

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, Dr. David Goodman Simons was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on June 7, 1922, and

Whereas, Dr. Simons pursued a profession as a physician and served as an officer in the Air Force as a flight surgeon and medical experimental lab manager, and

Whereas, Dr. Simons was selected as a pilot for Project Manhigh, a 1955-1958 military research program that examined the effects of cosmic rays and extreme altitude on the human body by sending pilots into the stratosphere in manned balloons, and

Whereas, Dr. Simons was the pilot for Manhigh II and spent 32 hours in an aluminum pod held aloft by a balloon, achieving a then-record altitude of 101,516 feet above sea level and soaring higher than any man before him, and

Whereas, in commemoration of his achievements Dr. Simons was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and featured on the cover of the September 2, 1957 edition of LIFE Magazine, and

Whereas, Dr. Simons dedicated nearly four decades of his career as a physician studying chronic muscular pain, authored over 200 publications, and generated research that is critical to the ongoing study of chronic muscular pain, and

Whereas, Dr. Simons was a dedicated and thoughtful advocate for climate action and sustainability, particularly the impact of climate change on the global food supply, and

Whereas, Dr. Simons was a longtime resident of Covington at the time of his death on April 5, 2010, as Covington was near the hometown of his wife Lois,

Whereas, Dr. Simons was the first human being to see the curvature of the Earth, making Earth Day the perfect opportunity to commemorate his feats,

Now Therefore, I, Steve Horton, Mayor and the undersigned City Council members of the City of Covington, do hereby posthumously commemorate Dr. David Goodman Simons for his bravery, curiosity, and contributions to scientific progress across many disciplines.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Covington, Georgia to be affixed, this 17th day of April, 2023.



Steve Horton, Mayor



Fleeta Baggett, Councilmember


Don Floyd, Councilmember


Kenneth Morgan, Councilmember


Susie Keck, Councilmember


Charika Davis, Councilmember


Anthony Henderson, Councilmember