

THE UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

PEOPLE AND IDEAS FOR SPRING 2019

arches

IMAGINE

A special issue about dreamers
who see possibility everywhere

INSIDE: How to build a town from scratch • The reinvention of a Paralympic track cyclist •
Creating a wellness community for women of color



Scientist and educator Kurtis Baute camped out in Harned Hall for 28 hours to make a time-lapse video that showed the entire rotation of the Earth via the Foucault pendulum. Read a Q&A with Kurtis and watch his fascinating video at pugetsound.edu/pendulum.



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Casey Roloff '95 built a town from scratch. Story on p.16.

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Reaching new heights



Embracing entrepreneurship

Conceived and planned by students, the first-ever Puget Sound Entrepreneurship Summit was held in February and brought Puget Sound students face-to-face with seven alumni entrepreneurs. Over two days, speakers offered advice and inspiration for the next generation of out-of-the-box thinkers. Pictured above left, from left: Jesse Proudman '07, co-founder and CEO of cryptocurrency trading company Strix Leviathan, and Jeremy Korst '97, Puget Sound trustee and president of marketing consultancy GBH Insights. Top right: Scott Reader '91, head of the Rainier Woodworking Company. Bottom-right, from left: Janel Bustamante '21; Gabi Marrese '19; Kevin Kurtz '97, co-founder of BiggerBolderBaking.com; and the event's mastermind, Chris Porter '19. Read more about Chris and the summit at pugetsound.edu/firstiteration.



Story time

President Isiaah Crawford read Dr. Seuss' *Oh, the Places You'll Go* to a group of fifth-graders at Tacoma's Birney Elementary School during National Read Across America Day on March 1. The nationwide day of reading marks Dr. Seuss' birthday and encourages parents, teachers, and community members to read to children.

LOGGERS



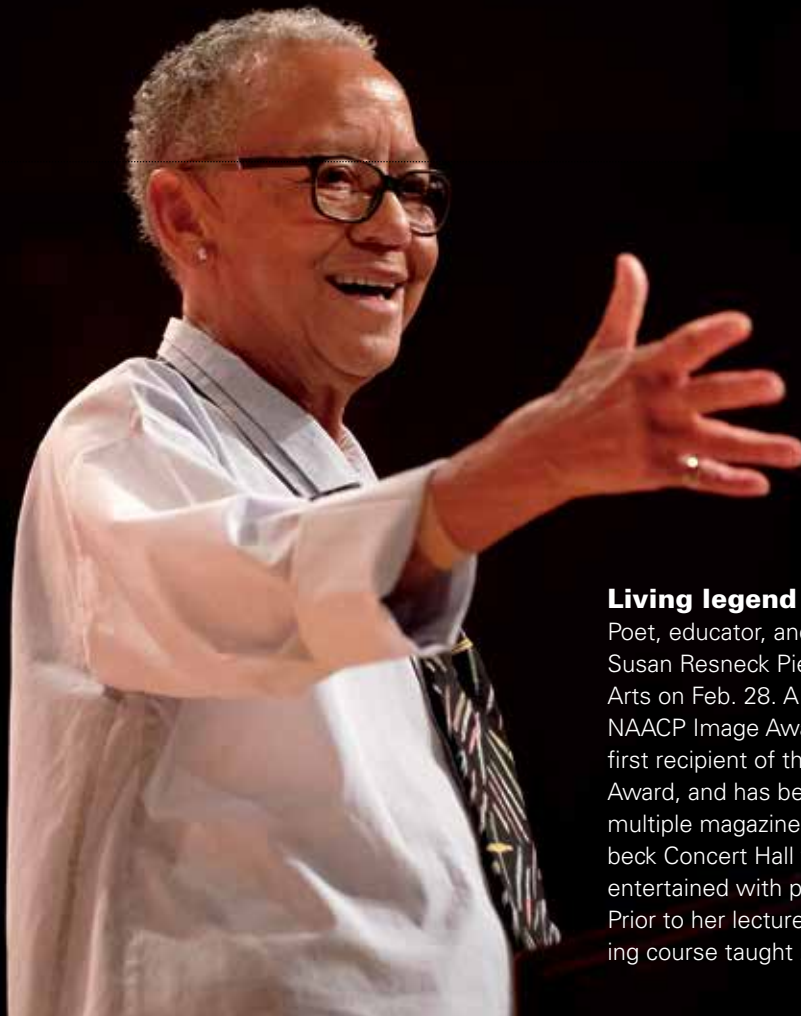
Team traction

Jack Monaghan '20 (#11) has had an impressive season as a distance runner for the Logger track and field team. After a stellar performance at the Peyton Scoring Meet at Puget Sound's Baker Stadium on March 16, he was named both the Northwest Conference Men's Track Student-Athlete of the Week and Logger Club Logger of the Week. He won the men's 800-meter with a time of 1:59.26, and the 1,500-meter by timing in at 4:05.13. He rounded off the day's performance by teaming up with Ryan Sutherland '22, Matt Wells '20, and Isaac Fournier '20 to win the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 3:39.26. Earlier in the season, at the Loggers' Ed Boitano Invitational, Jack grabbed a second-place finish in the men's 400-meter dash behind teammate Ryan.



A date with destiny

On March 6, Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodards delivered Tacoma's 2019 State of the City Address from Schneebeck Concert Hall. In her speech, titled "Our Destiny in Motion," the mayor addressed transit, infrastructure, affordable housing, tenant protections, recycling, and living wages. The evening also featured performances by Tacoma Urban Performing Arts Center dancers, ceremonial drumming by the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, and a performance by the Tacoma Refugee Choir.



Living legend

Poet, educator, and activist Nikki Giovanni delivered the Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture in Public Affairs and the Arts on Feb. 28. A widely recognized poet with seven NAACP Image Awards to her name, she was also the first recipient of the Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award, and has been named Woman of the Year by multiple magazines. On the night of her lecture, Schneebeck Concert Hall was packed with admirers, whom Nikki entertained with personal anecdotes and powerful verse. Prior to her lecture, she visited an advanced poetry writing course taught by English Professor William Kupinse.



Breaking ground

A crowd of more than a hundred gathered for the groundbreaking of the new Welcome Center on Feb. 21. Construction on the 13,565-square-foot building, which will house the university's Office of Admission, began this winter and will continue through 2020. Pictured from left: Puget Sound Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Sherry Mondou; Puget Sound Trustee Rolf Engh P'14; Names Foundation board member Monica Names-King; Puget Sound Trustee Erin Shagren '88, P'17; President Isiaah Crawford; Puget Sound Board of Trustees Chair Robert Pohlrad; Vice President for Enrollment Laura Martin-Fedich; and Puget Sound Trustee Bruce Hart.



Snowmageddon 2019

Loggers woke up to nearly a foot of snow on Feb. 9 after an unusually strong winter storm transformed campus and the surrounding area into a winter wonderland. Students and others braved the cold to create a host of snow creatures, including the "snoctopus" (snow octopus) pictured.



PRESIDENT'S BOOK CLUB

Can Creativity Save Us From the Robots?

By Stacey Cook

President Isiaah Crawford is a big reader. He and I decided to start a book club so he can share his thoughts on relevant topics with *Arches* readers. For our first chat, we discussed *Robot-Proof: Higher Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*, which considers how colleges and universities can prepare students for their professional lives when professions are being taken over by machines. To “robot-proof” students’ futures, the author, Northeastern University President Joseph E. Aoun, proposes a new discipline, humanics, which includes data literacy, technological literacy, and human literacy.

SC: Before reading the book, was robot-proofing higher education something you’d thought a lot about?

IC: Over the last number of years, it has become a focal point of consideration. President Aoun was the keynote speaker at a conference that I attended, and I was just mesmerized by what he had to say. He was actually arguing that institutions such as his—larger, research-oriented, flagship state colleges and universities—need to become more liberal-artsy in their focus.

SC: That was my takeaway. The concept of “human literacy,” which encompasses the humanities, communication, and design, is resonant with a liberal arts education. Are we already doing this well?

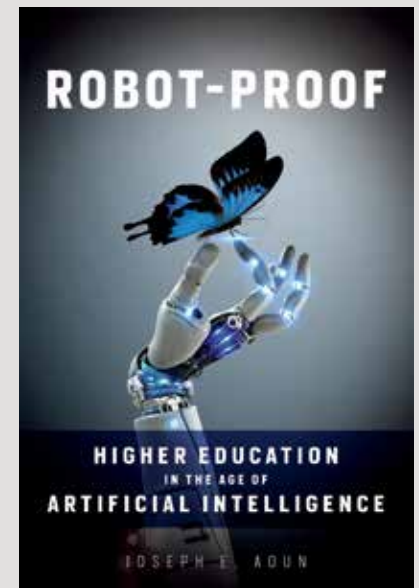
IC: That’s our sweet spot. We’re looking to educate the whole person, so we’re focused on the academic, intellectual, and social development of our students, and providing them with opportunities to apply what they’re learning in real-world situations to foster their adaptability and cognitive flexibility.

SC: Where do you see opportunities to better prepare our students for advances in AI?

IC: We need to be more intentional about making sure our students have the technological and digital literacy to go along with their human literacy, so that’s where our focus has been in terms of curricular and co-curricular exploration.

SC: Aoun argues that human literacy is essential for making ethical choices. I’ve been wondering if humans are really guiding us to a more equal and just society, or if robots would do a better job at it.

IC: We will go down the drain if we don’t continue to focus on making sure our young people have a good ethical and moral compass. That’s part of the humanistic approach of the liberal arts—looking at the inner life as well as one’s position in the world and the inherent value that we ascribe to others. Whenever I interact with our students, I feel hopeful about the future.



SC: What made me hopeful was reading about creativity and entrepreneurship as the key to robot-proofing our students’ futures, because Loggers are already so adept at this. Can creative thinking save us from the robots?

IC: I think the more we can foster the entrepreneurial and creative spirit of our students, the better. Those individuals who can create their own paths are going to be the most successful. They’re going to be the visionary leaders who create the jobs of the future.

SC: Speaking of success, what does that mean to you?

IC: I think what we want for our students is that they’re happy, they feel fulfilled, and they’re making a contribution to the world. Often, people don’t stick to one professional field throughout their lives. When that’s disrupted, they’re kind of at a loss. For our graduates, when disruption occurs, they can pivot; they can re-create themselves and go do the next thing. They’re lifelong learners, and they’re not afraid of the future. They’re ready for whatever comes their way.

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HOW DO WE DEFINE SUCCESS?

At Puget Sound, we educate the whole person—mind, body, and spirit. So it makes sense that success, to us, is just as holistic. We encourage students to expand their worldviews, engage in civil discourse, reflect on their experiences, and create a better world. It's no surprise to find, then, that so many alumni don't just take the road less traveled—they bushwhack an entirely new path, while guided by a moral compass, an intersectional mindset, and a sustainable business model.

In three special issues of this magazine, we're going to explore the meaning of success by telling the stories of alumni who have achieved it on their own terms. In this issue, we feature the dreamers who **imagine** new possibilities with creativity, courage, and sheer determination. In summer, we'll focus on those who strive to make a real **impact** on the world, and in autumn, on those who embrace **innovation** in everything they do.

Follow us on social media and pugetsound.edu for more inspiring #PSsuccess stories, plus a tote bag giveaway, and more.





The Rivers He Knows

Jonathan Blum '06 built his entire life around his love of white-water kayaking.

By Anneli Fogt



COURTESY OF JONATHAN BLUM

Balanced precariously in his orange kayak on the lip of a 70-foot waterfall, Jonathan Blum '06 was feeling confident. Three of his friends had safely made it down to the pool below. But as he accelerated down the Chilean torrent and landed in the white water, his head and wrist smacked the kayak's hard plastic deck. When he surfaced, blood was streaming from his nose and his left wrist wasn't working. Both were broken.

Jonathan grew up in Eugene, Ore., and first paddled a river on his father's lap at the age of 3. He began working as a white-water rafting guide in high school, continued through college, and guided internationally. But in 2009, at the end of a five-month paddling journey through Peru, Chile, and Argentina, he experienced a new vulnerability at the bottom of the Salto del Nilahue waterfall. "You're not as invincible as you thought you were," he told himself while recovering from surgery on his shattered radial bone. "You know working and playing in the river day in and day out is not necessarily sustainable. So, what else do you want to do?"

He had majored in business and communication studies at Puget Sound and interviewed with business consulting firms before graduating, but quickly realized that what he calls "normal employment" wasn't for him. "It just seemed like a mismatch for my passion—for being outside, having a flexible

schedule, and having time to do things I love," he says.

But after that disastrous nosedive in Chile, he realized that while living his dreams was important, he needed something that would provide him with a steady income and lower risk for injury. He also wanted to contribute to society in a meaningful way. As a white-water guide, he had been trained as an EMT and enjoyed it, so he decided to become a registered nurse. He bought a fixer-upper in the nicest neighborhood of The Dalles, Ore., and started classes at Columbia Gorge Community College, which allowed him to be close to the rivers he knew. Jonathan earned his nursing degree in 2011 and began a career in community health, working at a migrant farmworker clinic in Hood River, Ore. Two years later, he moved to Seattle to get critical care experience at a larger hospital.

"Behind it all was a drive to have a lifestyle that supported the things that I really love doing, like being outside," he explained. "Nursing offers a unique scheduling opportunity where you can work three days a week and still be full-time."

He stacked his nursing shifts to work six days straight and have eight days off. After finishing an overnight shift on the sixth day, he would grab his bags and head to Sea-Tac Airport for an overnight flight to his next adventure. He would sleep on the plane, spend a week kayaking and visiting friends,

and catch a flight home to land just in time for his first shift back.

Eight years after devising this plan, Jonathan is still a world traveler and kayaker. This winter, he went to New Zealand, Peru, Hawai'i, and Mexico. He works part time in critical care at a small hospital in The Gorge, Ore., and guides during the summers.

Meanwhile, Jonathan has remained involved with Puget Sound. He traveled with the PacRim 2014–15 cohort as the health-care coordinator. (In his time off, of course, he paddled all over Asia.) He has also kept in touch with the kayak club, which he created when he was a junior. It began as a white-water kayak instruction club that met twice weekly to practice skills in the pool. Now club members regularly compete in white-water kayaking races and practice their skills on local rivers. Once or twice each spring, some of the students head out to the White Salmon River, near where Jonathan lives, to paddle with the club's longtime mentor.

"It's been really amazing," he says. "It's like this seed that we planted in 2005 has grown and now, 14 years later, I'm taking a group of 10 students down intermediate kayaking runs and they're telling me how the kayaking experience at Puget Sound has been one of the most important things they have done in college. That really gets me excited."





Now is the hour

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The Language We Share

Erin Guinup '96 created a community through music.

By Sarah Stall



Erin Guinup '96 was at church, listening to a sermon about the growing refugee crisis in Europe, when she was inspired to take action. She couldn't help the thousands of displaced people suffering far away, but she could do something to help local immigrants and refugees feel welcome in their new communities. Initially, she thought of teaching English, but as a choral conductor, vocal coach, and classically trained soprano, she had something more unique to offer. Music, after all, is an international language. In 2016, she approached Tacoma Community House with the idea of gathering people together to sing.

Three years and nearly 30 performances later, the Tacoma Refugee Choir is still growing. Its nearly 400 members represent 44 countries. They are a mix of longtime Tacoma residents and newly arrived refugees and immigrants, including seniors, students, and families. They perform concerts in and around their community—even sharing their songs and stories at TEDxSeattle—and their goal is always the same: to inspire hope, unity, and action.

“We have become a family for people who often come to the United States without a family,” Erin says. “Knowing that someone cares about your success can be really powerful. Too many people don't have that.”

Anyone can join the Tuesday-night rehearsals, with no experience needed. Some come because they love to sing; others because they long for connection. Erin recalls one Kenyan man who showed up because he

thought his kids would enjoy it. She encouraged him to join in, even though he insisted he didn't sing, and by the end of the night, he was hooked. “He was saying the other day that it changed his life,” she says. “He didn't know that he could sing. He didn't realize how much of a voice he had. Singing together gives people courage.”

In order to keep the choir going, Erin decided to establish the Tacoma Refugee Choir as a nonprofit organization in August 2017. This presented a steep learning curve. “There are so many things I didn't know,” she says. “I hadn't ever run a nonprofit before. I wasn't experienced in fundraising. I never saw myself doing these things. But the truth is, we can all do something.”

After a rocky start, which included moments last year when Erin wasn't sure how the group would survive from one month to the next, the choir is gaining traction. That's happening, she believes, because choir members are taking more ownership and making the group their own. They're suggesting music pieces and performance opportunities, and, more recently, working together to write original songs—one of which debuted at Tacoma's State of the City Address, held on campus in March.

Giving members the space to share their experiences and validating those experiences is at the heart of the Tacoma Refugee Choir. “This program that's all about community has taught me how to build a community and how much broader my sense of community could be,” Erin says. “One of the things I'm most

proud of is that we've created a culture of love.”

It's that culture of love that creates a social safety net for the choir's members. “When you love people, you're going to help them when you can,” she says. “If someone is out of work, you're going to help them write a new resume and watch for job opportunities for them. You might offer to help them study for their exam so they can advance their career. You're going to support that person's new business. You're going to watch for houses for the woman who can't find an affordable place to live. You're going to connect them to resources because you care about them. You see opportunities when you're with them.”

Even as a music student at Puget Sound, Erin knew she could move people with music, but she never imagined that her music would have the impact it has had through the choir. “I loved the music I made earlier in my career. I love telling stories, and I love the sound of beautiful music,” she says. “But I love seeing someone's face light up and seeing someone empowered when they take those words for themselves and let them vibrate out of their own mouth. I love seeing what happens when we hear all those vibrations in the air together, and the joy that bubbles up out of every single person as they take that message for their own. It fills my soul. When we're really in that human place, we're not unkind to one another.”



Amy Fisher: Spark of Discovery

By Zach Powers

Amy Fisher is fascinated by electricity—not only how it works, but how and why it came to be. “We don’t think of the light switch as having a history,” she says. “Everybody just takes it for granted.” That may be why she and her colleague Amy Spivey, professor of physics, coordinated an exhibit called Sparking Imaginations at Collins Memorial Library in 2014 that illustrated the history of electrical science from Benjamin Franklin through the present day. In order to really understand science, she feels, it’s important to have context.

As an assistant professor in the Science, Technology, and Society (STS) Program at Puget Sound, Amy teaches interdisciplinary courses that examine the social, political, and cultural contexts around research experiments and findings. She is most interested in the pathways to scientific discovery, such as how technology can mimic natural systems in plants and animals. In the fall, she will spend a sabbatical working on a book that examines various approaches—physical, chemical, and biological—to studying electricity throughout time. I caught up with her recently at Diversions Café.

How did you become interested in science, technology, and society as a field of study?

Honestly, I found my field by accident. When I was younger, I was very interested in music, and I played in local jazz bands. When I went to college, I actually thought I was going to be a music major. Then, for my general requirements, I took courses on physics and calculus, and I really fell in love with both, but physics especially, so that’s what I majored in. But while I was working on my master’s in physics, I realized that I mostly wanted to learn about how and why scientists were doing what they were doing. I had a friend who was at a large research institution who had seen posters for STS discussions and events. She told me, “You know, there is this new field ...”

You’ve designed a few courses at Puget Sound. One that jumped out at me is “Murder and Mayhem Under the Microscope.” What’s the genesis of that course?

In my research of the history of chemistry, I kept coming across these really fascinating accounts of toxicologists in the 1800s who were trying to make sense of how you can identify particular types of poisons. I

thought, “Oh, this will be very interesting and fun,” because I love reading murder mysteries. I got a grant from the university to take a class on crime scene investigation last summer, which I took as a way of leading into designing the course and thinking about both the history and present state of forensic science.

What’s your course “I, Robot: Humans and Machines in the 20th and 21st Centuries” all about?

I love reading science fiction, and *I, Robot* is one of my favorites. I’m interested in trying to understand how inventors were thinking about the creation of automated machinery, and what kinds of futures they imagined for their own devices. This course goes back to the earliest computers in the early 19th century, and it comes right up to the present, so we talk about artificial intelligence and cybernetics.

The intersection of gender and science is a big area of interest for you. How have you explored that within the lens of STS?

I co-wrote a paper with Katie Henningsen, our former archivist, for *Transformations: The*

Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy in which we explored the impact of classroom discussions about the contributions and underrepresentation of women in science. We found that taking a historical approach helped students develop a deeper understanding of gender stereotypes in science and how they can affect who studies science. The question is, how can we improve science education to make it more welcoming to a diverse population?

What are you working on right now?

A project on Benjamin Thompson, an inventor and physicist of the 1700s who did experiments to try to understand the nutritional content of soup. He thought soup was a really cheap and effective way to potentially feed a broad population, especially people who were poor, because there were increasingly concerns about famine and hunger during that time period. I’m also working on a book that looks at the history and philosophy of the different approaches to studying the chemical battery.







Still Life in Nature

Gloria Treseder '08

By Anneli Fogt

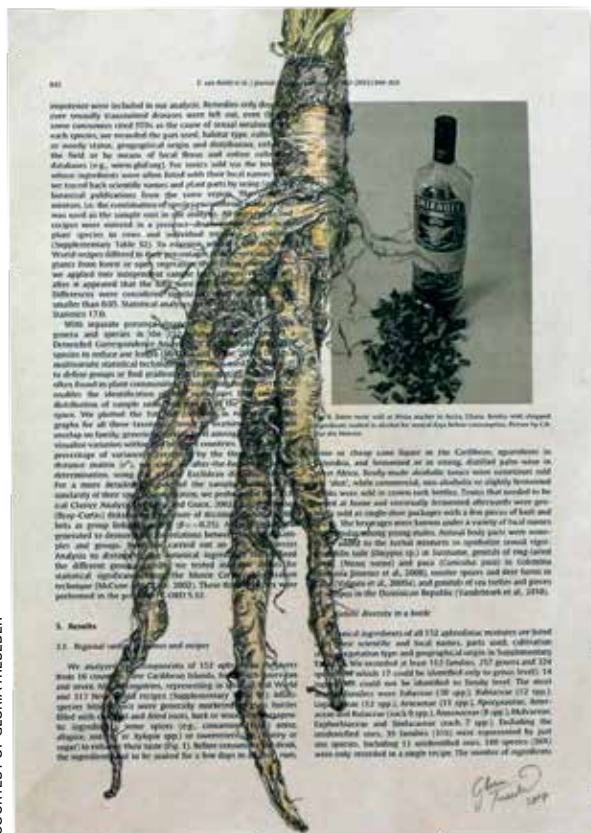
In July 2015, Gloria Treseder '08 was riding her bicycle down a quiet street in Napa, Calif., when she was suddenly thrown to the ground and knocked unconscious. She had been hit by a car. Her helmet saved her life, but she suffered head injuries that affected her working memory—particularly words and names. In the haze that followed, she sought refuge at a former Buddhist retreat in the woods where, surrounded by peaceful nature, she began to paint again.

Gloria had studied studio art at Puget Sound, but she had not picked up a paintbrush in many years. Her first piece after the accident was an oil painting of her blue bicycle helmet.

“I was scared I had forgotten how to paint, that somehow the labyrinth of a life I had followed over the years took me too far away from that self,” she wrote in her blog. “I found nothing else more comforting to the phantoms of trauma than slowly bringing to shape a solid, simple still life. Returning to my art returned me to myself ... words and all.”

In 2017, Gloria enrolled in a Master of Fine Arts program at the University for the Creative Arts in Canterbury, Kent, England. There, she used art to explore the dynamic between humans and nature. For a recent exhibit, *Spirit Levels*, she utilized both natural and industrial materials and charcoal drawings of roots (pictured here).

Gloria continues to explore root and tree imagery and is working on an illustrated narrative about rootlessness, migration, and re-rooting. She is also back on her bike, training for a century (100-mile) ride in May.



COURTESY OF GLORIA TRESSEDER



THE ACCIDENTAL ARCHITECT

CASEY ROLOFF '95 IMAGINED THE TOWN OF HIS DREAMS ON THE WASHINGTON COAST.

HE SPENT THE NEXT 17 YEARS BRINGING IT TO LIFE.

BY STACEY COOK

Casey Roloff '95 had just started to gain recognition for building custom homes on the Oregon coast when he decided, in 2002, to build an entire town from scratch. He had recently become interested in the ideas of New Urbanism, which emphasizes pedestrian-scaled urban design as the antithesis to suburban sprawl. The basic concept is that design, density, and a nostalgic idea of small-town living can positively shape people's private and social lives. The most famous town in the genre is Seaside, Fla., which operates as both a year-round community and a vacation destination. Casey felt there was demand for such a town in the Pacific Northwest, and despite not being an urban planner or architect, he knew he was the person to build it.



Laura Roloff '97 and Casey Roloff '95 have spent 17 years developing Seabrook, Wash., where they live with their four daughters.



The quaint coastal town of Seabrook, Wash., started with 34 acres of virgin land—“a blank canvas,” Casey likes to say—to which he and his wife, Laura Roloff '97, quickly added a dozen properties. The focal point is a gorgeous mile of wide, sandy beach reached by descending a long wooden staircase, framed by iconic lodgepole pines that look eternally windblown. In the past 17 years, the Roloffs have built and sold more than 400 houses of various architectural styles and sizes with picket fences, roomy front porches, and shared green spaces in between. The retail shops on Main Street and the final phase of houses will be complete within three to five years. As CEO of Seabrook Land Company, Casey calls himself a “true entrepreneur,” and he’s energized by the business side of the project, but building a whole town requires a dreamer at the helm. “It wasn’t about selling houses,” he says. “It was about building the kind of community where we wanted to live.”

Casey was particularly attuned to the meaning of home. Before he met Laura, on a blind date in high school, he had moved about 20 times. At one point during his junior year, he and his parents and younger brother were living in an 18-foot travel trailer. The family owned a video store in Vancouver, Wash., and it was in trouble. Casey spent much of his free time at the store after school and soccer practice, helping his parents with ideas to keep the business afloat. “I just didn’t want the lights to get turned off again,” he says. It was a tough time, but Casey feels fortunate that his parents shared their challenges with him. That brought the

family closer, and those early learning experiences honed his entrepreneurial instincts.

In his senior year, his family moved to Lincoln City, Ore., where his parents started renovating and flipping houses along the coast. Real estate became a family obsession, and some of Casey’s fondest memories involve sitting at the kitchen table sketching house plans with his parents.

Laura, two years younger, grew up in the affluent Sellwood neighborhood of Portland in a charming two-story house with her parents and five siblings. She was a bright student and a volleyball player, and when she met Casey during her sophomore year, in 1990, she liked him right away. He was a talker with a carefree, hippie-like persona—on that first date, he told her that he wanted to buy a Volkswagen van and drive across the country. Casey found Laura beautiful, authentic, and grounded. “I was in love instantly,” he says.

Casey had always struggled in school. He barely graduated from high school, and he went on to take classes part time at Portland Community College and Warner Pacific College, then Linfield College for a semester before taking time off to work for his dad. When Laura graduated in 1992 and was headed to the University of Puget Sound, it was a given that Casey would follow her. His friend Mike Shaver '94, who’s known Casey since third grade and was best man at his wedding, says their relationship “was pretty serious from the beginning.” But Casey didn’t just want to live near Laura—he wanted to enroll at Puget Sound, too, and was determined to prove that he could do it.

In Tacoma, Laura lived on campus and studied studio art, while Casey moved into a house with Puget Sound students and enrolled at Tacoma Community College to get his grades up. The admission office told him that he’d need a 3.0 in order to be considered. “He took really challenging courses,” Laura says. Perhaps too challenging, because by the end of the academic year, he had a 2.9 and was denied admission. But once Casey gets something in his head, he won’t give up. He appealed the decision, and finally, he was admitted. He also made the basketball team.

The next two years at Puget Sound were pivotal. “Getting connected to goal-setters in college really turned it around for him,” Mike says. But Casey credits Ivey West, then director of Disability Services, which was part of the Center for Writing, Learning, and Teaching in the '90s, for helping him unlock his potential. Ivey assessed that he had a learning disability, which came as a revelation in itself—but she also normalized it, and assured him it was something he could overcome. If there’s a name for Casey’s disability, he doesn’t know it. He says he hears only two out of every three sentences. That made it hard for him to follow class discussions and lectures, and it also made understanding basketball plays exceptionally challenging. He eventually became so embarrassed that he quit the team, blaming it on a bad knee.

Business, though, came easily to Casey. His entrepreneurial instinct was honed by real-life experience and motivated by real need. To pay his tuition, he started a house-painting business in Lincoln City with Laura in the summer of 1993. Their startup

assets were a \$1,000 Home Depot credit card and a book on house-painting basics. During their first summer, they netted \$30,000. “It was hard work, but I took that basketball energy and redirected it,” Casey says.

He was also excelling as a business major. He remembers one class in which his favorite professor, Tom Schillar, asked the students how much they expected to be making in five years. “Some of the smartest kids were saying ‘50,000,’ ‘70,000,’ ‘90,000,’” Casey says. But he figured, if he had just made \$30,000 in three months painting houses, he could easily make \$100,000 if he did it year-round. In five years, he assumed, he’d be doing something much bigger. He told the class he expected to be making \$500,000. He doesn’t remember whether anyone laughed or rolled their eyes. But Casey knew—in spite of, or maybe because of, all his learning challenges and knocks to his self-esteem—that being bold and original would pave his path in life. While the others counted on jobs with Microsoft or Boeing, he’d do things his own way.

In the spring of 1994, Casey proposed to Laura at Proposal Rock in Neskowin, Ore. They were married on Jan. 7, 1995, at a church in Sellwood, near the house where Laura had grown up. When Casey graduated that May, the couple headed straight for the coast. “We practically jumped in the car,” Casey says. “We couldn’t wait for it.” He planned to continue the painting business in Lincoln City and drive back and forth to Puget Sound while Laura finished college.

Real estate, meanwhile, remained his passion, and he decided to get his license and find a way into the business. On the Oregon coast, he recognized that there was a need for a higher architectural aesthetic. “The new houses were really just big boxes,” he says. “When you look at all the old neighborhoods

in places like Tacoma and Portland, there was so much more thought and intention in the designs of the homes.”

Laura had briefly considered becoming an architect, and she shared Casey’s affinity for sketching house plans. The couple decided that their new business venture would be building new houses with modern amenities but with older architectural details. Casey sketched their first house on paper and gave it to an architect to feed into a computer-aided design program. They had their eye on a piece of land for sale, and they planned to subcontract every aspect of the building



process. “But this was a whole new realm for us,” Casey says. “We went to all the banks, and they said, ‘You guys are nice kids, but you don’t have any credit or experience.’ We figured we knew enough about business that we could learn along the way, but the banks denied us.”

That’s when Casey met the doctors. While grocery shopping at Safeway in Lincoln City, he ran into a kid he played basketball with. “I’m trying to get a loan to build this house, and nobody will lend me the money,” he recalls saying. The kid said his dad was part of a group of six doctors who frequently loaned money from their pension plans for high-risk real estate investments. The

next day, the doctors came out to see the land and the plans, and they agreed to loan Casey and Laura \$150,000 at 14 percent interest.

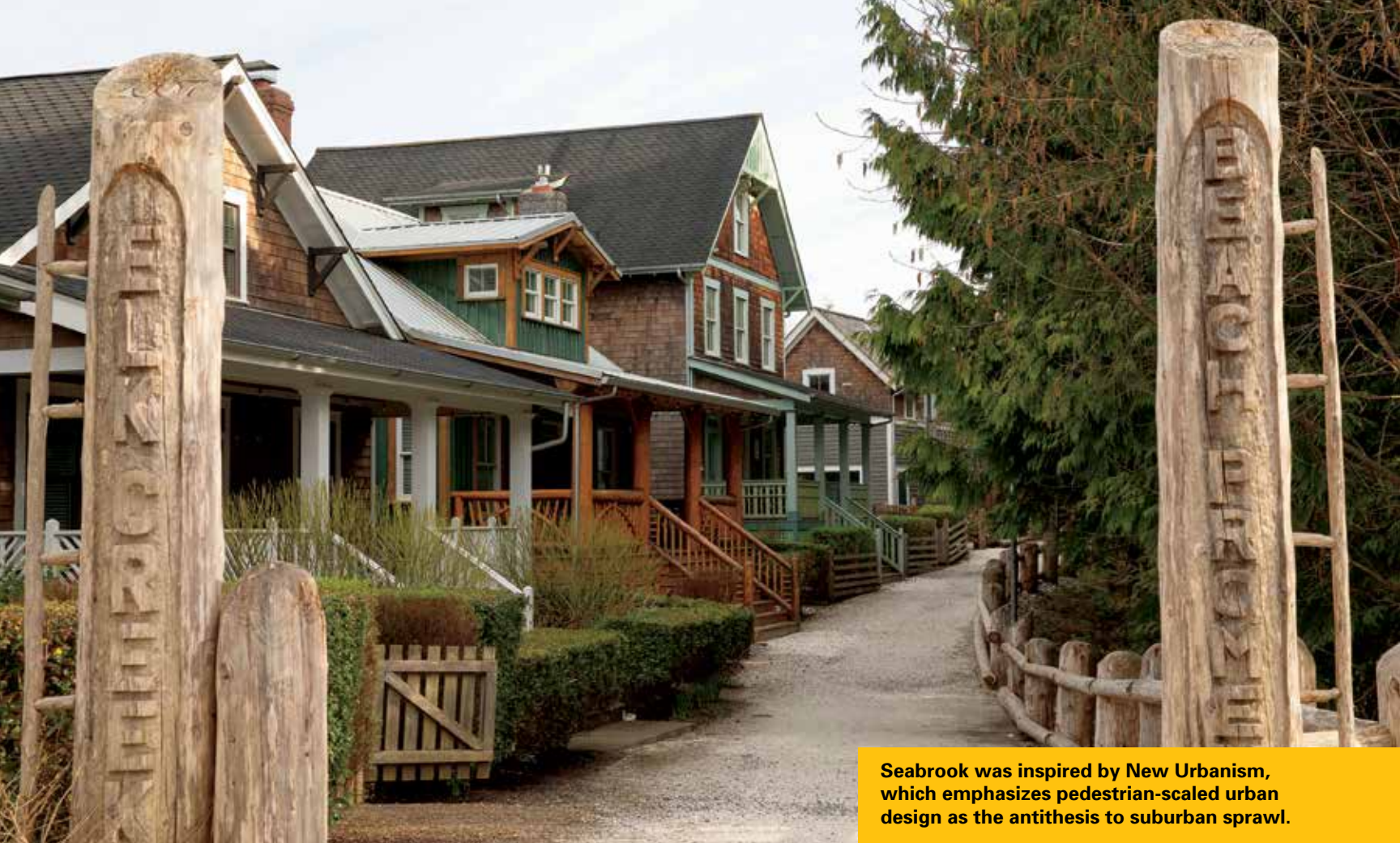
Just as Casey had read about how to start a painting business, he was reading about real estate investing as he went. “He’s a sucker for all the how-to books,” Laura says. “And fad diets, the Ab Roller—it’s a good thing there wasn’t Amazon back then.”

“We weren’t developers. We weren’t even homebuilders,” Casey says. “After we built the first house, I said I’d never do that again. It was just super stressful.”

But they did do it again, many times. “The doctors and I would drive around on Friday afternoons to look at properties,” Casey says. “They were real estate junkies. It’s like a stock group or fantasy football.” When they found a property they wanted to invest in, they’d loan Casey the money, he’d subcontract the work and sell the house, and everyone would make a profit. Meanwhile, they grew to be friends. One of the doctors would even deliver the Roloffs’ first child, Lucy, in 2001.

Between 1995 and 2000, Casey and Laura built and sold more than 25 homes all along the Oregon coast, and real estate agents started paying attention. “Everything we touched turned to gold,” Casey says. “We would find properties that people were overlooking and turn them into more valuable real estate. We just saw something that others didn’t see.”

Casey and Laura made several million dollars while they were still in their 20s. And although the houses were fun, it was only a matter of time before Casey started dreaming of building something bigger. He and Laura bought a 10-acre property on the Oregon coast that he would call Bella Beach, and went looking for an architect to help him develop it.



Seabrook was inspired by New Urbanism, which emphasizes pedestrian-scaled urban design as the antithesis to suburban sprawl.

Laurence Kamar looked up from his desk as a dark-eyed 26-year-old kid with a map walked in. It was 1998, and Laurence was a partner at an architectural firm in Portland. Although Laurence was only in his mid-30s, his new client's youth made an impression; he was used to working with "deep-pocketed, older developers who were set in their ways." As Casey rolled out the survey map of what would become Bella Beach and talked about his plans, Laurence found his passion and sincerity refreshing. "He wasn't tainted by preconceptions or formulaic approaches," Laurence says. "He was open and willing to consider new ways of designing. That was really compelling."

Laurence had come to Casey's attention for his role in planning the revitalization of older downtown areas around Oregon, inspired by New Urbanist principles. More than that, Laurence had studied with two of the founders of New Urbanism, Andres

Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, as a graduate student at the University of Miami, and had briefly worked at their firm after earning his master's degree. (He moved to Portland in 1994 when his wife got a teaching position at Reed College.) Throughout the Bella Beach project, which took about three years, Casey and Laurence talked a lot about New Urbanist design.

As their work together was winding down, around 2001, Laurence left his firm, and the first thing he did was call Casey. "I said, 'What would you think of building a new town?'" Laurence recalls. Casey said he'd been thinking the same thing. He and Laura had made \$2.5 million on Bella Beach, and creating a new town felt within reach.

As they scouted a location for their new venture along the Oregon coast, they looked at towns like Cannon Beach and Astoria for inspiration. Those were established destinations within a two-hour drive of Portland. But they found that Seattle residents were

also driving to Oregon, despite a five- or six-hour drive, and bypassing the Washington coast altogether. "It was forsaken and forgotten," Laurence says.

This was puzzling to Casey. "We knew how spectacular the Olympic Peninsula was, and we couldn't understand it—until we went to Ocean Shores and Westport and Long Beach," he says. There weren't many amenities in those Washington towns, and driving is allowed on the beaches, which can be a turnoff for families and nature lovers. But most of the state's household wealth is concentrated in and around Seattle, and Casey saw opportunity in creating a closer getaway for that population. "We knew that if we could actually build a walkable town, the Washington coast needed this more than any other place. When you look at the demographics and at the supply and demand, it's kind of a no-brainer that if we build it, people will respond positively to it."

Casey and Laura soon found the perfect



Seabrook cottages perched high above the beach enjoy spectacular views while blending into the natural landscape.

oceanfront property adjacent to Pacific Beach, and they started the design and planning process. The beach was cut off from the town site by the two-lane Highway 109, so the first question was how to bring the value of the ocean deeper into the community. Casey, Laura, and Laurence agreed that instead of building a wall of waterfront homes that blocked the view for others, as a conventional developer would do, they would leave the big vistas open and would design “view corridors” between the buildings downtown so that the ocean would remain a focal point. They would build some homes on the ocean side of Highway 109, but these would frame the view instead of obstructing it.

Laurence suggested that they do a design charrette as an intensive multiday collaboration process. They brought in additional designers, traffic engineers, an economist, a market analyst, and other advisors to set up on-site. “Casey’s really good at hiring people

when he doesn’t know how to do something, and then he’ll learn from them,” Laura says. “He never claims, ‘I know everything.’ He will seek out the answers.”

Within the first week of the charrette, the consultants had helped to flesh out the basic concept of Seabrook. Laurence then worked on creating a master plan, what he calls “the entire language” of the town, which took about two years to complete. During this time, Casey and Laurence also flew out to visit Seaside, Fla., for more inspiration. They had arranged to meet the town architect, but he passed them off to his assistant, Stephen Poulakos, for a tour. The three of them got along so well that Casey later invited Stephen to come and work for Seabrook, and in 2004, he did. Stephen played an instrumental role in the town’s design, and continues to serve as director of town planning.

The Roloffs were ready to start building, but despite their success with Bella Beach, it

was difficult to get banks to back the project. “The biggest obstacle was that nobody believed in the Washington coast,” Casey says. “They didn’t want to invest in it.”

He started reaching out to people who’d invested in Bella Beach, as well as other friends and connections. “Casey was great at bringing people in and getting them excited,” Laurence says. By 2004, they’d managed to raise about a million dollars on top of their own \$2.5 million, and they finally found a bank that would loan them the rest.

“We were labeled the highest-risk loan in their portfolio,” Casey says of that bank. “And when the crash hit in 2008, we were the only one of their 17 development loans that paid back every penny and survived the economic downturn.” He credits their success in weathering the recession to the “pent-up demand” for a Washington coast destination, the appeal of the New Urbanist model, and their own fiscal responsibility. They didn’t

have much debt. “Now, banks love us,” he says.

Construction started in 2005. Laurence would drive out every few weeks to work on-site, or he’d meet Casey in Portland or Olympia, where the Roloff family was living—and growing. Lucy was 4 years old, and Valerie was 2. Jane would be born in 2006, and the youngest, Megan, in 2010.

It was important to Laura that her children have stability. She wanted them to live in the same house and go to the same school from first through eighth grades, as she had. So for five years, from 2004 to 2009, Casey commuted an hour and a half from Olympia to Seabrook during the week, and the family joined him there on weekends.

The turning point came after the recession. “We wanted to show people we were 100 percent committed to living out here,” Casey says. Moving to Seabrook full time with four kids wasn’t an easy decision, though. Even now, the closest grocery store is 45 minutes away, and the public schools are struggling. For the first two years, the

kids attended Pacific Beach Elementary, after which they were homeschooled by Laura in their garage for a year. “We’ve had to be pioneers,” Casey says. “It’s a very long-term commitment, and there have been a lot of compromises.”

But when Casey and Laura talk about the kind of community where they want to live, they’re not only talking about Seabrook. Grays Harbor is one of the most economically depressed counties in the state, and they feel a responsibility to their neighbors. They established a 501(c)3 nonprofit that funnels 1 percent of revenue from house sales back to the community. The foundation has already donated \$3 million to local schools, food banks, animal shelters, emergency services,

and scholarships, and Seabrook is the No. 1 privately owned employer in the county.

After the homeschooling experiment, the Roloffs decided to establish a Montessori school at Seabrook. They brought in two certified Montessori teachers, and there are now about 23 kids enrolled. “It’s the kind of school I wish I had grown up in, because it’s independent learning and you go at your own pace,” Casey says. “The amount of respect the



Casey’s Saturday morning walking tours are so popular that Seabrook board member Peter Orser ’78 has taken to calling him the Pied Piper.

kids have for each other—it’s like a family.”

The school provides scholarships for several kids from Pacific Beach, and Casey is talking with the superintendent of public schools about merging Pacific Beach Elementary, which has about 150 students, with a new Montessori program that would be accessible to everyone.

Casey’s original vision was to build a town from the ground up. He wanted to create a vibrant coastal community where an economically and socially diverse group of people could live full time. But Seabrook is primarily marketed as a vacation destination, and that has made it a great investment. The whole development

is worth about \$70 million now, and since 2011, Seabrook houses have appreciated 20 percent. If that isn’t enough to lure buyers, another big selling point is that they can put their house in a rental program managed by Seabrook staff. For visitors, it’s an experience similar to house-sharing platforms such as Airbnb or VRBO, elevated by the built-in community and consistent amenities.

Seabrook’s combination of “neo-traditional housing” and hospitality caught the attention of Peter Orser ’78, a veteran of the homebuilding industry who ran national operations for Weyerhaeuser Real Estate as president and CEO for many years. “What Casey had going on was really unique, and I was intrigued by his value proposition,” Peter says. Though decades apart, the two alumni bonded over their experiences at Puget Sound, and in 2016 Casey asked Peter to join his advisory board to help scale operations.

With Peter’s guidance, big things are on the horizon. Asked about Seabrook’s outlook, he says: “It’s fantastic, frankly. What he’s done so far is extraordinary. The next opportunity is to take the magic in a bottle and start to create a six-pack.”

That could mean anything from Air-stream glamping and treehouses at Seabrook to building new towns in Washington’s wine country or ski areas. “Seabrook has 400 houses, which is amazing in itself, but there are 100,000 people out there following Casey [on social media], and they’re future customers,” Peter says. “It’s not just a customer base—they’re fans.”

Among his fans are the 130 full-time Seabrook residents, who make up 20 percent of homeowners. Grant and Ellen Melocik, a retired couple who moved to Seabrook from Fresno, Calif., say they’re living the dream. They learned about the town from a 2013

Sunset magazine article, and Grant said to Ellen, “Isn’t this just the cutest place you’ve ever seen?” In California, they’d been conditioned to move on a good opportunity before it was gone, so Grant hopped on a plane the next day with three checkbooks in his pocket. He picked out the nicest oceanfront lot, and by June, their house was built. Ellen, a former teacher, retired on the last day of school, a Friday, and on Saturday the Melociks were driving up the coast in a moving van.

“It’s really fun to see a town grow up in front of your eyes,” Grant says. He and Ellen have been enjoying the company of other retirees and young families. They love seeing “free-range children” walking to the Montessori school each morning. There are book clubs, potlucks, farmers markets, live bands, footraces, and volunteer opportunities to keep people busy and engaged. “This is the perfect-size community to feel like you’re making an impact,” Ellen says. She teaches piano to some kids in town and volunteers at the Montessori school as well as the North Coast’s Green Lantern Lunch Program, which delivers meals to kids in need in the summer.

But the natural environment is why they’re here. Grant describes fishing at night under Orion’s Belt, standing in the ocean in waders, having to shuffle his feet because of all the Dungeness crab. “Once I caught [and released] 32 fish in a row,” he says. They get bald eagles nesting outside their balcony and double rainbows that stretch across the horizon. They also love to share the town and beach with visitors. “It’s delightful, because when they’re here, everyone’s happy,” Ellen says.

In a surprise twist, visitors and part-timers aren’t just Seattleites. “We have people from Portland, who have the Oregon coast in their

backyard, and they drive an extra hour and a half to get to Seabrook,” Laura says. “We have a lot of people telling us they come here because their dog loves this beach.”

“People say this is their happy place,” Casey says. “They’ll walk around with a glass of wine and go from campfire to campfire, and the kids can run around with the dogs.”

Seabrook was deliberately designed for this kind of connectivity, and Casey loves to point out the details. Every Saturday at 11 a.m., he gives a walking tour of the town.



The Roloff family, from left: Lucy, Valerie, Casey, Jane, Laura, and Megan.

(The tours have been so successful in building a Seabrook following that Peter has taken to calling Casey the Pied Piper.)

A few strides in on Main Street, he calls attention to the bell tower on the white town hall building. “When you look down this street to the east, you see that bell, and to the west, the ocean view. That’s called a deflected vista,” he says. “You can just imagine the sunsets in the town center. This little town bell didn’t land there by accident. It was very intentional. All around town, there are terminated and deflected vistas that make you want to explore, and draw you in. It’s very

subtle, but all those design moves frame your experience.”

As the tour continues, Casey points out how the concrete sidewalks in the center of town “morph” into oyster-shell pathways, then into woodchips. That’s transect—the transition from an urban to natural environment. If you kept walking, you’d be in the woods, on Seabrook’s 30-acre preserve.

The group passes lovely shaded “mid-block crossings” that Casey says act like “secret pathways all through town.” Arriving at Crescent Park, which is in fact curved, he notes that “every outdoor space is like an outdoor room.” He then points out an example of a “green street,” a grass causeway designed for pedestrians only. “These are great for stormwater retention and also great for frogs,” he says. “The kids love this area in the springtime.”

At an intersection with a gazebo placed in the center, Casey explains that though it functions as a roundabout, it’s called a tabletop intersection and acts as a traffic calmer. “Look at this chaos right here. These trucks aren’t going to know what to do with themselves,” Casey says gleefully, watching two vehicles try to navigate the gazebo intersection. “Our job is to create as much chaos as possible for the drivers so they have to crawl through the neighborhood just like that.”

As the tour passes South Farm, where the last phase of houses is being framed, Casey starts describing what can’t yet be seen. “This is the farmhouse. It’s not built yet—that’s virtual reality. It will have a spa, a yoga studio, and a farm-to-table kitchen, and it will be open to the public.”

Back on Main Street, he points to where the grocery store will be. “It’ll have a 4,000-square-foot arcade down below, and an event hall up above. So we can have private



Seabrook homes were built to frame the view instead of obstructing it, so the connection to the ocean is something all visitors share.

retreats, reunions and weddings, and movie nights and live musicians. It just makes for a nice big living space.”

For the past few years, there have been only pop-up retail shops, Saturday markets, and food trucks as incubators, but the brick-and-mortar spaces are finally being completed. “Restaurants and shops will be marching down this little street and that little street,” Casey says. “But that big view will never go away, so you always have that connection to the ocean. That’s one of the things that’s going to make our town center so iconic.”

Now that Seabrook is almost complete, Casey and Laura have been thinking about what’s next for them. They’re taking a trip to Europe for the first time ever, and they’re considering traveling more, seeing more of the world outside the Washington coast.

It’s not always easy being a pioneer. Grant and Ellen note that most people who live at Seabrook are self-reliant, hardy types who don’t mind driving two hours to Olympia for a doctor’s appointment or 45 minutes to Aberdeen for a major grocery store. To them, it’s worth the magic of watching dramatic Pacific storms roll in, or stumbling across a pack of mule deer grazing in the moonlight.

“There are tradeoffs,” Casey acknowledges. There’s also an ebb and flow to the seasons that takes getting used to. “We love it when everyone comes, and also when we have the place to ourselves,” he says.

Seabrook is, to be sure, a beautiful place. At first light, the beach is empty except for a few fishermen casting their lines at the shore, a distant runner, and a dog chasing seagulls with whole-body joy. There is only the sound of waves and wind. At night, the sky reminds

visitors how far from light pollution they really are. “We love the stars,” Laura says.

It’s almost like camp, for adults. Adults plus kids and dogs, and wine. That’s in many ways a more appealing concept than a town, at least for visitors, because there’s a measure of escapism that’s built into the community. It allows one to suspend reality and live in a more perfect place.

“I think the reason Laura allowed me to do this is that we believe this is the highest form of art,” Casey says. “There’s nothing more important than the places and the communities that we live in.” More than anyone, Casey would know.





Tuned In

Lestraundra Alfred '11 saw that women of color were disenfranchised in the wellness space, so she launched an online platform, including a podcast series, tailored just for them. The result has been an extraordinary point of connection.

By Julianne Bell '13

Before she begins a new podcast interview, Lestraundra “Les” Alfred ’11 likes to start with the “review of the week.” In the “Kombucha for the Culture” episode, she reads a letter from a junior in college who says the podcast changed her life. “It’s nice to hear about wellness from a black girl, because the space is so white,” the writer says. “It’s nice to know that many black girls also feel like this, and there is a community. Keep up the good work—this podcast is honestly so important.”

This kind of love letter isn’t rare for Les, who founded Balanced Black Girl, a media company that encompasses a blog, podcast, book club, and weekly newsletter, in 2018 to make wellness more accessible and relatable to women of color. Within her first year, she gained more than 2,700 followers on Instagram and logged more than 50,000 podcast downloads. All of the podcast guests—an impressive lineup of entrepreneurs, life coaches, powerlifters, activists, therapists, and more—are women of color, and they speak directly to an audience who has been largely disenfranchised in the wellness space. For Les, Balanced Black Girl is an exercise in community-building and advocacy—and it’s also an astute business venture. As a savvy “side hustler” and a self-made media mogul, Les has managed to carve out a niche in wellness aligned with her values.

She has also managed to connect with like-minded entrepreneurs who share her mission. One of her podcast guests, Cultured Kombucha founder Milan Durham, says she founded her company to make wellness products more accessible to nonwhite

audiences, and she named her kombucha flavors after ’90s R&B and hip-hop songs in order to make their health properties more fun and approachable.

“For winter, one we have is ‘Bug A Boo,’ obviously a Destiny’s Child song,” she says during the podcast interview. “It was pomegranate-thyme, and I was looking for two ingredients to couple that were good at getting rid of bugs. Pomegranate’s got a lot of antioxidants, and thyme has a ton of antiparasitic properties. The other one is ‘Golden,’ and that’s ginger-pear-turmeric—Jill Scott song—and turmeric is really good for getting your glow on. Everything anti-inflammatory ... really does help you glow.”

“Well, I love that,” Les says. “I mean, I am just the biggest R&B/pop culture junkie, so anything that can combine wellness [with] that pop culture element is brilliant. It does take us back to a time in our lives where we loved those songs ... and it helps kind of build that accessibility factor.”

In another episode, “Protecting Our Melanin,” Black Girl Sunscreen founder Shontay Lundy discusses the fact that most sunscreens aren’t created for dark skin tones and [have] a “sticky, pasty consistency.” She says that in her house growing up, they didn’t use sunscreen at all. “It was a foreign thing that our lighter-skinned counterparts would use going to camp and running and playing outside, and we just didn’t use it,” she says. “I have a very diverse group of friends, and they would always suggest I should wear sunscreen, and I would be like, ‘Yeah, no. I don’t want that toothpaste on my face.’”

“That’s what it’s like,” Les agrees, laughing.

It wasn’t until Shontay found herself participating in outdoor activities and started getting sunburned that she realized how badly she needed a sunscreen conducive to her skin tone. When she came up short, she was inspired to work with skincare experts and start her business. Her products contain natural ingredients that boost melanin production, protect the skin from UV rays, and can be fully absorbed without leaving a residue.

Beyond products, Les and her guests explore wellness topics such as mental health and self-care. Before she started Balanced Black Girl, Les worked as a personal trainer and found that the most difficult part of helping people get in shape isn’t the workout or diet—it’s negative self-talk. “We beat ourselves up a lot, and it’s really hard to grow and thrive if you’re constantly being hard on yourself,” she says. For that reason, her content is largely focused on cultivating a positive mindset. (In one episode, she playfully refers to herself as “woo-woo adjacent.”)

Consider the episodes “Rethinking Body Image” and “Pretty, For a Black Girl,” in which Les questions narrow definitions of beauty ideals and where they come from. In another episode, Shanna Tyler, host of the Self Soul Sport podcast, explains that she’s come to love strength training for the way it makes her feel, which can be transferred to other areas of her life: “If I can pick up this amount of weight, I can pick up anything,” she says. In another, Maria Rodriguez, founder of Fear Her Fight Athletics, says that powerlifting had a similarly galvanizing effect

Michelle Obama surprised Les by showing up to the Balanced Black Girl book club's discussion of her book, *Becoming*, at the Tacoma Public Library on March 24.



on her: “All of my confidence I had built, I was so proud of, and I took it everywhere.”

That’s how Balanced Black Girl manages to own the wellness space for women of color and also to transcend it. Les has built a platform that speaks specifically to the needs of her listeners, and as a result, creates an empowered community.

Becoming a media entrepreneur was a natural fit for Les. She majored in business and minored in communication studies at Puget Sound, where she wrote for the student newspaper, *The Trail*, and even contributed a column to this magazine as a student intern. After graduating in 2011, she went to work at Boeing, but she found herself feeling lethargic and physically uncomfortable in a sedentary 9-to-5 job. “My first year out of college, I was really unhappy with the routine of getting up, going to work, and going home and watching TV every night,” she says. “That, to me, is the recipe for unhappiness.”

In search of a way to feel better and increase her energy, she started working out and learning about wellness, and a year later, her new pastime had blossomed into a full-fledged passion. In 2013, she became a personal trainer and nutrition coach, and started teaching fitness classes in her spare time.

Les says that the more she focused on fitness, the more she noticed herself growing bolder and more outspoken in other areas of her life. “I’m a very introverted person,” she says. “I tend to be pretty quiet and keep to myself. When I started working out more and building physical strength, I noticed I was feeling more comfortable speaking up and being more confident in putting myself out there in ways that I never had before.”

In 2014, Les launched a blog called The Balanced Berry, where she shared recipes, workouts, and fitness tips. Still at Boeing, she was feeling more fulfilled with her side hustle as a personal trainer and fitness blogger, but felt uninspired by the content she was producing. She felt constant pressure to look a certain way and conform to the narrowly defined aesthetic of fitness influencers on Instagram. And she felt frustrated by the homogeneity of the mainstream wellness space.

Her wake-up moment came after she attended GOOD Fest, a daylong wellness conference in Los Angeles, in February 2018. Although she enjoyed the event, Les observed via social media posts that among the hundreds of guests, she could count the women of color in attendance—and in the speaker lineup—on one hand. A Latina fitness enthusiast who had been following the event reached out to Les, saying she’d also noticed the overwhelming whiteness of the event. After that experience, Les felt called to fill a void in the wellness space, which she calls “one-size-fits all.”

“Working in wellness for years, I cannot tell you how many times I walked into a room and was the only woman of color or black person there. Or where I was at wellness events, and the content just didn’t resonate because it was being given by people who did not share my same life experiences, so I could relate to a little bit of it, but not all of it,” she says. “And it occurred to me that a lot of other people felt that way, too.” She realized that her presence alone sent a strong message to other women of color that they too were entitled to feel healthy and powerful.

Propelled by a new sense of urgency, Les set out to rebrand and launch a new platform for women of color who needed self-care

and wellness resources tailored for them. She launched Balanced Black Girl in September 2018. “I was very worried about alienating my [Balanced Berry] audience,” she says. “But for me, the pros of creating content that felt authentic to me, and of really speaking to those people who felt like they weren’t normally catered to, outweighed the cons. I was willing to lose my audience and rebuild to reach the right people.”

Les currently works full time as a social media manager and spends about 20 hours a week working on Balanced Black Girl. She hopes it will grow into a sustainable business and plans to organize events where women of color can find community and shared space. In March, she hosted a book club meet-up to discuss *Becoming* by Michelle Obama—and as a magical surprise, Michelle Obama showed up. (Yes, really.)

Someday, Les would like to have Balanced Black Girl ambassadors in different cities around the country to organize meetups in their communities. “People want to connect, and they want those in-person bonds and relationships,” she says. “If Balanced Black Girl can be a way to facilitate that, that would be incredible.”

Meanwhile, her followers continue to express gratitude for the virtual space she’s created for them. In the episode “Making Self-Care Accessible,” Les opened with another review of the week: “When I first heard this podcast, I cried tears of joy. [Women of color] deserve and must fight to be front-and-center. Can’t wait to see how this conversation continues and how women in the wellness space come together. Our time is now. Thank you, Les, for lighting the fire.”





Fast Track

When an accident left athlete Clara Brown '17 paralyzed, it took her years to recover. Reinventing herself as a para-cyclist, she's competing again—and moving faster than ever before.

By Margot Kahn

Clara Brown '17 walked into the VELO Sports Center in Los Angeles, Calif., and immediately her palms started to sweat. It was the day before the 2019 U.S. Paralympics Track Cycling Open, where she'd be competing as a C3 para-cyclist for the first time. A group of cyclists went by at 25, 30, 40 miles per hour, and Clara tuned in to the sound of the bikes' tires gripping the wood planks of the track. She could almost feel the wind over the cyclists' bodies, the centrifugal force pushing them down as they took each turn.

In track cycling, riders clip into fixed-gear bikes with no brakes. The course is too short and fast for switching gears, and it's too dangerous to stop abruptly. At each turn in the velodrome track, the floor slopes up, so a rider must keep up a certain amount of speed—the exact amount determined by the degree to which the wall is banked—in order to stay on the track. Just six months earlier, when she hadn't been going fast enough, Clara's bike had slid out from under her, which made her wary about riding a track race again. But Clara isn't one to give up easily.

Now, her teammates and her coach, four-time Olympic medalist Sarah Hammer, were waiting for her. They had just this one afternoon to warm up before their races began. Clara put together her specialized bike, shipped to the L.A. velodrome from the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, and let her competitive focus overtake her fear as she clipped into her pedals.

"I still freak out every time I look at the track," Clara says. "But if you're going fast enough, you just have to trust the science of it. When I'm riding, I'm thinking, 'How can I go as fast as possible?' And I'm thinking, 'This is so cool!'"

Ten years earlier, Clara wasn't able to ride a bike at all. When she was 12 and training for the state gymnastics competition near her home in Falmouth, Maine, she fell on her head and broke her neck. In the ER, she asked the nurse, "Can I still go to states?" She had suffered an incomplete spinal cord injury at C5/C6 and was paralyzed from the neck down. There would be no gymnastics competition—at that moment, no one knew if Clara would ever walk again.

At the time of her injury, Clara was young and strong. She had an indefatigable attitude. And she had the full support of her family. After two-and-a-half months at the Shepherd Center, a rehabilitation facility in Atlanta, she learned to walk again. She still lacked sensation throughout her left side and had significantly impaired motor function on her right side, but she was mobile.

For months, Clara kept up a training regime on the treadmill, until one day when her left hip gave way. She had developed avascular necrosis—a condition in which bone tissue dies due to lack of blood supply. She underwent an unsuccessful experimental surgery and spent a year in a wheelchair before having a hip replacement at age 15.

For Clara, this was a huge blow. She and her three siblings had spent most of their childhood outdoors, and it was a family expectation that everyone play sports. "My family is so athletic, it's frustrating," she says. "I always wanted to be the fastest and the best." With her mother's encouragement, she spent a couple of years as a coxswain for a high school rowing team and a master's boat, but she wasn't satisfied being on the sidelines. She needed a sport of her own.



When Clara arrived at Puget Sound for her first year of college, she had recovered enough to hide her injuries, and was hesitant to tell anyone about them. She had left small-town Falmouth and gone as far away as possible in part to escape the stigma of being known as "that girl who broke her neck." But near the end of her first year, she confided in a friend who worked at the student-run bike shop on campus. She explained that she still has soft-tissue nerve

damage; she's missing her fibula on her left side, which affects her balance; and her whole left side is sensory-impaired, meaning she's unable to distinguish between sharp and dull pain or temperature. She's lost most of the motor function in her right triceps and hand—she has some grip, but can't open her hand at all. "And my right foot just kind of drags when I walk," she says. "I have a funky gait if you look at it closely."

Clara's friend listened, and offered to rig a bike for her with the gear shifts on the left side instead of the right, so she could use her fully functioning left hand to shift and brake. They hit the bike swap in Tacoma, but they couldn't find a frame small enough for Clara's 5-foot-3-inch build.

The next week, Clara went home to Maine for summer vacation and told her mother that she thought she might be able to ride a bike. "My mom is one of those people who just makes things happen," Clara says, still amazed that her mother dropped everything, took the afternoon off from work and immediately drove Clara to Cycle Mania in Portland.

"I was so hesitant to spend money on something that I wasn't even sure I could really do," she says. But her mother insisted that she try. At the shop, Clara explained her situation to David Brink, one of Cycle Mania's owners, and he spent the next several hours bringing out different shifting mechanisms and building a bike to meet her needs.

Clara learned to ride that bike over the summer of 2014, and took it back to school with her in September. She rode it around Tacoma, and later all over the Southwest. In 2017, she made biking her job, working for a bike tour company as a trip leader. During one trip, in the summer of 2018, she met George Puskar, a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee's Paralympic Advisory Committee. George was impressed by Clara, and encouraged her to check out the Paralympics

“I don’t feel able-bodied or disabled. I feel like a normal person who just does things differently than other people do. And that’s been a good way to reimagine myself.”

cycling team. He also sent some introductory emails on her behalf. A couple of days later, the director of the Paralympics cycling team invited Clara to a talent camp in Colorado Springs. When she arrived, she was startled to find that she’d be riding on a track, which she’d never done before. But Clara didn’t flinch. She was exhilarated by the opportunity to learn something new.

Clara’s performance at the camp earned her an invitation to compete at the 2018 UCI Para-cycling Road World Cup in Canada that July. There, she came in third in the road race and fourth in the time trial. She was elated. After only a month of track riding, Clara was now a C3 cyclist, a competitive para-cycling classification that includes people with moderate upper- or lower-limb dysfunctions.

In December, Clara won the national title in the women’s C3 3km individual pursuit and the 500m time trial, and in January of 2019, moved to the Olympic Training Center to train with her coach and teammates full time.

At the 2019 U.S. Paralympics Track Cycling Open, held in L.A. in February, Clara had been riding a track for less than eight months, but she was ready. She won first place in the 3km individual pursuit and the 500m time trial. With that performance, she earned a spot on the U.S. team competing at the Para-cycling Track World Championships in the Netherlands in March.

Though her success in para-cycling has been incredibly swift, Clara’s decade-long journey from injury to recovery felt like a long, uphill slog. At 15, she’d had to accept the loss of her body as

she had known it and give up her gymnastics goals. But she hadn’t given up on herself. At 22, Clara found a way to pivot, adapting her skills and equipment to her new reality until she reinvented herself as a competitive cyclist.

There are still some roadblocks to contend with. As a result of her disabilities, Clara feels less stable than a typical rider. She says she’s had to work hard to be aware of this. Because her right triceps doesn’t work, for example, she supports her weight with her shoulder; the shoulder gets fatigued easily, and more so with certain handlebar setups than with others. Her right hip flexor is so weak that there’s a dead spot in her pedal stroke where she can’t apply any power. This makes her pedal stroke feel choppy, and her bike’s power meters back that up: her left leg puts out 70 percent of her power compared to her right leg at 30 percent.

But recently, with the help of a teammate, Clara has made adjustments to her bike that have changed the game. As a result of shortening the cranks on her pedals, which in turn shortens her pedal stroke, her right leg has less distance to push up and over. The first time she tried it, she was excited to find her right leg able to push itself through the entire pedal stroke. “I have function,” she says. “I just didn’t know how to use it before.”

After Clara’s recent workout on the Wattbike, a stationary bike that measures a cyclist’s power output in watts, her coach, Sarah Hammer, was impressed. Clara had consistently been getting stronger, and the proof was flashing on the Wattbike’s digital screen. “She said, ‘Clara you have the perfect cyclist’s body—a small torso and sturdy legs!’ It was sort of an offhand comment, but I walked away and just started crying. Since

my accident, I hadn’t considered my body capable, let alone perfect for anything. And here I have this woman, top in her field, telling me that I have the perfect body for cycling. It was really rewarding to hear that. And it made me appreciate the things that I do have working.”

Clara spent this spring training for a summer full of races: three World Cups, in Italy, Belgium, and Canada; the Pan Am Games in Lima, Peru; and the Track World Championships in the Netherlands. While she admits that she’s taking things one step at a time, the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo are within the team’s sight line.

Before joining the Paralympic team, Clara says she would never have spoken of herself as disabled. Now, she feels ready to embrace it. “It’s ironic because in Para we have these categories we fall under, to race other people with similar impairments, so you literally have a category. But I don’t feel able-bodied or disabled. I feel like a normal person who just does things differently than other people do. And that’s been a good way to reimagine myself. Not putting myself in any certain box, not having any set viewpoint of where I should be.”

Track racing, Clara says, requires not being afraid of what’s coming at you. That’s true in cycling and in life. “Right now, it’s so awesome to be living the life I dreamed of as a kid—being a full-time athlete, committing myself to one goal, and pushing myself to my physical limit every day,” she says. “Just being here is a success in itself.”



classmates



Chasing myths: Dan Clements '71, P'07

By Anneli Fogt

DAN CLEMENTS '71, P'07 COULDN'T believe what he was seeing. For the past week, he and five others had been trekking through British Columbia's Great Bear Rainforest, returning to a sailboat anchored off the coast of Gribbell Island to sleep before resuming their search for one of the world's most elusive species. It was September 2017. The mud was thick and the wind unrelenting. And now the spirit bear—a unique species of black bear that, due to a genetic mutation, has white fur—was standing in a stream just feet from Dan.

It was a spectacular moment in a place where “myth and reality merge,” says Dan, a photographer who's visited some of the world's most remote and breathtaking locations. He's photographed tigers in India and had close encounters with polar bears in the Arctic. This summer, he will be photographing jaguars in Brazil. But the spirit bear sighting was particularly special to Dan. It validated his decision to make adventure photography a career relatively late in life.

Eleven years ago, Dan was a public sector financial director entering his third decade in finance. He and his wife, Karen Amundson Clements '70, M.B.A.'77, P'07, had raised two sons and lived in Everett, Wash. At 59, Dan began to feel restless. His own father had been a prominent ornithologist who

had given him an extremely adventurous childhood. He visited Central American jungles, completed first ascents of multiple peaks, summited Mount Rainier at 10, and scuba-dived with his father off the California coast. But after he graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in English, his outdoor explorations were tamed. “Life centered around raising my sons,” he says.

Dan had been an amateur photographer for many years, and he decided that it wasn't too late to make his passion his career. So he retired and set off around the world. To finance the adventures, he dusted off his scuba gear, renewed his certification, and began taking underwater photographs on dive trips around the world. He self-published a book of photos he had taken off the coast of Edmonds on intermittent dives on evenings and weekends, and worked with the Pacific Northwest Underwater Photographic Society to create a magazine, which helped to open doors within the local diving community. “It has been a lot of fun, and I have met some outstanding photographers and environmentalists from many different countries,” he says.

But about 10 years in, a diving experience in Point Lobos, Calif., made him reevaluate life again. “When I started putting dive trips together, in the back of my head I knew

that if I got to the point where I couldn't rescue-swim somebody back to a boat or land I would quit putting the trips together,” he says. “I had to rescue somebody in Point Lobos. He ran out of air, and he kind of panicked. I did it fine, but I realized I'm not 20 anymore, so I started phasing out the trips.”

Dan took what he knew about organizing domestic and international photography trips and shifted from water to land. He started organizing adventure photography trips to document wildlife and landscapes from Montana to the Arctic and everywhere in between. Now 70, he shows no signs of stopping. “Who says you have to do just one thing in your life?” he says. “I've had the good fortune to see things that most people will never see.”



Life in an Airstream: Peter Collins '02

By Alexa Peters



COURTESY OF PETER COLLINS

ON THANKSGIVING MORNING, PETER Collins '02 and his wife, Samantha Mercer—along with Wick, their greater Swiss mountain dog—drove their Airstream trailer from Cottonwood, Ariz., to Carlsbad, Calif. Smack in the middle of the almost 500-mile journey, surrounded only by boarded-up shops and a barren landscape, they heard a thud. Down the road, they spotted their tire tread, ravaged like day-old roadkill.

For most people, a highway blowout is a momentary inconvenience, and a story to remember the vacation by. But Pete and Samantha aren't most people. The 28-foot 2013 Airstream Flying Cloud 28W, which they affectionately call "Boat," has been their full-time home since March 2018. They are part of the "digital nomad" movement; remote work allows them to envision a different, more mobile, way of life.

Pete and Samantha were in their 30s, newly married and living in Seattle when they started contemplating their next steps. "We were thinking about what we wanted to do, and we thought, 'Do we want to travel more?' We weren't in any hurry—our jobs were good, our place was nice, and our family and friends were close," says Pete.

Then the couple's dream condo came on

the market. Only a few blocks from their current place, it had everything they were looking for—but suddenly it felt like a trap. "We looked at each other and said, 'We don't want that,'" Pete says.

Instead, they drove to an Airstream dealership in Covington, Wash., with plans to see as many cities in America as they could. It was exciting when they found Boat, and more than a little scary—"primarily the idea of having to change up our lifestyle so drastically," Pete says.

A typical weekday inside Boat isn't actually that different from a normal 9-to-5—just in a smaller space. After waking, Pete and Samantha usually kick Wick off the bed and let her out, then put the water on for the French press in their small kitchen. Two steps backward, and Pete and Samantha are at their desk—the built-in eating nook—ready to start work before the kettle has even come to a boil. "The commute is really zero," Pete says.

When they need a break, they'll take Wick to a dog park, and in the evenings, they like to cook, try a new restaurant, or go climbing at a local spot and watch the sun go down. "The weekends are when we play, because we work full time," Pete says.

In the last year, they have immersed themselves in beautiful national parks such as Arches, Canyonlands, and Zion. They've also tried trailer living in big cities, including Las Vegas and Salt Lake City. "Top to bottom, we've loved every place," Pete says.

Luckily, the Thanksgiving blowout is the worst experience they've had since they began their lives as full-time Airstreamers, and Pete and Samantha are in love with this flexible lifestyle. "It's helped us realize that we are capable of living in really small spaces happily together, and that we don't need all the stuff that we accumulated," Pete says. "Just being able to see these places and do it together—that's the best piece."



COURTESY OF PETER COLLINS

Helping Students Find Their Sea Legs: **Matt Lonsdale '08, M.A.T.'09**

By Anneli Fogt



IT WAS A DAMP FALL MORNING IN Tacoma, and Matt Lonsdale '08, M.A.T.'09 was standing aboard a boat surrounded by the excited chatter of 30 high-school students. Below deck, the powerful propellers of the 78-foot-long *Charles N. Curtis*, a former U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat, churned through the Puget Sound. The students were from Tacoma Public Schools' Science and Math Institute (SAMi), and on that particular day, the *Charles* served as a classroom for Matt's marine biology class.

From the mobile lab's vantage point, the steep cliffs of Point Defiance Park, the Olympic Peninsula, and South Sound islands were apparent. These shorelines, despite their inhospitable appearance, are crucial for Washington's salmon population, Matt explained to the students. The sediment created by the constant pounding of the waves against the rocky cliffs creates a habitat for forage fish—an important food source for local salmon. As he talked, the students worked on a survey to document the different types of sediment found on each shoreline.

Beyond basic ecological concepts, the students were learning how human behavior is threatening shorelines and salmon populations—and what they can do to help.

Imagining holistic approaches, like this one, to teaching mandatory subjects is what Matt enjoys most about his job. He is supported in that endeavor by SAMi, a high school located inside Tacoma's Point Defiance Park that requires educators to use the surrounding natural area as a teaching tool.

"We have that freedom to figure out how we help kids not only learn the material, but also learn how to be good citizens in the world," Matt says, and he takes that mission to heart. When he first came to SAMi, he overhauled the school's marine biology program with a more experiential, hands-on approach in mind. "It really morphed into a marine conservation-type class, as in 'Here are some things that you need to know about the marine environment to care about how humans are impacting it.'"

Matt had always planned to go into medicine, based on his passion for working with people, but at Puget Sound, he changed his mind. After a lab session—also on a boat—with biology professor Joel Elliott at the end of his sophomore year, he realized that marine biology captured his imagination in a way that neither cell biology nor genetics ever could. And after taking an Introduction to Education course, he realized he could

combine his passions for people and science as a teacher. He completed his master's degree in teaching at Puget Sound and finally landed at SAMi five years ago. It's the perfect fit for his contagious energy and passion.

"Anytime that I can be in a classroom working with kids and helping them learn—really helping them figure out what they're interested in—that is my favorite part of teaching, hands down," Matt says. A classroom on a boat just makes it better.



alumni news and correspondence

1951 In January, the Tacoma City Council approved renaming a portion of Marine Park after **Jack Tanner '51, L.L.D.'80**, who died in 2006. The park, along Tacoma's waterfront at the northwest end of Ruston Way, is near Harbor Lights, a restaurant where Jack was a regular. *Tacoma Weekly* reports it will be the first park in Pierce County named for an African American. Jack was a Tacoma native and graduated from Stadium High School before attending Puget Sound. He earned his law degree from the University of Washington and became the first African American federal judge in the Northwest, according to a January *Tacoma Weekly* article. "Jack was a hero in our community," Aaron Pointer, president of the Metro Parks Board of Commissioners, said in the article, adding that he hopes children who visit the park will be inspired by Jack to pursue careers as judges.

1964 REUNION YEAR After 30 years at Merck & Co.'s Human Health Division, **Richard Hill** retired this year. He attended Puget Sound and was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir and the Concert Band. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of San Francisco.

1970 **Karen Amundson Clements '70, M.B.A.'77, P'07** and her husband, **Dan Clements '71, P'07**, took in a family of 10 Ukrainian refugees this fall, and an article about their efforts was published in November by KING 5 News. Karen and Dan, who both earned bachelor's degrees in English from Puget Sound, live in Everett, Wash., where Dan is a photographer. The two have spent countless hours helping the Kotok family secure a driver's license, get the kids enrolled in school, set up a bank account, and get immunizations and rental assistance, the article indicates. Iryna Kotok, 18, is one of the family's eight children and is training to become a seamstress. She told KING 5 News that she is happy to be in America

because there are possibilities to pursue any career or schooling she and her siblings might want.

Ann Osborne White returned to her roots in Portland, Ore., in January after 32 years of living in Thailand. A marriage and family counselor, Ann spent most her life overseas with her late husband, **Ken White '67**. After his death in November 2015, she decided to retire from her counseling practice and spend quality time with her family and friends in Oregon. Ann earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Puget Sound, where she met Ken, who was studying business administration.

1971 **Harold Waldher**, a resident of Pomeroy, Wash., turned 90 on Jan. 8. He's a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served for more than 20 years at numerous isolated and remote radar installations worldwide. After retiring from the Air Force in 1970, Harold earned a business administration degree from Puget Sound. He has lived in Pomeroy, his hometown, since 1993.

1972 In 2018, **Jerry Meyerhoff** completed his 20th year as a PAC-12 football official. He spent New Year's Day as the replay official at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. Jerry has been officiating for a total of 39 years and holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he also played football as a Logger. He lives in Arizona with his wife, Donna.

1974 REUNION YEAR After a busy career in ministry and education, **Steven Cundiff** is now retired and lives with his wife of 50 years, Georann, in Dallas, Ore. Since retiring, he published his first book. *Wooden Nickels and Yankee Dimes* is a biographical fiction about the sea battle of Guadalcanal, in which his uncle was lost as a sailor aboard the USS Monssen. Steven holds a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound.

NYENRODE REUNION



— SAVE THE DATE! —

Relive the magic and adventure of Nyenrode once again. A reunion planned for and by American and Dutch exchange program alumni from the classes of 1966 to 1990 will take place from July 22 to July 24, 2020. Tell your Nyenrode friends and classmates!

If you have information or would like to help plan this event, please contact the Nyenrode Reunion Committee at nyenrode2020@gmail.com.

Jerry McLaughlin was one of three former Pierce College students and Pierce Distinguished Alumni who returned to the campus in January for a "Pierce Talks" forum. According to an article in *The Pioneer*, Pierce College Fort Steilacoom's student newspaper, Jerry was a D-minus student from Clover Park High School who was working as an assistant manager at McDonald's when he was recruited by the head basketball coach for Fort Steilacoom Community College (now Pierce College). He attended the college before transferring to Puget Sound, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He went on to work in marketing and retired as executive vice president of Tacoma-based creative agency JayRay. He also has served on multiple Tacoma nonprofit boards, including Junior Achievement, the Tacoma Urban League, and the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation.

1977 **Tony Herdener '77, M.B.A.'79** was named to Peach State Bank & Trust's community development board in February. He retired last year from his position as the chief financial officer of Northeast Georgia Health System. As a Logger, he played football and earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration. He lives in Georgia with his wife, **Catherine Packer-Herdener '76**.

1978 **Mike Kuntz** was hired as an attorney in January by Seattle-based Stoel Rives LLP. He will join 12 other attorneys from Foster Pepper PLLC in Stoel Rives' real estate and land use practice groups. Mike, who earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Puget Sound and a law degree from the University of Washington, has more than 30 years of experience in commercial real estate sales, leasing, and financing.

1980 **Victoria MacRae-Samuels**

is one of dozens of women running the nation's liquor world. In November, she was featured as part of an ongoing *Forbes* article series about women at the forefront of the spirits industry. Victoria is the senior director of global quality at Beam Suntory, the world's third-largest premium spirits company. She told *Forbes* that her interest in the spirits industry grew out of her passion for chemistry. She earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Puget Sound and later studied physical chemistry in graduate school at the University of Washington. Years later, while visiting Kentucky, Victoria had dinner with Booker Noe, who at the time was the master distiller at Jim Beam. "We had a compelling conversation about the science of bourbon, and he wound up asking me to join the business as a research and development chemist to help him understand what was happening to the new distillate during the barrel aging process," she told *Forbes*. Prior to her position at Beam Suntory, she was the vice president of operations at Maker's Mark, the first woman in the bourbon industry to hold that title and manage a bourbon plant.

Real estate executive **Victor Ulsh**, president of Bradley Scott Inc. in Bremerton, Wash., was profiled in a January *Kitsap Sun* article. Victor is 61 and has spent his entire career at Bradley Scott, since graduating from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Bradley Scott was sold to a property management company in Lacey, Wash., in late 2018, and Victor will soon be retiring from the real estate business, the article indicates. Now, with the company in good hands, Victor said he is looking forward to living life. "I just have this urge to do all this stuff I want to do—so many unfilled lines on my to-do list," he told the *Kitsap Sun*.

1983 **Karen Allen Witters**

and her occupational therapy clinic, Pioneer Therapy Center, were featured in a December *South Sound Business*

article. After graduating from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy, Karen began a 21-year career as a pediatric and upper-extremity/hand therapist at MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup, Wash. But in 2011, she "felt it was time to get back to basics," she told *South Sound Business*. She opened Pioneer Therapy Clinic that same year, and the team has since grown from one occupational therapist to four.

Former Logger football player **Ronald Bagby** was inducted into Forks High School's Spartan Basketball Hall of Fame in January. A multisport athlete as a teenager, Ronald was a standout on the football field and track, in addition to the basketball court. While at Forks, he set a Far West League record with 52 points during the Spartans' 79-77 win over Tenino. At Puget Sound, he was a kick returner, defensive back, and running back, and earned a bachelor's degree in physical education. He coached football, track, and basketball in Coupeville, Wash., for more than 20 years before retiring from coaching in 2010.

Jeffrey Mihalic M.B.A. '83 was appointed president and chief executive officer of Delta Private Jets in November. He has 40 years of experience in the aviation industry and joined Delta in 2015 to launch Delta Material Services. Before joining Delta, Jeffrey worked for Greenwich AeroGroup, Q Aviation, Intermet Corporation, and Bombardier Aerospace. He holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Colorado and a master's degree in business administration from Puget Sound.

1984 **REUNION YEAR** **Ted Fick M.B.A. '84**

a former Port of Seattle CEO, was named CEO of LTA Manufacturing LLC in December. In this role, he oversees the Missouri-based company's four brands: LoadMaster, ATC Truck Covers, Jason Industries, and Ranch Fiberglass. Ted has more than three decades of business leadership experience,

and holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Washington, a master's degree in management from Stanford University, and a master's degree in business administration from Puget Sound.

An Iris Stands Tall: A Mother's Journey, a Daughter's Transition, a collection of works by artist **Annette Sabater**, will be on display at The Arts Center in Corvallis, Ore., from May 10 through June 26. *An Iris Stands Tall* explores Annette's experience witnessing her transgender child medically transition to a woman as a teenager. Her pieces, created with oil pastels, graphite, and charcoal on paper, explore her emotional response, observations, musings, and cultural commentary relating to the experience. Annette holds a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from Puget Sound.

After a 33-year career in IT management, **Dawn Umstot** retired in late 2017 and has since spent more time pursuing her passion for photography. In February, she was thrilled to win *BoatUS Magazine's* national photography contest. Her photo graces the cover of the magazine's February/March issue. The photo is titled "Sunset Sails" and was taken at Seattle's Shilshole Bay Marina in August.

1985 In December, **Robert Osler** was hired as managing director of Boise, Idaho-based creative agency Oliver Russell. The position means a homecoming for Robert, a Boise native who has been working in San Francisco. He has been working in the branding business for more than 25 years and previously held positions with Microsoft, CenturyLink, and Salt Branding. Before beginning his career as a copywriter in the '90s, Robert earned a bachelor's degree in phi-

losophy from Puget Sound. He also holds a master's degree in business administration from the University of Washington.

1987 **Steven Buratto**, a former Logger football player and chemistry alumnus, was featured in a December *Noozhawk* article about his 20-year dedication to the Dos Pueblos Little League team in Santa Barbara, Calif. As coach last year, he led the Junior All Stars to a top-five finish in the state. The Idaho native graduated from CalTech with a Ph.D. in chemistry before marrying and starting a family with wife Laura. He began coaching T-ball for his eldest son's first team and hasn't stopped.

John Ostler, owner of Carousel Restaurant & Bistro in Yakima, Wash., was featured in a January *Take 5* article in the *Yakima Herald-Republic*. The newspaper feature profiles local business owners and tells the stories of how they ended up where they are today. John, who holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound and is a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity, has owned the Central Washington eatery for just over a year. Prior to purchasing Carousel, the Yakima native managed Red Lobster and Kabob House for nearly 25 years.

1989 **REUNION YEAR** **Jill Nishi**

joined Philanthropy Northwest's board of directors in October. The network is for philanthropists committed to causes in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, and promotes collaboration by community investors. Its board consists of philanthropic leaders who represent organizations committed to supporting communities in the network's region. Jill is the director of strategy, planning, and management and chief of staff at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle. She supports the strategic and operational work of the foundation's U.S. program and led the U.S. Libraries Program, an initiative dedicated to bringing technology access to underserved communi-



BLACK ALUMNI UNION



— RECRUITING MEMBERS! —

The Black Alumni Union is seeking new members to join their efforts to support, encourage, and engage with black students, alumni, and faculty members at University of Puget Sound. For information on how to get involved, contact Regina Glenn '70, M.B.A.'71, Black Alumni Union president, at glenn@pccus.com, or Haley Harshaw in the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at hharshaw@pugetsound.edu.

ties through the nation's public libraries. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound and a master's degree in public administration from Princeton University. She also serves on the boards of the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience and the U.S. Japan Council, and is a trustee emerita of Puget Sound.

1991 After 12 years as CEO of Tacoma organization WorkForce Central, **Linda Nguyen** announced in February that she will retire at the end of the year. According to a Feb. 25 article in *The Suburban Times*, Linda has been involved with the organization for 28 years, ever since her graduation from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in English. WorkForce Central carries out the vision of local elected officials and the Pierce County Workforce Development Council by coordinating, administer-

ing, and advancing the work of the workforce development system, known as WorkSource Pierce. The organization's mission is to increase access to services for job seekers, workers, and businesses.

In January, attorney **Elizabeth Frohlich** joined Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP's San Francisco business trial practice group. She represents banks and securities broker-dealers in both federal and state courts. She was previously a partner at Morgan Lewis. Elizabeth graduated from Puget Sound's Business Leadership Program and earned a law degree from Boston University School of Law.

1997 **Gregory Fox**, chair of Lane Powell's creditors' rights and bankruptcy team, was elected to the American Law Institute (ALI). Considered one of the nation's preeminent legal or-

ganizations, ALI is made up of 3,000 lawyers, judges, and law professors who work to clarify the law through restatements, analysis, and formulation of legal principles. Membership requires a rigorous nomination and review process. Gregory, who holds a bachelor's degree in politics and government from Puget Sound and a law degree from Willamette University, was selected based on his contributions in the field of commercial finance law.

Jeremy Korst, a Seattle-based marketing professional and Puget Sound trustee, was featured in a November *GeekWire* article about his double life as both a city slicker and weekend dude rancher. During the week, Jeremy works as president of marketing strategy consultancy GBH Insights. But, during the weekend, he heads to a small town in Eastern Washington where he passes the time at his friend's ranch, goes fishing, and watches NASCAR. He and his wife also own a cabinet manufacturing company. He told *GeekWire* that he thrives on variety. "I'm learning all the time," he said. Jeremy earned a bachelor's degree in politics and government from Puget Sound, where he joined the Sigma Chi fraternity and worked as an ASUPS senator. He also holds an M.B.A. in finance from the University of Pennsylvania.

Corey Van Lith's 17-year-old daughter, Hailey, is one of the country's top high school basketball recruits. The Cashmere High School junior has been playing basketball since fourth grade, according to a February KING 5 News story, and has offers from nearly every major college in the country, including the University of Connecticut, Notre Dame, and Baylor. Corey played basketball and baseball as a Logger, and is now Hailey's strength coach, pushing her at the gym every day. Cashmere High School's girls' basketball coach Brent Darnell told KING 5 that the father-daughter pair are "a perfect match for one another" and that they make each other better.

1999 REUNION YEAR

Meighan Jackson

Dietenhofer was appointed Santa Ynez Valley's 3rd Supervisorial District representative in January. According to a Jan. 14 article in the *Santa Maria Times*, she will focus on constituent services and community partnerships in California's Santa Ynez Valley. She most recently served as a commissioner representing the 3rd District on the County Riding and Hiking Trails Advisory Committee and the County Park Commission. Before entering public office, she worked for more than 20 years in private environmental consulting. Meighan holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Puget Sound and a master's degree in environmental studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Rochelle Nguyen was appointed by the Clark County Board of Commissioners in December to serve as an assemblywoman in the Nevada Legislature. According to the *Reno Gazette Journal*, her appointment was one of two that resulted in Nevada having its first-ever female-majority state legislature. She is also the first Asian American assemblywoman to serve in District 10, a Democratic-leaning district that includes parts of central Las Vegas. A Washington native, she holds a bachelor's degree in comparative sociology from Puget Sound and a law degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She is a former Clark County public defender and also worked as an immigration attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice.

2003 After graduating from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in biology, **Jeff LeBrun** received a master's degree in business administration and a Master of Science degree from the University of Michigan. He partnered with **Nicholas Abraham '03**, who earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Puget Sound and a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, to found health technology company optimize.

health. The remote patient monitoring platform enables physicians and hospitals to easily view data (blood pressure, weight, blood glucose levels) from a range of wireless health monitoring devices and provides access to software that simplifies the Medicare reimbursement process. The company's other product is a digital medication assistant called Pillsy that has been adopted by organizations including CVS, Best Buy, UC Davis Hospital, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The smart pill bottle and app serve as a medication tracker and reminder.

2004 REUNION YEAR

Hermana Cutting Confiianza del Señor, a sister at the Honduras Methodist monastery Amigas del Señor, had her first meditation published in *The Upper Room*—the most widely read Christian devotional magazine in the world. The meditation was published in the January/February 2019 issue. She compared her experience of living in a monastery with the opportunity to see God through daily spiritual practice to that of the prophetess Anna, who lived in the Temple in Jerusalem and blessed the baby Jesus. Hermana Cutting said she received “a number of unexpected and lovely responses afterwards.” She had a second meditation published in March, and a third will appear in the May/June 2019 issue. She holds a bachelor's degree in music from Puget Sound.

2005 Frazier Benya successfully released a report on the sexual harassment of women in academic sciences, engineering, and medicine in June. The report was released under the mantle of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine and an ad hoc committee overseen by the Committee on Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine (CWSEM) led by Frazier. It studied the influence of sexual harassment in academia on the career advancement of women in the scientific, technical, and medical workforce. For the release of the report, **Kaitlin Wiedeman Prusak '04** and **Katherine Arnaud '05** flew

east to surprise and support Frazier. Her husband, **Alexander Guerrieri '05**, said the report's release “went flawlessly.”

In November, **Alexander Guerrieri** began work as a sustainability consultant with Steven Winter Associates in Washington, D.C. In his role, he helps contractors and developers make their buildings more energy efficient. He lives with his wife, Frazier Benya, in Baltimore, Md.

Sara Ramey, executive director of the Migrant Center for Human Rights in San Antonio, Texas, was featured in a *San Antonio Express-News* article about her work with the state's detained immigrant population. Since creating the nonprofit in August 2017, Sara has worked with 244 immigrants and represented nine families separated at the border by the Trump administration's zero-tolerance policy. She holds a bachelor's degree in international political economy from Puget Sound, where she also worked for *The Trail*, and a law degree from American University.

2006 Puget Sound art history alumna **Tess Kutasz Christensen**, who holds a master's degree and Ph.D. in Italian Renaissance and Baroque art history from Pennsylvania State University, began her position as a Kress Fellow in European Paintings at the Detroit Institute of Arts this year. The position is funded by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, and Tess is one of two fellows hired by the institute. She will conduct research on the institute's collection of European paintings created prior to 1850.

Michelle Rosado, who is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in creative writing and literature at the University of Southern California, had her second book of poetry published in November. *Why Can't It Be Tenderness* was published by the University of Wisconsin Press and won the university's Felix Pollak Prize in Poetry. The book of poems touches on the themes of coming of age, mixed-race identity, diaspora, and cultural inheri-



Last year, **Alexandria Galvan Maurer '07** (second from right), a local volunteer coordinator for the States' 4-H International Exchange Program in Oregon, received a Recognition award at the State's 4-H International Exchange Conference.

tance. Her 2016 chapbook *Theory on Falling Into a Reef*, won the inaugural Rick Campbell Prize. Michelle holds a bachelor's degree in comparative sociology from Puget Sound and a master's degree in creative writing from California State University, Fresno. Her poems also have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Indiana Review*, and *Poet Lore*.



Film producer **Mark Sayre**, who has a production company called Lexicon, has released his seventh film. *Point Defiance*, a thriller shot entirely on Vashon Island, Wash., where Mark grew up, is making its rounds on the festival circuit this spring. Its Pacific Northwest premiere screening was held at Vashon Center for the Arts in March, according to an article in the *Vashon-Maury Island Beachcomber*. After earning a bachelor's degree in theatre arts from Puget Sound, Mark moved to Los Angeles. He recently moved back to Vashon and told the *Beachcomber* that he hopes to continue making “more affordable

movies in contained locations” and wants to create a nonprofit for youth interested in filmmaking.

2007 Following the completion of their university educations, **Alexandria Galvan Maurer** and her husband, **Vincent K. Maurer '04, D.P.T.'07**, moved to Oregon and married in 2009. They now have three children and live in rural John Day, Ore., where Vincent works as a physical therapist at Blue Mountain Hospital, the only hospital in the county, and Alexandria is a mother, child care provider, and volunteer coordinator for States' 4-H International Exchange Programs. She helps families host summer exchange students and support their own children participating in an exchange abroad. Vincent and Alexandria have hosted two Japanese students for yearlong experiences through the exchange. Last year, Alexandria was invited to present at the States' 4-H International Exchange Conference. Her workshop focused on the documentary *Beyond the Wall*, about Washington, D.C., high school students going on an exchange experience to China. She also received a recognition award for her volunteer work in Oregon 4-H.

alumni news and correspondence

Erik Voorhees was the subject of a Jan. 3 *Forbes* article focusing on bitcoin's struggles and accomplishments. Erik is co-founder of the cryptocurrency exchange Shapeshift, and discussed in the article the topics of freedom, safety, and digital currency. He holds a bachelor's degree from Puget Sound's Business Leadership Program.

2008 Actor and fight choreographer

Tom Dewey was featured in a Jan. 10 article about his involvement in a panel discussion about combat in live drama. With a bachelor's degree in theatre arts from Puget Sound, Tom has choreographed fights for Book-It Repertory Theatre, Copious Love Productions, Seattle Shakespeare Company, and many other Puget Sound-area theaters.

Lauren Iversen joined the Santa Fe Family Wellness Center's behavioral health team in Santa Fe, N.M., early this year, the *Santa Fe New Mexican* reported in February. She is a full-time, school-based therapist who provides mental health services at Santa Fe schools. Lauren earned her bachelor's degree in comparative sociology from the University of Puget Sound and received a master's degree in social work from the University of Texas at Austin.

In September, **Gloria Treseder** earned her master's degree in fine art from the University for the Creative Arts (UCA) in Canterbury, Kent. While there, she won an art competition and the opportunity to create a public art piece called "Traveller's Joy." The painting, on Kent's Canterbury East Rail Footbridge—which had been a hotspot for graffiti—focuses on the four seasons and "showcases the very best of Canterbury, from its native plants to world-famous literary characters that have been conceived in the city," a UCA blog post indicates.

Ultra-endurance bicycle racer **Lael Wilcox** was featured in a *Bicycling* magazine article in January. The piece addresses Lael's legendary bicycle racing feats—she won the

4,200-mile Trans Am race and the 2,745-mile Tour Divide, and set the fastest-known time on the 1,700-mile Baja Divide—as well as her work with Alaskan youth. GRIT (Girls Riding Into Tomorrow), the Anchorage nonprofit she runs with fellow cyclist and friend Cait Rodriguez, aims to get young women on bicycles to teach safe riding strategies and bike maintenance, as well as to empower them. Lael holds a bachelor's degree in natural science from Puget Sound, where she also ran on the Logger track and field and cross-country teams. She was featured in the winter 2018 issue of *Arches*.

2009 REUNION YEAR On Oct. 12,

Andrea Gorton and her husband, Jacob Gjesdahl, were sworn in by U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo as foreign service officer candidates for the Department of State. They were two of dozens of members of the 195th class who completed training, testing, and interviews to become U.S. diplomats. International work is no new field for Andrea, who graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in comparative sociology and has previously served in the Peace Corps and worked as vice counsel to New Delhi. She, Jacob, and their daughter, Evelia, will be preparing for their new post and learning Mandarin Chinese until next summer, when they depart for Wuhan, China.

2010 **Merissa Moeller** is an environmental attorney at Marten Law. From the practice's office in Portland, Ore., Merissa advises clients on water, environmental, and land use matters using her experience working for state and regional natural resources agencies, the private sector, and the courts. Merissa earned a bachelor's degree in international political economy from Puget Sound and a law degree from Lewis & Clark College. During law school, she worked on behalf of Oregon's natural resources agencies with the Oregon Department of Justice. Merissa also served as a judicial clerk at the Oregon Supreme Court and Oregon Court of Appeals.



In October, Andrea Gorton '09 and her husband, Jacob Gjesdahl, were sworn in by U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo as foreign service officer candidates for the Department of State. Next summer, they will depart for their post in Wuhan, China.

2012 **Anna Moeller**, a Ph.D. student studying wildlife ecology at the University of Montana, developed new methods to estimate wildlife populations using trail cameras. Wildlife managers at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game are piloting her methods, which are significantly safer and less expensive than traditional survey methods involving biologists flying into remote areas to count deer and elk. Anna holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Puget Sound and a master's degree in the same subject from the University of Montana.

Ariel Scholten, an artist and landscape architecture student at the University of Washington, exhibited her paintings at Seattle's Atelier Drome for three months last fall. Her colorful abstracts hung inside the Pioneer Square architecture and design firm from October through January. She earned a bachelor's degree in art from Puget Sound and was a member of the Logger swim team.

2013 In December, **Jessica Lefton** was hired by Psychological Associates as a marketing communications specialist. The family-owned consulting company based in St. Louis, Mo., applies behavioral sci-

ence to business performance and was co-founded by her grandfather. Jessica's father, Jeff, is the company's CEO. Jessica is a graduate of Puget Sound's business program and worked for a nonprofit women's shelter and as an assistant language teacher for a Japanese teaching exchange program before joining Psychological Associates.

Madeleine Longoria Garcia, a Q-grader (the coffee equivalent of a sommelier) at Hawai'i's Four Seasons Resort Hualalai, was profiled in a *Forbes* article about the notoriously sad state of hotel coffee and how she is helping the Four Seasons have the "world's best." Q-graders are "virtually unheard of" in the hotel industry, according to the article, and Madeleine's position exists partly as a product of the local area. Coffee is a key part of Hawai'i's agricultural industry, and her job is to highlight the quality of the local coffee community. She can trace her interest in coffee back to Puget Sound, where she worked in Diversions Café while pursuing a bachelor's degree through the university's Business Leadership Program.

2014 REUNION YEAR **Vince McCluskey**, a former Logger soccer player and graduate of Puget Sound's psychol-

ogy program, began his second season with the Tacoma Stars indoor soccer team this past winter. On Jan. 9, *Westside Seattle* reported the forward had played in all seven of the team's games.

Versing, a Seattle indie rock band made up of four Loggers, will release its third album in May. The album, *10000*, features 13 songs whose themes center around "critiques of centrism and conservatism, from a leftist perspective," frontman **Daniel Salas** told *Stereogum* in February. The band members—Daniel, **Graham Baker '15**, **Kirby Lochner '14**, and **Max Keyes '14**—met at KUPS while students at Puget Sound. The band released its first album in 2017 and its second in 2018.

Alex Shannon, who graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in economics and international political economy, was hired by HDR as an economist in December. Working out of the company's Bellevue office, Alex handles the economics of utility management for the firm's water practice, including wastewater and stormwater practices. He previously worked at Jacobs/CH2M, where he led the economic modeling and analytics team.

After graduating from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in international political economy, **Frank Walter** moved to Japan. He recently started a podcast called *Sake On Air* in cooperation with the Japan Sake and Shochu Makers Association. He says that his experiences running a show at KUPS and minoring in Japanese made what he does now possible. "I feel very blessed that I am able to put what I learned at UPS to good use in my current career," he says.

2015 Ryan Cruz was hired as Greater Yellowstone Coalition's (GYC) Montana conservation organizer in November. The *Bozeman Daily Chronicle* wrote that Ryan is responsible for building connections with people who want to help with conservation initiatives in Montana. He earned a bachelor's de-

gree from Puget Sound and double-majored in environmental policy and decision making, and biology. Before joining GYC, he worked on fossil fuel issues in Washington state.

2016 Aubrey Ann Lawrence, a graduate of Puget Sound's music business program, was hired as a member of Castilleja School's advancement staff this year. As an advancement coordinator for the all-girls private middle and high school in Palo Alto, Calif., Aubrey is responsible for the school's fundraising and advancement operations.

London-based artist and insurance claims broker **Grace Best-Devereux** was interviewed by arts website theArtsiest in February about her life since receiving her Master of Arts degree in art business from Sotheby's Institute of Art last year. Grace earned a bachelor's degree with a double major in art and business from Puget Sound before moving to London. She told theArtsiest that she pursued a master's degree because she "realized that the more education and perspective I could get on the art world, the better prepared I would be to bring art to my community and support my creative peers." She was drawn to the art insurance field because she was interested in the business behind how art is valued.

Sunny Lewis joined Portland-based construction company Skanska as a project engineer in December. She earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Logger track and field team, before earning a master's degree in civil engineering from Oregon State University.

A scientific article written by Puget Sound biology alumna and former Logger rower **Kailee Weiler** and Puget Sound assistant biology professor Siddharth Ramakrishnan was accepted to be published by *NeuroToxicology*. The paper, which explores how certain chemical compounds found in plastics affect repro-

ductive hormones in zebrafish, was published in the journal's March 2019 edition. Kailee works as a research technician in Siddharth's neurology lab at Puget Sound.

2017 Kyle Chong graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in politics and government. Since then, he has been focusing on how education can be a source of political activism. His 2017 paper, "Playful Practice: The Democratic Potential of Reacting to the Past as Experiential Learning," discussed the potential for students to learn civic engagement and social justice skills through gameplay in the classroom. The paper won the 2017 University of Puget Sound Politics and Government Outstanding Research Award, was presented at the 2018 Race and Pedagogy National Conference, and will be published in the spring 2019 edition of the *Race and Pedagogy Journal*. Kyle now manages professional development seminars for the Bureau of Education & Research and Institute for Educational Development, and is traveling the nation bringing continuing education programming on special education and multicultural education to American teachers. Kyle will attend Michigan State University this fall and begin a Ph.D. program in curriculum, instruction, and teacher education.

Mara Cummings co-authored a paper about neotropical dung beetles that was published in the *Journal of Insect Behavior* in December. Mara and another student from the University of Colorado Boulder wrote the paper after spending time in Costa Rica through the Council on International Educational Exchange's Tropical Ecology Program. While at Puget Sound, Mara earned a bachelor's degree in biology, was a member of the Logger track and field team, and joined the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Kaelan Hendrickson was hired as a field geologist by Hart Crowser, a Seattle-based engineering, science, and consulting firm. He was one of

three young geologists hired last fall, according to the *Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce*. Kaelan, a New Mexico native, earned his bachelor's degree in geology from Puget Sound.

2018 Kyrianna Bolles began her job as a museum educator and teaching artist at the Tacoma Art Museum in September. She earned a bachelor's degree in French from Puget Sound and minored in art. Her painted portraits of people living with chronic illnesses were featured in Puget Sound's 2018 *Senior Art Show*.

Elisabeth Lawrence, who earned a bachelor's degree in theatre arts and English from Puget Sound, began writing for feminist magazine *Bust* in December. Her writing has addressed topics ranging from whether Santa's reindeer are females to women in comedy and Harvey Weinstein.

Jake Wuesthoff, who was a four-year starter for the Logger football team, is now enjoying a professional career playing American football in Germany. He played the 2018 season as a free safety for the Straubing Spiders and finished second in tackles overall in the GFL 2 (German Football League, Division 2). He will continue his career this year in Munich, playing the same position for the GFL Munich Cowboys. Jake graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in exercise science and is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

2019 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

SERVICE TO PUGET SOUND

Presented to a volunteer who has demonstrated extraordinary service to Puget Sound. Whether their service includes involvement in the Alumni Council volunteer network or with other departments, these alumni have left an indelible mark on the university.



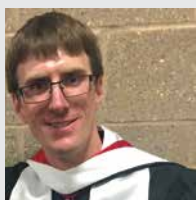
Ken McGill '61

After graduating from Puget Sound, Ken moved to California and mostly lost touch with his Logger roots. But when his brother, Robert McGill '59, died, his parents established the McGill Endowed Scholarship in his memory and Ken had an epiphany while visiting campus for the occasion. "Life has given me

the perspective to understand that my Puget Sound education has served me very well," he told *Arches* in 2009. Since having that realization, Ken has added to the McGill endowment, become an active member of the alumni community, and has played a key role in helping it grow. He oversaw the transition of the National Alumni Board to the Alumni Council and served on Puget Sound's board of trustees for nine years before being named a trustee emeritus in 2017.

YOUNG LOGGER SERVICE

Recognizes a current student or recent graduate (within the past 10 years) whose contributions have resulted in programming that inspires young Loggers (alumni and/or current students) to engage more deeply in the rich alumni traditions and spirit of Puget Sound.



Rob Wellington '11, M.A.T.'12

After college, Rob found his calling caring for a boy with autism at the Developmental Disabilities Resource Center in Lakewood, Colo. He has been with the center since 2014, and is now a senior case manager there. He says Puget Sound's "rigorous academic work and unflinching commitment to social

justice" left a lasting impression on him and influenced his career choice. He still cares for the autistic teenager who initially sparked his passion for the field years ago.

The Alumni Council Executive Committee is responsible for the annual selection of the Distinguished Alumni Award recipients. Each year, members of the alumni body and the campus community are invited to submit nominations for consideration. Send your nomination to pugetsound.edu/alumniawardnomination.

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Recognizes alumni whose commitment, skill, and dedication have had a significant impact on their communities. Through voluntary service in artistic, recreational, educational, human service, or other worthy organizations, recipients of this award better the quality of life around them through service.



Angel Iscovich '75

Angel graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in philosophy and went on to earn his medical degree at the University of California, San Francisco. After acting as CEO at multiple companies in the health care industry, he took his experience to the nonprofit sector and most recently served as chairman

of Direct Relief, which provides global humanitarian relief by partnering with pharmaceutical and health care companies throughout the world. He is now an author and lecturer who has written two books and speaks on topics including the importance of routines, artificial intelligence, and leadership.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (MIDCAREER)

Recognizes alumni whose professional career and work exemplify the intellectual curiosity, active inquiry, and reasoned independence that a Puget Sound education aims to develop. Recipients have gained national or international recognition in their careers in a manner that reflects positively on the university.



Clint Wallace '90

Captain America: The First Avenger, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, and Pirates of the Caribbean are just a few of the more than 30 films featuring Clint's art direction, set design, and visual effects work. The Academy Award-winning art director began his career as an architect. He graduated from Puget Sound

with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and art, earned his master's degree in architecture at UCLA, and formed his own firm in 1999 before entering the film industry. Clint's Logger roots run deep; he opened Seattle's Six Spirits Distillery with two other Puget Sound alumni in 2014, and continues to go on an annual Logger camping trip, now in its 24th year.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (LIFETIME)



Kevin Billings '77

Once a young legislative assistant on Capitol Hill, Kevin has built a resume that now includes positions such as assistant secretary of the U.S. Air Force and honorary group captain in the Royal Air Force. He is CEO and founder of Legation Strategies, which provides advisory services to energy,

infrastructure, and national security sectors, and has been awarded the U.S. Air Force Exceptional Civilian Service Medal and the U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal. He attributes this "improbable career," as he calls it, to his mentors at Puget Sound, including legendary Logger football coach "Big Wally," his green-and-gold era football teammates, and his Theta Chi brothers.



ROSS MULHAUSEN

Longtime educator **Christine Kline**, professor emerita and former dean of Puget Sound's School of Education, was known for her collaborative approach to teaching. The supportive relationships she developed encouraged students to be role models and colleagues to be more patient. It was an approach crafted over nearly four decades of work in the education field. Christine received her bachelor's degree in English and American civilization from Mills College, her master's degree in American literature from the University of Pennsylvania, and her doctorate in education from Rutgers University. Her first 14 years as a professional were spent teaching elementary and middle school in New Jersey, and consulting on K-12 curriculum throughout the nation. She served as the director of the National Commission on Composition for the National Council of Teachers of English before joining Puget Sound as a faculty

member in the School of Education in 1994. During her 15 years at the university, she served as director of women's studies (now the Gender and Queer Studies Program), was invited to numerous national and international venues to speak about the British language across the curriculum movement and feminist theories of talk, and was the dean of the School of Education. After retiring in 2009, she became a docent at the Seattle Art Museum. Christine died on Jan. 22, after a year of illness. A statement to the campus community on Feb. 1 announcing her passing referred to Christine as "an always-generous role model ... Her wisdom and kindness as [a] mentor and friend have been quietly but importantly felt by many at Puget Sound both prior to and following her retirement. Her positive spirit is being remembered across and beyond the campus as we grieve her passing and honor her gifts to us."

ALUMNI

A. Jane Thompson Price '44 died in Oregon on Oct. 21. She was 96. A native of Pullman, Wash., she earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir and Delta Delta Delta sorority, and worked for ASUPS. After graduating, she married Albert Prince. The couple had seven children, and Jane became involved with music—teaching voice lessons, singing in her church choir, and playing a variety of instruments.

Margaret Allen Jonez '48, '71 passed away on Dec. 18. She was 92. Born in Los Angeles, Margaret was raised in Tacoma and earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Puget Sound, where she met William Jonez '50, the man who would become her husband. The two married in 1949. Margaret worked as a riveter during World War II. After the war ended, she became a social worker. She returned to Puget Sound to earn a teaching certificate in 1971, and worked as a school teacher.

Robert Garrison '49 passed away on Nov. 28 at the age of 95. A Tacoma native, he graduated from Stadium High School and, after at-

tending Seattle Pacific University, was drafted into the U.S. Army to serve in World War II. After the war ended, he returned stateside and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he met Clara Brakke '53, the woman he would marry in 1959. Robert began his career at the Internal Revenue Service and later transferred to The Bank of California (Union Bank of California), where he worked for 30 years before retiring.

Walter Loewenstein '49, former president of the American Nuclear Society, passed away on Nov. 26. He was 92. Born in Germany, he immigrated to the United States with his family at the age of 12. He earned a bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics from Puget Sound before earning a doctorate in physics from The Ohio State University. He worked for Argonne National Laboratory, where he planned experiments using the Zero Power Reactor III at Argonne's facility in Idaho Falls, Idaho. In the early 1970s, he was named director of Argonne's applied physics division but left the company in 1973 for a job with the Nuclear Power Division's newly established Electric Power Research Institute. He became the division's deputy director

in 1982, and remained in the position until his retirement seven years later. He assumed the American Nuclear Society presidency in 1989.

Mollie Mae Morse Huber '49, a graduate of Puget Sound's economics program and member of the Alpha Phi sorority, died on Jan. 16. She was 91. Born and raised in Tacoma, she graduated from Stadium High School before earning a bachelor's degree from Puget Sound. She worked for many years as a loan officer for Tacoma Savings and Loan and married Francis Huber '52. The two were married for 67 years before his death in March 2018.

Joyce Nedervold '49 died on Nov. 25 at the age of 90. Born in Tacoma, she graduated from Stadium High School and attended Puget Sound. While a student, she joined the Chi Omega sorority and met Glenn Nedervold '45, the man who would become her husband. The two lived for more than 30 years on Fox Island, Wash., and raised two sons.

Howard Irwin '50, '52, a renowned botanist and former president of the New York Botanical Garden, died on Jan. 23 in Massachusetts. He was 90. Howard earned bachelor's degrees in biology and education from

Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and the orchestra. He taught biology as a Fulbright instructor at Queen's College in Guyana, South America, and earned his Ph.D. in biology from the University of Texas at Austin. In the following years, he led a series of field trips to Brazil and discovered multiple new plant species that had never before been documented. After his presidency at the New York Botanical Garden, a vice chancellorship at Long Island University, and a directorship at New York's Clark Botanic Garden, Howard retired in 1991 and moved to Cape Cod, Mass., where he remained involved in local conservation work.

Norman Pollom '50, a native of Chehalis, Wash., and former Logger football player who headed the Los Angeles Rams and Buffalo Bills scouting staffs, died on Jan. 7. He was 93. After graduating from Chehalis High School in 1943, Norman attended Valley City State University in North Dakota as part of a World War II-era U.S. Navy officers training program. He served in the military for two years and enrolled at Puget Sound once the war ended. While playing football as a Logger, he was a member of the legendary 1949

in memoriam

team that went 7-1 as Evergreen Conference co-champions and beat the rival Pacific Lutheran University Lutes twice. Norman graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education and coached at multiple Washington high schools, the University of Washington, and the University of Southern California before entering the realm of professional football. As leader of the Los Angeles Rams' scouting staff, he built the teams that won seven straight NFL Western Division championships from 1973 to 1979. With the Bills, he rebuilt the scouting staff, making the team an AFC powerhouse. He retired in 1990.

David Sahlin Jr. '50 died on Jan. 15 at the age of 90. Born and raised in Tacoma, he graduated from Stadium High School and attended Puget Sound before earning a doctorate in dental surgery from the University of Washington. After graduating, he joined the U.S. Air Force as a dentist and was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, during the Korean War. When he returned to Washington, he met and married Marion Russum. The couple had two sons, and David continued practicing dentistry for five decades. He retired at the age of 74.

Betty Uhlman Fleischmann '50 passed away on Jan. 9, nine days before her 94th birthday. Raised in Tacoma, she graduated from Stadium High School and earned a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound. She married James Fleischmann '51 and worked as a teacher for Tacoma Public Schools. Betty is preceded in death by James.

Ann Vlahovich Marinkovich '50 passed away on Nov. 10 at the age of 89. Born and raised in Tacoma, she was the first child born in America to her Croatian immigrant parents. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir and joined the Pi Beta Phi sorority. She was an elementary school teacher for six years and mother to four children.

Wilmont Westlin '50 died on Jan. 12. He was 93. A lifetime Tacoma resident, he graduated from Stadium High School before joining the U.S. Coast Guard. After completing his service, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. He and his wife, Ede, had three children.

Nadine Clarey Cox '51, a beloved elementary school teacher, died on Dec. 2 at the age of 89. Born and raised in Tacoma, she earned a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound and taught first grade at the now-closed Hilltop Elementary School in Puyallup, Wash., for 30 years.

Vivian Davidson Russell '51 died on Jan. 10 in Sedro-Woolley, Wash. She was 90. Born in Port Angeles, Wash., she graduated from Port Angeles High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. She married Terry Russell in December 1950, and the couple had five children.

Richard Waller '51 passed away on Nov. 3, less than two months after his 97th birthday. He served in World War II and, upon returning stateside, attended Puget Sound before graduating from the University of Washington School of Dentistry.

Katherine Falskow Desberg '52, P'80 died on Feb. 6 at the age of 89. Born and raised in Tacoma, she graduated from Stadium High School and attended Stephen's College in Missouri before graduating from Puget Sound with a Bachelor of Arts degree. While at the university, she joined the Chi Omega sorority and traveled abroad in Sweden and Europe with religion professor John Phillips. After graduation, she worked for the State Department in Germany and the American embassy in Belgium. She is survived by her three children: Niels Jensen '80, Kirsten Robinett, and Rolf Jensen.

Marie Hines Jurich '52, a Tacoma native and former library professional

who attended Puget Sound, died on Nov. 30. She was 88.

Vernon Kohout '52 passed away on Nov. 23. He was 91. A native of Tacoma, Vernon graduated from Lincoln High School. A standout baseball player, he played for the Loggers and was scouted by teams such as the Boston Red Sox and Brooklyn Dodgers. After a short stint in the U.S. Navy, he signed on with the Pacific Coast League's San Francisco Seals in 1947. He pitched for teams throughout the nation before retiring from the sport in 1950 and coming to Puget Sound, where he earned a bachelor's degree in education and met Georgia Tippie '51, the woman who would become his wife. The two married, and Vernon earned a doctorate in education from the University of Wisconsin. He joined the U.S. Department of Defense school system and spent 27 years abroad in administrative roles. Vernon retired in 1990 and settled back in Washington. In 2007, he was inducted into the Tacoma-Pierce County Sports Hall of Fame. Vernon was preceded in death by Georgia and is survived by three children and five grandchildren.

Fredda Lamp Pfau '53, '54 died on Jan. 21, exactly one month before her 88th birthday. Born and raised in Arlington, Wash., she graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy. She earned her occupational therapy certification one year later. She had postgraduate internships in Honolulu, Hawai'i, and treated countless World War II veterans throughout the country. While working in California, she met and married Robert Pfau and settled in Granada Hills, Calif. In 1982, the couple retired to Whidbey Island, Wash. Fredda continued traveling internationally, and Robert worked on a rhododendron sanctuary around their home.

Jean Stobbs Ronald '53 died on Dec. 21, 2017. She was 86. Born and raised in Washington, she earned a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound, where she joined the Alpha Phi sorority. She was an

elementary school teacher for seven years before she moved to Australia and married Forrest Ronald. Together, they ran a successful news agency for 25 years.

Richard Tillotson '56, M.Ed.'68, a U.S. Army veteran and resident of University Place, Wash., passed away on Jan. 25. He was 89. Richard graduated from Clover Park High School and began working at Puget Sound National Bank, where he met Marian Anderson, the woman who would become his wife. They married in 1951, before Richard joined the U.S. Army and was stationed in Hawai'i, South Carolina, and Utah. After his service, he earned his bachelor's degree in English and master's degree in education from Puget Sound. He went on to become a school counselor.

Ray Aest '57 died on Aug. 19 at the age of 85. Born and raised in Tacoma, he graduated from Lincoln High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Logger golf team and U.S. Air Force ROTC program. He served in the U.S. Air Force at March Air Force Base and retired in 1960. He then worked for Boeing for more than three decades.

Ardyce Overland Conner '57, '58 passed away in Arlington, Wash., on Jan. 8, 2018. She was 88. Born in North Dakota, she earned a bachelor's degree and certification in occupational therapy from Puget Sound before graduating from Tacoma General Hospital's School of Nursing. She went on to become a teacher there until the school closed and then taught in Tacoma General Hospital's (now called MultiCare Tacoma General Hospital) education department.

Georgadee Martin MacLeod '59, P'92 passed away on Nov. 10 at the age of 80. Born in Pennsylvania, Georgadee was raised in Everett, Wash., and earned a bachelor's degree in communication studies and theatre arts from Puget Sound. While

at the university, she also joined the Pi Beta Phi sorority. She worked at GTE and Johnson Printing before retiring and lending her time to volunteering at Everett Community College, the Everett Public Library, and Little Libraries. Her daughter, Wendi Lee MacLeod '92 is also an alumna of Puget Sound's theatre arts and communication studies programs.

John Perry '59 died on Dec. 11 in Olympia, Wash. He was 81. After graduating high school in Tacoma, John attended Puget Sound and Washington State University. In 1962, he began a 30-year career as a driver's license examiner with the Washington State Department of Licensing. He was a foster parent and regularly welcomed foreign exchange students into his home. He also coached football and wrestling.

Donald Weber '59 died on Jan. 9, less than two weeks before his 83rd birthday. Born and raised in Tacoma, he served in the U.S. Army and earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Puget Sound and a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Washington. He married Marjorie Coy '58 and became a family physician serving the Washington communities of Lake Tapps and Sumner for more than 40 years.

John Mitchell '60, a Gig Harbor, Wash., resident and longtime teacher, died on March 10, 2018. He was 80. Born and raised in Tacoma, John earned a bachelor's degree in communication studies and theatre arts from Puget Sound, where he met Carolyn Fletcher '60. The two married and moved to Gig Harbor, where they raised three children. John taught English for more than 30 years at South Kitsap High School, where he also co-directed school musicals and served as the announcer at home football games.

Duane Parker '60 died on Jan. 8, after nearly a dozen years of living with myelodysplastic syndrome, a bone marrow disease. He was 81. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound, where he

met Barbara Keevil '60, the woman who would become his wife. After completing his undergraduate work, he decided to pursue theology, earning a Master of Divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. from Kansas State University. His ministry took him to Kansas, Rhode Island, and Georgia. Duane spent more than 50 years as a supervisor with the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, serving as its national executive director for 10 years.

Robert Stotts '60, an Arizona native and U.S. Army veteran, passed away on Feb. 1, 2018. He was 83. After graduating from high school in California, Robert enlisted in the U.S. Army and served at Fort Lawton (now Discovery Park in Seattle) and Fort Lewis (now Joint Base Lewis-McChord). He attended Puget Sound but ultimately earned his bachelor's degree from Arizona State University after completing his military service. He was a builder and business owner in California for more than 50 years and was a certified public accountant for more than 10 years.

Gilbert Harrington '62 passed away on Dec. 2 at the age of 81. Born and raised in Western Washington, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. He went on to work for Gulf Oil until 1974, when he returned with his wife to Washington. He became an internal auditor for the state of Washington and retired in 1999.

James Robinson '62 died on Jan. 31 at the age of 86. Born in Wyoming, he moved with his family to Tacoma as a teenager. He graduated from Fife High School and earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Puget Sound before becoming a teacher. He taught marine biology and life sciences for the Clover Park School District and retired in 1992.

Vivienne Johnson Klingbeil '63 passed away in Edmonds, Wash., on Jan. 12. She was 77. Vivienne graduated from Seattle's Lincoln High School and earned a bachelor's

degree in English from Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Chi Omega sorority. She taught in the Lake Washington School District and went on to have multiple trailblazing adventures. In her obituary, her family says Vivienne "dove out of a plane in Australia, educated the folks at NASA about effective instruction, got married in Russia shortly after the fall of the Soviet Union, battled her way through Venezuela during catastrophic flooding in her 50s, wandered the bandit-filled hillsides of central Mexico on a vision quest, beat back cancer multiple times over 32 years, preferred words over numbers (an understatement), was completely unfettered by time constraints or schedules, and claimed that her crowning achievement was that she raised her two boys to be 'good men.'"

Robert Lakefish '63 died in Longview, Wash., on Jan. 3. He was 78. A Washington native, he graduated from R.A. Long High School before attending Puget Sound. He worked for Weyerhaeuser for 30 years and retired as a millwright in 2005.

Florence Burghardt '64, an alumna of Puget Sound's English program, died in Illinois on Dec. 1. She was 90.

Becky Gault Honsberger '64 died on Feb. 27 in Auburn, Calif. She was 75. Becky earned a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound, where she became a member of the Chi Omega sorority and met William Honsberger '63, whom she later married. She taught in the Oak Grove School District in Northern California for 20 years and retired in 2000. She is survived by her husband, William.

Sharon Miller Montgomery '64, P'94, a native of Wenatchee, Wash., who attended Puget Sound and was a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority, passed away on Jan. 17. She was 76. After graduating from high school in Wenatchee in 1960, Sharon attended Puget Sound and met C. Clark Montgomery '62, P'94. The two married in 1963 and moved to Lakewood, where they raised three

sons. Their son Joshua Montgomery '94 earned his bachelor's degree in physics from Puget Sound.

Philip White '65 died in Idaho on Jan. 31 after a battle with Alzheimer's disease. He was 77. Born and raised in Lewiston, Idaho, he graduated from Lewiston High School. He attended Puget Sound before enlisting in the U.S. Army. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from San Jose State University in California. Philip began teaching at Washington State University while working toward his Ph.D. in psychology. After graduating, he taught at Southern Oregon College and then moved to California, where he worked for the California Youth Authority and maintained a private psychiatry practice.

Maxim Zbitnoff '67, who attended Puget Sound, died on June 16 in Massachusetts. He was 72.

Terry Hale '68, a Tacoma native and former Logger football player and wrestler, passed away during a bike ride with friends on June 18. He was 72. Terry graduated from Lincoln High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. He received his master's degree in business administration from Seattle University and went on to work for Pierce County. He retired as the county's director of information systems technology.

William Shaug '68 passed away on Jan. 6 at the age of 73. The Seattle native loved music from an early age and earned a bachelor's degree in music from Puget Sound. He later received a master's degree in music education from VanderCook College of Music in Chicago. He worked as a teacher and band director at multiple junior and high schools throughout Western Washington before beginning a 20-year career with Boeing as a program planner.

Bruce Glundberg '69 died on Dec. 16 after a battle with myelodysplastic syndrome. He was 74. Born in San Diego, Bruce grew up in Tacoma and earned a bachelor's degree in

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Tacoma 11.29.18 | Seattle 12.4.18 | Los Angeles 12.12.18 | San Francisco 12.13.18
Denver 1.16.19 | Boise 1.17.19 | Washington, D.C. 2.6.19 | Honolulu 3.28.19
New York 5.30.19 | Portland 6.11.19 | Chicago 6.25.19 | Minneapolis 6.26.19

business administration from Puget Sound, where he joined the Kappa Sigma fraternity. After serving in the Army Reserves, he was hired by truck design and manufacturing company PACCAR. He worked in the company's Kenworth division for 35 years before retiring. He enjoyed sailing and restoring cars.

William Caddey '71, a lifelong resident of Tacoma, passed away on Jan. 15. He was 91. William graduated from Stadium High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound. He joined the U.S. Navy during World War II and returned state-side after the war to marry his high school sweetheart, Jean. William worked as a CPA in Tacoma for more than 50 years.

Arlene Stanfill '71 died on Feb. 1, her 70th birthday, after a 10-year battle against breast cancer. She grew up in Tacoma, graduated from Stadium High School, and earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Puget Sound. She moved to Texas and became a social worker for Child Protective Services.

Nancy Hillier Beerman '72 passed away on Nov. 12. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound, where she joined the Delta Delta Delta sorority and was a member of the ski team. She went on to earn a master's degree in library science from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and to become an elementary school teacher and librarian.

Lloyd Jordan '72 passed away unexpectedly on June 12, one month before his 69th birthday. Born and raised in Canada, he attended Yakima Valley College in Yakima, Wash., before coming to Puget Sound. He earned a bachelor's degree in economics and moved back to Canada with his wife, Rae Ann. He is preceded in death by his wife, and survived by two children and one grandchild.

Michael Snyder '72, known for being the first franchisee of the Red Robin restaurant chain, died in

Yakima, Wash., on Dec. 2. He was 68. Born and raised in Yakima, he graduated from Eisenhower High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound, where he joined the Sigma Chi fraternity. Michael and his brother, Stephen Snyder '75, went on to open 14 Red Robin restaurants in Washington, Colorado, and Idaho. In 2000, he merged his franchise company with the parent company and took over as CEO and president.

Jerry Ferrier '75 passed away on Oct. 3 after a battle against liver cancer. He was 78. A longtime Seattle resident, Jerry earned a bachelor's degree in public administration from Puget Sound and went on to work on numerous local and national political campaigns.

Terry Higgins Hinsor '75 passed away on Jan. 26. Born and raised in the Seattle area, she earned a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Chi Omega sorority. She worked as an occupational therapist for 40 years, specializing in the treatment of geriatric and medically complex patients. She is survived by her two sons and two granddaughters.

Ronald Shelman '75, an Idaho native and former Seattle police officer, died on Oct. 18. He was 76 and had been battling multiple myeloma. Ronald graduated from Bonners Ferry High School and married Cheryle in 1968. The two had a twin son and daughter before moving to Washington, where he earned a bachelor's degree in public administration from Puget Sound. After graduation, he began a 25-year career with the Seattle Police Department and retired in 1990.

Jimmy Barnes '76, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and Pasco, Wash., native, died on Nov. 27 at the age of 80. He graduated from Marysville High School before earning a bachelor's degree in public administration from Puget Sound. He went on to work for the city of Seattle and Bank of America, and as a travel host. He is

survived by his wife, four children, and more than a dozen grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Gary William Low M.B.A. '79 passed away on Nov. 16, while golfing at Auburn Golf Course. He was 69. Gary was a longtime resident of Burien, Wash., and graduated from Highline High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Washington and a master's degree in the same subject from Puget Sound. He served in the U.S. Army National Guard and was a controller for several Seattle-area businesses.

Toni Ross '79 passed away on Jan. 11. She was 68. Toni earned her bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from Puget Sound.

Thomas Lopez '80 died in California on Nov. 30. He was 70. Thomas graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and became an engineer.

Steven Holman '81, a Seattle resident and longtime steel industry professional, passed away on Jan. 13. He was 71. Steven earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound and went on to work for more than 40 years in the steel business and as a steel estimator.

Caroline Beaver Stone '83 died on Nov. 23, 12 days after her 60th birthday. She earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound.

Beckie Krantz '84 passed away on Nov. 24 after a battle against cancer. She was 75. Born in Seattle, Beckie worked as director of development at Annie Wright School in Tacoma and as director of research for Washington Friends of Higher Education before earning a bachelor's degree in comparative literature from Puget Sound. She was an intern at the Washington Supreme Court and later founded a company with her husband offering nationwide legislative information online.

She was a longtime resident of Gig Harbor, Wash.

Sheryl Deffenbaugh Pasquinelli '85 died on Oct. 14 in San Jose, Calif. She was 55 and had fought ovarian cancer for three years. Born in Kennewick, Wash., she graduated from Kennewick High School and earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from Puget Sound. She held multiple computer analyst positions in Seattle before moving to California's Silicon Valley. She met her husband, Kevin, and the two married in 1994. Their daughter was born in 1996, and their son in 1999. Sheryl later became the computer teacher at her children's school and, for 15 years, created a computer curriculum for students in preschool through junior high.

Julie Hillers '88 passed away on June 22, a dozen years after being diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. She was 52. The Pullman, Wash., native earned a bachelor's degree in math and business administration from Puget Sound, where she participated in the Business Leadership Program and KUPS. She worked in information technology for a variety of companies, including Safeco Insurance, Washington Mutual Bank, and Seattle Children's Hospital.

Marilyn Waltz Brown '88 died on Sept. 22 at the age of 52. She was born in Portland, Ore., and graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in business administration and accounting. While at the university, she was part of the Business Leadership Program, joined the Pi Beta Phi sorority, and met Todd Brown '90. Marilyn and Todd married in 1994, and Marilyn became a partner at the Portland accounting firm Hainley Lavey & Brown. The couple had four children.

Heidi Barrett Hilliard '89 passed away on Dec. 1 at the age of 52. She had been fighting cancer for 20 years. Born in Seaside, Calif., she graduated from W.F. West High School in Chehalis, Wash., and earned a bachelor's degree in international affairs and

French from Puget Sound. Two years later, she married David Hilliard and began working as a mortgage broker.

Jennifer Bott Lange '91, a Washington native and longtime elementary school teacher, passed away on Sept. 17. She was 49. Born in Vancouver, Wash., she graduated from Evergreen High School before earning a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Puget Sound, where she joined the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She had been working as a teacher for more than two decades and, at the time of her death, was a first grade teacher at Grass Valley Elementary School in Camas, Wash.

Kimberley Loehr Soto '93 passed away on Jan. 3 in Texas. She was 47. Kimberley earned a bachelor's degree in natural science from Puget Sound, where she was a member of the Logger crew team and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Sarah Walton '96 died on Oct. 4 at the age of 44. A native of Western Washington, she earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Puget Sound and began working in marketing and sales in Seattle. In 2005, she moved to Vancouver, Wash., with her husband and daughter. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, as well as being outdoors.

Jacob Denovchek '04 died on Dec. 4 after fighting melanoma for four years. He was 36. He was born in San Diego, and he and his family moved to Tucson, Ariz. He graduated from University High School before earning a bachelor's degree in history from Puget Sound. One year later, he joined the Army and served with the 772nd Forward Surgical Team, which was deployed to Jalalabad, Afghanistan, for 14 months in 2008-09. Upon his return to the U.S., he held various jobs but found his calling volunteering at the VA hematology/oncology lab helping other veterans fight cancer.

scrapbook



▲ **Gwynne Kuhner Brown '95**, Puget Sound associate professor of music, had the pleasure of taking several musicologically inclined Puget Sound alumni out to lunch during the annual national meeting of the American Musicological Society, held this year in San Antonio, Texas. Clockwise from left: Gwynne, **Matthew Franke '07**, master instructor of music history at Howard University; **Esther Morgan-Ellis '06**, assistant professor of music at the University of North Georgia; **Danni Simon '09**, Ph.D. candidate at the University of California, Berkeley; **Elizabeth Newton '11**, Ph.D. candidate at the CUNY Graduate Center; Ellen George, affiliate instructor of music at Puget Sound; and **Robert Wrigley '14**, Ph.D. student at the CUNY Graduate Center.



▲ **Andrew Anderson '13** and **Jessica Shiarella '12** got married in Hawai'i on July 14, 2018. More than 20 Loggers flew to the Big Island to help them celebrate their big day. Despite growing up near each other on Oahu, Andrew and Jessica didn't meet until they came to Puget Sound. They moved to Singapore and got engaged in the Maldives before moving back to Seattle and getting married. They live in Seattle, where Andrew is the president of Coolerguys, an IT component manufacturer and distributor, and Jessica is a product marketing manager at Microsoft.

▲ After earning her bachelor's degree in education from Puget Sound and joining the Pi Beta Phi sorority, **Karen Nelson Adams '64** lived in California for 30 years. She eventually moved back to Washington, reconnected with some of her Pi Phi sorority sisters, started a book club, and then, in 2002, started the Pi Phi Annual Reunion. For the past 18 years, sisters from Puget Sound's Pi Beta Phi sorority who graduated in the '60s have been meeting at various destinations around the country, including Leavenworth, Wash.; beaches on the Oregon coast; Chesapeake Bay, Va.; Ashland, Ore.; and many more wonderful places. In the fall of 2018, the group traveled to Steamboat Springs, Colo., and snapped this photo. From left: **Sharon Shores Gadd '63**, **Roberta Whinery Brasier '64**, **Diane Peterson Schultz '64**, **Alice Berglund Rohde '64**, Karen, **Sandy Proudfoot Smith '64**, **Judy Wheeler Pickett '64**, **Sharon O'Leary Mally '65**, **Elaine Hazleton Bolton '64**, and **June Helland Bough '63**.



▲ **Cameron Butler '10, D.P.T.'15** married Marlee Milosevich at Pomeroy Farms in Yacolt, Wash., on June 30. The Loggers helping them celebrate included **Zack Stoddard '08**; **Torey Holderith '09**; **Francis Reynolds '10, M.A.T.'11**; **Frank Prince '06**; **David Skolnik '11, D.P.T.'15**; **Andrew Bonica '09**; **Courtney Johnson D.P.T.'15**; **Patrick Clinton D.P.T.'15**; **Emily Pinnow Holderith '10**; **Nathan Moorman '11**; **Cam Nakano '09**; and **Sean Field-Eaton '11, D.P.T.'15**.





▲ The Adelphian Concert Choir of 1973, which spent spring semester abroad in Vienna, Austria, celebrated its 45th reunion in Leavenworth, Wash., in May. A highlight was singing the concert repertoire. The group of old friends has kept in close contact over the years, **Mary Jane Towner Glaser '75** wrote in a caption accompanying this photo. "We feel fortunate for the opportunities UPS and the semester abroad afforded us," she said. Back row, from left: **Scott Baker '75, Linda Purcell-Nye '75, Steven Zimmerman '73, Nancy Crawford Holm '75, Heidi Barrett '75, Mary, Christine Ward Gutenkauf '74, Steve Moll '76, Leslie Brownell Malek '76, and Jan Anderson '75.** Middle row, from left: **Jon Palmason '74, Glenda Williams '72, Laurel Boll Gonzalo '72, Luann Bice '76, Ellen Seibert Poole '75, Paula Keizur Russell '73, Mary Schoenleber Berthiaume '75, Tim Russell '73, Laurie Stowe Gogic, and Arlene Clark Collins.** Front row, from left: **Michael Delos '74 and Sandra Noll McLean '76.** Adelphians present but not pictured: **Ann Davis Palmason '71, Ann Wells Duda '72, and Ann Sakaguchi '74.**



▲ Six Loggers from the Class of 1999 who all lived together while at Puget Sound reunited for a girls' weekend in November. Group members hadn't seen each other in more than seven years. From left: **Katherine Caufield '99; Aubree Robinson Steffens '99; Noelle Detrich-Eaton '99; Jessica Cozzens '99; Amanda Singer Jensen '99, M.O.T.'02; and Alyssa Jorgenson Muhlendorf '99.**



▲ **Emma Donohew '08** married Eric Olausen on Sept. 29 during a whimsical ceremony in the woods at Wandering Waters Farm in Maple Falls, Wash. The couple was surrounded by family, friends, and many Loggers—all wearing hats, as requested by the bride and groom—for weather and whimsy. Back row, from left: Alyssa Elder Riel, officiant **Christy Fisher '06, Missy Zenczak '09, Andrea Cederberg Halverson '08, Devin Turner '06, Corinne Fowler Ramsey '08, Brittany Howe Wright '08, Annelise Haft '08,** the bride and groom, **Jan Halgren Albright '70, and Douglas Albright '70.** Middle row, from left: **Nicole Juliano '08, Heather Kliment Turner '08, Alex Raposo '08, and Kate Wesche Baars '08.** Front row, from left: **Mikael Bangcaya '08, Matt Grey '08, Tim Baars '06, Bruce Sadler '83, and David Childs '08.**



▲ **Regina Kearney Glenn '70, M.B.A.'71** and **Edward Horne Jr. '70** attended the Seattle leg of President Isiaah Crawford's strategic plan tour and snapped this photo. From left: **Aaron Edwards '13, Regina, and Edward.**



▲ Puget Sound's Black Alumni Union was well represented at the university's 33rd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on Jan. 24. **T'wina Nobles '06, M.A.T.'07** was the recipient of the Keep Living the Dream Award, presented by Puget Sound's Office of Intercultural Engagement. The award honors community members who embody King's spirit. From left: T'wina and Vivie Nguyen, Puget Sound's director for intercultural engagement.

scrapbook



▲ **Erin O'Dwyer '07, M.A.T.'08** had a big year in 2018. She married Nick Martinovic in a courthouse ceremony in March. In August, the two moved to Tokyo, Japan. After seven years teaching in the public school system, Erin wanted to make a change. Now, she is teaching kindergarten at Nishimachi International School and loving it.



▲ Puget Sound alumni **David Jones '02, Heather Hanna Jones '03, and Joanna Hartman Close '04** recently discovered they were neighbors in the small Maplewood neighborhood of Portland, Ore. Not only do they live blocks apart, but both families have 6-year-old girls (Mackenzie Jones and Francie Close) who ended up in the same kindergarten and first grade classes. This past year, both families also welcomed new babies: Parker Jones and Dorothy Close. From left: Heather (holding Mackenzie and Francie), David (with Parker), and Joanna (with Dorothy).



◀ Maria Sampen, violin professor and string department chair at Puget Sound's School of Music, met **Jim Mullinax '90** while performing and teaching at the Sichuan Conservatory in Chengdu, China, in December. Jim is the U.S. consul general in Chengdu and he, along with his wife Tzu-I Chuan, hosted a reception for the guests of the conservatory.

◀ As the associate director of college counseling at University Prep in Seattle, **Britten Snider Nelson '00** (right) had the opportunity to visit Lake Forest College in Illinois for a counselor tour in November. One of the other counselors attending the program was **Marsha Setzer '01**, who is now working as the associate director of college counseling at The Bishop's School in La Jolla, Calif. The two were able to connect professionally, and Britten says, "It was fun to be on a college tour with a fellow Logger."



▲ On Dec. 6, 1943, Puget Sound's student population nearly doubled with the arrival of 238 U.S. Army soldiers who would call Kittredge Hall—Puget Sound's student center at the time—home for three months. The soldiers were privates enrolled in the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP), created during World War II to address a shortage of technically and professionally trained soldiers. Their unit was called to action in March 1944, earlier than expected. All 238 members of Unit 3966 fought in the Battle of the Bulge; 213 returned from battle. Seventy-five years later, on Dec. 6, 2018, Logger **Patrick Kearney '44** wanted to mark the 75th anniversary of his unit's arrival on campus. From New York, he ordered flowers to be delivered to the hall he once called home. **John Finney '66, P'94** (left) and Professor of Art History Linda Williams received the floral arrangement.



▲ Over the past 37 years, **Gorham Bowler '82** has been living and working in Seattle as an actuary and regulatory compliance manager immersed in the development and pricing of insurance products. He says his most gratifying moments, however, were and continue to be time spent with his four children. Three are grown and doing amazing things, he says. His fourth, pictured above with Gorham (left) and alone (right), was born in June 2018.



▲ Last fall, a group of 2012 M.A.T. classmates gathered together on the Oregon coast with their families for an annual reunion. From left: Scott Morrison; **Emily Ehrlich '07, M.A.T.'12**; **Molly Gibson Higgins '11, M.A.T.'12**; **Kainoa Higgins '08, M.A.T.'09**; **Kathleen McGuire Hochstatter M.A.T.'12**; Michael Hochstatter; **Mina Bartovics Wade M.A.T.'12**; Brannon Wade; Rowan Wade; and Maera Wade.



▲ Eight former Logger rowers met up with Puget Sound's coaches at the 2018 USRowing Annual Convention in San Diego in December. From left: **Alex Mann '11**; **Ted Oja '15**; **Sam Taylor '01**; **Alexia Ingerson '16**; **Delany Pelz '13**; assistant crew coach **Michael Willy '92**; Tess Webster; **Greg Spooner '01, D.P.T.'10**; and Puget Sound head crew coach Aaron Benson.

► On Nov. 14, 2017, **Sara Ball Piper '06** and husband Kyle Piper welcomed twin boys into the world.



▲ **Elizabeth Hutchins De Loch '00, '03** (left) and **Holly Newman Kleiman '00** (right) first met on the Puget Sound soccer field. The relationship that started when they were Logger teammates and Gamma Phi sisters has since blossomed into the two becoming professional colleagues and traveling the world together over the past seven years as national vice presidents for Arbonne International vegan health and wellness company. The two recently traveled to Carlsbad, Calif., for the Limitless SoCal Team retreat and snapped this photo. "Thank you, UPS, for instigating an amazing friendship and teaching your students that tenacity, grit, and passion for others creates a legacy," Holly says.




▲ This summer, **Sheryl Dumdei Forbes '78** and her husband, **Scott Forbes '78**, traveled to Glacier National Park with friends and fellow Loggers **Danny Besett '78** and **Elaine Kittenger Besett '76**. Sheryl and Elaine were cheerleaders at Puget Sound, and their husbands played baseball during the university's green-and-gold era. Sheryl said the four "had the best time" reconnecting at Glacier and snapped this photo. From left: Scott, Danny, and Elaine.





▲ **Allie Jones '13, '17** (left) and **Liza Holtz '13** lived across the hall from each other in Todd-Phibbs Hall and are both now pursuing master's degrees from the College of Design at the University of Oregon. Allie is studying architecture and interior architecture, while Liza is studying landscape architecture.


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▲ Puget Sound's Zeta Alpha Chapter of the Sigma Nu fraternity celebrated the chapter's 70th anniversary during Homecoming and Family Weekend in September. Sigma Nu brother Brad Cheney, president of the Ben B. Cheney Foundation, was the guest speaker. Those in attendance: First row, from left: **Vince Vonada '83**; Greg Steinhauer; **George Kirk '86**; **Mike Holmes '84, P'12**; **Bob Beale '58**; **Bradbury Cheney '82**; and **Craig Duvall '83, P'11**. Second row, from left: **Paul Stone '83**; **James Tiegen '84**; **Steven Brown '82**; **Todd Weber '83**; **Steven Hostetter '84**; **Phillip Davis '62**; **Jim Pierson '68**; **Dennis Hinton '66**; **Steve White '68**; **Gerry Rapp '62, P'90**; and **Steve Flexer '76**. Third row, from left: **Rik Hirano '80**; **Vaughn Sherman '79**; **Padraic Riley '81**; **Pete Radloff '82**; **Jens Jorgensen '85**; **William Beatty '81**; **Eric Docken '62**; **Steve White '68**; trustee emeritus **Bill Nelson '69**; **John McKain '67**; **Bill Baarsma '64, P'93**; **Tom Jobe '62**; **Ording Nilsen '66**; **Bruce Reid '78, P'12**; **Juris Macs '58, P'87**; **Charles Falskow '59, P'97**; **Mike Lantz '68**; **Richard Peterson '67**; **Jerry Boos '77**; and **Robert Oldright '77**.



▲ More than a dozen Loggers gathered in Sun Valley, Idaho, in June to celebrate the wedding of Mary Morrow, daughter of **Mary Nelson Morrow '81, P'14** and **Stuart Morrow '82**. Front row, from left: **Tracy Tucker Reininger '81**; **Charles Reininger '82**; **Michael Segall '03**; Mary; Stuart; Marina Wichtermann; **Erich Wichtermann '82**; **Mary Morrow Sorensen '88, P'19**; **Robbie Sorensen '19**; and **Stan Sorensen '86, P'19**. Back row, from left: **Charles Weaver '84**; Colleen Weaver; Doreen Farrar; **Gregory Farrar '80**; **Shannon Taylor Agan '81, P'17**; **Mac Agan '80, P'17**; **Michael Nelson '83**; and Elisha Nelson.



◀ **Rachel Zaslow '08** married Cory Shapiro on Sept. 2 in Scottsdale, Ariz. After earning her bachelor's degree in Spanish from Puget Sound, Rachel earned her law degree and works as an elder law attorney in Scottsdale. Cory is an assistant director of residence life at Arizona State University. The couple lives in Scottsdale.



▲ **Ella Schwarz '15**, daughter of **Kurt Schwarz '85, P'15**, married Judson McKown in Wayzata, Minn., on June 9. Many fellow Loggers and former roommates attended and enjoyed the occasion as their third formal reunion since graduation. From left: **Lucy Fey '15**, **Jacie Ihinger '15**, **Alyson Bothman '15**, the bride and groom, **Allison Drummond '15**, **Carly Fox '15**, and **Chelsea Cloud '15**.



▲ **Jim Wilson '85, P'18** and **Liv Wilson '18** celebrated Liv's graduation and new job with some father-daughter camping and hiking at Mount Rainier National Park. Liv earned a bachelor's degree in business and works as a marketing assistant at HDR design firm in Bellevue, Wash.

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In February, students in the Fundamentals of U.S. Environmental Law and Policy course took a trip to the Tacoma Tidelands—home to Superfund sites, the city's stormwater system, and the future Puget Sound Energy LNG plant—to see the impact of environmental policy on a local level.

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