

Norma E. (Peterson) Simpson

Pendleton

June 26, 1918-March 14, 2014

Norma E. (Peterson) Simpson passed away peacefully at her home in Pendleton on March 14, 2014. She was 95.

Norma was born in Pendleton on June 26, 1918, the second of four children born to Charles and Mary Peterson. She attended elementary school in Cayuse at a time when all grades were taught in a one-room schoolhouse. She graduated from Adams High School where she was student body president, a star guard on the women's basketball team, and played the lead character in several high school plays. She attended nursing school for a short time but soon realized that she didn't excel in the bedpan department.

She married her high school sweetheart, Irvin Mann Jr., and they moved to Eugene where he completed law school at the University of Oregon. They moved to the Mann family cattle ranch in Joseph, Oregon. During WW II, she and Mann lived for a short time in Miami Beach. Also during the war, she was a first class typist at Pendleton Field Army Airbase and worked for the Red Cross where her duties included meeting and greeting passenger trains full of service men. Her marriage to Mann ended in divorce.

In 1951, she married Guy Simpson. They lived on the family wheat ranch in South Cold Springs and started a family. After Guy's death in 1954, Norma managed the ranch. Becoming a widow at such a young age left an indelible mark and she encouraged her daughters to go to college to become financially independent.

In 1979, she married Jack Bolen (Walla Walla) and they built a home in Pendleton. Jack passed away in 2003.

Norma was a life member of the Oregon Wheat League, long-time member of the Pendleton and Walla Walla country clubs, and the

Episcopal Church. She loved animals, especially cats and horses. She enjoyed feeding and watching the squirrels in her back yard. Norma was quite a sports fan. She kept a schedule of Trailblazer games and wouldn't miss one if it was on TV. She played lots of golf on many courses with Jack including the course in Spain where Bing



Simpson

Crosby died and numerous others in Hilton Head Island and the Pinehurst area. At Pine Needles, she took an impromptu golf lesson with Peggy Bell, the golf pro. She liked to travel and enjoyed trips to Europe, California and the East Coast with her family, but she was always happy to get home because she thought there was no better place to live than Pendleton. Norma was a legendary shopper. Even in her 90s, she could outlast her daughters shopping at the mall. She laughed easily and enjoyed her friends, bridge clubs, and family.

Predeceased by her parents; sisters Reba Jambura and Delpha Rosenberg, and brother Bill Peterson; husbands Guy Simpson and Jack Bolen; and grandson Brandon Wronka, she is survived by daughters Linda (Steve) Otey-Baumann and Sally (Stas Wronka) Simpson; stepchildren Cindy (Dennis) Jones and children and Guy (Peggy) Simpson Jr. and children; grandchildren Alex Otey and Gabrys Wronka; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at Pioneer Chapel in Pendleton on March 24th at 1 p.m., followed by a graveside service at Olney Cemetery and celebration of life at the Pendleton Elks Lodge (3 p.m.).

Memorial donations can be sent to the Pendleton Historical Society, Pendleton Foundation, or a charity of your choice. Condolences can be sent to www.pioneer-chapel.com

of 118 homes have joined the co-op

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Vista are agricultural workers and their families with young children, said Brenda Proffitt, president of the co-op and a teacher at Sam Boardman Elementary School. Usually, both parents are working to make ends meet.

The park offers affordable housing close to work in local farms or businesses at the nearby Port of Morrow. After some initial uncertainty, Proffitt said residents are excited about the opportunity to take ownership of their community.

"If you're a member of the co-op, you have decision-making power," she said. "You can vote on major decisions for the park, how it's run and how it's maintained. You now have a vested interest in maintaining the park."

So far about 80 of 118 occupied homes have joined the co-op. CASA of Oregon, based in Sherwood, continues to provide technical assistance and management training for the board.

Part of the national Resident Owned Communities network, CASA of Oregon's mission is to develop affordable housing and programs that promote quality of life for farm workers and low-income populations across the state. The organization's Manufactured Housing Cooperative Development program has assisted in converting six other resident-owned communities in McMinnville, Redmond, Gold Beach, Leaburg, Clackamas and Bend.

According to data provided by CASA of Oregon, there are approximately 1,293 manufactured housing parks with 65,500 spaces statewide. This represents a majority of the affordable housing stock

available to low- and fixed-income Oregonians.

Executive Director Peter Hainley said converting to resident-owned communities takes the speculation out of the property, and ensures the co-ops will keep rates affordable for everybody.

"They're much more in charge of what happens in the park," Hainley said. "They're not at the whims of another owner typically trying to make a profit."

CASA of Oregon was able to help Bella Vista secure \$3.15 million in funding to buy the park, which the former owners had tried for several years to sell. Three community meetings were held last year to measure interest and support of the process.

Looking ahead, Proffitt said the co-op board would like to resurface roads and improve the condition of some lots in need of attention. Nicolas Quiroga, board vice president, will perform general maintenance around the community.

"Our whole goal is to improve the livability and curb appeal of the park, and return any profits back to the membership," Proffitt said.

Board Secretary Clarissa Jimenez said Bella Vista is one of the nicest parks in Boardman, and they are excited to put control in the hands of their hardworking members and families.

"Overall, it would have been a big rent increase if somebody else bought it," Jimenez said. "Business owners are out to make their money, but as residents we just want to make sure it is still affordable to live here."

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WYDEN: Also talked about the NSA's characterization of its telephone surveillance

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Wyden says that over the last several months, senior officials at the CIA have made a number of inaccurate statements.

Speaking to about 700 people at the World Affairs

said 'nothing could be further from the truth.'

Wyden also talked about the NSA's characterization of its telephone surveillance program. "In 2012 the director of the National Security Agency was asked about domestic surveillance in a pub-