



# the evergreen state college

SPRING 2012  
Magazine

Celebrating  
40 Years of  
Evergreen

40



# EVERGREEN

THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE  
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

Vol. 33, No. 02

Spring 2012

Member, Council for Advancement  
and Support of Education

Publisher  
Lee Hoemann

Editor  
Ann Mary Quarandillo

Designers  
Judy Nuñez-Piñedo  
Alyssa Parker '06

Writers  
Carolyn Shea  
Ann Mary Quarandillo  
Dick Anderson  
Todd Sprague  
Jason Wettstein

Class Notes Editor  
Pat Barte '91

Staff Photography  
Shauna Bittle '98  
Riley Shiery  
and Photo Services

Director of Alumni Relations  
R.J. Burt

*Evergreen Magazine* is  
published twice annually  
by the Office of Marketing,  
Communications and  
College Relations.

The Evergreen State College  
2700 Evergreen Pkwy. NW  
Olympia, WA 98505

To submit items for class  
notes, contact the Office of  
Alumni Relations  
360.867.6551 or  
alumni@evergreen.edu,  
or fill out the form at  
www.evergreen.edu/alumni.

## Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of Evergreen—Greeners—Geoducks:

When the person whose name they put on the Plaza addresses you it might seem like a ghostly voice from the past. As I look back over my more than 40 years at the college, as both founding president and faculty member, I cherish our accomplishments with pride. I also know that it is up to us to ensure Evergreen continues to offer new students opportunities to excel.

The thought of Greeners out in the world warms this ghostly heart. Your energy now quickens every single profession, every walk of life. I like to think that, nationwide, you grace action with the critical and communicative yet humane and cooperative manner gained in Evergreen seminars.

Your impressive performance as graduates makes you more important than ever to Evergreen students of today, and tomorrow. As you know, a college that stirs and expands minds depends upon much more than simple adherence to academic schedules. Bright, needy students must be maintained with generous scholarships, faculty invigorated by attending conferences in their disciplines, the community spurred by important interdisciplinary minds invited to give lectures, library and labs stocked with the latest resources.

Whether sharing your knowledge and talents as a guest in the classroom; contributing financially; or exercising your vote and lending your voice to support the college; you are needed. While the State helps fund Evergreen's buildings and about a third of annual College operations, they have fundamentally shifted the cost of higher education onto the shoulders of our students and their families. Your support can directly help students or whatever component of academic vitality is most important to you. Giving regularly to the college in small amounts is a strategy that has worked for Barbara and I, and one we highly recommend. We certainly never had a big chunk of money to give. All you have to do is multiply a fairly small figure by 12 months and then by the number of years. It's amazing how it adds up.

This virtual ghost may become a real one any day now, but before that he hopes to see the number of alumni supporting their college as yet one more source of Evergreen pride. In any case, he hopes that each one of you will enjoy a good and thoughtful life.

Sincerely,

Charles J. McCann  
Founding President  
Member of the Faculty (Emeritus)

*Although retired, the McCanns remain intricately tied to the college through the Charles and Barbara McCann Endowed Scholarship, established in 1977 at the end of Charles's nine years as president. He has also donated thousands of books in history and literature from his personal library as well as darkroom equipment to the college.*



# Inside Evergreen

## Features



p04

### Every Picture Tells a Story

If Matt Groening '77 hadn't been the CPJ editor when Lynda Barry '79 came to Evergreen, modern animation wouldn't be the same.

Photo: Angela Richardson



P9

### Not Your Typical Women in Radio

What do a concert violist and an actress have in common? A home on public radio.



p12

### Decisive Moments Define A Photojournalist's Career

Saed Hindash '92 turned his passion for wielding a camera into an award-winning career.



P14

### Having a Voice in the Industry

Combining his news skills and "The Voice" made Joe Washington '75 a broadcasting hit on WTBS and HGTV.



p16

### Trabajando para Usted

Jaime Méndez '95 anchors Seattle's first local Spanish-language newscast.



p18

### Adventures in Biotech

For millions of people with rheumatoid arthritis, Patricia Beckmann's winding path to success has made a huge difference.



p20

### Got a Dirty Job?

Win Blodgett '86 and Holland Pump can engineer a solution.



p22

### The Market Strategist

Brett Redfearn '87 brings an Evergreen approach to Wall Street.

p24

### Riding the Hydrologic Cycle Into the Future

Cindy Peyser Safronoff '92 and her love of water may someday benefit us all.



p26

### Net Gains

Former Geoduck Jackie Robinson '02 shares love and lessons of basketball.



p28

### What Do You Love?

From the Bike Shop to artisan beer, from potlucks to Geoducks, we're celebrating Evergreen's 40th with 40 things that make the South Sound great.



## News & Notes

Class Notes

p34

Memoriams

p46



**On the cover:** Detail from the Dragon Wall, the four-story mural that winds up the interior stairwell of the Library building. Completed in spring 1972, it was created by students in the Man and Art academic program, taught by faculty members Donald Chan, José Arguelles and Cruz Esquivel.





# WHAT IS THE PAST MADE FROM OF?

Write the names of two stories  
that you think cannot be true.

What does  
'taking  
place'  
mean?

NOT



☒ THINGS  
THAT  
HAPPENED  
☒ THINGS  
THAT NEVER  
HAPPENED  
☒ BOTH

We are sorry we can't answer

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_



While the pictures are being changed  
into picture signals, the sounds are being

changed into sound signals. The transmitter  
sends both these signals out into space.



# Every Picture Tells a Story

By Dick Anderson

In the 40 years since Evergreen opened, the world of cartooning and animation has been turned on its ear. Newspaper comic sections have shrunk dramatically; the market for alternative-minded artists has gone through a boom-and-bust cycle; and animation has morphed into an anything-goes medium with something to offer for all.

Evergreen was there at the dawn of this transformation. **Lynda Barry '79** sprang fully formed onto the alternate weekly scene, becoming a recurring guest on David Letterman and channeling her idiosyncratic voice into her comics, novels, a play and teaching.

**Matt Groening '77** made the leap from the pages of those same weeklies to create "The Simpsons," the signature show for the upstart Fox network. Five hundred episodes (and counting) and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame later, he rewrote the rules for TV animation, paving the way for the likes of "South Park," "Family Guy," and the alt-cartoon universe of shows populating Cartoon Network's Adult Swim.

**Craig Bartlett '81** honed his chops making cartoons from clay, contributing his talents to the iconic "Pee-Wee's Playhouse" and "Rugrats" series before creating his own pair of kids' shows, "Hey Arnold!" (for the 6- to 10-year-old Nickelodeon-watching crowd) and "Dinosaur Train" (for 2- to 6-year-old PBS viewers).

**And Tommy Thompson '11?** He's the new kid on the block, and he represents the next generation of Evergreen animators. He's still finding his voice—imagine Tim Burton as an introvert—but he's poised to build on the talents that made him Most Promising Filmmaker at the Spokane International Film Festival in January.

## Lynda Barry

Lynda Barry certainly believes that comics deserve to be taken seriously—"They are able to transfer images from one mind to the next as wonderfully as any other art form." She laments "the creep of the scholarly approach to comics...Something mighty is ruined when someone tells you exactly how to experience any kind of art in the same way fresh string beans are ruined by boiling the living hell out them."

If you were to draw a genealogy of Barry's bibliography—her breakthrough strip "Ernie Pook's Comeek" (created in 1978), her novel (and later play) *The Good Times Are Killing Me* (1988), and the writing and art tutorials *What It Is* (2008) and *Picture This: The Near-Sighted Monkey Book* (2010)—you can trace it all back to Evergreen, and her mentor, Marilyn Frasca.

"She was mysterious," Barry writes from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she's spring artist in residence (her first semester-long residency after years of doing five-day workshops around the country). "She seemed very interested in finding out what interested her students and working from there, but somehow she did this with very little conversation. No chatting or small talk. Her information came directly from the work we were doing and she seemed to establish a relationship with our work and then introduce us to it."

Frasca, who still teaches the occasional class as an emerita professor, joined the Evergreen faculty in 1973, a year before Barry chose Evergreen with the aid of "a really smart English teacher at my high school." Barry studied the History of the Renaissance and Middle Ages her first year, and the History of Science her second year. "Then my third and fourth year I worked with Marilyn Frasca in one way or another," she recalls.

"To this day, it's one of the most powerful things I was given at Evergreen; the idea that the thing I call my work is from a different part of me than what comes off the top of my head," Barry adds. "To start developing a relationship with that working part of me, the part of me that 'speaks' the image language, and to be doing this at the age of 20 gave me a tremendous advantage."

At the time, Matt Groening was editor of the *Cooper Point Journal*, where he pledged to print anything anyone submitted. "That was a challenge I wanted to beat him at," Barry recalls. "I kept submitting crazier and crazier things—outraged letters to the editor about things that happened to me when I was little that had nothing to do with TESC, or comics that were really strange, comics about little girls who could do things like remove their arms and legs at will. No matter what I submitted, he printed it. I came to really love him for this and for all of the wild things he was doing with the paper."

Last fall, Drawn & Quarterly published *Blabber Blabber Blabber: Volume 1 of Everything*, which guaranteed that Ernie Pook's Comeek and the works that followed will find an audience for generations to follow. "The alternative weekly jobs may be gone, but there are more cartoonists doing more interesting things than ever before," says Barry, who has called Footville, Wis., home for the last decade. "All sorts of people are making comics now and, more importantly, all sorts of people are reading them. They've become much more like music. In the same way you can make a song about anything, about sad things or horrible things or hilarious things, comics can be about anything. They're another way to transfer this thing that Marilyn called an image."

Lynda Barry's bestselling creative writing-how-to graphic novel, *What It Is*, won the Eisner Award for Best Reality Based Graphic Novel. Inset: Barry with her mentor, faculty member Marilyn Frasca.





Photo: Alexandra Wyman/WireImage

## Matt Groening

Before there was Akbar and Jeff, or Binky and Sheba of *Life in Hell*, and many years before there was Homer and Marge Simpson, there was *The Adventures of Lisa and Matt*. Growing up in suburban Portland, Matt Groening had his first exposure to the big screen in 1964 at age 10. That's when his father Homer, a filmmaker and cartoonist, made a live-action short starring Matt and his sister, Lisa, which was shown in a local theater. Groening was as much at home in front of the camera as he was sitting in front of the television, soaking up "The Rocky and Bullwinkle Show" and "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet" and relishing the bad-boy inspiration for Bart Simpson decades later, Eddie Haskell of "Leave It To Beaver."

By the time Groening finished high school, he vowed never to take a test again. He found collegiate Nirvana in Evergreen, and a mentor in Mark Levensky, who co-taught a class on images with Frasca. "You do what you do tolerably well," Levensky told the aspiring cartoonist. "Now you have to ask yourself: Is it worth doing?"

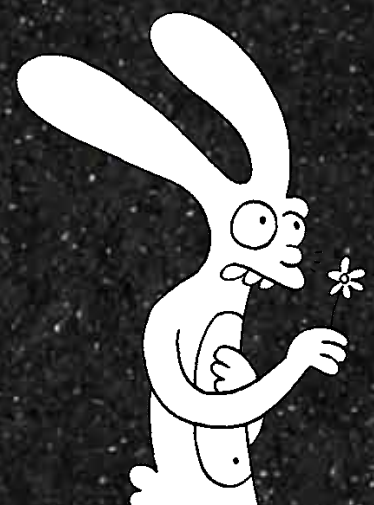
As editor of the CPJ, Groening began the comics page, publishing the cartoons of not only Barry but also Charles Burns '77 (whose avant-garde work was exposed to a broader audience by RAW publisher Art Spiegelman). Craig Bartlett remembers Groening's tenure as editor publishing the 1977 *Daily Olympian* spoof, *The Daily Zero*, "that really made people mad in Olympia."

In 1980, his weekly strip *Life in Hell*, inspired by his move to Los Angeles, was picked up by the *Los Angeles Reader*, where he had been writing a weekly rock column. Other papers followed, and the strip has been

After more than 500 episodes, Hollywood showed Matt Groening some love on February 14, 2012, when he was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame.

syndicated to more than 250 newspapers worldwide, and spawned 15 book compilations. True to his later creations, Groening designed his characters so they could be identified by their silhouettes alone (a device Bartlett later borrowed when he created "Hey Arnold!" for Nickelodeon). "When I was drawing cartoons at Evergreen, I never dreamed I could make a living at it," Groening told the *Seattle Times*. "In fact, I never dreamed I could make a living at it until I was actually doing it."

Twenty-three seasons and 27 Emmy Awards later, "The Simpsons" is an inextricable part of pop culture. In addition to the Springfield ensemble, Groening continues work on five-time Emmy-winner "Futurama," his pastiche of science fiction, which ran on Fox from 1999-2003, then got a second life when Comedy Central began airing new episodes in 2010. As demands on his time keep growing, he has mused about ending *Life in Hell*, but for now, Binky lives.







"COME ON, BUDDY! WE'LL TAKE A VACATION!"

*Now a proud Evergreen parent—  
son Matt will graduate this spring with a  
degree in communication, film and video,  
while daughter Katie is a sophomore—  
Bartlett never doubted they would love the Evergreen culture,  
but he had his doubts about the climate.  
"But both dig it," he says. "They like the gray weather."*

Craig Bartlett's early hand-drawn design of Laura Giganotosaurus (right) reveals the rich environment he imagined, which came to life through computer animation in "Dinosaur Train" (featuring Tiny and Buddy, above left with Craig)—the second Jim Henson Studios show to use the technique.

## Craig Bartlett

"When I was young I thought I wanted to be an artist," says Craig Bartlett, "but I didn't have a realistic idea of what that was. I thought you'd live in Paris and paint." As a broke art student living in Portland, Bartlett was a frequent patron of a free film series at the museum. Once a year the museum would screen the International Tournée of Animation, an annual compilation of independent films from around the world. After watching *Closed Mondays*, the 1975 Academy Award winner for Best Animated Short Film created by Portland-based clay animator Will Vinton, "I got the idea right then that I could be an animator," he recalls. "They were like paintings, but they moved, and they had soundtracks that were very often experimental and funny. There was a lot of weirdness in there I could relate to."

After asking around, Bartlett learned that Evergreen had an animation studio and better still, "no rules, no grades." He transferred in as a senior, and learned the basics of the craft from Roger Kukes, an award-winning animator and visual artist. Each quarter he made an animated short ("they were all terrible, two-minute things") and he became art director for the CPJ, publishing many of the comic strips he had drawn the previous summer. "I had a dream fourth year at Evergreen," he says.

When he awoke abruptly in the real world, Bartlett got his first big break working for Vinton, joining an eight-person staff working out of a tiny Victorian house that was connected to a studio. (One of his co-workers was Patty Groening, Matt's oldest sister, who would introduce him to his future wife, their sister Lisa.) Bartlett labored for more than two years on Vinton's only feature-length Claymation film, *The Adventures of Mark Twain* (released in 1985). In that time, he says, "I was responsible for about 10 minutes of finished animation."

In the summer of 1987, Bartlett went to Los Angeles to work on the "Penny" cartoons for the second season of "Pee-Wee's Playhouse," which was staffing up following the show's move from New York City. Later, after returning to the Northwest, he and Lisa (who worked as a talk-show producer in Portland) both had the itch to move to L.A. for good. "I'm so glad Lisa wanted to come and I would have been so mad if it hadn't worked out," he says. Now, after 30 years in the business, "I'm always trying to keep engaged as an artist," says Bartlett, who also writes the music for "Dinosaur Train." "A lot of my work is I'm a salesman. I'm always having meetings trying to convince somebody to pull the trigger on something."

A proud Evergreen parent—son Matt will graduate this spring with a degree in communication, film and video, while daughter Katie is a sophomore—Bartlett never doubted they would love the Evergreen culture, but he had his doubts about the climate. "I really couldn't imagine them being OK with it," he says. "But both dig it. They like the gray weather."





## Tommy Thompson

What has four arms, two legs, and a penchant for chess and black hoodies? If you answered Elliott, the protagonist in Tommy Thompson's award-winning short "High Strung," step to the head of the class. Thompson could have used those extra hands himself in making the 13-minute stop-motion animated short, while shooting digital still after still in his most fully realized film to date.

On March 10, 2011, "High Strung" had its world premiere with an early evening screening in the CAB's recital hall, followed by a midnight show at Olympia's Capitol Theater. "It was like an emotional overload," says Thompson, whose Evergreen mentors include film/video faculty member Ruth Hayes. "Actually showing it to people was really satisfying, but I was also worried. I had so much into it that I wanted to have people connect with it emotionally."

Thompson was a working filmmaker before he even started ninth grade. At age 13, borrowing his parents' Hi8 camera, he made a 45-minute skateboarding video, which he sold at the local skate shop. (He earned back about half of his \$300 investment, but the video got him a lot of exposure.) While in high school, he did his first animation project using Legos.

The concept for "High Strung" came to Thompson around the time he finished his first short, "Endless Tunnel," which played in a number of festivals around the world, from Seattle to Australia. When it came time to develop his follow-up effort, "I had the idea of having a character in a house and every night the pictures on the walls came to life," but eventually he settled on a simpler premise. "I always had the idea for a man in a house," he says. "It derived from trying to make it simple—a single character and a single set." He added the extra set of limbs to his faceless leading man to make him "more interesting."

"High Strung"—which won the Best Animation award at the 2011 Black Earth Film Festival in Galesburg, Ill.—has also garnered nearly 3,000 views on Thompson's Vimeo channel. Most came within days of the film's online premiere last May—before he graduated. "You have to build a following," admits Thompson, who recently moved to Hillsboro, Ore. "I kind of have trouble publicizing myself—it's always been a little weird for me."

The world of the cartoonist can be a solitary one—but it's certainly a portable one. Somewhere, while you're reading this, Tommy Thompson might be holed up working through ideas for his next short project. Craig Bartlett might be writing a new ditty on the guitar for Tiny, the junior-sized protagonist most likely to break out into song on "Dinosaur Train." Matt Groening has long expressed a desire to turn *Life in Hell* into an animated series, when he has the time. And Lynda Barry's busy with homework, drawing the same assignments that she's giving her classes and "especially happy to be bringing a little bit of Evergreen to students at the University of Wisconsin."

Photos: Hannah Pietrick '10







Jamala Henderson behind the mike at KUOW, where she produces the popular arts and culture show KUOW Presents.

Photo: Phyllis Fletcher

# Not Your Typical Women in Radio

By Ann Mary Quarandillo

*What do a concert violist and an actress have in common? Performance, of course, but these two have also found a home on public radio.*

For Jamala Henderson '98, a concert violist, it's a life calling—one that started when she first got behind a soundboard and knew it was where she was meant to be. For Michelle (Hosterman) Borodin '91, it's a creative and exciting place to work that allows her to pursue her first loves of acting and comedy. But for both, careers in public radio have provided a way to tell stories, reach out and educate listeners in ways they never expected.

Henderson had planned a career in music from a young age. She began playing the viola in middle school, became involved in orchestra, and wanted to become a concert violist. She was part of an award-winning orchestra at Seattle's Garfield High School, and after graduation, was accepted at the prestigious Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y.

"I got to Eastman in the fall of 1990," Henderson recalls, "and I absolutely hated it."

*"If you can build the resources to create your own work, that's a good thing to focus on.  
You can build something from the ground up—something I did a lot at Evergreen."* — Michelle Borodin



As one of the country's top music conservatories, Eastman was very competitive, and she practiced so much that she developed tendinitis in her left hand, which effectively ended her hopes of playing professionally. "I was devastated," she says. "I had always identified myself first as a violist. I had to realize that you can't equate who you are with what you do as much as we all do. I needed to find another way to use my abilities."

She returned to Seattle, and began working and attending Seattle Central Community College, then moved on to Highline Community College. "It took me eight years, but when I got to Evergreen," she says, "I knew that's where I was supposed to be."

Henderson was interested in video production, and after so many years out front as a performer, she thought she would be happier working behind the scenes. But after studying with faculty like Sally Cloninger, Ruth Hayes and Peter Randlette she says, "I left Evergreen knowing I couldn't just do that. I had the potential for more."

After graduation, she took a job at UWTV, the University of Washington's public television station, doing media streaming for its research channel. Her office happened to be next door to KCMU (now KEXP), UW's community public radio station. One night, they asked if she wanted to fill in and babysit the soundboard, "and I had that 'a-ha' moment," she says. "I knew I wanted to be in radio." She took a six-week class at Bellevue College, where she worked at KBCS, learning how to talk and run the equipment.

Henderson began working as a broadcaster at the Evergreen Radio Reading Service, part of the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library, whose audio book readings for the visually impaired were carried on most public radio stations. A number of KUOW people worked there, and she kept her ears open for an opportunity to join them. "I chased down KUOW station manager Jeff Hansen to ask him about internships, and volunteered on the pledge drives," she says. A friend from high school had begun working at the station, and let her know when a job as an announcer for KUOW's 24-7 online stream, KUOW-2, opened up.

Her work on "Marketplace" keeps Michelle Borodin (Michelle Philippe on the air) in the middle of the action in downtown L.A.  
Photo: Kirby Lee







Henderson was hired, and in a short time, started filling in at KUOW and announcing on weekends. She became a full-time backup announcer in 2004, working every single shift at the station. Although she had no formal journalism training, she learned quickly on the job, and soon became a weekend announcer and reporter.

Reporting those stories helped her realize that producing and storytelling were what she really wanted to do. Today, as producer of “KUOW Presents” on Seattle’s flagship NPR station, she’s still digging into stories that resonate with the community. She’s explored Seattle’s segregated past, violence in films, claiming queer space, and youth violence intervention. She’s interviewed poets, a naturopathic doctor and a Vietnam veteran priest, and fascinating people like Starcia Ague, a UW researcher who, after going to prison at age 15, turned her life around by fighting for the right to take college courses in jail.

Although she took a winding path, Henderson says that all her experiences, in music, video and production, have led to her success as a producer. “There are so many decisions to make—information, pacing, learning ways to prompt people to talk based on the right question,” she says. “Everything I was as a musician I use in radio—pacing, timing, listening, rhythm. Storytelling is an art, and telling someone’s story is really a privilege. I try to respect that as much as I can.”

A different kind of storyteller, Michelle Borodin has self-produced a number of projects in various venues around Los Angeles. She is a member of “The Quarterly Report,” a performance collective of essayists, where she offers a comedic take on her life—experiences like deviating from a decade of meat-free meals one evening at a hotdog buffet, her love of Clorox, buying a mattress, and meeting and marrying her husband, Misha. “One of the cool things and one of the hardest things about acting is creating your own projects—if you’re waiting for the phone to ring, that can lead to frustration,” she says. “If you can build the resources to create your own work, that’s a good thing to focus on. You can build something from the ground up—something I did a lot at Evergreen.”

Borodin can’t remember when she wasn’t interested in acting. Her small Catholic high school didn’t have much of a theater department, and her most memorable role then was the alcoholic mother in “The Late Great Me,” which had also been an ABC Afterschool Special. But it got her started. “The idea of getting to play characters and disappear behind them on stage was very appealing,” she says. So at Evergreen, she dove into performing arts, taking programs that included dance and theater studies, then spending her third year at New York’s Hunter College in an intensive program dedicated solely to theater.

After graduation, Borodin packed up her car and drove to L.A. to get serious about being in the arts. “I didn’t really know anyone, and I needed a job, so I answered an ad to work as assistant to the executive producer at Marketplace.” Her background in acting led quickly to announcing and production, and she started writing and recording Marketplace’s daily 30-second “Datebook” segment. Today, under her professional name, Michelle Philippe, she is the production office coordinator for the entire Marketplace portfolio of programs, and she continues to write and produce “Datebook.” She can also be heard on American Public Media’s *The Dinner Party*—“an hour-long celebration of culture, food, and conversation designed to help you dazzle your friends at this weekend’s get-together”—where she gives lessons on the week in history.

“Working here has allowed me to also be an actor, because I work with a lot of people with creative interests who are supportive of what I do,” she says. Marketplace has doubled in size since she started, and she’s been able to work on a number of different programs, while continuing to act both in theater and on camera. “California is an expensive place to live, so I have to pay my rent,” she laughs. “Marketplace is a very fun place to work, with something different going on every day. It gives me a nice creative outlet. I’m not just behind a desk on the phone or computer all the time.”

Both Henderson and Borodin believe in the value of public radio, and the numbers back them up. Listenership is up over the past few years, with more than 65 million people in the U.S. listening to nearly a thousand public radio stations to keep up with news, culture, politics, or as Borodin says of Marketplace, business “for the rest of us.”

Marketplace fulfills a critical mission, she says, especially as people try to understand the continuing struggles of the U.S. economy, their own personal finances, and how to solve financial problems in their communities. “You don’t have to have a finance degree or be a stock market whiz to tune in,” she says. “Breaking things down in a way that’s interesting and relatable is what the show does best. It’s lots of different voices from different industries, walks of life, and backgrounds discussing how things affect them at the human level.”

Stories that matter in people’s daily lives, whether cultural, environmental, economic or personal, are the focus of “KUOW Presents,” and for Henderson, those are the kinds of stories that matter. “I always ask, ‘What am I going to learn from this? What do we need to know?’” she says. “I go after what I think is interesting. The more perspectives we have, the more holistic picture we have of the world.”

As for the future of her business, Henderson sees it as bright and clear. “I believe in what we do,” she says. “We serve a valuable purpose: to educate the public. Our listeners know that and know the importance of that. Exposing people to stories they’ve never heard before—there will always be a need for something like that. And no matter what, I’ll find a way to do it.”

# DECISIVE MOMENTS Define A Photojournalist's Career



Saed Hindash turned his passion for wielding a camera into an award-winning career

By Carolyn Shea



Capturing “the decisive moment,” as the legendary French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson observed, is the Holy Grail for photojournalists seeking to transform an ordinary image into an extraordinary one.

Saed Hindash '92 is forever on the prowl for this moment, whether in the streets of Newark, where he is a photographer for New Jersey's biggest-circulation daily newspaper, *The Star-Ledger*, or at a high school hockey game or a rock concert at Madison Square Garden.

His gift for exploiting his camera to transfix such moments, combined with his nose for news, has earned him two of journalism's highest accolades: the Pulitzer Prize and a Dart Award.

Indeed, Hindash's instinct for recognizing a decisive moment is what catapulted him onto his career path in the first place, while he was attending Meadowdale High in Lynnwood, Wash.

At 16, he approached the editor of the school's newspaper about covering the fire that destroyed Everett Community College's library building in 1987. The editor rejected the pitch, saying the blaze was outside the paper's scope. Hindash—who had taken journalism and photography classes as a freshman and sophomore and grew up in a family that paid close attention to the news—disagreed, arguing that it was relevant and important since many of Meadowdale's students would be going on to the community college and the loss of the library would certainly affect them. Persuaded, the editor told Hindash, “Go for it.”

That green light turned into a pivotal point in Hindash's life. When his first published photograph, of the smoldering wreckage of the library building, ran in the paper's next issue, he had an epiphany. “There was my picture and there was my name,” he recalled. “I thought, ‘Wow! That's pretty cool! I would like to do this!’”

Seeing clearly where his talent and passion intersected, Hindash became single-minded in his pursuits. He spent his remaining time at Meadowdale as the paper's staff photographer, and afterwards, he was among those graduates who enrolled in Everett Community College because he could advance his technical training in photography there. Then, he transferred to Evergreen.

At Evergreen, he says, “I could create my own curriculum. I got to pick what I wanted to do, set my own course the way I wanted to.” The course he set for himself pointed straight toward photojournalism and he convinced faculty member Dave Hitchens, his teacher in the Great Books program, to sponsor his senior-year individual contract, for which he interned with *The Herald* in Everett. “Dave was the only one who was willing to sponsor me; he saw the value in photojournalism. Others wanted me to pursue the artistic side of photography. I didn't want to do that. I wanted to be a photojournalist. Dave believed in what I wanted to do. The guidance he gave me put me on the track to where I am.”

Above: Saed Hindash on the job.  
Photo: Thomas Cizek

Opposite page, top to bottom:

Photos: Saed Hindash/*The Star-Ledger*

Hindash captured Charlie Lee cooling off her gleeful 9-year-old neighbor, Kasheem Heath.

Using a remote camera mounted in the catwalks of the Prudential Center, Hindash filmed a New Jersey Devils-Pittsburgh Penguins skirmish.

Hindash's photomontage of tap dancer Savion Glover.

New Jersey Nets' Kris Humphries prepares for a rebound.



After earning his degree from Evergreen, Hindash spent a few more months at the Everett newspaper before moving to Pittsburgh, where his parents had relocated. He began freelancing for the now-defunct *North Hills News Record*, a suburban Pittsburgh daily, eventually got hired on staff and spent the next three years covering “the whole gamut of news: fires, accidents, shootings, sports,” he says. “It was a lot of work. I was running ragged, but it was my choice. My social life was not the best. In the beginning of my career, I was a workaholic. I wanted to grow. And the harder I worked the better pictures I made. That was where I got my first taste for what I was going to do for the rest of my life.”

That was also where he met reporter Dana DiFilippo, who became a good friend. Today, they are married; as Hindash says, “Most people in this business marry other journalists because they understand the demands and the love for the profession.” DiFilippo works for the *Philadelphia Daily News*; and they have two children, 10-year-old Zaki and 7-year-old Amalie.

From 1995 to 1999, Hindash worked for *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, and when his wife wanted to move closer to her hometown of Philadelphia, he found work as staff photographer with *The Star-Ledger*.

In 2002, Hindash partnered with *The Star-Ledger* reporter Matt Reilly to investigate the tragedy of a 7-year-old boy, Viktor Matthey, who died from exposure ten months after being adopted with his younger twin brothers from a Siberian orphanage by a New Jersey couple. At the time, his adoptive parents were charged with his death. To get the full story, the pair traveled to Russia and visited one of the orphanages where Viktor and his siblings lived after being removed from their birth home because of neglect. They also met with the child’s mother, who was unaware of her son’s death until their visit. Their resulting series, published under the headline, “The Short Life of Viktor Matthey,” won that year’s Dart Award for Excellence in Reporting on Victims of Violence.

Three years later, Hindash was part of *The Star-Ledger* team that won the Pulitzer Prize for its breaking news coverage of the resignation of New Jersey Governor James McGreevey.

Hindash has seen a lot of change over the two decades he’s worked in the field, not only in the tools and technologies he uses, but also in the industry itself.

As he watches news organizations shed jobs—his own paper is down to 14 photographers from 32 a dozen years ago—he’s branched out to video and occasionally takes on non-newspaper freelance assignments. “I’ve done weddings, family and kids’ portraits, editorial things for businesses and corporate magazines,” he says. “But first and foremost, my work is done for *The Star-Ledger*.” If that sounds like dedication, well, that’s because Hindash is dedicated. “This is all I ever wanted to do,” he says. “I can’t see myself doing anything else. I don’t ever dread going to work. I love it; it’s a part of my being.”

On his personal website ([saedhindash.com](http://saedhindash.com)), Hindash describes his vision, saying he “strives to capture moments worth remembering, moments that even decades later can make memories come vividly alive.” Through his skillfulness in seizing those moments, he is able to draw viewers into the diverse human stories and emotions revealed by his striking photographs.

“Each day, I pick up my camera and take pictures,” he says, “but it’s never the same thing. That’s why I love this profession. I never know what’s going to happen. It’s never boring. That’s the beautiful part of it. I’m still jazzed about it after all these years.”







Master Gardener Joe Washington, the original host of HGTV's "Ground Breakers."

Photo courtesy of Joe Washington

# HAVING A VOICE IN THE INDUSTRY

Broadcaster Joe Washington used his many gifts to become a respected newsman and spokesperson

By Carolyn Shea

As a teenager growing up in Port Orchard, Wash., Joe Washington '75 was frequently referred to by adults as "The Voice." Now a nationally known television personality, Washington and his commanding baritone have been in the public eye for nearly four decades.


He enjoyed a long run in local television news and sportscasting, was the original host of "Ground Breakers," HGTV's hit landscaping show, and even played a reporter and anchorman—as well as other roles—in numerous series and movies, including the Academy Award-winning *Forrest Gump*. He has won three Emmys and has been honored by the Associate Press and the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists.

Washington's first brush with professional interest in his vocal talent occurred in the early 1970s in Southern California, where he and another Greener had traveled to pitch in on a voter registration campaign. "We went to a radio station in Pasadena to do publicity for the campaign, and the news director heard me speak and said, 'Wow, I like your voice!'" Washington recalls. "I felt like I had gone to Hollywood and been discovered!" While he was there, Washington actually did an audition, but being young and callow, he says, "I botched it." Nevertheless, he thought to himself, "You've got this tool and you need to explore it."

Although he was contemplating a career in politics and law, Washington listened to that advice. When he returned to Evergreen, he secured the guidance of early science faculty member Bob Barnard, who had experience in media. "He took me under his wing," says Washington. Barnard assisted him in doing voiceover and camera work using the college's new equipment, giving the sophomore experience that soon came in handy when he landed a paid internship with KOMO-TV in Seattle. There, he was encouraged in his budding endeavors by several staffers, including the station's weekend news anchor Rod Chandler (later a state and U.S. representative).

"I was going out with reporters on stories and if there was leftover film, they let me do stand-ups," says Washington, "and when we get back to the station, if we had a short piece to write they let me write it." By the end of that summer, the 19-year-old was not only a news reporter in the country's 17th largest market; he was also getting college credit for it.





It wasn't long before the "kid at KOMO" was offered a job as an evening anchor by a CBS-affiliate station in Dallas. "Here I am, absolutely clueless, and I'm getting an opportunity to move to Dallas. They're rolling out the red carpet for me and when I told them I hadn't finished college, they offered to help me finish up at Southern Methodist University," he says. "I turned it down and returned to Evergreen."

He continued getting on-the-job newsroom experience at KOMO, commuting down to Olympia every two weeks. He worked with Barnard on a project investigating the news media's effect on the Watergate investigation, which was happening at the time and would eventually bring down President Richard Nixon.

"I graduated from Evergreen with a full-time job and roughly two-and-a-half years' experience," says Washington. "That couldn't have happened anywhere else. I was in the right place at the right time."

After earning his bachelor's degree, he continued working at KOMO for a few more months before moving on to Denver. "If you want to go someplace in broadcasting, you need to go someplace else," he says. In Denver, he worked as a reporter for KMGH-TV, but it wasn't long before he was again recruited, this time by a station in Atlanta. "I had no idea what Atlanta was about. All I knew was what I read in an *Ebony* magazine," he says. He was 23, employed as a reporter and weekend anchor in a large and growing broadcast market. "That was 1976," says Washington, who stills lives in the Atlanta metro area. "I've watched this city grow up. It's gone through a lot of transitions and it's been fun to be part of that."

Washington is now a familiar face in the city. Atlantans watched him on local TV for more than two decades, first at WXIA-TV, where he spent 11 of those years as a newscaster and anchorman and another nine as a reporter and primetime sports anchor. During his time at the station he garnered three Southeast Regional Emmy awards, including two for his coverage of the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

That same year, he was tapped to host the WTBS Superstation show "interact.atlanta," a television news magazine that ran for six years and won a number of prizes, including the National Broadcasting Association's "Best Public Affairs Show" in 1997.

By this time, Washington had stopped working full-time in news broadcasting and had branched off into other areas, including movie appearances and voiceover work. Television news was changing, he says, with programming being controlled more by businesspeople than news people. "I wasn't having fun anymore," he says. He made his decision to go part-time when he learned that his mother was sick. "I remember it so vividly. I found out my mother had lung cancer. I realized life was too short and that I needed to go for the gusto. That was my signal to move on. When I got back from her funeral, I put together some demo tapes. I approached management and they were shocked, but I told them I had some things to explore and they let me go part-time."

For the next few years he covered high school athletics, something the father of two boys really enjoyed because he said, "I was making a difference. It was the most fun I had in my entire career." Washington also started accruing a long list of clients, including The Home Depot, The U.S. Postal Service, IBM, the Southern Company utility and many others, who enlisted him—and his voice—to do everything from live narrations and corporate presentations to employee training videos and commercials. One of his educational videos for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service is even in the Smithsonian.

Washington's first acting role was in the 1991 comedy, "Livin' Large!" in which he played the newscaster/idol of the main character, who dreams of breaking into the world of TV news. His screen credits include more than a dozen films and TV-series appearances. He is particularly proud of having been part of the 1994 smash hit *Forrest Gump*—he played a news reporter—because it was recently chosen to be included in the Library of Congress's National Film Registry, which signifies its "enduring significance to American culture."

In 1999, HGTV producers asked him to host "Ground Breakers," the cable channel's new program on residential landscaping. For seven years, he showed audiences around America the transformations of ordinary yards into "magnificent outdoor living spaces." Shot documentary-style, each episode featured Washington giving a guided tour of a landscaping project that took four to six months to complete. He became a Master Gardener after he started doing the show and is now on the Southeastern Horticultural Society board of directors.

Washington often speaks at home and gardening shows and events like the Epcot International Flower & Garden Festival. And he remains active in commercial work and acting, ensuring that "The Voice" he developed at Evergreen continues to be heard.



Jaime Méndez anchors Seattle's first  
local Spanish-language newscast

# TRABAJANDO para Usted

By Ann Mary Quarandillo

## Buenas tardes

Five minutes before airtime, the production room is frantic. A mosaic of more than 20 screens reflects every feed coming through the boards at Fisher Communications – home of KOMO news and KUNS 51/Univision Seattle. The cameras zoom in and out on co-anchors Jaime Méndez and Teresa Gonzalez, putting the final touches on their stories for Noticias Univision Seattle, the first regional Spanish language newscast in the Pacific Northwest, and Seattle's only Spanish-language local newscast. Once the cameras start to roll, they lead off with “la nieve”—the snow that is expected to fall in Seattle.

Even for a native Spanish speaker, this is no picnic. The producer is constantly giving instructions (in English) through their earpieces, the text on the teleprompter is whizzing by at the speed of sound, and yet both Méndez and Gonzalez sound like they're having a conversation with their invisible audience—which is exactly what they work for.

## Las noticias

Jaime Méndez '95 has been working in Spanish-language media since 1993; his background includes radio, video, TV and theatre. So in 2007, when Fisher Communications moved to supplement its national Univision station with a local Spanish-language newscast, he was a natural choice to anchor the program.



Méndez graduated from high school in Bogota, Colombia. He moved to New York City in 1987, where he spent three years taking English classes and working towards a career in business. When he moved to the Northwest, he started taking business classes at Bellevue College; needing an elective, he found himself in a theater class. “It’s the best thing I could have done,” he says. He switched to communications, and began looking for a four-year college where he could earn his B.A.

When he considered transferring to Evergreen, his friends “said I wouldn’t last a day!” he laughs. “They thought I was too preppy to fit in because I wore suits. But that was outside—not how I felt inside. Once I was accepted to Evergreen, I didn’t even look at other schools.”

Evergreen was very welcoming for Méndez. The traditional classroom system he’d been in hadn’t encouraged him to speak up. At Evergreen, it was different. “In seminar, your opinion counts. I could ask questions and it was ok,” he says. “What you say makes a difference, and I’ve found that is true over and over in my career.”

His first broadcast experience was on Evergreen’s KAOS community radio station, where he began helping out on a salsa music show, and soon began his own two-hour program, featuring talk, music and guest appearances in both Spanish and English. He was voted “Best New Talent” his first year.

After graduation, Méndez returned to Colombia for a short time before moving to Miami, where he got a job with Caracol Radio, a major Colombian station with a huge presence in south Florida. “It was such a great experience to work with people who really know what they’re doing and view their work as community service,” he says. “I’ve brought that way of thinking to my work in Seattle. It’s important to let the immigrant community know what services are available.”

His first show in Seattle was Café y Noticias on KXPA 1540 AM. Since Spanish radio hardly existed in the Northwest in the late ‘90s, he also worked as KXPA’s soundboard operator. But Méndez was in the right place at the right time. “The Hispanic community was really beginning to grow when I got here, and one morning, I opened the paper and there was an ad for a bilingual radio board operator at Radio Sol,” he says. Radio Sol 1360 AM was the first 24-hour all-Spanish radio station in the Puget Sound region. Méndez hosted Latinos Días, an all-Spanish morning radio show, and soon became the station’s program director.







Jaime Méndez, co-host of Seattle's first Spanish-language newscast, behind the camera at Fisher Communications' Seattle Center studios. Photos: Riley Shiery

It's funny, he says, that he was the first host on the first 24-7 Spanish radio station, now called El Rey 1360, where he continues to host the weekday morning talk show *La Voz de Washington*, and now, the first anchor on the first all-Spanish TV newscast.

## Nuestra nación

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, there are more than 753,000 Hispanic or Latino people in Washington state. Of these, about 600,000 are of Mexican descent. Noticias Univision Seattle works to balance news that is of interest to all Latino immigrants, reporting on major worldwide stories as well as local ones, but because so much of the target audience is Mexican, many big stories in Mexico are covered, including the current general elections, soccer teams, artists and entertainers.

Not surprisingly, the number one topic of interest with the station's audience is immigration. So when Arizona passed its controversial immigration laws, Méndez and his show covered the story in depth. He and his colleagues know that there are people in Washington who share negative attitudes towards Latinos and question the need for Spanish-language media. "We did get some negative emails when we first started, but not very often," he says. "This show has been a very welcome addition to Seattle. We're always working to relate the news to what's going on here in our region." Méndez finds that Washington is very open to immigrants and grateful for the contributions they make, and Fisher Communications has been very supportive of his work.

Contrary to stereotypes about the Latino community and the authorities, Méndez and his coworkers have built relationships with local politicians, as well as the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the King County Sheriff's office, collaborating on anti-gang programs and other outreach to the Spanish-speaking community. At the same time, "Our job is to question them—to find out what is really going on and how it can be fixed," Méndez explains. "So we don't always say just the good things. It's our responsibility to emphasize the things our community cares for and that are important to them."

## El clima

Méndez finds that being a part of a large organization like Fisher Communications, which also runs KOMO television and a number of AM and FM radio stations, gives him and Gonzalez great opportunities to change people's views about Hispanic people. They work closely with other KOMO newscasters on stories, and have gained respect for their news work and access to the Hispanic community. Méndez also takes advantage of the experience and connections of the KOMO newspeople when covering particular stories. "Fraud is a big problem in the Hispanic community—it's easy to take advantage of people who don't speak English well or aren't familiar with ways of doing things here," Méndez explains. "The investigative team at KOMO has really helped us to dig into those stories, give tips on how to solve the problem and protect our local consumers."

## Los deportes

It's not all work and no play for Méndez, though. He is an avid soccer player (who played with Evergreen's Geoduck team for two years). When Univision Seattle signed a multiyear agreement with the Seattle Sounders FC to broadcast a portion of the 2011-12 games in Spanish, he jumped at the chance to do play-by-play commentary and host a weekly highlight show, *Sounders FC en Acción*, which is broadcast throughout the Sounders' season. "With the number of Central and South American players who have joined the Sounders, the fan base is growing quickly," says Méndez. "I can cover something that's a huge passion of mine, and also be a great resource for the Sounders' Spanish-speaking fans."

## Buenas noches

As Méndez and Teresa Gonzalez sign off for the evening, they slip away from the teleprompter and into some comfortable ad-lib comments. "Spanish-language news is one of the best resources for getting a message out to the Latino community," Méndez says. And tonight his closing message is simple. "Ten cuidado en la nieve," he says. "Y buenas noches."



Photo: Tyler Brain

# ADVENTURES in BIOTECH

The best-laid plans may often go awry, but for millions of people with rheumatoid arthritis, Patricia Beckmann's winding path to success has made a huge difference

By Carolyn Shea

Patricia Beckmann '78 enrolled in Evergreen wanting to become a Montessori teacher. By the time she graduated, however—with a degree in biology, chemistry and art—she was on a completely different trajectory.

Today, she is a prominent scientist in the cutting-edge field of biotechnology and the head of one of Oregon's three signature research centers.

The funny thing is that Beckmann “flunked out of biology in high school,” as she puts it. Granted, it was AP biology, and she didn’t pass because she was homebound with a long illness—not because of some academic shortcoming. Even so, she says, “My father used to tease me a lot about that given where I went.”



Beckmann's achievements include a doctorate in biochemistry and pharmacology; postdoctoral studies as a Fulbright Scholar at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Studies in Uppsala, Sweden, and as a visiting scientist at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Md.; and a 25-year career that has spanned many disciplines in the relatively young biotech industry: research, venture capital, intellectual property law, entrepreneurship and state officialdom. She holds more than 40 patents for her scientific discoveries and has published dozens of peer-reviewed papers.

Her biggest claim to fame is that she is among the inventors of the blockbuster rheumatoid arthritis drug etanercept—trade named Enbrel—which was developed while she was working at Seattle-based Immunex, her first post-postdoc job.

Immunex—now part of Amgen—was in the vanguard of the biopharmaceutical revolution. Focused on generating drugs to treat immune-system disorders, it was known for its irreverent culture, which encouraged scientists to take risks in the lab, even if they might fail. According to Beckmann, she “got a lot of grief” from her NCI colleagues in 1988, when she decided to “join this crazy biotech startup. That was considered the dark side then,” she says. “They didn’t understand that wherever I was able to apply my expertise, I wanted to make a difference. What I want to do is create drugs and get them on the market to help people.” At Immunex this was possible.

Beckmann's turnabout from aspiring Montessori educator to altruistic biotech leader began at Evergreen, where an emergency medical services internship and training as an EMT with Olympia's McLane Fire Department sparked an interest in exploring the medical field.

She spent the summer after her freshman year working on an ambulance in Northfield, Ill., close to her Chicago-area hometown of Winnetka, and when she returned to campus in the fall, she enrolled in the Foundations of Science program. This stoked her interest in going further, in coming up with a project using the college's scanning electron microscope to take pictures of bacteriophage infecting *E. coli* bacteria and in doing an individual study contract in chemistry. “I learned how to get up in front of people, something I was scared to do, and derive equations,” she says. “I learned to think on my feet.”

Her career choice was also motivated by losing her mother to cancer when Beckmann was 8 years old, something she says she didn't realize until she was interviewed for the Fulbright fellowship at the Ludwig Institute while completing her Ph.D. at the University of Arizona. When asked why she wanted the position, she answered, “My mom died from cancer, that's why.” Before then, she says, “I didn't understand it. I didn't even know that that was probably seminal in leading me in the direction I was going.”

As a scientist at Immunex, Beckmann immersed herself in numerous research projects, including an investigation of tumor necrosis factor receptors (TNFRs). Located on a cell's surface membrane, these receptors intercept harmful tumor-necrosis factor (TNF) proteins and prevent them from damaging cells.

Beckmann's work identifying TNFRs was crucial in the development of Enbrel, the first in a new class of drugs called TNF inhibitors, which are prescribed for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. A chronic autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system attacks healthy

tissue, causing inflammation of the joints, RA affects more than a million people in the U.S. alone. Enbrel works with the immune system by blocking the action of TNFs, which cause the inflammation. Approved by the FDA in 1998, the product is forecast to become the world's third-best selling drug with global sales of \$8 billion in 2014.

In 2001, Beckmann shared the Intellectual Property Owners Association National Inventor of the Year award with her co-inventors at Immunex for their work on Enbrel.

Beckmann left Immunex in 1993, after the birth of her third child. This move proved advantageous because it gave her the chance to broaden her experience beyond the laboratory. Her next ventures included work for a San Diego-based patent law firm and her own biotech startup, which stalled from lack of funding. She was later rehired by Immunex to work in the legal department and as a scientific liaison in research administration.

By the early 2000s, Beckmann was managing biotech investments for Vulcan Capital, the investment vehicle for Microsoft cofounder Paul Allen. “That was like an experiential MBA,” she says. “You learned from experience more than from books, much like Evergreen.” This was followed by a stint as a Kauffman Fellow at the Accelerator Corporation, a Seattle investment firm and biotech incubator. She was also the founding chief scientist of Homestead Clinical, an Accelerator-backed startup focused on the development of diagnostic biomarkers for oncology and other disease indications.

In 2008, Beckmann was appointed president and executive director of the Oregon Translational Research and Drug Development Institute, a state initiative to promote regional economic development by fostering collaboration between Oregon universities and biotech entrepreneurs. Oregon has been called a “flyover state” because venture capitalists go from California to Washington to invest in startups, particularly in the bioscience sector. Beckmann and her organization intend to change this.

Also known as OTRADI, the institute assists university researchers in the state in translating their biological ideas into new medical products. It can validate research and speed up the process of getting drugs on the market. It provides investigators with access to tools that were previously unavailable or prohibitively expensive, offering a laboratory-based program with state-of-the-art instruments and technicians who can rapidly determine the potential of different compounds to treat targeted diseases. OTRADI's lab is capable of testing more than 10,000 chemicals a day for drug-like activity. The center is also amassing a “library” of thousands of natural and synthetic compounds for screening.

Last year, with Oregon's other signature research centers (ONAMI and Oregon BEST), OTRADI was awarded \$1 million in the i6 Challenge, a new federal competition to identify the nation's best ideas for technology commercialization and entrepreneurship.

From her office in Portland, Beckmann makes use of her diverse background in science and business to lead the charge in transforming the state into a hub of bioscience innovation. And yet, there's still a little of the would-be educator at work in what she's doing. “I'm mentoring others, helping them innovate and avoid the pitfalls in getting a product out to help people more rapidly,” she says. “It gets back to my desire to be a Montessori teacher: I like to teach.”

---

*“You learned from experience more than from books, much like Evergreen.”*

— Patricia Beckmann



Win Blodgett (above) and Holland Pump are helping to restore water levels in the Everglades through projects like the Faka Union Canal Pump Station (below, opposite), part of the \$79 million Picayune Strand Restoration Project in south Florida's Collier County.

Photos: Holland Pump

# Got a Dirty Job?

By Ann Mary Quarandillo

## Win Blodgett and Holland Pump can engineer a solution

On October 24, 2005, Hurricane Wilma slammed into Florida's southwest coast. The third hurricane of the 2005 season to reach category 5 status, Wilma remains the most intense hurricane on record in the Atlantic, with wind speeds topping 175 miles per hour. Although the storm passed over the state in a short but intense four hours, rainfall exceeded 9 inches in some places. By the time it tore through Florida's most heavily populated area of Miami and Fort Lauderdale, more than 25 people were dead and the storm surge had submerged much of South Florida.

When flooding like this occurs, all that water doesn't just magically drain away. Within days of Wilma's landfall, Holland Pump and the company's president, Win Blodgett '86, were on the scene, helping farmers pump millions of gallons of water away from their fields, and cities deal with water and sewer systems overwhelmed by the storm.

Whether creating the stormwater and sewer systems for a development or trying to pull millions of gallons of oil out of the ocean, most people don't give much thought to the critical piece of equipment that makes these feats possible. Through his first 13 years in the construction industry, Blodgett didn't think about pumps much either. He used them, of course—dewatering is a key step in many construction projects. But in 1999, when he and his father purchased Holland Pump, he had no idea that today they'd be involved in projects from hurricane cleanup to restoring the Everglades.

He actually had no idea that he'd end up in business at all. Blodgett started out as a music major at Ohio State University. He transferred as a junior to Evergreen, where he continued to study music, but also found a deep interest in social anthropology. He studied the work of seminal anthropologists Victor and Edith Turner, who had lived with and studied the Ndembu tribe of Zambia in the early 1950s. In 1985, after Victor's death, Edith returned to Zambia, and Blodgett went along as her assistant, studying the tribe's healing rituals and completing his thesis on the topic. Their book, *Experiencing Ritual*, was published in 1992. "That was my first real exposure to being in an area with no electricity, no stores, nothing we're used to, and experiencing traditional culture," he says. "It was a complete change. I gained a lot of self-confidence from that, knowing that whatever you do, you can be successful at it."



Even though it was unexpected, Blodgett has been very successful with Holland Pump. Holland manufactures, sells, rents and services pumps with capacities up to 150,000 gallons per minute. These aren't your average basement pumps. All sorts of industries—from construction and utilities to mining and marine—have needs for dewatering or managing water. "In Florida and lots of coastal areas, the water table is quite high, so any time you are doing work underground you need to manage the groundwater," Blodgett explains. "Storm water is also a big concern, and pumps are a critical component of the infrastructure."

Much of Blodgett's work managing water is not clean and sparkling. "Lots of our projects look like an episode of 'Dirty Jobs,'" he jokes. But he's serious when he explains the number of different remediation projects where their pumps have made the difference between habitable land and untainted water or contamination that can render an area unlivable for decades. Holland has provided pumps for oil spills worldwide, cleaned up leaking underground fuel tanks at gas stations, and kept sewer systems going when the lines break. Its subsidiary, LobePro, makes pumps that tackle harsher sludges and slurries, chemicals and corrosive liquids for heavy industry.

Blodgett's pumps are removing arsenic contamination at the Fort Lauderdale airport, and remediating lead-tainted soil in a residential development built on a former gun range. They clean up wastewater from millions of acres of farms in Florida, the Gulf Coast and Texas, and work with sugar processors who are using sugarcane byproducts to manufacture fuel. The variety of problems that need pumps leads to a lot of innovation. Holland's engineers and pump consultants use their experience in the field to design pumps and create plans to solve those problems.

"I definitely have carried the can-do attitude I learned from Evergreen," says Blodgett. "Evergreen teaches students how to learn, discover their learning style and have a spectrum of skills to be able to research and obtain answers to questions and solve problems."

Only 10 companies in the U.S. do what Holland Pump does, and several are much larger multinational corporations. Holland's 70 employees are divided between rental and service operations in Florida and a 40,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Georgia. Blodgett says Holland offers customers something different than the bigger companies—a commitment to service and customized solutions. "We don't have all their resources, but we can respond quickly and customize engineering solutions more quickly than large companies." In fact, Holland guarantees that any client with a pump problem, anywhere in the U.S., will have someone on call to fix it within two hours.

For municipal engineers in cities and small towns with eroding infrastructure, that kind of service can mean the difference between water

and no water for millions of customers, or sewage flowing to treatment facilities instead of overflowing into local streams. Holland's pumps are used all over as backups for sewer lift stations, or to bypass sewer lines when they need emergency repairs.

Pumps are also a key component in the nation's largest environmental restoration project—the repair of Florida's Everglades. This "River of Grass," a collection of sawgrass marshes, freshwater ponds, prairies and forests, covered 4,000 miles of South Florida just a century ago. Today it is half that size, drained by agriculture, development and flood control.

Holland Pump is working with the federal Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) on a number of projects to pump more water back into the Everglades. In 2011, Holland was selected as the pump supplier and dewatering contractor for the Faka Union Canal Pump Station, part of a \$79 million restoration project in south Florida's Collier County. "Building pump stations in the Everglades might seem counterintuitive to preserving a natural area, but it's a critical part of restoring water levels in the region," says Blodgett.

Building pumps allows Holland not only to help customers but also to manage equipment better and do things better environmentally. "We have a number of safety mechanisms to protect the environment in all kinds of industries," Blodgett says. "Around some mines, nuclear power plants, sewage systems—when there is heavy rain, the fluid that would leach into the environment can be very toxic. It can even destroy the pump itself. So it has to be made of the right material, and when the pump is called on, it has to pump flawlessly."

Lately, Holland has been reaching out to international markets. "There is a widespread perception that American-made products are still the best made," Blodgett explains. "Many of the largest multinational engineering firms specify American-made pumps because the engineering and reliability is there. We should be able to do well as long as we innovate and change with the times."

Some of Holland Pump's innovations include using vegetable and other biodegradable non toxic oils in its hydraulic systems to mitigate the environmental impact of leaks, and using telemetry and GPS technology to monitor, start and stop equipment from a distance, and respond proactively to keep equipment running.

While Holland's staff is planning major projects, they must be constantly ready for emergencies. "Projects involving water can get exponentially worse very quickly," Blodgett explains. "When a pump fails, it can translate to days of delay. Our biggest challenge and asset is our service—the logistical ability to quickly deliver and set up pumps and keep them running 24/7. It's an adrenaline rush."







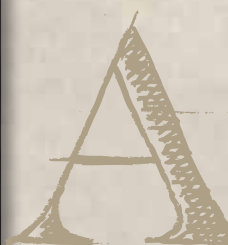
# The Market Strategist

---

**Brett Redfearn '87 brings an Evergreen approach to Wall Street**

---

By Ann Mary Quarandillo



Ask Brett Redfearn '87 to describe his job at J.P. Morgan Securities in New York, and the first thing he'll tell you is this: "I can tell you all about how markets work, but I'm not paid to pick stocks."

Most people even in the financial industry have a hard time understanding what Redfearn does as J.P. Morgan's head of market structure strategy for the U.S., Canada and Latin America. Instead of selecting investments, his job is to understand the markets at the micro-structure level — analyzing the relationships between regulations, technology and trading practices, then educating both colleagues and clients about the constantly changing cycle of activity.



"Markets are like living breathing organisms. There are so many different variables influencing what is happening," Redfearn says. "There are opportunistic short-term traders, large institutions investing for the long term, massive amounts of market data, and psychology and fear. Markets are highly fragmented, trading speeds are ultra-fast, and prices, or spreads, are usually very tight. All of these factors and more affect how trading works and it's fascinating. I gravitate toward the aspects of the market that are not well understood and are waiting for someone to put some context around. It's a significant intellectual challenge understanding what's going on and equally hard to explain it."

Redfearn "never would have guessed" that he'd end up working for one of the biggest firms on Wall Street. He grew up in Delaware, the son of a successful attorney who wanted him to become a lawyer himself—a career path Redfearn resisted. "After one year at college, I found out I was not into the 'traditional' college experience," he explains. So he took off to travel around the world with his guitar.

"Some of the most interesting people I met went to this place called Evergreen," he remembers. "At the end of that year of exploration, I was planning either to go to India and continue my journey, or go back to college. The fact that I kept running into these great people from Evergreen was a sign telling me where to go."

At Evergreen, he was an organizer for the Washington Public Interest Research Group (known better as WashPIRG) in the fight against nuclear waste disposal at the Hanford site, and created his own academic program around lobbying the legislature on the issue. After graduating, Redfearn earned his master's degree from The New School for Social Research in New York. He began his career doing public sector economic development work with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

After a new political appointee was put in charge of the Port Authority, where Redfearn had been working as part of a public planning process for infrastructure and transportation projects in the region, the whole office was disbanded. He figures he's one of the few people in his industry that got into finance in part because they were laid off from a public sector job.

"At that time, the public sector was either cutting jobs or cutting budgets, so I took an interview with the American Stock Exchange for a planning and strategy job in the research department," he says. "I was good at research because of my education, and studying market dynamics was something I turned out to have a knack for."

After eventually running a strategy and transactions team at the American Stock Exchange, Redfearn moved on to Bear Stearns, where he was responsible for equities market structure when J.P. Morgan bought the company in mid-2008. He was retained by JP Morgan during that tumultuous time. "I think that I was able to survive the transition in part because I have a very unique, strategic job that I helped to create. And that links back to Evergreen," he explains.

"The work that I did with (founding faculty member) Beryl Crowe, Jeanne Hahn and other Evergreen faculty helped me change the way I think. It was a constant questioning, probing, challenging dynamic. So I always question my conclusions and beliefs and never get too comfortable with any one answer. If you are too married to one idea or belief, eventually you're wrong. That may be the most important attribute that's kept me thinking and staying fresh in a world that's always changing. There really are no definitive answers...for long."

As anyone who has a bank account or a 401(k) knows, the markets of the past few years have been some of the most volatile in history. Redfearn's job is to help figure out the market micro-structure aspect of this, which he says is in part driven by the incredible speed of today's electronic trading. He then explains new market developments, including regulatory changes, to clients, traders and money managers. He says "one of the most meaningful aspects of my job is working with exchanges and regulators to review and develop policies that will help ensure that markets are fair and orderly." In that respect, Redfearn also serves on the Board of Directors of BATS Global Markets, a relatively new and growing stock exchange.

He understands that many people outside of Wall Street don't have much trust right now in the financial industry. "Of course, I've had to ask the question: Am I adding value primarily to my bank account and my firm or am I also contributing to the integrity of the industry in which I'm operating? The answer is: I have a normative approach to everything that I do and couldn't do this if I doubted that my values and ethics were fully intact and integral to the advice and analysis I provide."

Redfearn was working on the 54th floor of the World Trade Center during the 1993 terrorist attack, and worked just a block away from the World Trade Center at the American Stock Exchange on 9-11. After experiencing two terrorist attacks, there's a constant awareness that another possible event could occur near his workplace or home. Nonetheless, he has no plans to leave New York City and no imminent plans to exit the world of financial services. He says "Now more than ever we need a little bit of Evergreen in the business world"—one more reason that he remains committed to his work and to helping re-envision how the financial world works.

*"At the end of that year of exploration, I was planning either to go to India and continue my journey, or go back to college. The fact that I kept running into these great people from Evergreen was a sign telling me where to go."*

— Brett Redfearn

# Riding the Hydrologic Cycle into the Future

By Carolyn Shea

Cindy Peyser Safronoff '92 has a special affinity for water. Growing up in Seattle, she was surrounded by it. Even now that she's living most of the year in the landlocked Midwest, it's a major part of her existence. She's not exaggerating when she says, "I've been around water my whole life." And not only around it, but in it, on it, studying it, understanding it, engaged with it.

This attachment was cultivated in childhood. Her family often boated around the San Juan Islands or retreated to their cabin at Lake Chelan, where she swam like a fish in its deep waters. Peyser spent summers kayaking and working as a river guide when she was a student at Evergreen. In her senior year, as she was wrapping up her studies in environmental sciences, her final program was called Riding the Hydrologic Cycle.

Peyser's entire postgraduate career has been related to water, too. It runs through her professional life like a tributary from her first job as a research assistant working in intergovernmental water resources planning for the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. And it continues into her current role as president of Pizer Incorporated, a Seattle-based firm that provides municipalities around the United States with master planning modeling for their wastewater infrastructure.

This is the important stuff, often unseen and unappreciated (until something goes wrong), that supports and enhances living conditions in modern developed societies: the complex, interrelated collection of pipes, channels, gutters, inlets, pumps, reservoirs, detention storage units, manholes, outlets, and other assorted elements constantly operating—hopefully properly and effectively—to improve sanitation, protect public health and control pollution.

With the tribe, Peyser did research for a regional planning project concerning water resources in the northern Olympic Peninsula around Sequim. "The whole idea was to involve every kind of water user, with the goal of trying to get more water back into the rivers—the main one being the Dungeness—to prevent salmon extinction," she says.

After a couple of years there, learning more and more about water as a resource, she was called back home. "I got recruited into the family business," she says.

In the early 1970s, with the emergence of computers, Peyser's civil engineer father, Allen Peyser, invented a breakthrough software program to model wastewater systems. Dubbed Hydra, the program marked a sea change from the days when figuring out the current and future flows of underground pipes while analyzing and designing sanitary sewer and wastewater projects required slide rules and careful computations.

Hydra was so well received that her dad founded and built a company to market it. Over the years, it has been continually updated, becoming more flexible and sophisticated through powerful tools like geographic information system (GIS) and computer-aided design (CAD) technologies. It is utilized by small- to medium-sized cities, highway departments, military bases and consultants across North America to help them in a range of municipal sewer management projects, from master planning and storm water management to rehabilitation projects, elimination of overflows and collection system design. Because so many sewer systems are overtaxed by age and population growth, the program plays a key role in infrastructure improvements.

From her home in St. Louis, Mo., where she moved after marrying five years ago, Peyser is leading the charge to get Hydra into the places where it can be of use. After spending more than a decade working with her father and learning the ropes of the business, she is now running it. "I wear a lot of hats," she says. "My brother is the programmer; he writes the software, and I do everything else: sales, legal, technical support, web design, hiring for outside jobs, everything that software companies do."



She also writes user manuals and with her father, is currently working on a book for civil engineers on hydraulic modeling. Writing has come to be very important to Peyser. She recently published her first book, *Climbing Mt. Rainier with the Chicks*, an account of the preparations, trials and triumph of successfully summiting Mount Rainier with a small team of women on their first attempt. "That was definitely a peak experience for me. It was so amazing that I wrote most of it down right after it happened and then expanded it."

Nowadays, she writes 10 to 20 hours a week and is already onto her next book, exploring gender issues. "I've worked in male-dominated fields all my life," she says. "I've been to conferences with 400 people and I'm the only woman." While this is slowly changing, Peyser says her consciousness was awakened to gender issues by some powerful experiences at Evergreen, especially in her junior-year program, Sustainable Community Systems, her most influential course. "Something happened in that program," she recalls. "A confluence happened—the students, teachers and material were all awesome."

Peyser's vision for the future includes the continued development of Hydra and Pizer, and integrating the fields she has worked in: water resources and wastewater management. "In looking at my whole professional life and the thread of water connecting it all; where I'm going in the future and where I see the industry going, it's really exciting because the areas of water resources and wastewater are starting to merge," she says. "The new cutting-edge thinking is that wastewater, the water that we're throwing away, dumping, treating, is being seen as the last untapped water resource. People are starting realize that we need to use that."

With water shortages looming as one of this century's greatest challenges, she has been investigating more sustainable ways to manage the resource. "This is not a sustainable system we've got working here," she says. She is particularly intrigued by the green building model provided by Earthship Biotecture, which makes passive solar homes, constructed with natural and recycled materials—often rammed earth and tires—using only rainwater and reusing greywater. "The only utilities needed are sunlight and rain," says Peyser, who is trying to figure out how to apply earthship ideas in a way that more people will benefit. "I'm still trying to work it into my professional life in a more concrete way," she says.

That effort may already be starting to bear fruit. "I'm in dialogue with one customer, a city, to try hydraulic modeling of things like rain barrels, cisterns, and rain gardens," she says. "I'm trying to explore how our software can help cities, when they say, 'Okay, now let's see what happens when we launch different initiatives on a city-wide scale. That's where we can help.'"

For Peyser, "it all comes back to life on rivers. Ultimately, if these water saving techniques could be implemented, the effect would be to keep rivers and streams in better shape so we have more fish and healthier ecosystems."

Peyser says Evergreen is greatly responsible for opening her eyes to "exploring new ideas and wrestling with different philosophies and ways of thinking—to look at ideas that seem crazy but have the potential for moving us forward. We can have a warm house, a shower everyday, lights, the Internet. We can have all that but also do it in a way that's totally sustainable."

Cindy Peyser Safronoff on top of the world during her climb to the summit of Mount Rainier, which she reached on her first attempt. Photo courtesy of Cindy Peyser Safronoff





# NET GAINS

Ex-Geoduck Shares Love  
and Lessons of Basketball

By Carolyn Shea

**T**he game of basketball, it's been said, is a good metaphor for life: the ups and downs, the challenges and rebounds, the victories and losses. Jackie Robinson '02 knows this better than most.

Robinson, the head girl's basketball coach at Olympia's River Ridge High School, has been involved in the sport most of his life.

Since "the minute I could pick up the ball," he notes, which was at the age of 5 years old. Basketball was one of the few activities available to him during his childhood and he was good at it. "That's all we could do in a small town," says the former Geoduck, who grew up south of Mobile, Ala., in Grand Bay, population 3,400.

But more than that, being on the court represented an escape for him. "The world stopped once I started playing," he says. "That was my therapeutic activity. The problems were still there, but for the time being, they went away. I would shoot and play for hours and hours. Sometimes I'd be at it for eight to ten hours. The time would just fly by."

Another big appeal was the "team building," says Robinson, the father of two (who is not named after the legendary Major League Baseball player, but after his own father, who is). "For me personally, the togetherness and the connections were important."

In the 7th grade, Robinson started playing competitively, but he also started hanging out with a bad crowd. "I wasn't the perfect kid," he says. "Fortunately, he had a coach who cared enough about him to take the time and effort to counsel the teenager. "He told me how important I was and what I was capable of doing. He told me I was making poor choices and he basically stopped me in my tracks."

As a result of that coach's guidance and the guidance of other coaches he had the chance to play for over the ensuing years—as well as some caring uncles and his own propensity for self-examination and asking lots of questions—Robinson stayed on course and became the first member of his family to graduate from college.



It wasn't always a straight course: By the time he got to Evergreen, he had already "bounced around" a bit, having been to two other colleges, both in Mississippi. But he was figuring it out along the way. When he started school, he was set on majoring in sports management. He wanted to be sports agent. He ended up also studying social work because of some of the earlier experiences he had had, including counseling young relatives and peers. "I'd been doing that since I was a kid with my cousins to get them to stay out of trouble and I mentored kids in high school," he says. "It all started when my coach and my uncles reached out to me."

At Evergreen, he worked for First Peoples Advising Services, helping students of color achieve their academic and personal goals. He also did an independent contract working with troubled youth in two of the state's juvenile correction facilities: Green Hill School in Chehalis and Maple Lane School in Centralia.

"We'd read, talk about life experiences. I tried to be a positive role model and help out any way I could," he says. "I was modeling what I saw as a youth and giving back."

At the same time, the six-foot-four upperclassman was an important member of Evergreen's men's basketball team, playing two seasons for the Geoducks. In 2000-01, he appeared in 30 games, starting 26 and averaging 8.8 points per game. He led the team in free throw shooting that year, making 77 of 93. "He was a big contributor," says Chris Thompson, Geoducks sports information director.

Robinson also contributed to the success of the 2001-02 team, which earned the college's first appearance in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics tournament, winning the Cascade Conference championship. "In 2001-02, when Evergreen won the conference title, he appeared in 33 games, averaging 6.7 points per game," says Thompson, adding that the former all-conference forward "was a role-player" for the team.

After graduating, Robinson played basketball professionally for several teams in Switzerland and Germany over a two-year period, where he was "a guard and a forward and wherever I was needed," he says. "After I got done

playing, I started coaching youth basketball. It was cool. I like kids so it was pretty fun." Having grown up with four sisters, he was certainly prepared when he returned to Olympia to serve as an assistant coach for the girl's basketball team at Timberline High School.

He stayed with the Timberline team for five seasons before moving to River Ridge last August and becoming a first-time head coach for the Hawks, who finished 2011-12 as regular season co-champions of the 2A Evergreen Conference.

When the season ends, Robinson says he can often be found playing pick-up basketball and "catching up on what I didn't do during the season, all the stuff that gets neglected like the yard work." On top of that, he's also been counselor for the past four years at Behavioral Health Resources, Thurston County's primary mental health service provider. He works with "kids who have problems at home" and tries "to get them back on track," he says.

Robinson says his greatest friends and advisors are older people. "I feel like I gain wisdom from them. I learn. I might play basketball with the younger crowd, but that's where it stops. With older people, it's like sitting down and talking on the porch, sipping lemonade with an uncle telling what to do and what not to do." He continues to seek the advice of "everyone that's ever coached me," as well as the counsel of his wife Kelci's father, George Karl, the former Seattle SuperSonics coach and current coach of the Denver Nuggets. "I talk to them all the time. They always give me insights."

But his fondness for kids remains, as well as his desire to help them along. He often brings the youths he's working with back to Evergreen to tour the campus and show them what's possible. "Some kids never get a chance to step on a college campus. I figure if you don't have a vision to go to college, you probably won't. I try to give them that."

When he's with his team, he has a vision for his players, too. More than anything, he says, "I want the players to have fun. The thing that would make me most sad is if a kid came back to me and said they didn't have fun. That would be the most disappointing to me. I want them to have fun being part of a team and learning basic life skills though playing basketball."

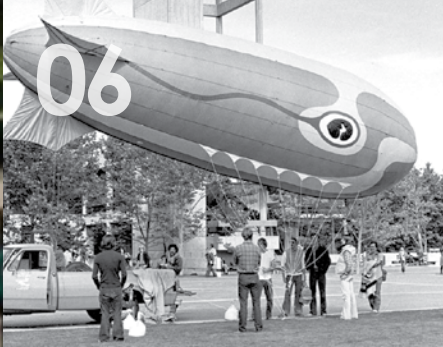
In his first year as head coach, Jackie Robinson led the River Ridge High School Hawks girls basketball team to a 17-8 record and regular season co-championship of the 2A Evergreen conference.

Photo: Riley Shiery





# what do you love?



No matter how long you lived in the South Sound (and nearly half of our alumni still do), you encountered something that endeared you to Evergreen and its environs. On our 40th anniversary, we're celebrating 40 of the best things around. Maybe some of your favorites are included.

**1 Your Favorite Faculty** Everyone has a faculty member who inspired you or changed the whole direction of your studies...and your life. Take a minute and remember him or her.

**2 Toys, Tools, Technology** Did you film a movie? Create a costume? Design your own video game? Make a "controlled" explosion? Between Media Loan, the Lab Stores, the Costume Shop, the DIS, the TV Studio (now the CCAM) and Photoland, you can get ahold of pretty much anything you need to create the craziest things you can imagine.

**3 Local Shops** Olympia's well-supported emporiums are fiercely independent—to borrow the tagline of Last Word Books, one downtown favorite started by four Greeners. Who among us hasn't loved and patronized such past and present institutions of community commerce as Yarbrows, Rainy Day Records, Radiance Herbs, Archibald Sisters, Traditions, Olympic Outfitters, Orca Books and too many others to name? Not only do we buy from the locals; we create them!

**4 Graduation** From the costumes to the music, the crowds pack onto Red Square for what seems like a family reunion. We trade formal ritual for creative expression, and it's the proudest time of the year.

**5 Seminar** It's one continuous conversation that grows into an exchange of ideas, experiences and stories with people of all ages and from all walks of life. And yes, for Greeners, "seminar" will always be a verb.

**6 Super Saturday** For 30 years Super Saturday marked the beginning of summer in Olympia and the end of the academic year at Evergreen. Part arts and crafts fair, part music festival, part community service fair and part alumni and community gathering, the college retired the event in 2009 in the face of state budget cuts. But the college continues to bring the community to campus with speakers, performances, art exhibits, and events highlighting Evergreen's teaching and learning, including an annual Science Carnival that draws thousands of K-12 students.





**7 The Great Outdoors** Sure, you need rain gear 10 months of the year, but what other place could match the natural wonders of western Washington? From the 1000-acre campus and saltwater beach to program adventures on sailboats, treks to Mt. Rainier, research projects in the Nisqually wildlife refuge, vistas of Mt. Saint Helens (before and after the eruptions), walks through the ancient rainforests of Olympic National Park or just a fun day at the ocean, the sights, sounds and scents of nature are a memorable part of almost every Evergreen experience.

**8 It's the Water** Fluid, flexible, changing and adaptively permeable. Whether your memory is of the unofficial and (largely) fabled nude beach swims or back country hiking along the Washington Coast or Puget Sound, generations of Greeners have also come to define themselves as protectors of water and contented adherents to hydrophilia.

**9 Procession of the Species** If you build it, sew it, paint it, wear it...they will come. It's Washington state's largest annual Earth Day celebration, "created by the community for the community to celebrate our relationships with each other and with the natural world."

**10 Artswalk** A different kind of procession, where people crowd the downtown sidewalks discovering paintings and plays, sculptures and satirists, from hundreds of artists showing their work.

**11 Coffee** Think Seattle is the world coffee capital? Think again. Our Batdorf & Bronson gives the big guys a run (have you tried the Greener Blend?), plus we've got Dancing Goats, New Moon, Raven's Brew, Caffè Vita and Olympia Coffee Roasting Co., just to name a few.

**12 Beer** Thinking Olympia? You probably think beer. It's the water and a lot more (or a lot less, depending on your taste). While the Olympia Brewery in Tumwater closed its doors in 2003, Olympia still supports craft and microbrewery beer with Fish Brewing Company and McMenamins Spar Café. Of course, you may have tipped a beer or two elsewhere in Olympia as well.

**13 Downtown** We love the nightlife, we've got to boogie...The Reef is gone, but you can chow down at Quality Burrito, head over to the Eastside, Jake's, the 4th Ave. Tavern, or the BroHo (you might be surprised that this former biker bar is now a Greener hot spot).

Photos by Evergreen Photo Services, Shauna Bittle '98 and Riley Shiery. Historic photos courtesy of The Evergreen State College Archives.



08



04



10



06



01



05



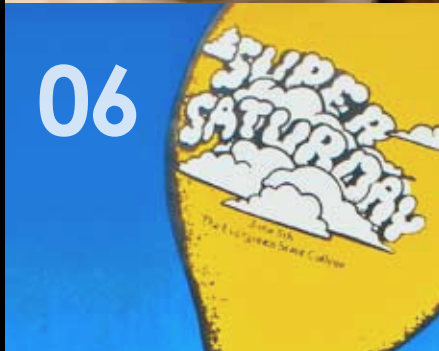
02



11



12 (13 & 18)



06



09





19



21



20



14



16



24



18



23



17

**14 Bike Shop** If you know your D-mount front derailleur from your Motion Control Compression Damper there is a good chance you learned it from Evergreen's Bike Shop, where friendly student helpers (aka saints) help you understand just how much there is to know, and ensure that you keep rolling with minimum bumps in the road.

**15 Food Co-ops** OK, we know of some Greeners who affectionately call the Olympia Food Co-op the hippie mart, but seriously there is nowhere better for (non-transmogrified, non-GMO, keep your pesticides) real food—food that is actually the food it looks like. Peace out, Sergeant Pepper! They can keep their polydimethylsiloxane and hydrogenated oils. We eat better!

**16 Undergraduate Research** From hydrogen fuel cells to the music of Phillip Glass, bacteriophages that may eliminate E.coli from the food system, or rural communities in a global perspective—come up with a good enough proposal, and you'll be knee deep in research before you know it. And before grad school.

**17 Bus** Your mobile seminar and freedom train to downtown. With a record 5.3 million trips taken in 2011, Intercity Transit takes Greeners where they need to go. No wonder it's been named best mid-sized transit system in the U.S.

**18 Week 10** One big mentally challenging potluck, two parts panic, one part preparation, with a side of consciousness expansion.

**19 Potlucks** No one is judging your vegan carrot pumpkin seed loaf with kale-tofu spread. Really.

**20 KAOS (Kicking Ass Olympia Style)** Broadcasting from campus since January 1, 1973. A friendly daily dose of complex random phenomena and creativity, broadcast with love, thought and solidarity.

**21 Hungry?** Goop is not optional at the original Eagan's (thanks, Big Tom!), your pizza choice can still start an argument (are you Old School or Dirty Dave's? Vic's or Pizza Time?), Ben Moore's offers hot food and cool jazz, and if you want Thai? Just walk a block and you'll find some.

Photos by Evergreen Photo Services, Shauna Bittle '98 and Riley Shiery, except salmon spawn by Robert Koopmans for istockphoto, and Geoduck Lady courtesy of Denny Peterson.





25



22



20

**22 Artesian Well** Are there or aren't there Artesians? Do you think one will ever be found? If so, they'll probably be enjoying the new minipark around Olympia's downtown artesian well, sipping the coolest, cleanest water anywhere.

**23 The Music Scene** It started long before Kurt Cobain rented a house on Pear St. and Nirvana played gigs in K dorm. Riot Grrrls Bikini Kill and Sleater-Kinney got their start here, Carrie Brownstein '98 is touring with her new band Wild Flag. YouTubers loved "Chocolate Rain" by Adam Bahner '04 aka Tay Zonday; so did Weezer (check out their Pork and Beans video). Gretchen Christopher '82, of The Fleetwoods, is still hitting the charts. Dub Narcotic's Calvin Johnson '85, Mirah '96, Real Estate's Martin Courtney '08 and soprano Cyndia Sieden '76 are all Greeners. With K Records and Kill Rock Stars, all-ages venues, and a thriving bluegrass and folk scene, Olympia remains a destination for music lovers everywhere.

**24 The Geoduck** Our favorite bivalve is frequently noted as one of the nation's most unusual (craziest? Most bizarre?) college mascots, and it's delicious, too! Dig Deep, Geoducks.

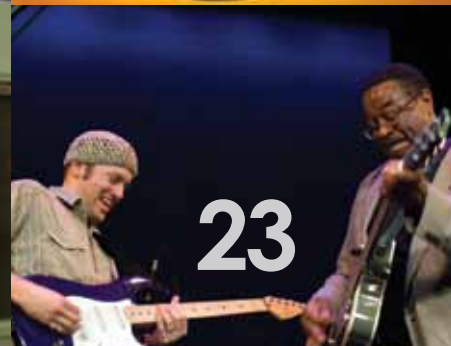
**25 Olympia Film Society** Since 1980, the Capitol Theater has brought us both classic and cutting edge films, from Warhol's *Frankenstein* (in 3-D) to *The Iron Lady*, with a dose of the *Muppets*. The annual Olympia Film Festival has been a favorite event since 1983, a 10-day around-the-clock extravaganza of films, special performances, discussion panels and workshops. Grab your tamari spritzed popcorn and kombucha, sit back in your vintage 1924 seat, and enjoy the show!

**26 GRuB** Greeners Kim Gaffi '97 and Blue Peetz '95 started GRuB (Garden-Raised Bounty) to help local teens and community members get their hands in the dirt and truly connect with their food and their environment. Thirteen years later, they're still growing healthy food, people and communities.

**27 Salmon Runs** The first time you saw salmon spawn? Maybe during your time in Olympia—from the 4th Ave. bridge, Tumwater Falls, along the McLane Creek Nature Trail or the Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail. There's a certain thrill to seeing a moving blanket of undulating color beneath the glassy surface or a spectacular leap to clear a rapid or falls. It's no wonder that salmon are an icon of the Pacific Northwest.



24



23



25



21



22



27



19



26





32



40



38



28



33



30



29



31



35



32

**28 Farmers Market** A creative, vibrant gathering space that supports the local community. Olympia's market provides space for Greener-owned organic farmers to sell fruits and veggies, flowers and honey. Grab your Curry In A Hurry, find a spot on the benches and enjoy the music. Or sample some super fresh fruit and stock up on tie-dyed socks.

**29 Organic Farm** Since 1972, hope has grown at Evergreen's organic farm, where students and community members explore ways to feed the planet without compromising on ethics or the environment. The great agricultural experiment (that recently featured a Sarah Palin scarecrow) includes community gardens, compost and Biodiesel facilities, greenhouses and more, and this year added the new Sustainable Agriculture Lab building.

**30 Drums on Red Square** Nothing welcomes the inexorable return of spring like an Evergreen drum circle, reminiscent both of the hammering of the last winter rains or the feel-good waves of a summer sunlight flash mob rushing the happy centers of the soul. Whether glad or anxious, in the mood for frenetic or easy drumming, one is welcomed and challenged to simply enter the circle.

**31 Hilltop** Home to Evergreen's Tacoma Program, "The Hill" is an urban community rich in diversity and often maligned in the media. It hosts many cultures, languages, restaurants, churches, views and people of all classes and incomes. Today, it is experiencing renewed development and vitalization, in part because of the Tacoma program's presence and commitment to the community.

**32 Flora Fauna Fungi** Are you a dendrologist? Mycologist? Pomologist? Malacologist? Phytochemist? Zoologist? Ichthyologist? Here you can be one or all of them.

**33 Myths** You heard it through the grapevine, right? Or witnessed it firsthand, so you can testify? Those shadowy Evergreen legends just won't go away. Like the one about Happy Land, located in the bowels of the CAB: a place to escape, a shrine brimming with art, experiments, sundry memorials and paraphernalia. Bob the Orb? A humungous metal sphere that floats mysteriously through the campus woods. And the poltergeists roaming our hallowed halls, which—haven't you heard?—were originally designed as a prison instead of an institution of higher learning. Would we lie to you?





**34 The Other Residence Halls** It was the house on your block with five or more Greeners living there at any given time. It was where you could find the best potlucks, the coolest local music, and a couch to crash on when you needed it. The locations may change, but Greener houses are always home.

**35 Mud Bay Run** One of the most grueling 500-meter dashes on earth, this ritual graduation race across Mud Bay at low tide is a mere two hours before the big ceremony. Duct-tape your shoes so you don't lose them!

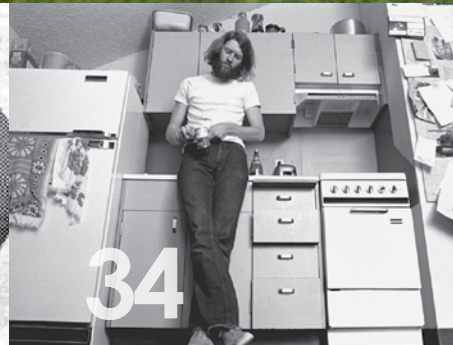
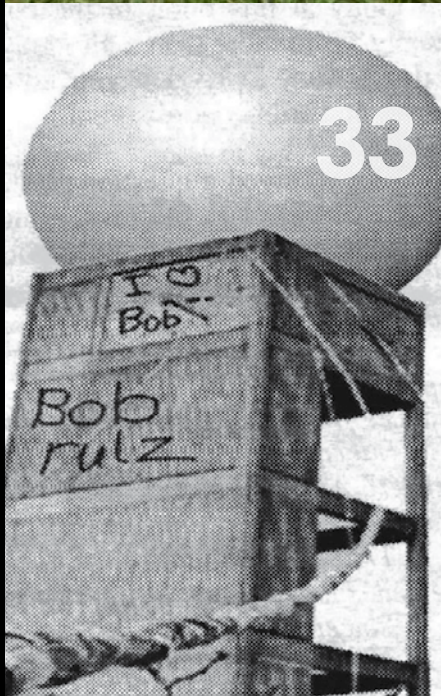
**36 Capitol** Whether you've interned or advocated for a cause there, run a state agency or been elected to represent your district, Evergreen's "capitol" location is a big part of the Evergreen experience.

**37 Bigelow House** The oldest standing home in Olympia was built in the late 1850s by Daniel and Ann Bigelow. Activists of their day, they were strong proponents of public education, rights for people of color, women's suffrage and temperance.

**38 Murals** Star Wars and superheroes, orcas and geoducks, a tribute to peace in Palestine—our city and campus murals tell the story of who we are, who we were, and who we hope to become. This is what happens when both professional and amateur artists have safe space to express themselves.

**39 Soccer** Since the '80s, varsity sports have been a part of campus life, and it all started with soccer. From pickup games in the early days to 2004, when our teams were nationally ranked, and the men reached the third round of the NAIA National Championships, we have gravitated towards the "other" football. Be sure to catch former Geoduck Joey Gjertsen '05 in his third year with Major League Soccer's San Jose Earthquakes.

**40 Longhouse Education & Cultural Center** For more than a decade, the mission of the "House of Welcome" has been to promote indigenous arts and cultures. With Evergreen's focus on the liberal arts, we define ourselves through our connections to the great thinkers, and through traditions, finding value, creativity, and innovation in the gifts of many disciplines, relevant to the past, to our present, and to our collective future.





# News & Notes



*The Natural History Collections at Evergreen are full of life and learning.*



In a busy Wednesday afternoon, undergraduate fellows fill a large black work table with tray after tray of bird specimens for an upcoming class. A veritable flock passes by: the iridescent green head and yellow beak of a male mallard; a pileated woodpecker with its red pompadour; an orange-breasted robin. Though lacking the animated poses of popular taxidermy, each bird "skin" is preserved to look as natural as possible—even when lying flat on a tray. "I like to think of them as in the yoga plank position," student curator Brendon Boudinot quips.

Evergreen's Natural History Collections include a "dry" zoology section with 9,000 insects, hundreds of mammals, and 2,000 birds, as well as countless skeletons, shells and more; a "wet" collection with marine invertebrates, arthropods, fish, amphibians and reptiles; and an herbarium with over 4,000 specimens of plants, lichens, fungi and algae. The focus is on specimens from Washington and Oregon.

## In the beginning...

In 1972, faculty member and ornithologist Steve Herman worked with Sherburne "Jerry" Cook, Jr. (then Science Program Coordinator), to establish a space with the storage and displays needed to begin what would eventually become the Evergreen Natural History Collections. Evergreen student Peter Lawson prepared the first bird specimen, a Virginia rail, in October.

On a sunny March day in 2012, Herman checked an inventory list, removed the cover from a gray steel cabinet, located that bird and held it up for inspection. "This is it," he said.

For Herman, every drawer, every bird, is a story about a student, a place, a time and an experience in teaching and learning about nature. For him, the past and the present are linked, not just by the specimens in the collection, but also by the friendships he maintains with many of his students. "See this yellow-headed blackbird?" he asks. "Jerry Scoville did this one when he was a student in 1980, and I'm going camping with him tonight."



Above: Steve Herman with specimens from the Natural History Collections.  
Opposite page, top center: Students study large osprey talons.  
Photos: Shauna Bittle '98 and Riley Shiery.

## Collections, Field Study & Science

"Al Wiedemann and I taught The Nature of Natural History in winter then Field Natural History in spring," Herman explains. "We'd spend 24 days traveling from the Oregon dunes to the Redwoods, the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge and the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and hit the John Day Fossil Beds on the way home." Today, in addition to exploring the Pacific Coast, Evergreen natural history field studies include trips to the tropics, the Gulf Coast and southwestern deserts.

"The collections are critical to Evergreen's ongoing commitment to teaching natural history and supporting field studies," says botanist, faculty member and curator of the herbarium Frederica Bowcutt. "Students need to learn how to use collections to support field identification and to document their findings."

Students have played a critical role both in building the collections and in documenting biodiversity, in partnership with faculty, other institutions, agencies and conservation groups, Bowcutt explains. One of their current collaborative projects is a *Field Guide to the Plants of the South Puget Sound Prairies* with more than 150 botanical illustrations by students.

## 1973

**Geoff Heywood**, Beaverton, Ore., is a clinical research associate with Sanofi, a French pharmaceutical company. He monitors clinical trials in oncology, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and multiple sclerosis. A registered nurse specializing in cardiology for 31 years, he has two daughters, Megan and Marissa.

**John McCombs**, Ninilchik, Alaska, is a self-employed commercial fisherman in Cook Inlet and also works for Ninilchik School. He and his wife Deidre have two children, Maureen and Leslie.

**Terry Oliver**, Vancouver, is chief technology innovation officer for the Bonneville Power Administration in Portland, Oregon.

## 1974

**Wilhelmina (Willi) Savenye**, Tempe, Ariz., is a professor of educational technology at Arizona State University, where she earned her M.Ed. and Ph.D. degrees. She and her husband Joe, a chemistry professor, enjoy the great outdoors: kayaking, cross-country skiing, hiking and camping. Willi tells us, "I work with colleagues who also attended Evergreen and we always miss Evergreen!"

## 1975

**David James**, Meriden, Conn., has been a tool and die maker for 33 years with Nucap Inc. in Watertown, Conn. Married with five children, he is vice president of the Quinnipiac Watershed Association.

## 1976

**Fern (Barbara) Van Maren**, Boise, Idaho, embarked on a new career in her 40s when she joined the Peace Corps and spent two years in Sri Lanka as an English teacher. Since then, she's taught Mexican workers and refugees from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. She is an English as a Second Language teacher and coordinator at the College of Western Idaho.

**Leslie Kennedy**, Liestal, Switzerland, is studying for a Master of Arts degree in visual communication and iconic research at the Visual Communication Institute/The Basel School of Design in Switzerland.

## 1978

**Jeffrey Anders**, Portland, Ore., is vice president of Oregon Spice Company, a supplier of herbs, spices and custom-blended seasonings to food manufacturers and food service distributors.





Delphinium nuttallianum by senior Kate McSorley '12.



### Current space expands visibility and use

Today, Bowcutt says, more faculty members teach natural history than ever. And thanks to persistent faculty and staff advocacy for a centralized, non-toxic collections facility, the college opened a suite of climate-controlled work, storage and display spaces on the ground floor of Lab I, with neighboring microscopy labs, in 2007.

"I'm thrilled with the condition of the collection," Herman exclaimed to student curator Theresa Skiba on a recent visit. "You're doing a wonderful job!"

The students share that enthusiasm. "We've revolutionized the entomology collection and it's now databased and maintained at international museum caliber," Boudinot says with pride.

Today, the collections are in almost constant use, serving programs ranging from science to art, faculty members, students, researchers and the community. "It is hard work building collections," observed evolutionary biologist and faculty member Heather Heying. "Steve, Al and others did it out of love of nature and teaching and students with whom they were in the field for years and years. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude."

For more information on the collections, visit <http://blogs.evergreen.edu/nhcattesc/about>



**Kathleen Clark**, Los Angeles, Calif., earned her MFA from the University of California, Irvine, and spent many years as an editorial photography director. She currently works as an independent curator, professional photography consultant and teacher and practicing artist. Her blog can be found at [kathleenclarkexposed.wordpress.com](http://kathleenclarkexposed.wordpress.com).

**Nancy (Jones) Luenn**, Oak Harbor, has her art quilt, "Buckskin Gulch," in the Deep Spaces textile and mixed media exhibit, which opened in 2011 in Tillamook, Ore., and has been shown at the Edmonds Conference Center and the Sam Houston University Museum in Huntsville, Texas. It will be on display at the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum from March 28 to June 24, 2012. Learn more at [www.nancyluenn.com](http://www.nancyluenn.com).

"Buckskin Gulch" quilt, by Nancy Luenn '78



**Peter Nielsen**, Missoula, Mont., worked for the Clark Fork Coalition after earning his Master of Environmental Science degree at the University of Montana. He is now an environmental health administrator for Missoula County, supervising the local water quality district. His focus in recent years has been the removal of the Milltown Dam and cleanup of the federal Superfund site in the Milltown Reservoir. He is married with two sons and would love to hear from former classmates!

### 1979

**Justin Dick**, Evergreen, Colo., worked in the film production industry in New York City after leaving Evergreen, then traveled the world with a long stay in Nepal before moving to Denver to work for the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. After

going into business to produce an invention called the Sit 'n' Stroll Carseat Stroller, a combination child's safety car seat and stroller, he developed his present company, Hunter Creek Design, to create custom solutions for personal and commercial design challenges.

**Russell Flemming**, Luxemburg, Wis., earned a Master in Health Care Administration degree at the University of Washington in 1990 and graduated from the U.S. Army's Command and General Staff College in 1998. He retired as a colonel from the Army Medical Department after 30 years. Currently a certified run-walk coach with the Road Runners Club of America, he qualified for the 2012 Boston Marathon and finished third in his division at the Door County Fall 50-mile Ultra Marathon.

Submit a Class Note for the fall issue at [www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform](http://www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform)

# Ray Named State Teacher of the Year

**Mark Ray '87**, a teacher librarian at Skyview High School in Vancouver, was named Washington's 2012 Teacher of the Year at an awards ceremony October 3 at the Experience Music Project/Science Fiction Museum in Seattle. Ray was chosen from nine regional finalists. Program sponsors PEMCO Insurance, SMART Technologies and Saxton Bradley, Inc. each donated cash awards, technology prizes and scholarships for classroom improvements for Ray and the Regional Teachers of the Year.



Nearly 20 years into his career as a teacher librarian, he's spent most of them in the same district where his father taught and his mother served lunch. Parents and colleagues describe Ray as "transformational" and credit his vision and enthusiasm for the success of projects as varied as redesigning classroom assessment to igniting an enthusiasm for research in the student body. In addition to his work in the library and classrooms, Ray also coaches tennis at Skyview, where his nationally recognized "no cut" program welcomes students of all abilities.

"Every year, I can't wait to see what new techniques he has come up with to help kids understand research," said colleague Brenda McKinney. "From puppets to amazing Powerpoint skills, from in depth knowledge to saying it exactly how it is, Mark uses the stage of his media center to let kids know that research is accessible."

Ray believes passionately that teachers must begin stepping into more leadership roles and embrace the risk of trying something new if they are to meet the educational imperative of educating a new type of student and create a truly 21st century school system. His essay "Save the children by fighting 'truthiness,'" about the importance of teaching students the skills to navigate research in the 21st century, was published by *The Seattle Times* on October 21.

Mark Ray Photo: Washington OSPI.

Ray will now be considered for national Teacher of the Year, which is awarded by the Council of Chief State School Officers. President Obama will announce the winner in a special ceremony at the White House in the spring.

"Mark and the 2012 Teachers of the Year represent our very best," said State Superintendent Randy Dorn. "They are highly skilled and they have high standards for their kids, but they also know that relationships count and that great teaching happens one kid at a time."

## Other Honors for Evergreen Teachers

**Amada Lang '94, MIT '05**, an art teacher at Horizons Elementary School in Lacey, was named Washington state's Elementary Art Educator of the Year by the Washington State Art Education Association. In her seventh year of teaching, Lang is known for her enthusiasm and creativity and connecting with students of different ages through a variety of art forms that link to other classroom curriculum. "Amada is dedicated to her students and her craft as a teacher," Horizons principal Tim Fries told *The Olympian*. "She is constantly and actively learning and trying to grow stronger as a teacher."

KCTS Channel 9 recognized the Lincoln Center at Tacoma's Lincoln High School with one of the statewide 20th Annual Golden Apple Awards. The Center is one of two programs honored for making a positive difference in Washington state education in grades pre-K-12. **Nathan Gibbs Bowling MIT '06, Travis Davio MIT '06, and Hannah Pratt, MIT '07** all teach in Lincoln Center, an extended-day program where students, families, community and staff dedicate themselves to closing the achievement gap for their racially diverse, low-income student population.

**Richard H. McClure, Jr.**, Trout Lake, recently completed 30 years of public service as an archaeologist for the U.S. Forest Service. He works as a Heritage Program manager and tribal relations liaison in Vancouver.

## 1980

**Karen (Rogers) LaVerne**, Bellingham, worked as a paralegal specializing in workers' compensation for 22 years before creating her own business, Work Injury Advocates, to represent injured workers. She says, "I know being a Greener gave me the urge and the gumption to leave my cozy nest, and I am happier than I have ever been in my work. Do what you love."

**Victoria Lisi**, Loveland, Colo., is an artist, teacher and illustrator. She has produced



more than 100 book covers, including two fan Hugo Award-winning science fiction covers, and illustrated a dozen children's picture books. She published *Vibrant Children's Portraits: Painting Beautiful Hair and Skin Tones with Oils* (North Light Books, 2010) and is a contributing artist in *Painter's Quick Reference: Birds & Butterflies* (North Light Books, 2008). Victoria taught illustration at Western Connecticut State University and now teaches art at Aims Community College in Loveland.

**Berthold (Craig) Olson**, Mount Shasta, Calif., earned his MSW degree at the University of Washington. He worked as a nurse's aide and an activities director at an adult day health center before entering Shasta Abbey, a Buddhist monastery in Mount Shasta.

**Chris Stegman**, Olympia, worked for Behavioral Health Resources, Senior Services for South Sound and the Washington State Employment Security Department before becoming co-owner of Puget Painting & Home Repairs, a general contracting business. He sings in a barbershop quartet, scuba dives and is politically active with the newly formed Justice Party.

## 1981

**Carol Ellick**, Norman, Okla., earned her Master in Education degree from Chapman University and served as an instructor in Native American studies at the University of Oklahoma. Currently director of Archaeological and Cultural Education Consultants in Norman, she has

Submit a Class Note for the spring issue at  
[www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform](http://www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform)



# Alumna Receives Presidential Citizens Medal



President Barack Obama presents Janice Langbehn, of Lacey, Washington, the 2011 Presidential Citizens Medal, Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011, recognizing her efforts to ensure all Americans are treated equally. (Astrid Riecken/MCT)

In February 2007, **Janice Langbehn MPA'95**, her partner of 18 years, Lisa Pond, and their three children traveled to Miami for a cruise. Instead, Langbehn and the children found themselves trapped in a Miami hospital emergency room, trying desperately to gain access to Pond, who had suffered a brain aneurysm while on the ship. Although they had a signed power of attorney, the family was kept from Pond, who would later die alone.

After her harrowing experience in Miami, Langbehn wanted to ensure no other family would have to go through what she and her family did. With the help of Lambda Legal and GLAAD, she filed a federal lawsuit and worked to get her story out to the nation. President Obama personally apologized to her for the way she and her family were treated, and went on to issue new rules requiring hospitals to extend visitation rights for gay and lesbian partners, which went into effect in January 2011 for any hospital receiving federal Medicare or Medicaid funds.

In October 2011, Langbehn, who lives with their children in Lacey, was awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal, one of the nation's highest civilian honors, in a ceremony at the White House, where President Barack Obama personally thanked her for "answering the call of service."

"This year's recipients of the Citizens Medal come from different backgrounds, but they share a commitment to a cause greater than themselves," said President Obama. "They exemplify the best of what it means to be an American, and I am honored to be able to offer them a small token of our appreciation."

Langbehn was one of 13 recipients chosen from more than 6,000 public nominations for the medal, receiving it "for her efforts to ensure all Americans are treated equally."

presented at conferences in Greece, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, and co-authored *The Anthropology Graduate's Guide: From Student to a Career* (Left Coast Press, 2011). Her daughter, **Emily Ellick-Flettire**, graduated from Evergreen in 2010.



## 1982

**Jana F. (Janice F. Rathbun) Socha**, Tucson, Ariz., is owner, artist and creative director of Jana's Mystic Light Photography, focusing on providing photo images for small business owners and supporting local entrepreneurial networking community. She printed her second annual fine art nature photography calendar, "Magic Light," for 2012. Her work can be seen online at [janasocha.com](http://janasocha.com).

## 1983

**Karen Laing**, Sacramento, Calif., earned her MS degree in ecology at the University of California, Davis. After spending 27 years in Alaska, where she worked for many years as a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, she moved to Sacramento to become a regional coordinator for the agency's National Wildlife Refuge System Inventory and Monitoring Program.

## 1985

**Michael (Mike) Gudyka**, Snohomish, earned his Master of Software Engineering degree from Seattle University last June and works as a senior software development engineer with Microsoft in Redmond.

## 1986

**Patricia M. "Trish" Ennis**, Wheat Ridge, Colo., was named one of "100 Women—Making a Difference in Safety" by the American Society of Safety Engineers' Women in Safety Engineering Common Interest Group. A senior risk control consultant with the Willis Group, Trish previously served as the Denver Zoological Foundation's first workplace safety director. She serves on the Institutional Biosafety Committee for the University of Colorado and is a member of the City of Wheat Ridge Parks & Recreation Commission.

**Douglas Palenshus**, Issaquah, earned his Master of Environmental Science degree at Oklahoma State University. He is a community outreach coordinator with the Water Quality Program of the Washington State Department of Ecology's Northwest Regional Office in Bellevue.



Photos: Brodie Henry. Opposite page, bottom: Jenny Reed and Brodie Henry volunteered together in Otegen Batyr, Kazakhstan. Photo: Kalkaman Yagudin.

## 1987

**Lawrence J. Faulk (MPA)**, Steilacoom, was appointed to the board of directors of the Salamon Group Inc., a solar energy project company specializing in renewable energy power projects. A former Washington state senator and Boeing executive, Larry is a graduate of the Senior Executive Program for State and Local Government Officials at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

**Janet Rubert**, Longview, completed her first novel and has moved on to the second in a trilogy. She recently had an article published about the 1962 Columbus Day Storm and traveled to Ghana with her photographer son to visit her sponsored child there and to conduct research for her novel.

## 1990

**Eve (Hilgenberg) Hammond (MIT'92)**, Seattle, a multi-arts teacher (drama, music, art and dance) at Hawthorne Elementary School, says she "is living the dream!" She is on the Seattle district theatre arts team developing drama standards for all grades, and will soon gain her national board certification in visual arts. Her family of four gained a new house and a new dog this summer.

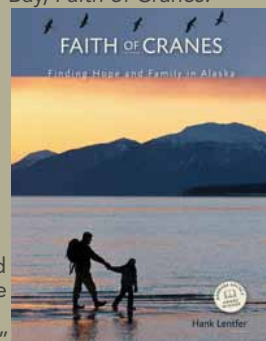
**Justin Pollack**, Frisco, Colo., was named adjunct faculty of the year by Colorado Mountain College, where he teaches anatomy and physiology. He earned his ND degree at Bastyr and completed training in family practice medicine at the National College of Naturopathic Medicine in Portland before moving to Colorado, to establish his practice. He and his wife, Kim Nearpass, ND, are cofounders and co-owners of the Mountain-River Naturopathic Clinic and Backcountry Herbal Apothecary.

## 1991

**Cheryl Jones**, Upper Darby, Pa., is a counselor at KeyStone Center, an addiction treatment center in Chester, Pa.

**Hank Lentfer**, Gustavus, Alaska, had his first book published in September. Inspired by migrating sandhill cranes passing over his home near Glacier Bay, *Faith of Cranes: Finding Hope and Family in Alaska* (The Mountaineers Books, 2011)

"weaves together three parallel narratives: the plight and beauty of sandhill cranes, one man's effort to recover hope amid destructive climate change, and the birth of a daughter."





Peace Corps volunteer **Jenny Reed '09**, had often heard other volunteers talk about how wonderful their service is and all the things they had done. But, she says, "never in my life did I think I could be the catalyst to bring a community into action."

Twenty Evergreen undergraduate alumni and six graduate alumni currently serve in the Peace Corps, including Reed, who spent the past eighteen months in the Central Asian country of Kazakhstan, working with DPK Didar, a nonprofit youth center. More than 200 Evergreen alumni have served as Peace Corps volunteers.

In January, Evergreen was ranked 10th in the nation in the Peace Corps' 2012 rankings of volunteer-producing colleges and universities in the small college category (less than 5,000 undergraduates). Evergreen's ranking was up from 11 in 2011.

Reed is not surprised to hear how highly Evergreen ranks, and says her programs and the people she met at the college made her passion for helping people around the world flourish. While in Kazakhstan, she was instrumental in helping the youth center's staff, parents and students apply for grants through the Peace Corps to rebuild the crumbling basement space where they met, and to purchase new sports equipment. She also got lots of experience improvising new ways to get things done.



In September 2011, her center received about \$2,000 from USAID to remodel the center and buy the needed equipment. Although they had the money for supplies, management wouldn't dedicate money for labor. Once her Kazakh community heard there was one to do the work, the staff, parents and students began volunteering.

"I was surprised to find our dance teacher was not only a talented choreographer, but also skilled in putting walls," says Reed. "Our sports trainer could inset windows and helped paint. Our director held meetings with parents addressing their issues, concerns and needs. In a community where every penny is managed and money is in short supply, people were donating. Dads were installing light fixtures and moms were sewing curtains. Due to the community's proactive involvement and commitment to improve the youth center, the project was sustainable."



Unfortunately, in November 2011 all Peace Corps volunteers were evacuated from Kazakhstan because of safety concerns, although Reed had not experienced problems. She is now back in the U.S., preparing to enter graduate school to pursue her master's degree in arts therapy in the fall. "I had a wonderful community that accepted me like a daughter," she says. "I was heartbroken to leave. Only twelve months into my service, I had already seen the difference my presence made on the community, and found joy in knowing that it will continue after I am gone."

## EVERGREEN EARNS TOP SPOT ON 2012 PEACE CORPS COLLEGE RANKINGS

In addition to writing, Hank manages the 4,000-acre Gustavus Forelands Preserve and is a part-time stay-at-home dad to Linnea, his 8-year-old daughter with his wife, Anya Maier, a family practice physician.

### 1993

**Greg Carlson**, Philadelphia, Pa., is an assistant professor of neuroscience in psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine. He was the lead author of a paper published in October in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* on research revealing a link between genetic risk factors for schizophrenia and sound-processing problems in the brain.



"Morning Sky" by Karen Goulet '94

### 1994

**Karen Goulet**, Pablo, Mont., will have two pieces of her mixed media artwork, "Morning Sky" and "Island Bird," exhibited at New York City's Museum of Art & Design. The exhibition, "Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation, Part 3—Contemporary Native North American, First Nations and Inuit Art from the Northeast and Southeast," runs from June 26 to Oct. 21, then will travel throughout the U.S. Karen, an enrolled member of the White Earth Ojibwe Nation who is also of Métis and Saami-Finn descent, holds an MFA in sculpture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an M.Ed. from the University of Minnesota-Duluth. She teaches at Salish Kootenai College on the Flathead Reservation in Montana.

**Samuel Loewenberg**, Los Angeles, Calif., a freelance journalist, is a 2011-12 Nieman Global Health Reporting Fellow at Harvard University. He will study neglected factors in global health interventions, foreign aid reform and the role of journalism in increasing accountability. As a foreign correspondent, he has traveled throughout Europe, China, Africa and Latin America, and written for publications such as *The New York Times*, *Time* and *Forbes*.

### 1995

**Marcia Swaine**, Richmond, Va., published her first book, *Who, Put You, On Pause!?* (Kingdom Publishing Group, 2011), set in the island of Jamaica, West Indies.

Submit a Class Note for the fall issue at [www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform](http://www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform)

# Dancer Ty Cheng Challenges Gravity

**Ty Alexander Cheng** got his start dancing after “following a girl,” his best friend, to a dance tryout during high school in Lake Oswego, Ore., near Portland. Today, Cheng is principal artist in his sixth season at Seattle’s Spectrum Dance Theater, with an international resume and reputation. At age 26, he has already performed around the world, in places as diverse as Spain, Portugal, France, Russia, China, Thailand, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand and Brazil.

In just the past year, he has flown with a flock of dance troupes and producers in the Northwest, working on performances like *Euclidean Space*, a production merging pop culture and ballet for the renowned Bumbershoot festival. He also performed with the Whim W’Him company in *Monster* at Bumbershoot and in *The Mother of Us All* at Spectrum, where he worked to explore the intricacies of Africa’s landscape and to evoke the place of humanity’s origin.

His most recent work includes dancing in Rodgers and Hammerstein’s classic *Oklahoma!* at Seattle’s 5th Avenue Theatre in February 2012 and in a gritty piece on domestic violence, *The Beast*, at Spectrum this past October.

Cheng, who began his professional dance training at the Alvin Ailey School of Dance is known for his gymnastic ability to defy gravity and challenge the imagination of audiences. With his lineup of recent productions, many would say Cheng has made it.

From Cheng’s perspective he is just getting started.

“My life is successful in a lot of ways because of the things I have overcome and accomplished, but I feel like I have not really reached my success yet,” he says. “It used to be that a lot of my motivation came from ‘not failing.’ Now a lot of my motivation comes from the fear of ‘not trying,’ rather than failing. That defines my success. It’s when I try.”

In addition to his flourishing dance career, he is a student at Evergreen, and credits the college with broadening his perspective of the artistic role.

“Evergreen forces me to think critically, ask questions, and dive deeper into the characters I play on stage,” says Cheng. “Every year, I say this is the last year of dancing. It pounds your body, and then makes you aware of every movement. You can’t do this forever. This is one of the reasons I wanted to invest in an education.”

Cheng, whose father is African-Chinese and mother is Filipina-German, was awarded Evergreen’s cultural diversity tuition scholarship, and attends the college’s Tacoma program.

“Evergreen was one of the best decisions I ever made, and I found a lot of things at the college that I did not think I would find,” says Cheng. He especially appreciates Tacoma faculty member, filmmaker and sociologist Dr. Gilda Sheppard. “She brings us understanding of sociology with an artistic approach,” he says. “I understand how art brings people together.”

## 1997

**Maura Jo Lynch**, Meriden, Conn., presented an update to her work on Third World Feminism at Southern Connecticut State University. A doula and childbirth educator, Maura has two daughters, CaraZen and Acadia. She brings issues of birth advocacy and maternity to women’s studies classrooms. She looks back on her time at Evergreen as the most important, formative years of her academic life.



## 1998

**Jeffrey Railsback**, Paso Robles, Calif., and wife **Tanya Schouten Railsback ’89**, celebrate their 11th wedding anniversary this year. They own a Farmers Insurance agency. They have two children, Chloe and Finn, and are involved with the Paso Robles Education Alliance, a nonprofit dedicated to raising funds to support local public school programs.

**Christine Uri**, Portland, Ore., was honored as an “Up & Coming Lawyer” by the *Daily Journal of Commerce*. An attorney with Tonkon Torp, she earned her JD, cum laude, from Boston College Law School in 2003. She serves as secretary of the board of directors of Girls Inc. of NW Oregon and as a member of the board of advisors for Oregon Women’s History Consortium. She is a 2010 graduate of Leadership Portland.

Silvia Burley ’00 (left) with Solicitor Hilary Tompkins, Department of the Interior - Indian Affairs, at the 2011 White House Tribal Nations Conference.

## 1999

**Bridget O’Hara and Bryan Freeborn**, Celo, N.C., are celebrating their 15th wedding anniversary. They live at the Arthur Morgan School, a boarding school “like Evergreen for adolescents,” where Bridget serves as admissions coordinator.

## 2000

**Silvia Burley**, Stockton, Calif., chairperson of the California Valley Miwok Tribe (CVMT), attended the 2011 White House Tribal Nations Conference with President Obama at the U.S. Department of the Interior on Dec. 2. She also attended the 2009 conference. The CVMT Tribal Flag, designed by CVMT Council Member Anjelica Paulk, is now on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) in Washington D.C.



Recently, Cheng was able to apply some of this perspective in his performance of *The Beast*, a production focused on the parental transmission of misogyny from father to son. Cheng says this provided a chance to explore the use of art to challenge how society views masculinity and to discuss the mistreatment of women.

"It was a challenging role and a physical role," says Cheng. "It helped me learn how to interact and communicate a narrative, how to use art to build awareness in a community—much more than being a nice body that can move well."

"I think dance can reach people on a larger scale than just the entertainment view of it," he adds. "It was a challenge to go into that dark place every night. I learned what my body could do as a dancer, but it also challenged my views."

The dance with ideas he exhibits in performance also continues seamlessly in his studies, cross fertilizing the worlds of art and multidisciplinary scholarship. What really drew him to dance was the commitment and dedication to an idea rather than dancing itself. "Why people dance, I don't know," he says. "It is one of the 'un-commonist' things you can do with your body. If I broke my leg I would still be an artist. For now, I am an artist that communicates what I intend through the medium of dance."

Wherever he goes in the future, Cheng's unique perspective and social consciousness (nurtured through performance and studies at Evergreen) will go with him. He plans to finish his bachelor's degree, earn a master's degree in audio engineering, and "to only fear, the fear of not trying."

Spectrum Dance Theater principal dancer Ty Cheng is known for his ability to defy gravity, as seen in this rehearsal with company member Vincent Michael Lopez. Photo: Jennifer Richard



**Josh Gaydos (MiT'06)**, Bonney Lake, teaches high school social studies in the Sumner School District and is a member of The Burren Boys, an evocative group drawing together musical influences from Ireland, Brittany and the Balkans. Their latest CD, *The Western Shore*, is available through cdbaby.

## 2001

**Monica Patterson Sloan (MPA'10)**, Billings, Mont., is an administrative assistant, coordinating marketing and community outreach and planning projects for the Billings office of Sanderson Stewart, an engineering and community development firm providing services throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Monica married Travis Sloan in summer 2011.

## 2002

**Steven Gill (MPA'04)**, Olympia, is administrator for the Veteran Services Division of the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, where he previously worked as a veterans advocate. He also worked in information technology and human resources as the client training program manager for Avue Technologies Corporation in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Beth Gill, have been married since 2008.

**Lisa McElroy**, Milwaukee, Wis., earned her MD degree at Michigan State University and serves as resident physician, general surgery, at the Medical College of Wisconsin and affiliated hospitals.

**Larissa Mansfield**, Asaa, Nordjylland, Denmark, is studying development and international relations in graduate school at Aalborg University in Denmark.

## 2003

**Sara Black**, Yellow Springs, Ohio, earned her MFA from the University of Chicago in 2006. She has taught at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Northwestern University, the Ox-Bow School of Art, South Suburban College, Gary Comer Youth Center, the University of Chicago and the Illinois Institute of Technology. She is assistant professor of visual art at Antioch College.

**Connie Czepiel**, Newcastle, age 60, decided to take time out to give back by joining the Peace Corps. She served in Botswana, Africa, working on the AIDS pandemic. She vacationed in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique, where she snorkeled with a 30-foot whale shark! She is now back home doing accounting and personnel consulting at her own business, Corporate Problem Resolution (corpproblemresolution.com).

Submit a Class Note for the spring issue at [www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform](http://www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform)

## Faculty member emerita Dr. Helena Meyer-Knapp

# Sumner

## Imagination & Courage

With all the conflicts going on in the world right now, it's hard to remember that less than 15 years ago, the Good Friday Agreement brought considerable peace to the parties in the conflict in the North of Ireland, and less than 20 years ago, Nelson Mandela became president of South Africa, ending more than 300 years of colonization and apartheid. For faculty member emerita Dr. Helena Meyer-Knapp, these developments mean one thing: There is hope for peace in our world.

A teacher and scholar, Meyer-Knapp joined Evergreen in 1972, spending the next few years building the college's original academic advising program. She co-taught her first program with faculty member emerita Nancy Taylor in 1976, focused around adult women returning to college, and continued her commitment to women and historically underrepresented students by helping to build and sustain the college's Evening and Weekend Studies program. She was honored with emerita status in 2008.

Meyer-Knapp has taught programs in peace, politics and ethics, and Asian and women's studies, and she has done extensive research on peacemaking and strategic studies. After a yearlong fellowship at Harvard's Bunting Institute (now the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study), she authored the book *Dangerous Peace-making* (2003), which examines peacemaking in seven of the world's war zones, and offers tools for resolving complex conflicts. She was a Fulbright Senior Scholar in 2009, spending a semester teaching at the Graduate Institute of Peace Studies at Kyung Hee University in Seoul, South Korea.

Photo: Hannah Pietrick '10.



Her interest in peace-related issues began when she was a small child growing up in England in the aftermath of World War II. "The 'atom bomb' terrified me, and I identified with the marchers who tried to stop the buildup at the annual Easter campaign in the UK," she recalls. "I became an adult activist when our eldest son Alex was born in 1977. It's hard to remember now how terrifying some of the Cold War political rhetoric was. I knew I had to add my part to those trying to end it." Later in her career, she decided she wanted to explore peace studies as an academic area, asking serious questions about the Cold War and why peace movements weren't answering them. "I took a step I highly recommend, the mid-life Ph.D., which I completed in 1990," she says.

Having arrived on campus just in time to sit in on the college-wide evaluation of that very first year's work, Meyer-Knapp has worked closely with her colleagues through Evergreen's sometimes painful and sometimes exhilarating development. As she watched the college grow and state support decline, she and her husband, faculty member Rob Knapp, both realized that faculty and students would need financial support to continue to examine and experiment.

They made a number of joint decisions to support the college, including naming Evergreen in their wills. "We are committed for the long term because Evergreen has done and continues to do important work innovating in the substance and processes for higher education and doing so in the public realm," she explains. "We put our investment and commitment behind the students and people working at the college right now, and it's our strategy to make it useful in the largest possible way."

**Laura Handy-Nimick (MIT'05)**, Sumner, established Life's Handy Work ([lifeshandywork.com](http://lifeshandywork.com)), a nonprofit providing the children of Nepal Orphans Home with education, technical training, housing and small business grants as they grow into adulthood.

**Jessica Brooke Huffman**, Portland, Ore., joined the Insights to Health Clinic in Multnomah Village in December. She earned her doctorate in naturopathic medicine from the National College of Natural Medicine and is a licensed naturopathic physician with in-depth training in behavioral health, homeopathy and naturopathic cardiology. Previously, she worked in the social service field serving high-risk teens and adults. She lives on a small, urban farm and enjoys organic gardening, hiking and yoga.



**Cecilia (Sis) LaVigne (MIT'05)**, Gig Harbor, is a special education teacher in the Peninsula School District. In March 2011, she started Purdy Pickle Company ([purdypickle.com](http://purdypickle.com)), which offers pickles made with organic ingredients from local sources.

**Matthew Phillipy**, Spokane, earned his Master in Education degree from Eastern Washington University in 2005. He teaches environmental science at West Valley City School, which he considers the equivalent of Evergreen. During the summer he serves as a teacher-ranger at Mount Rainier National Park. He became a first-time father recently to Oliver Odin Phillipy.

## 2004

**Heather (Follings) Barry (MPA)**, Denver, Colo., is the director of Government Affairs and External Relations for Denver International Airport. Previously, she served as director of Legislative Services and City Council liaison, along with other positions with the city and county of Denver. She was the head of Denver's Neighborhood Relations Department and worked as environmental programs manager at the Department of Environmental Health.

**Joshua Jason Hansell (MIT'06)**, Seattle, is a Japanese literature teacher at Chief Sealth International High School and was the recipient of the Teacher Training scholarship, awarded by the Japanese Ministry of Education. He will study at Miyazaki University in Japan.

Submit a Class Note for the fall issue at [www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform](http://www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform)

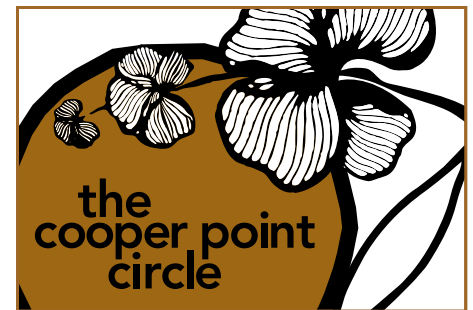


Having studied conflict resolution all over the world, Meyer-Knapp continues to critically evaluate Evergreen's growth as an institution, and she encourages her colleagues to do the same. Problems and solutions often come with conflict, she explains, but even the most intractable come to an end sometime. "We had an Evergreen program once called Problems without Solutions: Israel/Palestine, Northern Ireland and South Africa," she says. "And now, two decades later, two of these three regions have been radically transformed by something one can only call 'peace.' All kinds of peacemaking entail people who were once hostile becoming ready to work together to cross over the bridge to peace, and that takes imagination and courage." It's that kind of imagination and courage that she and Knapp hope their gifts will support and inspire at Evergreen.

*"All kinds of peacemaking entail people who were once hostile becoming ready to work together to cross over the bridge to peace, and that takes imagination and courage."*

"My life these days is rich beyond belief," says Meyer-Knapp. "The fact that it is so owes a lot to the support Evergreen has given my strong sense of curiosity, my commitment to community building, and to the groups of colleagues and students with whom I have been able to work. I have been very lucky to have been a part of the place for nearly 40 years."

Below: Community members and Evergreen students lead a march on the Capitol in protest of the Gulf War, April 1, 1991. Photos courtesy of The Evergreen State College Archives.



If you would like to learn more about the Cooper Point Circle, planned giving in general, or how you can make a planned gift to Evergreen, visit: [give.evergreen.edu/cooperpointcircle](http://give.evergreen.edu/cooperpointcircle) or contact Sasha Cornellier at [cornellis@evergreen.edu](mailto:cornellis@evergreen.edu) or 360.867.6322.

## 2006

**Caitlin Robertson (MiT'08)**, St. Paul, Minn., returned to her home state after a decade of living in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest and Florida. A singer-songwriter who describes her music as "folk-rock-country-pop," Caitlin is recording her second album. Her debut solo album, *Coyote Blues*, was released in December and is available at [caitlinrobertsonmusic.com](http://caitlinrobertsonmusic.com).



**Peter Tassoni (MPA)**, St. Helens, Ore., was named director of the Columbia County (Ore.) Emergency Management office in September. He was the Washington State Emergency Management program coordinator for five years, where he worked to standardize equipment between agencies,

updated policy procedures, and coordinated projects. In Columbia County, Peter supervises two emergency management professionals as well as a number of volunteers from the community, and is in charge of facilitating homeland security grant funds and coordinating resources to emergency personnel.

## 2007

**Jan Hunter**, Auburn, joined the Peace Corps at age 62 with her husband Tom. The couple will work in Morocco for two years, teaching English, sharing computer skills and helping to organize activities to advance youth development. They raised three boys and have seven grandchildren.

**Hannah Pratt (MiT)**, Tacoma, teaches at Lincoln Center at Lincoln High School in the Tacoma School District. She was recently awarded National Board Certification.

## 2008

**Peter Boome**, University Place, is an award-winning Upper Skagit artist whose paintings and prints are featured in the gallery show, "Peter Boome: Salish Connections," at the Duwamish Longhouse in Seattle through June 16. He earned his JD degree from the University of Washington School of Law and has had his artwork shown at many juried events and museums, including the National Museum of the American Indian.



# inspiration

## finding her

jacqueline argueta combines art and computer science to create something beautiful

Jacqueline Argueta has always believed in following her own path. At Kentwood High School in Covington, Wash., she started a video program for school-wide announcements. While studying visual art and design at Highline Community College, she won first place in the end-of-the-year Portfolio Show. When she transferred to Evergreen, she enrolled in Computer Science Foundations, even though she hadn't taken math since high school.

"It has been the most rigorous and intense academic experience of my life, but I am so happy that I took this program," she says.

As an artist, Argueta sees clearly how her emerging knowledge of computer science can impact her artwork. She plans to combine her two passions and pursue media studies in animation. "I had taken lots of fine arts and graphic design classes, but taking computer science helped me explore the linear thinking part of my brain," she says. "I was always intimidated by the field because it's so math- and science-based. But it's the part that gets down to earth on how the work is done, and it's beautiful to combine the two and see how a piece can impact and inspire people."

Argueta gets her inspiration from her parents, who came to the U.S. from El Salvador after that country's civil war. At a young age, she had the chance to visit her parents' home country, and saw for herself the incredible difference between the life that they had lived and the life that she did. "I knew that I had to go to college one day, and educate myself to the fullest," she says. But she knew it would be a struggle financially for her and her parents.

"The Foundation Scholarship opened up the doors for me," she says. "Because Evergreen is such a small and unique community, it has given me the opportunity to play to my unique talents and pursue them."

Receiving the scholarship has allowed Argueta to pursue a career in the arts, something she may not have been as willing to do if she had to worry about going into significant debt to pay for college. "It is a real motivator for me to know that a group of individuals believed enough in me to help pay for my schooling, and I know that when I graduate I want to do the same for another student," she says. "My time at Evergreen has been the most incredible experience of my life. I am truly grateful to be at such an amazing place."

This fall, The Evergreen State College Foundation secured a \$1.5 million challenge grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which will double the impact of scholarship gifts to support students in need. You can support students like Jackie at [give.evergreen.edu](http://give.evergreen.edu).



Photos:  
Riley  
Shiery.

**Greg Cook (MPA'10)**, Fircrest, is an Ameri-Corps member working as a tutor/mentor at Bates Technical College in collaboration with Tacoma Goodwill.

**Anders Ibsen**, Tacoma, was elected to the District 1 seat of the Tacoma City Council. He has worked at local nonprofits, served as a legislative staffer and is currently a law firm administrator. He serves on the board of directors for SOTA Partners, which raises funds for three Tacoma schools: the Tacoma School of the Arts, The Science and Math Institute and Stewart Middle



Tacomic by RR Anderson, posted July 12, 2011 at [comics.feedtacoma.com/tacomic](http://comics.feedtacoma.com/tacomic).

School. He also serves on several other local boards, including the Pierce County Community Connections Citizen Advisory Board, the Zoo-Trek Authority, the Joint Municipal Action Committee and the Tacoma Neighborhoods and Housing Committee.

**Sarah Minkler**, Kennewick, married Justin McCalmant in August 2011. An attorney, she earned her JD from the Gonzaga University School of Law.

### 2009

**Alan Foster**, Seattle, earned his MPA degree at the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington. He is a project associate with Triangle Associates, an environmental dispute resolution and education consulting firm in Seattle.

**David Hunter (MIT'11)**, Port Townsend, teaches 6th grade social studies and English/language arts at the Bellevue Big Picture School, a secondary school-of-choice in its first year of operation. He credits his MIT experience and education with landing this position.

**Allison L. Ledford**, Olympia, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, in November 2011. Airman Ledford completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

**Katie Waldeck**, Oakland, Calif., is a freelance writer, editor and web producer in Oakland.

Submit a Class Note for the fall issue at [www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform](http://www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform)



After setting Evergreen season records for rebounds and blocks, Danielle Swain was one of only two sophomores in the Cascade Collegiate Conference recognized with First Team All-Conference honors in women's basketball. Swain ranked third in the conference in scoring and rebounding, and fourth in blocks with a school-record 49.

"Danielle has proven to be one of the best players in the conference, and equally, she has grown as a person and as a teammate," says head women's basketball coach Monica Heuer. "She's learning how to count on her teammates and how her teammates count on her. I am proud of her efforts and her will to be the best."

Sophomore forward Maddie Graves was named a Cascade Collegiate Conference Scholar-Athlete.

On the men's side, senior Patrick Lewis, one of the Cascade Conference's top big men, earned Honorable Mention All-Conference. "Pat has worked so hard the last two seasons and has made himself into a wonderful player and leader," says head men's basketball coach Arvin Mosley. "His tenaciousness on the glass and ability to score over bigger opponents helped him earn all-conference and his loyalty and selflessness helped him earn the respect and trust of his teammates and coaches."

Lewis ranked third in the conference in rebounds, including a CCC-best 3.26 offensive rebounds per game. He led the Geoducks in scoring as well, putting up 333 points in 27 games.

Senior Karissa Carlson made her second straight trip to the NAIA Indoor Track and Field National Championships March 2, finishing 10th in the 800m run, one spot up from last year. Her indoor best 2:17.60 time knocked more than a second off her qualifying time.

# Geoducks Earn Honors

Top to bottom: Patrick Lewis, Karissa Carlson and Danielle Swain. Photos: Shauna Bittle '98 and Riley Shiery.

## 2010

**Caleb Knappe-Langworthy**, Rochester, Minn., married Lauren Ann Langley on Nov. 12 at Camp Ehawee in Mindoro, Wis. Caleb graduated from Lincoln High School in Lake City, Minn., before coming to Evergreen, and teaches at Golden Hill in the Rochester public schools. Lauren works at Rochester Art Center and owns DoneDotDesigns.

**Rodrigo Valenzuela**, Olympia, is working on his MFA in photo media from the University of Washington. In November, he had two video installations featured at Seattle's e4c, 4Culture's storefront gallery for digital art. His photographic and video work has been widely exhibited in his native Chile and the Northwest.



Photo by Rodrigo Valenzuela '10

**Emily Washines (MPA)**, Yakima, is the restoration and remediation coordinator for the Yakama Nation Fisheries program.

**Vivica Williams**, Kiev, Ukraine, is a Fulbright Student Fellow researching energy conservation issues in Ukraine. During 2010-11, she was a Gilman Scholar at the International Centre for Policy Studies, a Ukrainian think tank based in Kiev.

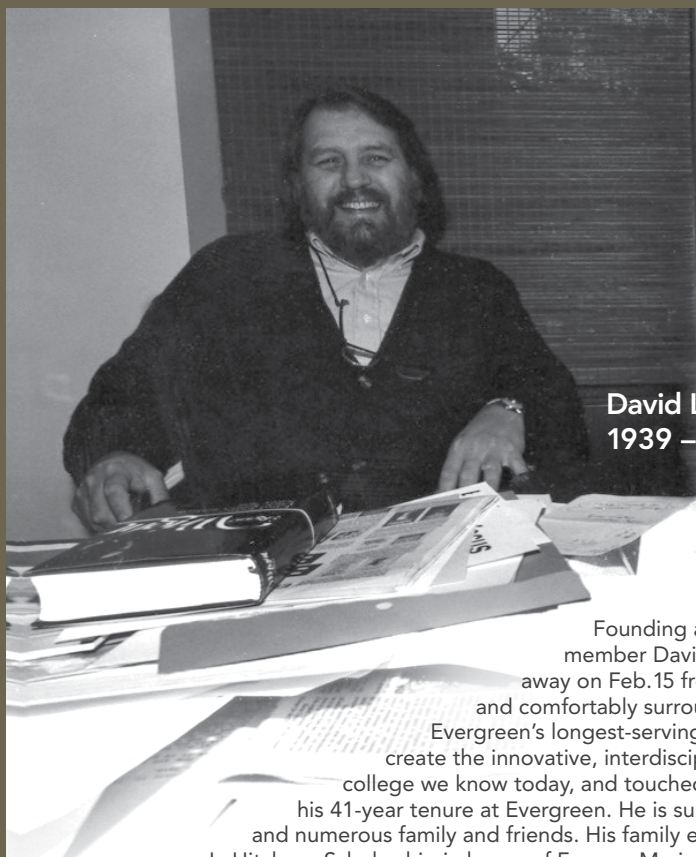
## 2011

**Shon Eck**, Sun City, Ariz., is attending law school at Phoenix School of Law. He expects to graduate with a JD in 2014.

**William Quaife**, University Place, is pursuing his graduate degree in counseling at Saint Martin's University.

**Devin Sommer**, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, was awarded a Fulbright United States Student Program grant. He is living, learning and teaching in Turkey.

**Scott Tipton**, Los Angeles, is a freelance sound engineer doing production and post-production audio for television, web and film, as well as record work. His website is at [scottyaudio.net](http://scottyaudio.net).



**David L. Hitchens**  
1939 – 2012

Founding and emeritus faculty member David L. Hitchens passed away on Feb. 15 from lung cancer, peacefully and comfortably surrounded by his family at home. Evergreen's longest-serving faculty member, Dave helped create the innovative, interdisciplinary and internationally-renowned college we know today, and touched thousands of students' lives during his 41-year tenure at Evergreen. He is survived by his wife Joan '82, six children, and numerous family and friends. His family encourages donations be made to the David L. Hitchens Scholarship in honor of Frances Marie Rasmussen at The Evergreen State College.

In tribute, we've reprinted a sampling of quotes from Dave's former students about the impact he had on their lives. For a full obituary, and to read more about Dave, please visit [www.davidlhitchens.org](http://www.davidlhitchens.org).

"I remember Dave promising us that he would teach us how to research, and how to write, but, more importantly, how to think. A promise kept, at least for me, and with generous helpings of humor, wisdom and kindness thrown in, more or less for free." Bill Montague '84

"Your storytelling inspired me and your gentleness and care for our class of mostly 18-year-olds created a space where I not only learned about how our country came to be, but also allowed me a path to discover who I was going to be. Now as a school librarian, when sharing stories with my students and leading them to their own personal and educational discoveries, I'm thankful that I was taught by one of the best!" Leslie Ehrlich '01

"Your teaching is what made me want to be a teacher. Your encouragement is what made me believe I could be a teacher. Only just now typing these words do I recognize that your spirit has been with me all these years reminding me, encouraging me, challenging me that a brilliant man with a teacher's heart can chart a useful, meaningful, and graceful path through this world." Randy Earwood '87



"Dave positively affected every student to pass through his doors and left me full of great times and memories. Thanks for everything Dave." Kerry Allen '07 Looking Backward 05-06

"I walked across the stage to receive my degree and I felt as if Dave was standing right next to me. If not for him and his belief in me, I would not be a graduate today. He gave me faith in myself and bigger dreams to chase. He made it possible for me to look my son in the eye and say, 'You need to go to college' without feeling like a hypocrite. He was the protector of my dream when I wasn't strong enough to do it for myself. Thank you Dave, for everything you've given to me and to the world. I will hold you in my heart, always." Rue Beyette '10

In 1974, Dave Hitchens, Larry Stenberg and Richard Brian sing "The Dean's Song," composed by Malcolm Stilson, an ode based on the original academic deans, Charlie Teske, Mervyn Cadwallader and Don Humphrey, in the throes of figuring out Evergreen's curricular structure.

Photos courtesy of The Evergreen State College Archives.



# In Memoriam

Due to increased quantity, we will now run extended obituaries in our magazine website, and only publish abbreviated notices in the print magazine. Visit [evergreen.edu/magazine](http://evergreen.edu/magazine) to read extended memoriams.

**Erik R. Alexander '79**, Grand Rapids, Mich., April 25, 2010.  
Curator and educator, Public Museum of Grand Rapids, instructor, Grand Valley State University.

**Gloria Marie Anthony '89**, Vancouver, Dec. 14, 2011.  
Volunteer, Evergreen School District, business owner.

**Jean A. Barkley '96**, Olympia, Nov. 2, 2011.  
Retired, Washington Dept. of Labor & Industries.

**Kay Madison Boyd '76**, Lacey, former Chair of The Evergreen State College Board of Trustees, Nov. 12, 2010. Former Mayor of Lacey, Chair of the Board, Capital Medical Center.

**Richard "Dick" M. Boyle '74**, Green Bay, Wis., Oct. 10, 2011.  
Drug abuse and mental health counselor.

**Brandon Lee Bryant '00**, Des Moines, Oct. 27, 2011.  
Fisheries biologist, Washington State Dept. of Fish & Wildlife.

**Jyl Diane Smith Cameron Cx'72**, Kihei, Hawaii, Oct. 24, 2011.  
Board of Directors, J. Walter Cameron Center.

**Helenmarie A. (Breeze) Clynn '87**, Seattle, Nov. 30, 2011.  
Retired registrar, Seattle Prep.

**Cheryl J. Colehour '89**, West Seattle, Nov. 30, 2011. Instructional designer, fiber artist.

**Barbara Anne Crossland '90**, MPA'92, Sun Lakes, Ariz., Nov. 5, 2011.  
Former facilities designer at Evergreen.

**Eric Edward Featherstone '93**, Gig Harbor, October 9, 2011.  
Certified hypnotherapist.

**Jonathan Morgan Forest '98**, West Linn, Ore., Jan. 26, 2012.  
Lead library database administrator, Clackamas County Public Library.  
Wife: Dr. Lori (Hajdu) Forest '97.

**Dr. Gloria Ann Harp-Medley '01**, Tacoma, Sept. 24, 2011.  
Youth counselor, court-appointed guardian ad litem for youth.

**Travis Leigh Hartman**, Littleton, Colo., Apr. 9, 2011. Musician and chef.

**Mark L. Hendrickson Cx'07**, San Francisco, Calif., Nov. 5, 2011. Philosophy.

**Tammy Rene Hintz '91**, El Cajon, Calif., Jan. 12, 2011. Homemaker, community services volunteer and frequent missionary to India.

**Dotty Jaskar '75**, Lakewood, May 13, 2011. Marriage & family therapist.

**Timothy Nielsen Joeres '00**, Portland, Ore., May 25, 2011. Artist.

**Michelle Lynn Jordan '87**, Seattle, Nov. 21, 2011. Founded Explorer's Language Institute, Seattle.

**Shelly Jean (Johnson) Leonard '05**, Safety Harbor, Fla., Feb. 11, 2012.  
Social worker, candidate for Florida State House of Representatives.

**Cyndi Lough '01**, Olympia, Jan. 20, 2012. Software developer, State of Washington.

**Pamela Rae Matson '86**, Shelton, Jan. 23, 2012. Foster parent.

**James D. Moore '77**, Sammamish, Dec. 23, 2011. Founder and producer, Moore Presentations.

**Treshell Lorene O'Keefe-Black '90**, Cody, Wyo., Sept. 6, 2011.  
Artist, master's in Chinese medicine.

**Kenneth R. Olendorf '78**, Seattle, Oct. 21, 2011. Musician.

**Bonita A. (Thomas) Pattison '79**, Lacey, Nov. 18, 2011. Counselor, Morningside Industries.

**Angela J. "Alex" Sewell Cx'96**, Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 16, 2011.

**Timothy John Tiernan '01**, Seattle, Nov. 29, 2011.

**Salvina Valdillez-Patten '98**, Taholah, March 10, 2011. Quinault tribal member, caseworker, State of Washington Workfirst program.

**James L. Williams '83**, Federal Way, June 7, 2011. U.S. Army veteran, Ret.

**Gary L. Workman '98**, Big Bear City, Calif., Nov. 3, 2011. Counselor, Big Bear Recovery Services.



## Willie L. Parson 1942-2012

Dr. Willie Parson, former Evergreen faculty member, died January 5. Dr. Parson came to the college in 1972, and served 34 years as a member of the faculty and an academic dean both in Olympia and at Evergreen's Tacoma Program. He earned his B.S. in biology at Southern University, and his M.S. in bacteriology and Ph.D. in microbiology at Washington State University. He called college "the cure-all for social ills and injustices."

Dr. Parson's teaching methodology enabled urban adult learners not only to develop specific knowledge in science, but also to understand the many intersections of science with other aspects of society and the human condition. His lifelong commitment to the pursuit of social and economic justice and power, owing partly to his own early life experiences with de jure segregation, led him to take an active role in both academic pursuits and in the community on such issues.

The Evergreen State College First Peoples' Coalition named Dr. Parson Teacher of the Year in 1987. He was dedicated to helping elementary, middle and high school students of color to cultivate their interests in science, mathematics and engineering, spending time in middle and high school classrooms and in the community talking to students and parents about student success, college preparation, content issues in science and careers in scientific and technical fields. "I believe in helping others by using my scientific training for the public good," he said.

Upon his retirement in 2005, Dr. Parson received Faculty Emeritus status. He and his wife Sylvia moved to Columbia, South Carolina, where he continued his commitment to helping others through community service and established a STEM program (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) for high school students at Allen University. He became head of Allen's biology department, and at the time of his death, held the position of executive vice-president and CIO. He is survived by Sylvia, his wife of 48 years.



# EVERGREEN

The Evergreen State College Magazine  
Spring 2012, Vol. 33, No.2  
Published by The Office of College Relations  
The Evergreen State College  
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW  
Olympia, WA 98505

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Olympia, WA  
Permit No. 65

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## RETURN TO EVERGREEN MAY 18 – 20

Join Greeners from Across  
the Nation at Evergreen's  
40th Anniversary Celebration

Come share good times and good company—dance on Red Square with alumni bands at Saturday night's 40th Anniversary Party, enjoy wine and coffee tastings plus the Beer Garden, take a tour through downtown and a walk in the woods, record your Greener Story, and much more!

**FEATURING:** Evergreen Presidents: Charles McCann, Dan Evans, Richard Schwartz, Jane Jervis, and Les Purce



**Matt Groening '77**  
Creator of "The Simpsons"



**Joe Dear '76**  
Chief Investment Officer of CalPERS



**Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner '91**  
Executive Director of Momsrising.org



**Lynda Weinman '76**  
Cofounder and Executive  
Chair of lynda.com



**Craig Bartlett '81**  
Creator of "Hey Arnold!"  
and "Dinosaur Train"



**Matthew Frye Jacobson '81**  
Professor of American Studies  
at Yale University



**Dan Tishman '77**  
Board Chair, Natural Resources Defense  
Council; CEO of Tishman Construction



**Lindsey Bolger '91**  
Director of Coffee Sourcing  
& Relationships, Green Mountain Coffee



**John Stocks '81**  
Executive Director of the  
National Education Association

Register today!

[www.evergreen.edu/40/return](http://www.evergreen.edu/40/return)

the  
evergreen  
state  
college **40**