to provide participant giveaways
- Six (6) golfers

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- Color logo on event banner displayed at banquet
- Eight (8) raffle tickets

Silver-\$5,000

- Signage at registration desk
- Logo on rules sheet
- Sponsor signage on bar, box lunch or beverage carts
- One (1) hole sponsorship
- Opportunity to provide participant giveaways
- Four (4) golfers
- Color logo on event banner displayed at banquet
- Six (6) raffle tickets

Bronze-\$2,500

- Signage at golf bag drop
- One (1) hole sponsorship
- Two (2) golfers
- Four (4) raffle tickets
- Color logo on event banner displayed at banquet
- Opportunity to present skills competition awards or raffle prizes

Contact us for other donation opportunities.

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Herndon senior Seara Mainor scored three goals and had two assists during the Hornets' 7-0 win over South Lakes on Sept. 17.



Herndon junior Sammy Stone is committed to play field hockey at Ohio State.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Herndon Field Hockey Extends Win Streak to Seven Games

Mainor produces hat trick in 7-0 win over South Lakes.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The question facing the 2015 Herndon field hockey team: How would the Hornets, defending Conference 5 champions, handle the graduation of several key players, including first-team all-state selections Taylor Stone and Sofia Palacios?

The answer, at least through 10 games: quite well.

After dropping two of its first three games, Herndon has responded with a seven-game win streak, including a 7-0 trouncing of rival South Lakes on Sept. 17 at Herndon High School.

Last season, the Hornets won their first conference/district championship since 1979 and fell one victory shy of qualifying for the state tournament. Herndon finished 19-3, producing a margin of victory of at

least three goals on 15 occasions.

Gone from that team are midfielder Stone (now plays for Louisville), forward Palacios (now plays for Penn), defender Alexis Duke (second-team all-state selection) and midfielder Jamie Wright (now plays for Dickinson), among others. Herndon has continued winning, however, although many of its victories have been much closer.

"It was kind of good to get the articles out of the way," Herndon head coach Mary Miller said. "We knew the storyline was going to be 'How's Herndon going to do?' I've been very impressed the way they kind of have let that go and developed into their own team. It's definitely closer wins and closer games, and it's much tighter and it sometimes maybe isn't as pretty, but they've been pulling it out."

The Hornets won the Herndon Invitational Sept. 11-12, going 4-0 during the two-day event. Herndon pulled out three one-goal victories during the tournament, and defeated Battlefield 2-0.

"We're playing really well," Miller said. "... I always like having the tournament a little bit later — not in the summer, just a little bit later — because I feel like it gives

us some momentum, especially if we can play well and win."

While seven of Herndon's first nine games were decided by two goals or less, Thursday's win over South Lakes was a blowout. The Hornets jumped out to a 3-0 halftime lead and cruised to a 7-0 victory. Senior forward Seara Mainor finished with three goals and two assists for Herndon. Mainor, a team captain, missed the first two games of the season due to an ankle injury.

"She played great," Miller said. "She was hurt all summer. She finished up the soccer season hurt and she didn't play in our first two games. ... I think the tournament really helped her fitness-wise and getting back in field hockey shape. She's a tremendous talent, she is so fast and she's got to be reckoned with."

Mainor said she enjoyed beating the rival Seahawks.

"I'm ecstatic," she said. "I went to Langston Hughes, which was the South Lakes middle school, so I know everyone from South Lakes. This was my game. I'm so happy."

Kristina Caggiano scored two goals for Herndon. The junior midfielder took over

as the Hornets' corner inserter this season.

"She's really stepped up," Miller said. "... She's been really good."

Senior forward Kristen Caron and junior forward Sammy Stone, a team captain, each scored a goal for the Hornets. Junior midfielder Grace Caron and senior defender Kaley Selner, a team captain, each had an assist.

Sammy Stone, the younger sister of Taylor Stone, committed to Ohio State in early September.

"She's just a very laid back kind of mature kid," Miller said. "She does it on the field and she's a leader, but she's not trying to take anything over. She can play with anybody and in high school you have to be able to do that. You have to be able to play with all levels of kids and you have to not get frustrated with it and you have to understand it and she does."

Herndon (8-2) will travel to face Thomas Jefferson at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 25.

"[The strong start has] helped us put our name out there again," Stone said. "... People have seen that we were not built around [last year's seniors] and we're still on the come up. We're still doing more."

South Lakes Girls Win Oatlands Invitational

South Lakes High School won both the JV Upperclassmen Girls and JV Underclassmen Girls divisions at Oatlands Invitational (5K) in Leesburg on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015 with 95 schools participating. South Lakes Sophomore Katie Bidwell — pictured — won the JV Underclassmen division.

PHOTO BY
LISA MACARTHUR



OBITUARY

FROM PAGE 7

was a lucky cat or dog that ended up at Mary and Jack's home.

❖Sports – Mary was an accomplished tennis player and golfer. She volunteered as a starter at a local Reston golf course, and always enjoyed a game. She was a faithful and knowledgeable Atlanta Braves fan.

❖Nature lover and gardener – Mary had a green thumb. The plants in her patio seemed to grow especially well for her, and she loved to visit Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and the Walker Nature Center. She worked for a time as a landscape consultant for a golf course.

❖Artist – About twelve years ago Mary took an art course, and never looked back. She produced beautiful works in watercolor, pastels, acrylic and oils, and participated in shows at Lake Anne.

❖Friend – Mary had an amazing circle of friends. They were scientists, artists, fellow dog walkers, "the coffee girls," and animal lovers. She was quiet, but managed to keep in touch and add some new facet to the lives of her friends. She was opinionated and could carry on a debate at length. She did not hold back on a topic she cared about.

Mary is predeceased by her parents, Glenn W. Rainey, Sr and Dorothy Tindal Quattlebaum Rainey. She is survived by her three brothers – Edwin Q. Rainey, Sr (spouse Jann Boyer), Glenn W. Rainey, Jr. (Jane), and Hal G. Rainey (Lucy) – as well as five nieces and nephews, two "nieces-in-law," and three first cousins – Penelope Holland Goodrich, Dr. Warren Holland, and Dr. James Tindal Quattlebaum.

Jack and Mary's family and friends wish to thank caregiver Richette Walker for her attention and care over the past several months, the skillful physicians and nurses at Virginia Cancer Center, and the entire staff at Adler Center for Caring operated by Capital Caring.

The hospice doctors and nurses provided expert care and comfort when it was most needed. All of Mary's friends helped out, but an extra thank you goes to Julia Taylor, who organized "Mary's Helping Hands," and Roger Austin, who stayed for hours at the hospice clinic and was a rock of support to the end.

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to any of the following: Fairfax County Animal Shelter (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/>); Basset Hound Rescue League, Inc. of Fort Washington, MD (<http://bassethoundrescueleague.net/>); World Wildlife Fund (<http://www.worldwildlife.org/>); or The Nature Conservancy. (<http://www.nature.org/>).

SATURDAY/SEPT. 26
Ride4SPIRIT Horsemanship Presentation. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Frying Pan Park, Herndon. The Ride4SPIRIT event is a presentation and fundraiser that honors the accomplishments of therapeutic and learning programs with horses in the community.

Community Shredding Day. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Parking lot between Whole Foods and Patrick Henry Library, 133 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Gain peace of mind by bringing outdated personal documents to on-site shredding service provided by TrueShred. Non-perishable canned good will also be collected for donation to Food for Others during this event.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com by the Friday prior to the following week's paper.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 24

Award Presentation/Packing Event.

10 a.m. Dominion Virginia Headquarters, 3072 Centerville Road, Herndon. The Assistance League of Northern Virginia is hosting a presentation of National Operation School Bell Award to Dominion Resources, followed by Weekend Food for Kids 2015-16 Kickoff Community Volunteer Packing Event. karenamster@aol.com. www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

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The Week After The Week Before



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It's not what it was, but it is what it is: not perfect. But neither is it worse. It's a familiar pattern, to be sure, so nothing really has changed, which is a good thing; and the kind of "good thing" which I need to acknowledge, because cancer is a bad thing and one needs to counterbalance that negative with any and all positives.

And for yours truly, many of those good things involve food (you'll note I didn't say revolve). I don't eat much (variety), but I do relish (which I don't eat) the redundancy. As I like to joke: I eat about 10 things - repeatedly, so if circumstances, lack of availability or medication/side effects, prevent me from eating normally - for me, then the consequences are as I described them last week: unpleasant. And believe me, "unpleasant" is all it's cracked up to be. Not that deriving pleasure from food is mature, advisable, good for controlling weight and/or any other prudent course of action, according to health-conscious weight-watchers; nevertheless, for the rest of us down here in the eating trenches, a satisfying meal is hard to beat and even harder to resist. It's not exactly "The Borg," but when food has your name on it - so to speak - resistance might not be futile, but it's certainly near impossible.

Ergo my depression, when the week immediately after chemotherapy, the only thing that's futile is my attempts to find/taste any food that does anything other than disappoint. Add in the associated fatigue, difficulty sleeping and lack of initiative, and the week becomes a total drag, literally and figuratively. Ah, but the next week, this week in fact, the worm turns (no, I've not resorted to drinking Tequila), there's less drag and more coefficient. In effect, but not in actuality, my taste buds are thrown a bone. And once that "bone" begins to taste like something instead of nothing, my mood (but not my clothes) improve immeasurably. (If only the latter could improve as much as the former, how happy my wife would be). Then I have about 10 days of my atypical "foodish" behavior before the side effects from my every-three-week chemotherapy infusion begin to take their toll.

Now the challenge becomes not gorging myself in the interim. I have to be honest, it's difficult. To me, it's akin to coming up for air after being submersed too long under water; those first few breaths after reaching the surface are hardly measured. Quite the opposite, in fact. That's how I feel, and how I struggle to not overindulge during this next week or so. It's almost as if I've been shot out of a cannon; I'm going fast and furious, ravaging and rampaging innocent food victims along my way. I realize it's not any way for a grown man to behave, but this growing man is a cancer survivor who gets extremely hungry after a week of not-eating and even less oral-fixating.

Despite these food issues, this is a more enjoyable week, with an even better, more normal (eating-wise) one to follow leading up to Friday's infusion. And I look forward to it, mindful however of the eating/taste challenges inevitably to occur. It's not exactly how I'd draw it up in the huddle, but as I've said many times before: I'm just happy to still be in the game.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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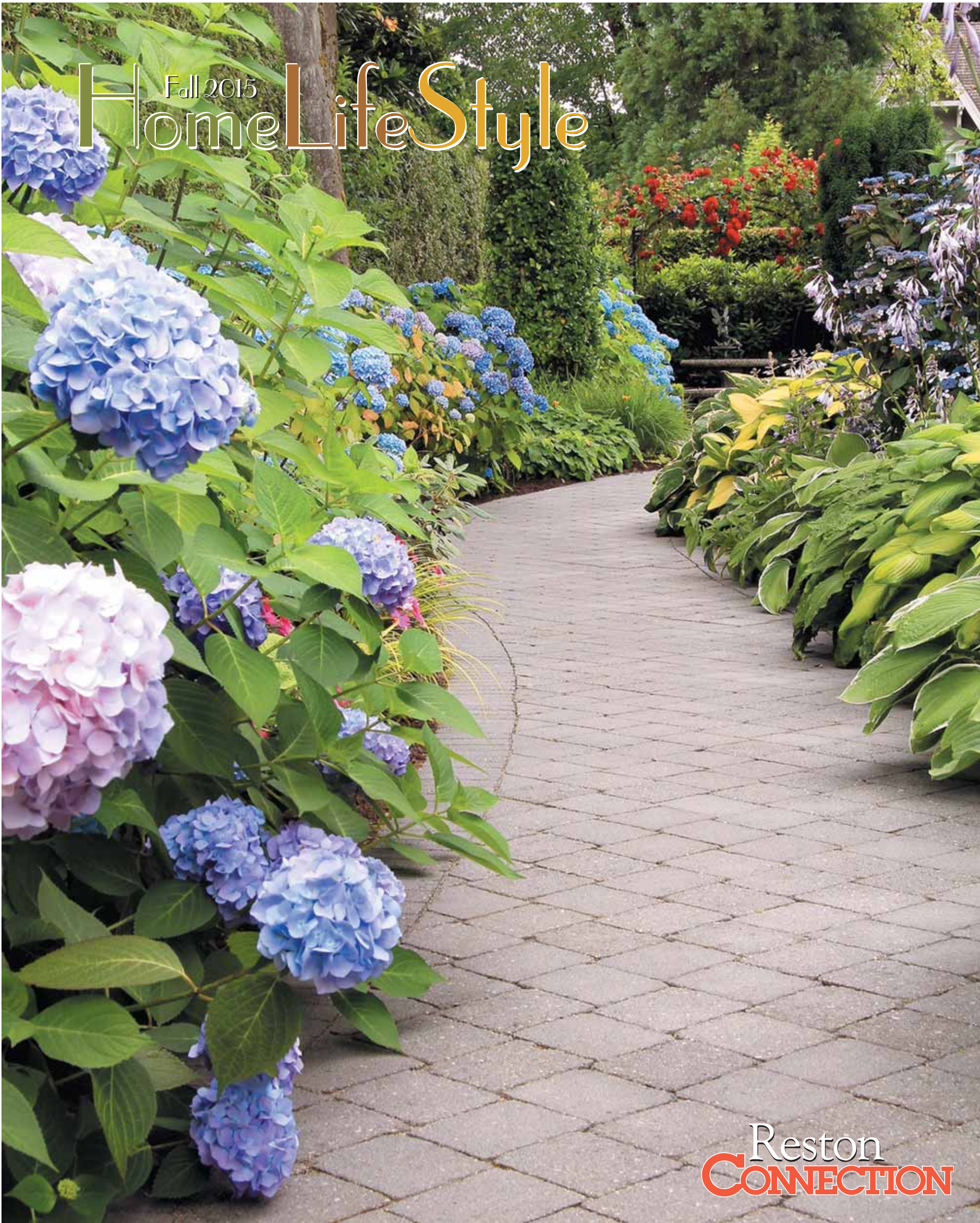
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Fall 2015
HomeLifeStyle

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HomeLifeStyle

Evolution of a Family Home

BY JOHN BYRD

Starting in the late 1990s, Paul and Laurie Carter began transforming a simple production house into a personal residence.

Collaborating closely with Sun Design Remodeling, the Carters nursed their vision of an exceptional property with a stunning indoor-outdoor continuum.

This past September, the public was invited to see the results.

Paul and Laurie Carter purchased a new production house in a new neighborhood not far from Mount Vernon. At 3,700 square feet, it was a perfect spot to settle down and raise their son. The schools nearby were excellent; the house was just a few miles from Old Town Alexandria. But there were some things about the property Carters thought they might improve — if they were to stay in residence long enough.

Cramped master bathroom; no family play area; dark rear rooms with no visual continuum; cabinet-cluttered kitchen; builder-grade finishes ... Just a few of the perceived shortcomings.

But skip ahead almost two decades, and the whole house remodel that the public was invited to see this past September demonstrates the kinds of improvements and upgrades that can occur when owners continue to occupy, modifying the environment to suit evolving interests.

In fact: it's no longer merely a house. It's

the Carter's long-term residence.

"The ideal of long term ownership is the option to create a home that, over time, becomes more supportive of favored activities and aesthetic preferences," says Bob Gallagher, Sun Design Remodeling's Executive Vice President. "We are finding this kind of on-going commitment to personalizing a residence much more frequently than in decades past."

Gallagher was at the house Sept. 12 to greet neighbors who wanted to learn more about remodeling in phases. Sun Design had guided the Carters throughout nearly every revision over the past decade.

The Carters are quick to acknowledge that their periodic home remodeling efforts have been a logical and sequential response to family needs — beginning with an 18-foot-by-36-foot swimming pool installed on their quarter acre lot in 2006.

"We wanted a place where Paul, our son, Austin, and I could enjoy pleasant summers together as a family," recalls Laurie. "Our remodeling changes reflect the different stages of our lives, and the lifestyle options we wanted to pursue in day-to-day living."

As Austin's circle of friends expanded, for instance, the Carters hired Sun Design Remodeling to convert the home's unfinished lower level into a spacious family room and fitness center complete with a billiards table and TV viewing area suitable for guests of all generations.

During this same time period, Paul and Laurie, both working professionals, sought improvements to the second floor master suite, introducing a sizable master bath with a walk-in shower and changing vestibule. The plan was designed so that one partner could shower, dress and slip off to work without rousing the other partner, who might be still sleeping.

"The new master suite made life more comfortable for both of us," Laurie says, "and it still works beautifully today."

More recently, when Austin left for college, the Carters, now empty nesters, began considering ways to better integrate the home's rear



The Carters purchased the original production house in 1998 and have steadily made focused improvements and upgrades.

suite of rooms with its lovely poolside setting.

The landscaping and mature trees confer a lot of backyard privacy, so the Carters were looking for graceful ideas to better integrate indoor and outdoor horizons. "It made no sense not to have a better view and more natural light from the back of the house," she said. "Also, we didn't have a comfortable outdoor dining zone."

Unchanged since the late 1990s, the three rooms on the west-facing rear elevation consisted of a central kitchen flanked by a formal dining room to the right and a family room to the left.

The dining room was sequestered from the kitchen by a floor-to-ceiling wall festooned with builder-grade cabinets. There was one small window above the kitchen sink which was, likewise, bordered by cabinets on two sides. To the left, one entered the family room, which provided an exit to a rear veranda partially covered by a shed roof.

"We had talked about a more open floor plan," Laurie recalls. "But how do you tear down the walls that are holding up the cabinets you use every day?"

As it turned out, this was a good question for Sun Design's Jeremy Fleming, who supervised the Carter's most recent remodeling. "Once the Carters were satisfied that the wall between the kitchen and dining room could come down," he adds, "it was clear that innovative storage solutions would make it possible to further develop a special visual continuum from inside the house."

To improve natural light, the small kitchen window has been replaced with a three-part glazing solution consisting of a 45-inch picture window flanked by two double hung

windows.

To provide for outdoor dining, Fleming extended the rear shed roof over the previously sun exposed decking. The former outdoor dining niche now becomes a viewing area adjacent to a recently installed flat screen TV. With the addition of two overhead rotating fans, the new outdoor space is both intimately connected to the house and visually linked to the pool and well-landscaped setting.

"We couldn't be more pleased with how well the house has evolved over the years," says Laurie. "We look forward to living here long into the future."

John Byrd has been writing about home improvement topics for 30 years. See more stories at www.HomeFrontsNews.com.



Sun Design's Jeremy Fleming extended the shed roof for shade. Rotating fans make the new outdoor space comfortable.



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BOWA kitchen renovation in Arlington features under-counter microwave and beverage center.



BOWA basement renovation includes space for arts & crafts, games and media.

Remodeling Design in 2015: It's all about the Family

Adapting your home so it tracks your family's development over the years.

BY JOSHUA BAKER
BOWA

Almost every luxury remodel starts with the same question "How can we improve our family's life at home?" But this answer varies as our families grow, age and evolve. And the best designs consider both current and future needs.

For young families, the focus is almost always child-centric. Kitchens are designed with low drawers for easy access to the most important items, like sippy cups and napkins. Refrigerator drawers installed as beverage stations and below-the-counter microwaves allow the "vertically challenged" to help themselves. Study areas are incorporated into family spaces to allow for parent-child interaction at homework time.

Creative storage solutions and child-friendly finishes, like washable wall paint, chalk-board paint in play areas, and custom ceramic tiles featuring kids' artwork in their bath, all lend to a successful design.

In the teen years, the question asked most often is, "How do I create the house where all the kids and their friends want to hang out?" For this age group, creative basement remodels with game areas are most popular, and perhaps not surprisingly, basement bars are often minimized or omitted completely. As opposed to the closed-off theaters of the past, media viewing rooms are now open and designed as multi-purpose spaces that also facilitate informal gatherings and entertaining. For the ambitious, outdoor features, such as pools, patios and fire pits, can create a neighborhood destination. (Though pools and water features are of-

ten delayed until kids are old enough to be safe around water.)

Teen-friendly designs often include a family foyer, an entrance from the garage with plenty of storage for sports equipment, coats, backpacks, etc. Other potential opportunities for teens include creating small, fun spaces like lofts in bedrooms, themed bedrooms, and making sure that there are plenty of USB charging stations.

For empty nesters, remodeling typically involves "downsizing" within the home by planning to use the space more efficiently. Often, one-level living is designed for convenience and to reduce energy use. Heating and cooling systems are zoned so only the inhabited areas are fully conditioned when in use. Apartment-style washer and dryers are right sized for a couple. Smaller, drawer-style dishwashers are also available. And, perhaps now is the time to discuss repurposing spaces that were previously used as game rooms or homework stations into areas to accommodate hobbies and interests.

Almost all design discussions should at least contemplate the potential for boomerang kids (children coming home after college), in-laws, or elderly family members who might join the home. For those wanting more independence and privacy, in-law suites sometimes include private entrances and even a small kitchenette. Sometimes kids' rooms are moved to the basement to add more privacy.

For all of us as we get older, a house that incorporates the principles of universal design, which allow us to live comfortably and safely in the homes we love, is a critical conversation. Design considerations include creating accessibility-friendly baths, kitchens, entrances and passageways and

perhaps reconfiguring to minimize steps. Often, a strategy that comes up is the consideration of the installation of an elevator to facilitate long-time use.

The design priorities for each remodel are unique to the family, but thinking about all the different phases of family life is critical to long-term success.

Josh Baker is the founder and co-chairman of BOWA, an award-winning design and construction company specializing in luxury renovations, remodels and additions in the greater Washington, D.C. area. BOWA has more than 25 years of experience and has been honored with 170 local and national awards. Visit www.bowa.com or call 703-734-9050.



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