

Reston Land Corporation

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HOUSE BEAUTIFUL MEDIA KIT
BACKGROUNDER
FELIX CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION, WARREN KATZ

A year after graduating with a civil engineering degree from City College of New York, Warren Katz started his own business installing runway and approach lighting, radar and air support systems all over the U.S. His first job in 1962 was at the world's first airport designed especially for the jet age, Dulles International, 25 miles west of the Nation's Capital. It was his first introduction to the county which was to become the home that same year to this country's most recognized "new town" - Reston, Virginia.

Over the next eight years, Katz remembered the beauty of that heavily wooded Virginia countryside and kept in touch with the success and growth of Reston. Tired of a decade of travelling to remote sites and airfields around the globe, Warren Katz, in 1970, moved his family to Reston and opened his own business - MultiCon - a subcontracting business to Reston's developer, Gulf Reston, Inc.

In 1974, Katz founded Felix Construction Corporation and launched himself into the home building business. His first cul-de-sac of eight single family contemporary homes on Sugarberry Court brought him into five years of custom home building.

In 1978, Katz was the first Reston builder to work with the American Wood Council in developing a national showcase home. Working closely with Reston developer, Gulf Reston, Inc., HOUSE AND GARDEN Magazine, Woodward & Lothrop and world-class architect Hugh Newell Jacobsen (Washington, DC), Katz built The Design House on Lake Thoreau which, in a four month period, attracted over 50,000 visitors through its sharply-angled walls. Sitting on its all weather wood foundation right at water's edge, this great white house would soon become the Katz family home.

In 1981, Felix Construction Corporation designed and built its first cluster of townhouses across Lake Thoreau called Westcove. Contemporary, elegant townhouses made of cedar, these 28 units sold for an average price of \$170,000.

In 1983, Felix went to work on its current project, Solaridge - a cluster of 35 award-winning passive solar patio homes. Distinctive homes with high cathedral ceilings and a great feeling of light and open space, no two Solaridge homes are alike. This is a special Felix touch; Warren Katz likes to work with individual homeowners and customizes each house to fit their lifestyles.

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Locating the HOUSE BEAUTIFUL House in Reston had something to do with Warren Katz. The American Wood Council liked their experience with him in the 1978 Design House program. When HOUSE BEAUTIFUL came to the Wood Council to plan for "Best House '84", Katz was highly recommended to do the building.

His next residential venture, Southbay, is a cluster of 33 patio homes (ten right on the edge of Lake Audubon) which contain the best elements of Westcove and Solaridge.

In addition, this fall, Katz will begin construction on a 50,000 square foot office building; designed by Davis & Carter, adjacent to the Reston Post Office on Sunset Hills Road.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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