

AMBIANCE

Donor Report PAGE 9-10

—POLO GRILL DINNER CELEBRATES—

LINDSAY HURLEY FICK

Plus: Western Days Preview PAGE 6



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Letter from Lindsay

As I write this, my last article for the *Ambiance*, it is with a heart full of gratitude. It is amazing to me all that has taken place at Saint Simeon's over the past 12 years!

When I joined Saint Simeon's in late 2006, the Trustees were finalizing their plans to build a new assisted living structure, replacing a well-loved 40+ year old structure that the Residents did not want to leave. They were happy where they were! However, the Trustee Board knew best, and Saint Simeon's raised, through the astounding generosity of many donors, in excess of \$23 million to construct a beautifully appointed assisted living and state-of-the-art wellness center, complete with a magnificent warm water therapy pool.

The new assisted living was appropriately named "The Dotson Family Assisted Living Center" in recognition of Phyllis and George Dotson's leadership of the project. When the Dotson Center opened in the fall of 2009, the Residents were ready and looking forward to their new apartments and all that the facility offered. That was an exciting time.

Then, on the heels of the Dotson Center, the Trustees determined that Saint Simeon's Memory Center, long recognized as a leader and expert in the care of individuals with Alzheimer's and related dementia, deserved a 'face lift'. The Memory Center opened in 1994, and over the years has been home to hundreds of Residents, each receiving love, care and an engaged life given by the hands and the hearts of our amazing staff. With that in mind, the Trustees, along with devoted donors, made possible the renovation of the entire 30,000 square feet of the Memory Center. The result: a beautiful new face to the Memory Center, continuing the commitment to the very best for the Residents.

It would seem that two major projects over five years would be enough. Not so – the Trustees decided to make it a full sweep! Saint Simeon's Health Care Center was now in the Trustees' sights. It took only a few months, and the work was underway. Within 18 months the Health Care Center and Bishop's Plaza, named in honor of The Right Rev. Dr. Edward J. Konieczny, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, were complete. Bishop Konieczny, as Chairman of Saint Simeon's Trustee Boards, is an ardent supporter of Saint Simeon's and its mission.



Lindsay Hurley Fick

Beyond construction and renovations, during these 12 years, Saint Simeon's has expanded its programs and services. The Wellness Center is a constant hub of activity and exercise, with Residents throughout Saint Simeon's participating in programs to maintain physical strength and mental acuity. Saint Simeon's realized that it was uniquely positioned, given its expertise and staffing levels, to create the highest level of assisted living found in Tulsa – Assisted Living Plus. As well, we took special notice of those Residents that came to Saint Simeon's with Parkinson's Disease and decided to become a leader in Parkinson's care. Through associations with the Parkinson Foundation of Oklahoma and the American Parkinson Disease Association, and specialized education for nursing and wellness staff, Saint Simeon's developed a program of care and life style focused on individuals living with Parkinson's.

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Meet two Residents whose love story might surprise you.

I could write pages more, but suffice it to say, these past 12 years have been an important and gratifying time in my life. The devotion and love for Saint Simeon's is evident everywhere. To those of you reading this issue of *Ambiance*, to the unwavering dedication of Saint Simeon's Boards of Trustees, to the Residents and the families that we have the privilege to serve, to the donors who have made everything

Spring/Summer 2018

ON THE COVER

Friends of Saint Simeon's gathered on February 25 at the Polo Grill to honor Saint Simeon's President and CEO, Lindsay Hurley Fick. After 12 years at Saint Simeon's, Lindsay is retiring this spring.



Featured on the cover (*from left to right*): Bishop Ed Konieczny, Chairman of the Saint Simeon's Home and Foundation Board, Lindsay Hurley Fick, President and CEO of Saint Simeon's, David Hogan, President of the Saint Simeon's Foundation Board, and Blake Atkins, Executive Chairman of the Saint Simeon's Home Board.

possible, and especially to the amazing people I work with each day – thank you so very much.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lindsay'.

Lindsay Hurley Fick, *President/CEO, Saint Simeon's*



LINDSAY AND RON FICK



DON ATKINS, MANDY ATKINS,
ELLEN ATKINS, AND BLAKE ATKINS



HONORS
LINDSAY HURLEY FICK

Friends of Saint Simeon's gathered on February 25 at the Polo Grill to honor Saint Simeon's President and CEO, Lindsay Hurley Fick. After 12 years at Saint Simeon's, Lindsay is retiring this spring.

The event drew 65 people and all funds raised will be used for the new *Lindsay Hurley Fick Learning Center*, an education program to help Saint Simeon's front-line staff members achieve ongoing education and certification.



GEORGE AND PHYLLIS DOTSON
AND BISHOP ED KONIECZNY



KRISTIN VANDERVOORT, ALISSA HURLEY,
JJ HURLEY, AND LUCY BARKER

When asked about the evening, Lindsay stated, “It was a very special time that allowed me to express my appreciation to many of the people that make Saint Simeon’s extraordinary. I am honored that the Learning Center will bear my name. I have a deep affection and admiration for the individuals that provide loving care and service to Saint Simeon’s Residents and families. My hope is that the Learning Center will enhance their lives, their skills, and their future.”

The evening began with a reception that included remarks from The Rt. Rev. Dr. Edward J. Konieczny, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma and Chairman of the Saint Simeon’s Home and Foundation Boards of Trustees; Blake Atkins, Executive Chairman, Saint Simeon’s Home Board of Trustees; David Hogan, President, Saint Simeon’s Foundation Board of Trustees; and George Dotson, Trustee, Saint Simeon’s Home and Foundation Boards.

The event was generously offered by Chef Proprietor Robert Merrifield and the Polo Grill. Grgich Hills

and Southern Glazers of Oklahoma served as the sponsoring winery and supplier. Dinner included six delicious courses with carefully-selected wine pairings.

The February 25, 2018 event marks the fourth year that Polo Grill Chef Proprietor and Saint Simeon’s Foundation Trustee Robert Merrifield has hosted this wonderful evening to benefit Saint Simeon’s Foundation. Saint Simeon’s is grateful for Mr. Merrifield’s generosity. A bench outside the ice cream parlor will be soon installed in honor of Robert and Donna Merrifield’s generosity.

— NEW CEO —

The Saint Simeon’s Board of Trustees is currently working with a national firm to select the next President and CEO. Once that individual is identified, an announcement will be made.

WEAR YOUR BOOTS

to Celebrate Our Roots



SAINT SIMEON'S FOUNDATION ★ WESTERN DAYS
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Mark your Calendar for Western Days 2018

Western Days 2018: *Wear Your Boots to Celebrate our Roots* is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11. This year's event will be the 22nd annual celebration that has become an anticipated evening for Saint Simeon's Residents, their friends and families, and for loyal friends and supporters. We anticipate over 700 members of the Saint Simeon's family gathering in Western casual fashion to celebrate Saint Simeon's deep roots.

Each Western Days gift helps Saint Simeon's to provide superior care, an environment of dignity, and life enriching opportunities for



EVENT CHAIRS TOM AND LISA SCHOOLEY, PATRON CHAIRS JOHN AND BARBARA TURNER, AUCTION CHAIRS MAC AND MELISSA STALLCUP, AND PIONEER SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENT TOM MASON

Saint Simeon's Residents. Western Days gifts support operations and capital investments at Saint Simeon's.

Not only will your generosity be put to good use at Saint Simeon's, but we promise an evening full of fun, exciting auctions, live music, and a delicious meal. We will celebrate in our traditional Western casual style!

Western Days to Celebrate Phyllis and Steve Anderson



Phyllis and Steve Anderson have been selected as the Western Days 2018: *Wear Your Boots to Celebrate our Roots* Honorary Chairs. The Andersons are dedicated friends of Saint Simeon's and avid supporters of Western Days.

Phyllis grew up in West Virginia, and Steve was raised in West Texas. They lived in Houston for

most of their careers, as Steve spent 30 years in oil and gas mergers and acquisitions. During that time, Steve spent a great deal of time in Tulsa doing business, so it was a natural move when they decided to plant roots in Tulsa in 2003. At the same time, Phyllis had decided to change careers and go into law, attending law school at The University of Tulsa. When she was finished, she became an elder care lawyer.

When the couple moved to Tulsa, they bought a house next to Phyllis and George Dotson, long-time supporters and Trustees of Saint Simeon's. "They immediately introduced us to Saint Simeon's," Steve says.

Since Phyllis was an elder care lawyer, she became very familiar with local senior living options. "I've seen the spectrum, and without a doubt, Saint Simeon's is the best," Phyllis says.

It was a natural fit, then, that when Phyllis's aunt, Elizabeth Gowans, needed care, the Andersons recommended Saint Simeon's for her. "You couldn't find a community that offers better care," Steve says.

Steve has served on both the Saint Simeon's Home board and the St. John Health Systems board.

Now that the Andersons are both retired, they often travel between Oklahoma, Texas, and Colorado.

RESIDENT TOM MASON TO BE HONORED AS PIONEER SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENT

The Pioneer Spirit Award Recipient at Western Days 2018: *Wear Your Boots to Celebrate our Roots* will be our beloved Resident Tom Mason.

Tom Mason left quite an impression on Tulsa during his 45-year law career. While he held numerous positions on numerous reputable boards and committees, perhaps the biggest indicator of Tom's character is what he spent his free time doing – things like volunteering without pay to be the legal guardian for elderly women at his former church, First Presbyterian.

Tom is a Tulsan through and through. He graduated from the first graduating class of Edison High School in 1958. He went on to attend the OSU College of Business and graduated in 1966 with his JD from The University of Tulsa Law School.

"I've always liked helping people," Tom says, which was his motivation behind wanting to become a lawyer.

Tom has always had a love for music. By the time he was 9, he knew how to play guitar, trumpet, clarinet and banjo. In high school, he sang in a quartet with other Edison High students called The Dukes. At OSU, he sang in a trio and made \$50/month singing at parties. "My only regret in life

is that I didn't go to Nashville and play country Western music," Tom says.

During his 45 years of law practice, Tom was more than just an advocate for his clients; he became one of their greatest confidantes. His wife, Nancy, recalls that he would take calls in the middle of

Tom was active in Reading Volunteers for the Blind, the Kiwanis Club, Sigma Nu Fraternity, the Tulsa County Bar Association, and served as an elder at First Presbyterian Church. He has been inducted into the Legion of Honor Sigma Nu and received the Golden Rule Award for the Tulsa County Bar Association.

Tom and Nancy have three children and four grandsons. Tom fondly recalls him and Nancy painting their first house at 31st and Lewis, which soon became a family tradition. They went on to paint all three of their children's houses, also.

Tom was first introduced to Saint Simeon's way back in 1965, when he was appointed to handle a trust for a Resident. One of his dearest friends, David Griffith, also lived at Saint Simeon's.

One of Tom's greatest struggles in life has been developing Parkinson's disease. He was diagnosed 24 years ago. Tom has been a Resident in the Dotson Family Assisted Living Center since

January 2016, where he is able to battle his Parkinson's through consistent exercise and care from specially-trained staff members. He can often be seen power walking around campus and exercising in the Wellness Center.



the night from someone who had been a client years before that he considered a friend. "He was so good at listening to his clients and forming relationships with them," Nancy said. "He inspired a lot of loyalty with his clients."

A Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The PBS program *Downton Abbey* was a Sunday evening tradition for my husband and me. When it went off the air, we searched for a replacement and discovered a BBC program titled *Call the Midwife*. I was hooked. *Call the Midwife* is the story of midwives living in London in the 1950s and early 1960s, adapted by the memoirs of Jennifer Worth. The midwives and sisters of Nonnatus House are led by Sister Julienne. Sister Julienne is the most kind, most effective, most capable President and CEO you could ever hope to work for; unless you have worked for Lindsay Hurley Fick. Lindsay has her beat in spades.



*Carolyn Blair
and her family
welcomed Grace
Alexandra on
March 8, 2018.*

The leadership styles between the two are nearly identical. Both prove unflappable in even the most daunting circumstances - always gracious, always even tempered, always with a good sense of humor. Over the last 12 years, Lindsay has led Saint Simeon's remarkably. She has braved everything from ice storms to intense state and federal certification processes. Without a healthcare background, Lindsay will share she took a leap of faith when she decided to become Saint Simeon's President and CEO, and we are all forever grateful she did.

Lindsay always held the Residents and their family members top of mind throughout her tenure. She has helped hundreds of families during what can be a very raw and emotional chapter. Her compassion and honesty were apparent throughout every conversation.

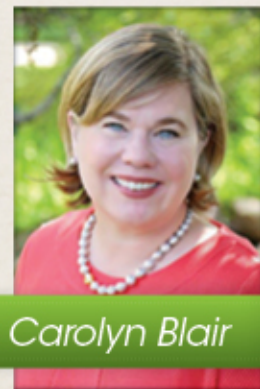
Lindsay's respect for the talents of her colleagues, especially Saint Simeon's front-line staff, is what I have found to be most admirable while working for Lindsay. Much like Sister Julienne, Lindsay is willing to truly understand the best parts of a person and celebrate their victories, provide the tools for success, and then guide the person to do the very best they can every day. Leading a group of 200 employees is hard work. Lindsay made it look like a joy and privilege for all 4,380 days (and nights!) she led the team. I am excited to see the progress the Lindsay Hurley Fick Learning Center brings to Saint Simeon's. Her legacy at Saint Simeon's is her eagerness in helping every employee offer their very best.

Spring is always the season of change. As Lindsay and Ron Fick transition into retirement (which I have a feeling will last for about two weeks ... these two will inevitably pour their energy and hearts into something so exciting I can hardly wait to find out what it will be) and begin their new chapter, it is with all good wishes.

Our house has its own season of change as we welcomed our second daughter, Grace Alexandra, on March 8, 2018. We have full hearts and the joy of new beginnings at home and at Saint Simeon's.

It is my sincere hope the happiness of spring greets you and yours warmly.

Carolyn Blair, Executive Director
Saint Simeon's Foundation



Carolyn Blair

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Eleanor & David Deffenbaugh

It's a love story a little different from most you've heard – the tale of how Eleanor and David Deffenbaugh came to be.

Eleanor and David grew up in western Pennsylvania on family farms that joined. They also went to grade school together in a one-room schoolhouse where all eight grades met. "We've always known each other," Eleanor says.

"We probably originally met in Sunday school at Old Frame Presbyterian Church," Eleanor says.

Because Old Frame – their hometown – didn't have a high school, they had to be bused to another school. The two remember walking to the bus stop together in the mornings. However, when David started his junior year, he transferred to Uniontown, where his sister was a teacher.

After high school, Eleanor and David's paths didn't cross quite as often. David joined the Army after high school, and they sent him to Alfred College in New York to become a pilot. While there, he met his first wife, Carolyn.

Although David received training to become a pilot, he was deployed as part

of the infantry and sent to the Battle of Bulge. On the first day of the battle, Dec. 17, 1944, most of his 106th Infantry Division was killed. He and a few others survived and were captured as POWs for five months.

When the war was over, David returned to Pennsylvania, married



Carolyn, and became involved in his family's insurance business. Together, he and Carolyn had three children – Karen, who lives in Vinita, Barbara, who lives in Dallas, and Rick, who lives in Tulsa. He now has three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

As David's insurance business grew, he moved to Indianapolis and eventually Tulsa, where he retired.

Eleanor's path kept her in Pennsylvania. After she graduated, she took a correspondence course from Sheffield School of Design and taught post-secondary education. She went on to marry her first husband, Harry L., and together they had one son, William. She later worked for Elizabeth Arden cosmetics and managed

find her and marry her. Sure enough, he took a trip back to Pennsylvania, and after two dates, he asked her to marry him. "I said no," Eleanor says. "I wasn't interested in getting married again."

After almost a year of dating, however, Eleanor finally gave in, and the two were married on June 1, 2002. They settled down in Claremore, where they lived until David's health needs progressed. He moved in to Saint Simeon's HealthCare Center in March 2017, and Eleanor moved in to the Dotson Family Assisted Living Center in May 2017.

The Deffenbaughs are very happy with the care they receive at Saint Simeon's, and David can often be found on the aerobics equipment and in the pool in the Wellness Center. They also love walking through the courtyards and find them to be especially relaxing.

"I'm only in my room to sleep, though," Eleanor says. She spends time with David in the HealthCare Center from 7:30 a.m. until the evening each day. All of the Residents and staff who see the Deffenbaughs each day with their declaration that "We've never had an argument in 16 years of marriage."

Saint Simeon's is lucky to be home to these two love birds!

a branch at the Metzler Home Store in Uniontown, Penn. from 1970-1988. After retiring from that, she went on to work as a tour guide and gift shop clerk at Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater house, a National Historic Landmark in Mill Run, Penn.

Eleanor's husband died in 1981, and she remained a widow for almost 20 years. When David's wife died, he told his neighbors in Oklahoma that if Eleanor was still single, he was going to

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