As our 13th president gets ready to depart on June 30 we ask a few people to tell Ron Thom stories

A farewell

A place called home

MIKE VESETH '72

There's a poster that you might have seen around campus. At first glance it appears to be one of those Barack Obama "Hope" posters that the artist Shepard Fairey created back in 2008. (One of the early versions of that poster is now in the National Portrait Gallery collection.) But on closer inspection this one is different. The subject is a different president—Ron Thomas—and the tagline is different, too: "Home."

The poster pays tribute to a speech President Thomas makes at the fall Convocation ceremony for first-year students and their families. The freshman orientation schedule is always packed, and the atmosphere is very intense and emotional, so you might not expect anyone to actually remember anything in particular about that speech or any other speech. Do you, for example, remember much of the substance of your high school or college commencement
speakers’ talks? If you are honest, you might even struggle to remember the speakers’ names.

But the “Home” talk is different. I used to teach a first-year seminar class called The Beautiful Game, and there was a point in our discussions where it made sense for me to ask the students what if anything they remembered about the “Home” speech. To my great surprise they could recall everything about it vividly, including, in recent years, the count of how many times the word “home” was used.

Why was the simple message that instead of leaving home these first-year students were all really coming home so powerful and enduring? I think it was the genius of Ron Thomas to understand that upon entering college our students become a little bit homeless in the sense that they are leaving family, friends, and support networks behind. Facebook friends are great, and they follow you wherever you go, but no one has ever called Facebook “home.”

The “Home” speech tells them not to worry. This is where you will make your home for the next four years, and this will be a place to call home evermore. You can leave home, but it will never leave you.

The content of that speech is what makes it memorable, but the speaker is part of the equation, too. Over the years I have found that people who have a chance to talk with Ron Thomas tend to remember everything he said to them. It’s the intensity and focus of the man, I think. When Ron talks with you he talks with you. But the arc of the conversation must have something to do with it, too. Ron is always so interested and so curious. You start out wanting to ask Ron a question and soon find the tables turned. Why? What? How? When? Who? Ron really wants to know the answer, what you think, how you got there. It’s flattering, energizing, and occasionally unnerving.

When students and families hear that “Home” speech they are both listening to the words and sensing the person behind them. Ron and Mary Thomas were themselves a little bit homeless when they came to Puget Sound at the start of Ron’s presidency, and now the place is their home, too. One of the things I have noticed over the years is that Puget Sound presidents pick up something of the feeling of their new home and give something back. Slowly and in various ways the campus shapes itself to and around the character of its leaders. This can be a good thing or not, but it is part of how home works, I guess.

And so the campus has acquired some of that same intense focus, sincere interest, and unquenchable thirst for answers. That’s a good thing for a liberal arts college, don’t you think? It was always here, of course, but Ron and Mary’s attention has strengthened the force.

Students sometimes struggle a bit to deal with the flood of emotions that run through them at Commencement, and I suspect that Ron and Mary will feel the same way this May. It’s not just leaving friends and colleagues, it’s leaving home. But on their last day on campus, students and their families can draw strength from the message they heard on their first day here. It’s home. It really is. You can leave home, but it never leaves you.

Mike Veeth is professor emeritus of International Political Economy and a university trustee.

Friends, and more

DEANNA WATSON OPPENHEIMER ’80, P’11, P’14

When I first met Ron it was during his initial interview with the Presidential Search Committee in 2002. He walked in and sat down, a bit nervous (as evidenced by a slight shaking of the paper he held), yet with a polish and gravitas that commanded all corners of the room. Ron had been an acting president for a year, during the very challenging time of 9/11 at a college with many New York residents. So he was tested but not honored as a president.

His confidence and engagement grew through that first interview, and we quickly saw we had a presidential candidate with potent potential. Like an engine, throughout his many visits and interviews, Ron picked up steam and grew in strength and contribution. The committee and all who met him were gravitating toward Ron as the choice for the next president of the University of Puget Sound.

And then we met Mary—and as the saying goes, that clinched the deal! As impressive as Ron was, with Mary by his side, he shone all the brighter, spoke all the better, and the two were an engagement powerhouse with every person who was fortunate enough to meet either or both of them.

During his 13 years as president of Puget Sound, I have had the good fortune to work with Ron professionally as his board chair, past chair, and now board member. His fingerprints are on all aspects of the institution; they are lasting and omnipresent. From the inspiration and potential he has kindled in thousands of students, faculty, and staff, to the vision, funding, and building of the physical campus, Ron is now embedded in the soul and DNA of Puget Sound.

Yet it is his impact on our family and me as a friend and role model for which I am most grateful. Thanks to the Thomases’ highly effective recruiting skills, the next-gen Oppenheimer (both of our children) graduated from Puget Sound. John [’80] and I have spent countless hours with Ron and Mary marveling at the world (if only every would-be political leader could have mastered the civil discourse of the liberal arts), observing the gradual continental drift of influence on Ron’s dress from East Coast to West Coast (most notably when I suggested he lose the cufflinks as a newbie Northwesterner), and laughing and learning on our adventures together (when visiting the Tower of London with him, Ron educated John and me in the vagaries of English aristocracy). Together, Ron and Mary epitomize the best of friends.

In the true Scouting tradition, Ron Thomas has left this Puget Sound campground, and all who have and will continue to pass through it, all the better for his time as our leader and friend.

Deanna Oppenheimer is a member and past chair of the Puget Sound board of trustees.
You can take the teacher out of the classroom, but ...

NANCY BRISTOW

Aware of my research interests, Ron shared with me that he had traveled to Chicago to the funeral of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton in 1969. When I taught my course on the history of the United States in the 1960s, I asked if Ron would consider visiting and sharing that experience, and any others he might be willing to offer. Of course he said, “Yes!” Ron could have taken the easy route—shown up, said a few words, answered a few questions—and easily won my students' and my own, deep gratitude. But this is not the Ron Thomas we all know. Instead, Ron did the painstaking work of preparing a remarkable presentation of images from the 1960s that he used to tell the class about the 1960s he saw. My students were spellbound, so engaged by this opportunity to talk with someone who remembered the history they had been studying. It was clear that Ron's presentation deepened their understanding of the period and allowed them to see anew the young people of that decade through a more empathetic lens. But this was only one small part of what that day meant to them, and to me, for Ron also told us about the Ronald Thomas 1960s saw. Put simply, he shared of himself, telling us about what that decade had meant to him, about his experiences of both the traumas and the triumphs it contained. He told us stories that made us laugh, that made us shake our heads, and that made us reckon with the terrible losses the decade included. In doing so, he made the past come alive. By putting himself in those stories, allowing us to know him in a new, and very personal, way, he instilled in my students a sense that they mattered. The president of their university had made the time to come and visit with them, and then had come to them not as their president, but as a human being, willing to share of himself. The power of those moments will surely stay with my students forever. I know it will with me.

Nancy Bristow has been teaching history at the college for 35 years. In 2007 she was chosen by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as Washington State Professor of the Year.

The prez as host

So a college president spends a lot of time keeping the place running and representing the school on boards and commissions and inspiring us all to do our best work, but the job also requires that the boss do a lot of entertaining at home. Between fireside dinners with students, and receptions for campus and community groups, and dinners for visiting lecturers and performers, Ron has acquired a reputation for being an exceptionally attentive host—not exactly a foodie but for sure a guy who cares about good eating and setting a gracious table.

Observations by Brian Sullivan, university executive chef:

He likes his meat rare and his fish just barely cooked. You're never going to get blue cheese or goat cheese at the president's house. He's not fond of berries in salads. He loves Washington wines, and Burgundies. He always samples the hors d'oeuvres before the guests arrive, and he sneaks back into the kitchen to taste-test before the main meal goes out. Before the dinner begins he asks the chef to explain to guests about the meal's ingredients and how it was prepared. He has a weakness for freshly baked macadamia nut cookies and homemade ice cream; in fact Dining Services bought an ice cream-making machine just for him.

Dylan

LIZ COLLINS '81

Once, when I first started working with Ron, over lunch I think it was, I mentioned that I thought Bob Dylan was way overrated.

I stand corrected.

Liz Collins is board of trustees secretary and director of the Office of the President.
A conversation in the garage

BETTY POPENUCK '14

In the first few weeks of my freshman year I worked on the recycling crew on campus, and one of our pickup locations was the president's garage. One rainy October day, while carrying an armload of glass to the cart, a wine bottle fell through my arms and shattered all over the floor. I was frantically picking up the glass, piece by piece, when the garage door opened, and President Thomas himself appeared. After I nervously explained why I was crouched in his garage surrounded by a pile of glass, President Thomas stepped inside and returned with a broom and dustpan. He started sweeping the garage floor, casually talking about how the leaves blow in during the fall and how excited he was for the football team's first home game of the season.

Betty Popenuck is an assistant in the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Puget Sound.

The best-writing college president

BRIAN DOYLE

Listen, I have been reading Letters from University Presidents in college and university alumni magazines for 30 years now, in my capacity as editor at two university alumni magazines, and I can tell you without the slightest fear of contradiction that those letters are with few exceptions awful beyond imagination. They are not personal and intimate and fervent and honest and genuine and blunt and funny and thoughtful and challenging and humble letters from one human being to another. They have no wonder or prayer or fury or laughter or awe.

Happily this is not the case with Ron Thomas, who is, in my view, a deft and able American essayist and has proved it in every issue of Arches for the last 13 years. Now, there are many reasons to admire the estimable Ron Thomas, who is a Springsteen nut and an old surfer and the man Mary Thomas said yes to when he proposed marriage, let alone being a noted professor and scholar and very fine president of a very fine university. But, with total respect for these things, I admire him particularly for his essays.

They have both range and detail. They are personal without ever being self-indulgent and self-absorbed and self-reverential. They are often wryly funny. They reveal an unabashedly eagerly curious mind. They are written with grace and cadence and conversational rhythm. They always say something deeply about the University of Puget Sound without hardly ever using those five words. They are about what the university is about under its halls and walls and trails and trees. They are about the dogged search for humility and wisdom and grace and creativity amid the thrash of loss and pain and violence. They are about insisting on community and service and inquiry in a national culture that often seems addicted to greed and arrogance. They do not lecture, nor do they inflict sermon and homily. Often they brilliantly allow one story to carry many stories on its lean shoulders. Often the story is about a University of Puget Sound person. Often he convinces me that the person he is telling me about somehow is the university, is the product and the purpose of the place, is the throbbing innovativeness of consistent energy that the university so much wishes to be. And often he convinces me, does Ronald Thomas, that perhaps no university and no university president were ever so lucky to find each other as the University of Puget Sound and the man who has been its smiling president.

There are many excellent university presidents in America, as I can attest; I have met several of them and they are a remarkable species, tall handsome beings with sonorous voices and good shoes, men and women who do not sleep, riveting souls whose days are spent creating chances for lanky brilliant children to heal this bruised and blessed world. There are many, and for all I tease them for their perfect hair and their orotund rhetoric, I respect and salute them collectively. But I can say with an editor's rude honesty, here at the end of the page, that only one among them is such an able essayist. That would be the estimable Ronald R. Thomas.

Brian Doyle is the editor of Portland magazine at the University of Portland and the author of many books, among them most recently the novel Chicago.

Called on the carpet

BRUCE MANN

I think my first encounter with Ron and Mary was at a charity auction, soon after Ron took office. A small Persian carpet came up on the block. My wife and I liked it and wanted it. We didn't think anyone else would be interested. So we opened the bidding—nice low offer. A few other bids pushed ours up. We kept bidding, but still one person on the other side of the room kept raising our offer. I was annoyed and took a look to see whose paddle was interfering with my efforts. There was Ron, smiling, bidding higher. My wife said, "I think that is your new boss. You best stop raising our paddle." I let Ron and Mary "steal" our carpet that night—all for a good cause. For years, whenever I went to the president's house, that rug was right out there for me to see. Ron would smile and tell me what a good deal he got.

Professor of Economics Bruce Mann retires this year after 41 years at the college.

Your job as president:
one student’s observations

IAN FOX '14

Welcome incoming Loggers to their new "home" too many times to count. (Just kidding. We did count: You said the word "home" 61 times in 20 minutes.) In that speech tell them that you look forward to handing them their
diplomas (true) on "what's sure to be a sunny day in May" (false).

Chat with timid tea-drinkers during Diversions office hours no matter how hard they try to avoid your gaze.

Selfies with undergrads. So, so many selfies.

Guest-DJ on as many KUPS shows as the station manager will allow.

Shake hands. Of people at every kind of commission, confab, and cocktail party imaginable. Of teary graduates, steps away from the unknown abyss. And of that prospective student's eager parent who, knowing full well that you don't work in Admission, insists that my child would just be an exceptional fit here, don't you think?

Host monthly "fireside dinners" in your home for poor scholars and lost souls, though the eponymous blaze hardly made an appearance. Like most Loggers, it must have been seconds too late to get on the sign-up sheet.

Talk about Woodstock whenever possible.

Insist that you had no hand whatsoever in orchestrating the T-shirts and tanks, soon to sell out, that exhibit simply a picture of your face and the caption "HOME."

Smile fondly at nothing in particular as you and Mary stroll hand in hand through the President's Woods, surely walking back and forth and back and forth just to confuse the cooped-up thesis writers in Collins Library.

Meet with young people one-on-one. Hear their stories and their hopes and their dreams. Then do anything within your power to help them realize their potential.

Change lives. Be true. Care a lot.

Caught in the rush between classes, look across Karlen Quad toward the grove of Douglas-fir behind your house, at the students passing through the morning mist, and for a moment—just a moment—pause to savor your part in their climb, ever higher, to the heights.

Ian Fox is a former Arches intern. He now works at the Peu Charitable Trusts but says he's still got his heart set on writing for NPR.

The president lets loose

MARY THOMAS

Ordinarily, Ron appears reserved. In control. Calm. Situations that might make me anxious or excited he greets with equanimity. He is the ultimate multitasker, but from his demeanor you'd never know the extent of the "tasking" he's always batturing around inside his head. Deadline for writing an Arches column approaching? In he goes to his study and out he comes with a draft of a dream idea. Board of trustees presentation to prepare? Tap, tap, tap on the computer, and there it is. Speech to give to alumni and parents? Inspiration arrives, and an inspiring message emerges. (And forgive me if I oversimplify: Each of these tasks usually is considered and revised over and over again.) All of this while attending to the day-to-day business of running Puget Sound.

So is there ever a time when Ron lets the calm give way? Of course. He likes a good bottle of wine. He adores my spaghetti and meatballs. We all know how much he loves Dylan and Springsteen. But does he ever really let loose?

Picture Ron in the president's box at Baker Stadium (the so-called "president's box" being a few seats distinguished only by their location up high in the grandstand and the fact that they're somewhat sheltered), watching a Loggers football game. A late-game touchdown to win. The roar of the crowd. And then a thunderous pounding of metal folding chairs on the ledges of the "box." Heads turn our way. Is everything all right? It's just Ron, going crazy, cheering the team on.

You can extrapolate from this: Billy Ratlje '15 being awarded a Rhodes Scholarship; a faculty member delivering the Regester Lecture; the finishing touches being put on the Center for Health Sciences, or Commencement Hall, or the Athletics and Aquatics Center. The thunder is deafening.

Mary and Ron Thomas will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this summer.

Thank you, Ron

LYLE QUASIM '70

As a scholar your brilliance has informed me. As the University of Puget Sound president your leadership has guided me. As a humanitarian your moral compass has comforted me. Most of all as a friend your grace and kindness have embraced me.

Lyle Quasim is a Puget Sound trustee. He is an Air Force veteran; among many public service positions he was secretary of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, and he is former president of Bates Technical College in Tacoma.

Questions and challenges—like a good friend

DARREl FROST '04

Think of President Thomas and you probably think of a smile. Maybe his enveloping handshake, maybe that laugh. It's all of a piece anyway: You're thinking of the joy he evinces anytime there's a game to be cheered, a student to be lauded, a faculty member to be treasured. An editor looking at the occasional email I've received from Ron over the years would cringe at what might seem like hyperbole, but the joy he expresses about Puget Sound is no exaggeration. It's real.

(I like to imagine the humor editors of The Trail coming up with ways to roast President Thomas, one of them saying "Let's Photoshop him as a cheerleader," and others responding, "Too obvious.")

Since we all know the story of Ron's joy, though, let me share another: the time he spoke to me, shall we say, in italics.

I was a senior then, involved in student government, and possessed of some plan about how to improve alumni connections to the university. President Thomas had agreed to meet with me about it, after I'd been turned
Alas, a farewell, too, to Mary

CHRISTINE KLINE

Imagine a 13-year winning streak! Imagine two Most Valuable Players on the same team! We have had that miraculous good fortune at Puget Sound with Ron and Mary Thomas. Mary has been most valuable in so many ways, contributing intelligence, skill, and insight to “Team Thomas.” As affirmed early on by Ron: “Team is a good way of describing our relationship. We are quite different, and we complement each other so well. I couldn’t play in this league without her.”

How true. Her contributions to Puget Sound have been immense, fueled by love of this liberal arts institution and honed by her own academic accomplishments in teaching, scholarship, and administration. Mary is a classics scholar, with her undergraduate degree from Bryn Mawr, and master’s then doctorate in comparative literature from Princeton. In addition to expertise from her subsequent university teaching, she has brought institution-wide administrative understanding from her role as dean of students at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., where she and Ron met.

While at Puget Sound, Mary has worked in multiple roles, all with skill, fluidity, and a generosity approaching magic. She has opened her home to students, staff, faculty, trustees, and community guests, and to visiting scholars, artists, activists from around the world. She has been an active and eloquent representative of the university, prodigiously working in the arenas of alumni relations and fundraising.

Mary’s contributions to the community have been extensive. During her 13 years in Tacoma, she has served on multiple boards, including that of the Museum of Glass, at which she chaired the search committee for the director of the museum; and the YWCA Pierce County, where she has been active in supporting programs for adults and children fleeing abuse. Mary has served also on the boards of Northwest Sinfonietta, the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, and the Tacoma Public Library Foundation.

Mary’s personal interests also run broadly, whether reading, cooking, dining, or attending cultural events. She is an enthusiastic reader, from her beloved Greek classics to current literature across cultures. Included in that range is food writing, as Mary loves to cook. Friends can testify to the magic of her risotto, the sublimity of her braises.

The Thomases are singularly devoted to their accomplished kitty, Coco. And Coco’s intellectual development shows the influence of Ron and Mary’s knowledge of culture and protocol. Not only does Coco recognize holidays like Christmas, she also knows the protocol of placing her “gifts” of toy mice under the Christmas tree.

Friends await news of kitty feats on other holidays. And we all await news of the further adventures of our two Most Valuable Players, who have worked for Puget Sound in one of the most successful team efforts ever. Thank you, Mary, for your invaluable role on that team; we will long remember the magic of Mary.

Chris Kline is dean emerita of the Puget Sound School of Education. For 11 years she and Mary Thomas have been meeting weekly in the same book club.
down politely by a few other staff members. (A generous description of me at that time might have been “dugged” or um, “tenacious.”)

The plan was so obvious, I explained to him as we sat in Diversion’s Café, and so simple; if the administration would just do what I was suggesting, alumni participation would triple, donations would skyrocket, and Bono would play at every Reunion. (U2 was pretty big at the time.)

President Thomas raised a number of thoughtful questions and pointed out some glaring problems with my idea. Never one to let logic interrupt a good monologue, however, I plunged ahead. So after about 20 minutes of lopsided back-and-forth, as I explained once again how I’d already given him a perfect plan, Ron did what any good teacher would have done. He interrupted me: “No, Darrel—you have not!” Firmly. Italicized. Just a few words, but enough to get me to stop talking. Enough to get me to listen to what he’d been saying all along.

Like the best leaders, like the best professors—like the best friends—Ron questions and challenges as much as he inspires. He demands we stop and consider our path. He pushes us to look farther. I think it’s because he wants our joy to be like his: not shallow and uninformed, but born of deep inquiry and confident discovery. And thus, richer. He knows the greatness that comes from difficult work. He wants us to see the beauty of new vistas after a difficult climb.

Perhaps that’s one reason he trumpets our motto so often: “To the heights.”

“To the heights”—it’s a powerful idea. But when it comes from the mouth of President Thomas, after 13 years at Puget Sound’s helm, it doesn’t feel like a command so much as an invitation to join him where he already is.

Darrel Frost was ASUPS president during the 2003–04 school year. He now is a creative consultant living in New York City, and he is vice president for communications on the Puget Sound Alumni Council Executive Committee.

Grateful

JILL NISHI ’89

For me and many others Ron’s greatest legacy will be opening up this place to those of us who did not feel the full embrace of the campus community during our time as students, to those forced to abruptly leave as our country was at war, to Tacoma’s unsung heroes, and to those students yet to come who will be the first in their families to earn a college degree. He made this place—the University of Puget Sound—our university. And for that I am forever grateful.

Jill Nishi is director of strategy, planning, and management, and chief of staff—U.S. Program at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and she is a Puget Sound trustee.

Ron Thom style

CHUCK LUCE

We all know that our boss, the New Jersey and Chicago guy whose daily uniform is a nicely cut Italian suit, hasn’t exactly embrace the personal fashion of the Pacific Northwest. I’m pretty sure I’ve never seen him in an REI quilted down vest or Carhartt carpenter’s pants. Blue jeans on occasion? Sure. Flip-flops and cargo shorts in winter? No. Which is cool because there’s a style to the man that is totally him, and we Northwesterners admire a little distinction of character if not expressed too boastfully.

But about that style. It goes way way beyond the Milanese sport coats. This is a president who sees. He’s got an artist’s instinct and a restless relentless eye for detail. For Ronald R. Thomas, perceptive nuance—and how it affects what we think and feel, and how we function—matters. It is his style to want the best for this college and its people, and his influence is everywhere. If the façade on Weyerhaeuser Hall looks more like it’s been there for 75 years than for just five it’s because our prez wondered if there was anything the contractor could do to make the brick pattern look more like the bricks on the older campus buildings. Why not make Commencement Walk a winding path, he asked, weaving like a river between the great fir trees, rather than the parallel straight lines the architect recommended? Have we considered combining the graduate clinical programs with the undergraduate programs in psych and exercise science? How about a neuroscience program? Let’s be sure you can see the Logger logo in the tower of the new aquatics center through the trees from Karlan Quad. Sometimes he drops by Arch World Headquarters when an issue is nearing completion to take a look at the wall where we display the page spreads. He might look at a photo and say something like “Hmm. Have you tried tighter cropping on that?” So we do, and danged if it isn’t better that way.

Now, reading these examples and not knowing Ron, one might suspect a wee tendency toward micromanaging. That’s completely not the case. His observations are presented as observations—from a man who is always asking “What if?” and we listen because, like I said, he’s got the eye. And, especially, he’s got a way of making you want to ask “What if?” too. A way—because he is interested in helping you reach new realms of understanding—a way of making you want to try something harder than you’ve ever tried.

In preparing this magazine for press I spent quite a few hours over several days talking with Ron about our University of Puget Sound: what he’ll remember, what regrets he might have, what’s next for him. But he kept turning the conversation away from himself. He was much more interested in talking about the dynamics of this special place for us all. “The tremendous vitality, excitement, hope, drama, fear, passion,” he said, “That mysterious magical chemistry that happens when amazing people make amazing things happen.”

That wonder. That great imagining. Being summoned by the future, not driven by the past. Creating a reputation, not living up to it, he said.

That, my friends, after everything, is Ron Thom style, and we are going to miss it.

Chuck Luce has been the editor of this magazine for the past 18 years.
The Thomas years
20 items of note

One of the first things President Thomas did after he took office in 2003 was work with the campus community to draft a 10-year strategic plan and a master plan for development of the physical campus. Ron would be the first to deflect credit for the accomplishments that rose from these plans, preferring instead that any distinction go to the hundreds of people who collaborated to make them happen. Which we applaud. But still, Boss, your administration gave us the vision, the encouragement, and the resources. A few highlights:

1. During the ONE [of a Kind] fundraising campaign, 85 new scholarships are established, with additions to 141 more.

2. Puget Sound is consistently ranked among the top 15 small colleges producing Peace Corps volunteers, tied for first in 2016.

3. Construction of Weyerhaeuser Hall (2010) and DeLaplante Hall (2011) reflect a commitment to creating learning environments that complement the academic environment.


5. Puget Sound faculty are named Washington State Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation four times (2007–11). Professors Bristow, Evans, Veseth, and Fields.

6. Harned Hall construction and Thompson Hall renovation (2006–08) doubles the size of the college’s science facilities and updates Thompson labs and classroom facilities. The Slater Museum of Natural History gets a spiffy new home.

7. In 2010, the college establishes its Office of Diversity and Inclusion and hires its first chief diversity officer. The university’s first Diversity Strategic Plan is approved.

8. Puget Sound is recognized as a top-10 producer of Fulbright Scholars and a top producer of graduates who go on to earn doctoral degrees. And it graduates its third Rhodes Scholar.

9. Endowed faculty chairs are created in neuroscience and biophysics. New academic programs in biophysics, environmental policy and decision making, Latin/o studies, molecular and cellular biology, and neuroscience.

10. Commencement Walk (2011). With the removal of the well-past-its-prime South Hall and its adjacent pool, a winding stone walkway and event lawn are built, connecting the north and south ends of the campus.

11. Commencement Hall (2013). The college’s 12th residence hall is named in honor of 11 smaller “houses” so that students live with others grouped by academic theme—and have use of a large event space, classrooms, a screening room, and seminar rooms. Call it live and learn.

12. In 2015, Forbes names Puget Sound a top-20 most entrepreneurial college, and MSN’s IT Insider says Puget Sound is a top-20 college for getting a job in the tech industry.

13. Wheelock Student Center addition and renovation (2014–16). The SUB gets a two-story addition, with additional seating for 160 and expanded space for the kitchen and servery.

14. 28,493 donors contribute $131.6 million to the ONE [of a Kind] campaign for endowment, facilities, and annual support.

15. Athletics and Aquatics Center (2015–16). In phases, Memorial Fieldhouse and Pampilo Sports Center get a makeover and a new aquatic facility, including a much-needed new swimming pool for competition, instruction, and rehabilitation therapies.

16. The college commits to meeting the full demonstrated financial need of graduates from the Tacoma Public Schools who enroll at Puget Sound.

17. Partnering with the community: The college helps create the Civic Scholarship Initiative, Race and Pedagogy Initiative, Sound Policy Institute, and Freedom Education Project Puget Sound.

18. Engagement: The Alumni Council is formed, now with more than 1,600 volunteers. The Parent Council is formed, now with nearly 500 volunteers. And 85 percent of board of trustees members are Puget Sound alumni or parents.


20. Puget Sound becomes the Posse Foundation’s first partner in the Northwest.
Somehow, for me, it was like coming home.

In March, during a 32-hour layover in Seattle between trips to the Midwest and California, I came home—to the Key Arena. To hear Bruce Springsteen and the E-Street Band play for about four of those 32 hours. I've made this rock 'n' roll homecoming before, I don't know how many times, across more than four decades. From a theater in Boston to a stadium in Chicago. From the streets of Philadelphia to the backroads of Kentucky. I lost track of exactly where and when and how many somewhere along the way. It was probably that sultry summer night in the late 1980s, when The Boss and band showed up unannounced and played a rousing set at the local Jersey Shore bar where he'd gotten his start way back when. Right there at the Stone Pony on the boardwalk on a night I just happened to have taken the 1,000-mile trek from Chicago to visit one of my favorite
old haunts in my hometown. I always dreamed he might show up sometime when I was there, but I never dared hope he would. Greetings from Asbury Park, indeed. Heaven, it was.

That’s a part of it. Bruce is a Jersey Shore guy, like me. The E-Streets’ laconic bass player, Garry Tallent, was a classmate of mine at Neptune High. So was The Boss’s original drummer, “Mad Dog” Vini Lopez (not laconic). But Tallent sat right in front of Thomas. So close, then. Before Bruce became The Boss he even played the occasional junior prom in our school gym. But his melodies, his lyrics, his spirit, his soul, his energy, they all come from the sands of my beach, the waves of my ocean, the dark, empty streets of my downtown: eloquent expressions of the dreams and longings of my imagination. I know them.

Springsteen is the poet laureate of my youth and my adulthood. We grew up together. Those legendary marathon “concerts” that are his signature have always been way more than brilliant performances (and endurance tests) of rock ‘n’ roll. They are that. But they are also a sacred ritual, a spiritual experience, a religious revival, an undying expression of infinite desire and unrelenting commitment. If you’ve been there, you know. For me, they are also always a homecoming.

On this Seattle night the band played “Hungry Heart” toward the beginning of what was at once a draining and exhilarating masterpiece that included (just for starters) a nonstop performance of the entirety of “The River,” the double LP he debuted with a 1980 tour by that name—shows I attended several times in Chicago’s Rosemont Arena back when I first moved there and was trying to make that hard land my hometown.

“Everybody wants a place to rest/Everybody wants to have a home/Ain’t no difference what nobody says/Everybody’s got a hungry heart.”

Springsteen’s songs are always ultimately about that hunger of the heart. The desire that surrounds the search for a real home: It draws us and it drives us away. It promises and disappoints. It ties us to the ones we love and breaks us apart from them. It’s a place to rest and a scene of struggle. It’s the promised land in which we always believe and can never quite reach. You have to leave your front porch and travel down the thunder road to get there. And it’s a risky ride.

I called Chicago home from 1982 to 1990. Sweet home Chicago. It’s where my career as an academic began. It all came back to me last week when we visited the Windy City to host an alumni club gathering there, now at the end of that career. It was an uncharacteristically balmy (for March) 60 degrees. Otherwise, all so familiar. Soaring skyscrapers loomed over burly brownstones. Big wide-shouldered streets stretching out in a perfect grid from the infinitely flat plains in the west to the almost unreally brilliant aqua of that endless and beautiful great lake to the east. A forest of Cubs hats, White Sox hoodies, Blackhawks jerseys, and Bulls tees dotted the streets. The savory scent of deep-dish pizza floated freely everywhere. And a guy on Michigan Avenue played a perfectly cool jazz improv on the trumpet with his case open at his feet. Coins tinkling and popping some random percussion.

The next morning the temp plunged. And it even snowed on the day we left. That’s it, all right: sweet home Chicago.

And then there is the Art Institute. With the possible exceptions of Wrigley Field and Regenstein Library, I spent more time at the Art Institute than any single place in those years. It was a haven of refuge and a zone for relaxation. A culture fix, a maze in which to get lost, a visual archive to do some research. It was work and play at once. A beautiful box full of beautiful things. So I took out one free morning on this trip to return to it. Another kind of homecoming.

Waiting for me there this time was van Gogh. Right at home. In his bedroom. The curatorial staff had mounted an intriguing exhibition based around the painting the artist considered his best work—his rendering of the simple bedroom in Arles where he lived during the most prolific and tumultuous period of his life. Three paintings, actually, since he rendered the same scene three times, all within one year. This exhibition is the first time all three have been together in one place, each now calling home either Paris, Amsterdam, or Chicago.

You’ve seen the painting, or one of them: that simple, almost primitive rustic room with a bare wooden plank floor, a single bed adorned with some sketchy paintings on the wall around it, two wicker-seated wooden chairs to the side, a little table with a pitcher and bottles and a vase on it, a yellow window, a blue door, a red coverlet and two sad sallow pillows on the bed, and some clothes hanging haphazardly on hooks behind the arched headboard. A mirror.

The case the exhibition makes is that this simple interior—in its three versions—is van Gogh’s defining work. It embodies all his aspirations as an artist, as an intellect, as a human being. That bedroom in the little yellow house he rented in Arles was the very heart of the home he always sought, the place to rest he forever longed for. The show opens with galleries containing scenes of houses painted by van Gogh’s predecessors and mentors (like Millais), side by side with the artist’s own versions of similar domestic scenes. His many early drawings and paintings of birds’ nests are there, as well as the images he painted of simple, cozy country houses and domestic objects that resemble those simple but ingeniously built havens for birds.

One gallery even contains an architecturally perfect (and technologically enhanced) recreation of the Arles bedroom itself. Another displays the originals of the landscape and portrait paintings (one a haunting self-portrait)
that van Gogh produced while he lived there and can be seen hanging on the walls in each of those three bedroom paintings. The selection and character of these paintings-within-the-painting change from one version of the bedroom to another, like pictures in a revolving exhibition.

This was the place where van Gogh imagined he would do his best work (he did), where other artists would gather (some, like Gauguin, did), where he would finally feel at home (he did, for a while). It would be perfect (it wasn't).

We know the rest of the story. The artist soon ended up in a different home, an asylum, one ear and a million dreams down after an argument with Gaugin and an emotional breakdown from which he would never quite recover. Van Gogh never painted another bedroom or dreamed of going to the perfect home again. But he did succeed in creating some spectacular, even visionary haunted landscapes that cemented his place as a pivotal figure between impressionism and expressionism. Those images also manifest the hallucinatory exile in which van Gogh found himself when the dreams of home in the "Bedroom in Arles" faded away. He still suffered from a hungry heart. He still wanted that place to rest.

On the very night Mary and I returned to Sea-Tac from this homecoming, we headed up to Seattle for that Springsteen concert. More memories flooded back and invaded my own lingering dreams of van Gogh's bedroom as we drove to Seattle Center, mixed with the warm memories of meeting familiar friends and former students and their families in two memorable alumni events in Chicago and Minneapolis during that trip. This spring, as I have been making these final visits with you all, has been quite a trip, for sure. L.A. and San Francisco, New York and D.C., Tacoma and Seattle and Boise and Portland and, finally, Honolulu. One thing is clear as I meet and talk with you in your hometowns: Wherever you are now, when you think of home, so many of you still think of Puget Sound. Me, too.

At every August Convocation (as first-year students and families gather to start their Puget Sound careers) and at every May Commencement (when they gather again, as seniors, to complete them) I speak of that quest for home. I cite Homer and Tennyson, T.S. Eliot and Charles Dickens, Frost and Twain, Martin Luther King and Ralph Waldo Emerson, Eleanor Roosevelt and Toni Morrison. But I imagine I always also have Springsteen's "Hungry Heart" and "Promised Land" humming in my head, too. The point of all those references to home in all those voices: to try to learn something at these threshold moments of our lives about leaving one home for another, about the universality of the idea of home being not so much a destination as an aspiration, a dream, a quest, a goal. It's a promise that's always out there.

So it seems right that in the academy we should call the end of all our labors a "commencement," a beginning. And it, too, is a sacred ritual—like a Springsteen concert. In our end is our beginning, the starting point for all that comes next. The continuation and renewal of the quest for home, and the eternal refreshment of the hunger in the heart that moves us forward, presses us onward, lifts our eyes to the heights, calls us home, and offers a place to seek a newer world.

Now, as I approach my final Commencement, my last new start at Puget Sound, I am reminded of the advice I have dispensed through 13 years at convocations and commencements, comings and goings, beginnings and ends. Like a senior about to graduate, I have a heart that is hungry still: "Always roaming with a hungry heart," as Tennyson said of Ulysses.
I think of the longing in those paintings of van Gogh's bedroom and the dreams he dreamt of the home it might become and, finally, might have been. I think of every Springsteen concert I've ever attended, and all his heartfelt affirmations of the promised land to which we are all drawn. Of Chicago, and how I hated to leave it in 1990. Of the paradise within Hartford, happier far, named Mary, who awaited me there. Of the City of Destiny that would draw us and raise our eyes to the heights in 2003 and offer us a new beginning. I think of all of you, every one, and of your families. I see you before me, gathered in a vast stadium, starting out again, with me, as the sun, off to the west, is shining in my eyes and bathing you all in a golden glow. Forever young.

"We shall not cease from exploration," Eliot said. "and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time." That's the ultimate homecoming, I guess. It requires us to leave the place we thought was home, and the family and friends who make it the familiar place of rest we desire above all. And to set out to find the next one. That's the moment when we really know "the place" for the first time. "Be always coming home," as Ursula LeGuin put it.

The road is dark, thunder road. And it forms a thin, thin line that stretches out beyond the horizon. But those two lanes—well, they can take us anywhere. Thanks for riding that road with me for a while and for letting me ride along with you. It's been like coming home. Really.

Ronald R. Thomas

On Feb. 26 the Puget Sound board of trustees announced that ISIAAH CRAWFORD, PROVOST OF SEATTLE UNIVERSITY, WILL BECOME THE COLLEGE'S 14TH PRESIDENT ON JULY 1.

Following an extensive national search, Crawford rose through a competitive process to be the clear choice for Puget Sound. He was recommended to the trustees by a search committee comprising trustee, faculty, staff, alumni, parent, and student representatives, and was introduced to a jam-packed Rasmussen Rotunda on Feb. 26.

"Puget Sound's remarkable success under President Thomas's leadership put us in a very strong position to attract top candidates," said search committee chair Robert Pohlad P'07 of the nine-month search. "This is a special moment in time for Puget Sound to take its next step—a very important step—inspired by a new leader who will build on our mission as a liberal arts college and meet the many challenges facing higher education today. We have found that leader in Isiaah Crawford. His appointment is a natural extension of our mission and values, and is as exciting a next step as we could ever hope for."

"As a college that derives so much of its identity from the culture, values, and opportunities of the Pacific Northwest, we are especially pleased to have found Puget Sound's next president so close to home," said board of trustees chair Rick Brooks '82. "Dr. Crawford's experiences as a scholar, teacher, and administrator, combined with his strong connections to the region, make him uniquely suited to provide strong leadership for Puget Sound."

Crawford plans to make the short move from Seattle to Tacoma later this summer with his partner, Kent Korneisel. A formal installation and other events to welcome Puget Sound's 14th president to the South Sound are expected to be announced after President-elect Crawford assumes office in July.

Watch a video of the campus reception for President Elect Crawford at pugetsound.edu/presidentialsearch.
Low-cost light

In January the college began changing streetlight bulbs on the grounds from high-pressure sodium lamps to low-energy, long-life LEDs. This change to the campus’ 62 streetlights will save an estimated 63,400 kilowatt-hours each year—enough to power five homes. Not only does the project conserve energy and expense, the LEDs emit a bright white light that provides more visibility at night, so they also make outdoor spaces safer. Tacoma Public Utilities supported the retrofit through an energy-efficiency rebate that covers 70 percent of the cost. The college also will continue switching its indoor lighting to LEDs, as buildings and spaces are renovated. Last summer Marshall Hall, in Wheelock Student Center, was renovated, and inefficient halide and halogen lamps were replaced with LEDs, reducing overall energy consumption by about 77 percent.

PUGET SOUND IS A NO. 1 PRODUCER OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS among small schools in the 2016 rankings of U.S. colleges and universities. UPS tied with Gonzaga University for the top spot, continuing its pattern since 2001 of ranking among the top 15 small colleges that send graduates on to Peace Corps service. Currently 18 Loggers are volunteering abroad, in 15 countries. Seen here with President Thomas, Peace Corps regional staff members Amber Gomes, Sarah Kassel, Erin Carlson ’04, Mike McKay, and Stephanie Klees.

RIDE MORE

File this under things-we-wish-they’d-thought-of-back-in-our-own-college-days:

A bike-repair station. We first noticed it just after winter break, back there near the bicycle racks at the southwest door of the SUB. The nifty bike pitstop has a high-volume hand pump for inflating tires, tools for making adjustments, and a stand for getting your wheels up off the ground while you wrench away. Thank Puget Sound Outdoors trips coordinator Chris Eichar ’16 for the idea and ASUPS for funding it as part of an effort to support cycling ecology on campus. PSO bike shop mechanic Patrick Johnson ’18 will be giving workshops on how to make use of the station. That’s Sloan Strader ’18 in the photo.
AT COLLEGE

Creating community

As I was walking back from a house party around 1 a.m. one Saturday in February, my friend Keala convinced me to audition for Repertory Dance Group with her the next morning. This is how, regardless of my notorious lack of coordination, I joined this student-led club in which students choreograph and teach dances for an end-of-semester performance. Despite accidentally kicking someone during the audition, the experience of plunging feet-first into unexplored territory has been more rewarding than scary, and it's a lot of fun when we chat and laugh together.

I had a rocky first semester, and one of the things that I missed most as a freshman was a sense of community. It was shocking to come from the small, friendly town where I grew up, to a place where I knew almost no one. Another reason I was especially focused on forging connections this semester is that over winter break I broke up with my high school boyfriend of two years (a freshman-year cliché, I know). Last semester, with him studying music in L.A. and me in Tacoma, it seemed like I was spending more time on the phone than meeting people in person. Though the breakup was upsetting, it was all part of the transition to life after high school. Now I feel that I am able to be more present in my life here.

One of the biggest developments in my search for community this semester is that I joined a sorority. I was a bit surprised to find myself rushing because I had a preconception of sororities, fueled by movies like Legally Blonde, that involved a lot of interpersonal drama, academic indifference, and spray tans. I hadn't pictured myself, a granola-loving California hippie, going Greek.

However, during rush I met a lot of really cool people. Rush week was crazy and exhilarating. It was the most socializing I've ever done in my life, which is saying a lot! It was only thanks to honey-lemon tea that I didn't lose my voice, but I really enjoyed it.

At the end of rush I was thrilled to receive a bid from Gamma Phi Beta. I found a group of strong, welcoming, and down-to-earth women—some wearing neon-colored hair and tie-dye. The morning after I got my bid, G Phis had hardly even spoken to stopped all over campus to say hi to me. Those small acts made the campus feel more like my home.

This semester I got a “happy sight” with a full-spectrum bulb, and a serious raincoat. While these tools are necessary for survival here, I have learned that there is another important aspect to thriving. It’s the friends I can celebrate with when I earn that hard-fought A, or commiserate with on the 10th consecutive day of rain. It’s becoming evident that, for me, a sense of community makes all the difference.

— Maya Makino ’19, Arches intern

SEEN AND HEARD

“Most prisoners will be released. And do you want people returning, living near you who have no education and who have been punished endlessly?” said Erzen. “Or do you want someone returning to your community who is working toward an education?”

— Tanya Erzen, associate professor of religion, interviewed on KING 5 Television for a Feb. 3 story about a bill in Olympia that would allow state funding for college studies by prisoners

COOL GIZMOS

Faster element IDs

Thanks to a $347,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, a quadrupole time-of-flight mass spectrometer has taken up residence in Thompson Hall. The instrument will be used by researchers in the chemistry and biology departments to identify and quantify a broad range of molecules in complex samples. High school students in Tacoma’s Science and Math Institute also will be invited to use the QToF spectrometer. It is the only instrument of its kind and capability at any Pacific Northwest liberal arts school.
38 YEARS AGO THIS SPRING
The rogue bovine incident

When Mike Mixon ’81 posted a note on the university Facebook page about how, as a student security patroller, he encountered a cow on campus, we asked him to elaborate:

Back in the late ’70s student “patrollers” worked two days a week, alternating between swing and graveyard shifts. I was in the security office (one of the old A-frames that used to be in the West Woods near Thompson Hall), and Ron Hudspeth ’81 was on patrol at about 6 a.m. when he called in saying there was a cow on campus. My first reaction was that he needed some sleep. About then one of the custodians came in and told me the same story.

Ron came back to the office, and I went over to the President’s Woods, between the Music Building and Thompson Hall. And there I found a guy with a motorcycle who had been sleeping under one of the trees and a cow grazing about three feet from his head.

The guy’s eyes were as big as plates. When the cow saw me, it took off. Safety and Security used Tacoma Police Department-band radios to communicate, and TPD heard us talking about the cow. They responded, resulting in this discussion:

“Suspect is approximately 13 hands high and 1,100 to 1,200 pounds, proceeding west down 19th Street.”
Dispatch: “This is utterly ridiculous.”

During the summer, most graveyard shift summaries for the security logbook read: “Shift begins. Shift ends.” So we filled up a whole page describing the incident and making ourselves look like heroes. Turned out that a student who lived in a house behind Frat Row had been transporting a cow to Vashon Island and stopped for the night. It escaped from the backyard.

After several days of digging around in records boxes stored in the attic of Security Services, our friends there produced the June 18, 1978, shift summary in which the incident is reported. You can view it on the Arches Facebook page. (Warning: really bad puns.)

AFTER GRADUATION
2016 Commencement looms. What did last year’s class do post-May 17?

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CLASS OF 2015
WHAT ARE THEY UP TO NOW?

- 71% Employed
- 12% Continuing Education
- 6% Volunteering
- 1% Still Seeking
- 10% Travel/Other
- 10% Unemployed

Results based on 60 percent knowledge rate of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Standards and Protocols.

*Knowledge rate is the term coined by NACE and "defines the percent of graduates for whom the institution has responses and verifiable information concerning the graduates postgraduation activities."
LEAP YEAR

More complicated than you think

2016 is a leap year, and most folks have a rough idea of why we have leap years. But it's a little more involved than just adding a day in February every fourth year. We asked Eli Gandour-Roed, science liaison librarian, for a couple of sources that give the details. He dug this up in Science and Its Times and the McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology.

Each trip around the sun takes 365.2422 days. If we counted a year as an even 365 days, the extra quarter days would accumulate, and we would soon find that the seasons were occurring at the wrong time of the year. This problem was recognized in antiquity. The Julian calendar, named for Julius Caesar, was established in 46 B.C.E. and was used subsequently throughout Europe. It had 365 days in a year and added one extra day every four years. Under this scheme, the year was assumed to have 365.25 days. Although this is very close to the true number of days in a year, 365.2422, even this small difference amounts to an appreciable error over a few centuries. The most recognizable problem with the Julian calendar was that the vernal (spring) equinox began falling a few days before the traditional date of March 21. Which might have been a trivial problem had the people of Europe not been Christian. In the fourth century, a church council had decided that Easter would fall on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Because calendars could not be mass-produced and distributed over all of Christendom every year, church officials created tables that allowed local priests to figure out when Easter should fall in any given year. The tables, however, assumed that the equinox fell on March 21. But because the equinox started falling earlier than that, it was feared that Easter was being celebrated on the "wrong" date, and thus calendar reform was needed.

The Gregorian calendar fixed things. It was designed by a commission assembled by Pope Gregory XIII in the 16th century. The main author of the new system was the Naples astronomer Aloysius Lilius, who instituted a minor change in the Julian calendar: Century years not divisible by 400 would no longer be leap years. Thus, three out of four century years are common years, giving a cycle of 400 years containing \((400 \times 365) + 97 = 146,097\) days and an average year length of \(146,097/400 = 365.2425\) days. Pretty close to the actual figure. Catholic countries followed his rule, but Protestant countries resisted. Great Britain and its colonies held out until 1752; Russia held out until 1918, after the Bolshevik Revolution. Different parts of what is now the United States changed over at different times; Alaska, for example, changed only when it was purchased by the United States in 1867. Turkey did not switch to the Gregorian calendar until 1927.

While we’re on the topic, as near as we can tell there’s only one student on campus who was born on Feb. 29: Kayla Lovett ’18.

ASK THE PROF

Why do dogs love sticking their heads out of car windows?

Robin Foster, psychology research professor, responds. Among her research interests are biological perspectives on animal behavior.

It’s not just the breeze. Dogs receive more olfactory information about the environment with their heads outside than inside the car.

"The air being forced into the dog’s nose may intensify the odors," Professor Foster told thedodo.com in January. "Even a dog who can’t get his head out the window will spend a lot of time sniffling at a gap in the window—probably gathering real-time intel on the current location."

Professor Foster said that, based on smells alone, dogs can recognize familiar locations and even driving routes.

Loggerhythms by Roger Dahl ’75

Seduced by modern consumerism, Paul Bunyan Springs for The Makeover

Gene Jones Salon
Side-Part Trim, w/ Highlights + Beach Extensions $840 & tip
Pierre Balmain
Double-Layer Plaid Shirt $775
Anne Fonfard
Classique & Hydrate Shampoo/Conditioner $2.4
D squared
Super-Distressed Skinny Jeans $895

frasesarches.com
Vienna 1966

This spring it will be 50 years since the college’s first-ever student study-abroad semester. Our “From the Archives” columnist, John Finney ’67, P’94, was on that trip—during which he saw a lot of great opera, ditched the Kindberg cops in a VW microbus, and was detained by Russian soldiers for photographing Cold War military maneuvers.

On Feb. 2, 1966, President R. Franklin Thompson and religion professor and honors program director Robert Albertson ’44 drove to Sea-Tac airport to witness a significant event in the life of the university. Forty juniors and seniors, along with history/foreign language professor Warren Tomlinson and philosophy professor John Magee, boarded the Pan American World Airways Boeing 707 jet clipper Viking to inaugurate the college’s first semester-long study-abroad program. Among the 40 were newlyweds Karen Peterson Finney ’67, P’94, and me. Pan Am prepared a large welcome banner that we held up for photographs before boarding the plane. My mother mailed a bon voyage card addressed to us at the airport. The Viking took us via the polar route to London. Our ultimate destination: Vienna, Austria.

After spending a week in London, a week in Paris, and a week in Rome, our group arrived in Vienna on Feb. 24. We took up residence in the Pension Andreas on Schlüsselgasse, near the center of the city. Karen and I were assigned room 25 on the “girls’ side” of the third floor. Room 25 looked onto an inner shaft filled with live and dead pigeons and decades of their droppings. Although the Pension Andreas was less than impressive, and the food was, well, at times pretty terrible, we were in the heart of Vienna, within walking distance of all the famous places. Bright red trolleys carried us into the hinterlands.

Professors Tomlinson and Magee taught our degree-credit courses. We had regular class sessions in the Pension Andreas—taught in the morning, leaving the afternoons free for study and exploration. There was only one typewriter in the whole pension, so we mostly wrote our papers longhand. Several of us registered as students at the University of Vienna. Some attended Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl’s class on logotherapy, called by some the third Viennese school of psychotherapy. Frankl autographed our copies of his book Man’s Search for Meaning.

One weekend Professor Magee disappeared and returned from Munich with a brand-new ruby-red Volkswagen 1600 squareback that cost $1,700.

Professor Tomlinson lived with us at the pension. He regularly set up shop at his “money table” and dispensed allowances for the five meals we ate outside the pension each week. Our food allowance was 20 Austrian schillings, or 80 cents per meal.
It was Professor Tomlinson who rescued Cal Peterson ’67 and me when we were detained by Russian soldiers after we—as the Cold War raged—stupidly photographed Soviet military maneuvers in Hungary on a bus trip to Budapest. And he worried about us when he had to. When one of our number failed to return from spring vacation on time and he had no idea where that person was, Professor Tomlinson expressed the degree of his worry this way: “I now know what it feels like to be standing naked on a mountaintop during a blizzard.”

Outside of class there was a lot to do in Vienna. We quickly learned to love opera. You can’t help it when the stories, the acting, the singing, the music, and the setting are the best in the world. The Vienna State Opera House, or Wiener Staatsoper, was the first Viennese building reconstructed following World War II. Sometimes we got stehplatz tickets for 28 cents and stood throughout the performance, as we did on May 6 for Giuseppe Verdi’s Die Macht des Schicksals (The Power of Fate). Other times we splurged for actual seats, as we did on March 19, spending $2.60 to see Johann Strauss’ Die Fledermaus.

We saw ballet, too. On April 20 a bunch of us stood in line at the Vienna State Opera for six hours, beginning at 4 a.m., to get tickets for the April 25 performance of Swan Lake, choreographed by Rudolf Nureyev and starring him as Prince Siegfried. Those tickets were expensive, $2.88.

One Saturday, 10 of us rented a VW bus and drove three hours to Graz, Austria’s second-largest city. On the way back we passed through the town of Kindberg, which seemed friendly enough until a policeman informed us it was illegal to carry 10 persons in a VW bus and that one of us would have to get out.

Vienna 1966 semester abroad students David Wagner ’68; Isa Werny ’67, M.S.’71; and Dee Dee Dressel Curran ’67 wearing her dirndl in the Volksgarten (People’s Garden), in Vienna, May 21, 1966.

Vienna 1966 semester abroad students eat lunch in the Pension Andreas. Identifiable students in this photo include John Johnston ’68; Jim Nielson ’66; Karen Peterson Finney ’67, P’94; Dee Dee Dressel Curran ’67; Anne Alworth ’67; Betty Giblett Blanchard ’68; Diane Garland Lenzo ’67; Steven Bradley ’67; Jean Crosetto Deitz ’67; Gary Birchler ’67; Georgia Depue Birchler ’67; Doug Smith ’66; Mary Margaret Hillier Boardman ’67; Al Nordell ’67; Lexi Roberts Mason ’67; Al Campbell ’67; Bob Sprenger ’67; David Wagner ’68; Isa Werny ’67, M.S.’71; Janet McLellan Cochran ’67; and Gordon Cooke ’67. Professor Warren Tomlinson sits at his “money table” just right of the chalk board.
One of us did, but rather than taking up permanent residence in Kindberg, he started walking. After the rest of us admired Kindberg's maypole for a while, we picked him up on the way out of town. A few miles down the road we ran out of gas. Although the VW lacked a gas gauge it did have a reserve tank, or so we thought. We never found the reserve tank, but a kid on a scooter came to our aid. He fetched us two liters of gasoline, and we were on our way.

Most of us were juniors, but we also had five graduating seniors in the group (Russ McCurdy, Rodney Johnson, Victor Nelson, Jim Nelson, and Doug Smith, all Class of '66). On May 27 we held a genuine University of Puget Sound commencement ceremony and banquet at Palais Palffy, a palace located in Vienna's inner city. A representative of the U.S. ambassador to Austria attended.

The semester ended, and May 31 was our last day at the Pension Andreas. Most of us spent some or all of the summer traveling in Europe. Karen and I financed our travels by cashing in our return airline tickets. Airfare was expensive in 1966, and the $700 we got for our tickets was sufficient to fund several more weeks of travel in Europe, passage (for $145 each) on the student ship MS Aurelia from Le Havre to New York, 10 days with relatives in New England, and a cross-country rail trip home on New York Central's New England States and Northern Pacific's North Coast Limited streamliners.

Above, left: Students lean on a haystack in Morbisch in the Burgenland, in the eastern part of Austria, Apr. 23, 1966. They are, from left: Betty Giblett Blanchard '68; Anne Aiworth '67; Kathy Magee; Karen Peterson Finney '67, P'94; Jean Crosetto Deitz '67; Dave Johnson '67; and Diane Garland Lenzo '67.

Jim Nelson '66 and Bob Sprenger '67 set up a movie camera in the Rathaus town hall park to record memories of our last days in Vienna, May 21, 1966.
I don’t believe any of us thought we were making history when we went to Vienna. But 50 years later, it seems to me that we did, given the success of that first semester-abroad experiment and the degree to which study abroad then came to be an integral component of a Puget Sound education for so many students.

Beginning in the early 1950s Puget Sound had sponsored summer study-abroad programs for college credit, including several trips to Sweden led by Professor Tomlinson and German professor/former registrar Christian Miller. Vienna 1966 demonstrated that full-semester group study abroad worked. The university continued to sponsor such programs, in Vienna, Rome, and Breukelen (Holland) early on, and then in the 1970s in other places such as London, Dijon, and Granada, under the umbrella of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges Abroad, a consortium of Pacific Northwest independent colleges. At the same time our signature yearlong Pacific Rim program began. (Its next travel-abroad year is scheduled for 2017–18.)

Nowadays most study-abroad opportunities fall under the umbrellas of the national study-abroad consortia with which Puget Sound is affiliated, such as the Institute for the International Education of Students and the Council on International Educational Exchange. In most cases students live with host families, not all together in a group, as we did.

— JOHN FINNEY
The faculty: What I’m working on

Southeast by Northwest: Puget Sound’s Love Affair with Southeast Asia

by Gareth Barkin, associate professor of anthropology

The first time I led a field course to Indonesia, some 10 years ago, a small group of students pulled me aside during our time in Yogyakarta to relate their concerns about terrorism.

“Every person I see walk by wearing a backpack, I think they’ve got a bomb in it,” a student confided to me. It was his first time outside of the United States, and he knew very little about the country he was visiting. Indonesia is the world’s most populous Muslim-majority country, but its religious practice is generally considered quite moderate by Westerners. And Yogyakarta is the country’s center of higher education, so there are a lot of students walking around with backpacks. As an anthropologist specializing in the region, I had never expected that everyday life in a college town could elicit fear in the minds of young Americans. It was among my first indications that short-term study abroad, especially to regions like Southeast Asia, needed to be integrated into a broader educational program and not conducted as a kind of educational tourism.

Fast-forward to 2014, and I’m in Indonesia with a new group of students. Logan Day, who is captain of our baseball team and on his first trip outside the U.S., approaches me with a question about Muslim students in Yogyakarta. He’s not afraid of terrorism, but he’s wondering why they’re in the minority at the university that’s hosting us, since he wants a good sampling of interviews for his research project about anti-Muslim narratives among Indonesian Christians. A lot has changed in 10 years.

Since I began teaching at Puget Sound in 2008, I have been taking groups of students on summer-course trips to various parts of Indonesia, where my research is based. Our university has long been known for its Asian Studies program, which has historically focused on East Asian cultures and languages, but recently we’ve started to see a number of new offerings related to a less-represented area of that vast continent: Southeast Asia. This region—more populous than the continent of North or South America—is known for its multifarious diversity, ranging from diversity of religion to its unrivaled biodiversity.

To provide students with the background they need to fully take advantage of these experiences, my field journeys quickly became integrated into the curriculum back in Tacoma, where we study Southeast Asian cultural, linguistic, and environmental topics before continuing our coursework abroad. And of course we study religious practice as well. The integration of semester-long classroom study and field research abroad has since become a popular model on campus, with Politics and Government, Environmental Policy and Decision Making, and Latin American Studies undertaking similar hybrid courses. I’ve even worked with Professor Nick Kontogeorgopoulos in International Political Economy to do a joint Indonesia-Thailand-focused field course. So when I heard about an opportunity to apply for a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation that supported Asian studies and environmental initiatives, I immediately thought of the work we’d already begun and the transformative student experiences I’d witnessed in the field.

What is the Henry Luce Foundation?
The Luce Foundation was created by publisher Henry R. Luce to promote (among other things) Asian studies, particularly in smaller, liberal arts institutions like ours, many of which mightn’t otherwise have the resources to develop such important area-studies programming. When we learned of this new opportunity, we crafted a proposal focusing on the expansion of our existing field-course model. This model, about which I recently published an article in Teaching Anthropology, involves a full semester of study on campus, including beginning language instruction, combined with an integrated study-abroad trip over the summer that leverages research conducted at home to focus field activities and make the most of time spent in Southeast Asia.

But the Luce Foundation didn’t underwrite our Southeast Asian studies plans on this basis alone. It wanted a proof of concept, which became the course Logan took: Indonesia and Southeast Asia in Cultural Context (SOAN 312). Although I’d been improving my course-trips for years, this time I had the support to create a really effective program: We hired a native speaker to teach the class Indonesian language; we held a workshop for faculty on experiential learning abroad; and we brought our guest speakers to engage not just the class but the whole campus community in a discussion about Southeast Asian environmental topics.

This pilot course went so well that we were even able to integrate a small-scale symposium, providing students like Logan with an opportunity to present their research to the campus community. The Luce Foundation must have liked our work, because they awarded us the full, four-year grant, which we’re now hard at work implementing. Our new Southeast Asia Program will offer a lot of great opportunities for students and faculty, including:

• More Southeast Asia field-school courses — intensive, experiential student learning abroad, conducted with Asian partners and integrated into a full semester of on-campus study.
Clockwise from upper left: Logan Day '15 presented his research on anti-Muslim narratives at the first annual LIASE Southeast Asia Symposium in October, 2014. Logan went on to use his Indonesian research as part of his senior thesis in the sociology and anthropology department. Students on the 2014 Luce Foundation field-school course, after learning to perform a Kuda Lumping dance in the Ponggol district, outside Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Thai music and dance troupe Chaopraya Ensemble perform at the second annual LIASE Southeast Asia Symposium in October 2015. Gareth Barkin in front of the Luce Memorial Chapel, on the campus of Tunghai University, Taichung, Taiwan. Professor Barkin visited the chapel in 2015 while directing the PacRim program.

Phased introduction of new Southeast Asian language courses, including Thai, Indonesian, and Malay, which are rarely taught at U.S. universities, much less at liberal arts colleges.

An annual Southeast Asia symposium that draws international speakers as well as scholars from around the state, and is becoming a collaborative resource for Pacific Northwest partner colleges.

Bringing it all together
The first symposium went so well that we decided to make it a centerpiece of our program moving forward. Our second annual Southeast Asia Symposium focused on topics related to conservation and biodiversity in Malaysian Borneo and throughout Southeast Asia, while highlighting Thai culture and conservation in anticipation of our 2016 field course. The symposium featured participants and Southeast Asianist scholars from universities around the Northwest, a Thai music and dance performance, and talks by students who had conducted research as part of our latest field course in Malaysian Borneo. The keynote speaker was Professor Philip Dearden of the University of Victoria, whose widely acclaimed talk, “Highlands to Islands: Insights on Conservation and Culture from Thailand,” drew an overflow crowd. Future symposia will continue to showcase student research abroad and also provide a forum for world-class scholars to address the campus community while offering a taste of Southeast Asian arts and culture.

What’s next?
Our focus this year is on Thailand, as Professor Kontogeorgopoulos leads a course-trip to Chiang Mai this summer. Thai language was taught during both the fall and spring semesters, and Indonesian will be offered in 2016-17, firsts for the university.

Logan Day’s research project, his presentation at our first symposium, and the relationships he built in Indonesia are fine examples of the cultural context and background we provide students in our field schools, and the opportunities we’ve helped create. Thinking back on how much he learned about anti-Muslim narratives and their subversion through daily, interfaith collaborations in Yogyakarta, I’m reminded how important it is not just to read about and discuss cultural difference, but to experience it.

For more information, visit the Southeast Asia Symposium and Programs website (pugetsound.edu/asiaprograms), and feel free to drop Professor Barkin a line if you’d like to get involved (barkin@pugetsound.edu).
Megan Taylor Morrison ’08

Dance adventures

When she was a Puget Sound undergrad, Megan Taylor Morrison studied in Australia and France. In both places, she says, the only local people she felt she connected with were musicians and dancers like herself. Which gave her the idea for Dance Adventures, a business that leads trips abroad, using dance as a vehicle to bridge cultures.

“We work with local dance instructors and trip leaders, so we know where to take travelers to make sure they have an experience that goes far beyond the typical tourist spots,” she says.

Clients take dance lessons, attend performances, and social-dance at locals’ favorite hot spots. At present Dance Adventures leads trips to Guinea, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, and Bolivia, with plans to add Cuba and India as destinations.

Originally from Fresno, Calif., and now living in Arlington, Va., Megan centered her own dance career on the swing era. She teaches, performs, and competes in Lindy hop, blues, collegiate shag, and Balboa at competitions across the U.S.

More at megantaylormorrison.com and danceadventures.org.

Left: Sarah Lee Parker Mansare—founder of Dance Adventures’ partner trip to Guinea—dances with Mamadama Bangoura, a principal dancer with Les Ballets Africains. Below: Megan practices zouk with a local dancer in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
WHAT WE DO:

Pierre Odier '67

The explorer

Dozens of grapefruits hang heavy on a tree in Pierre Odier's backyard, which looks and feels like it is owned by a hobbit.

Pierre himself, jolly and bespectacled, missing a few nonessential buttons on his shirt, resembles some lesser-known Tolkien hero, the kind whose name you'd win free beer for knowing at Trivia Night. Then he opens his mouth.

"You know, sometimes I wish I'd break both my legs," he says, looking up at the tree.

"What?" I ask him to clarify.

"I wish I would fall down and break both of my legs," he says, a twinge of frustration in his voice. "That way I'd stick around here, I'd have time to take care of things—the yard, and—let me show you what I mean."

I follow him inside. He walks quickly, more like a man in his 20s than one in his mid-70s, and talks even faster. "It's a mess; I hope that doesn't bother you. I've lived here such a long time. I had to expand the house to make room for everything."

We descend into what he calls his office, which is an odd term for what appears to be a museum and a private library both fighting for the same real estate: a stack of clay bowls, each one labeled with a handwritten tag, rests atop a pile of ancient paperbacks, beneath which is a very large filing cabinet stuffed with (certainly thousands of) photographs.

"I'll never make it through all this," he says, surrounded by the evidence of 60 years of world travel. "I've been to 180 countries. There's so much—look at this," he says, sweeping his arm across a table littered with handmade musical instruments. He speaks with a strange cadence in his light accent (a blend of European sounds filtered through the American South), abbreviating one sentence to make room for the next. "I don't comb my hair a certain way" becomes "I don't comb my hair." "I didn't have anyone to fall back on," becomes "I didn't have anyone to fall on." It's quirky, but you get used to it. You have to.

Talking to Pierre is like drinking from a fire hose. "Ah!" He sees me noticing a Mickey Mouse toy above a packed bookcase devoted solely to the Gulags. "In every country in the world, in every city I go to, I find an image of Mickey Mouse. Some of it, yes, commercial, but I will always find that someone painted a Mickey Mouse, either on a wall, or a business, or kids have done it, and so I pride myself to tie that together, and so it's haunting me—I came to Los Angeles for Disneyland and now I see the Mickey Mouse everywhere I go. I should tell you a story ..."
the moment, they felt that it was totally natural to me because that’s the vibe I gave off. I didn’t freak out or say ‘That’s not for boys.’ It was a gesture of connection, and you just accept it as it happens.”

For just about anyone else, this sort of character-defining anecdote (acceptance/children, building a school in a country ravaged by civil war) would be exactly the kind of thing we writers use to close out a biographical article. It’s tidy! It’s easy to grasp! But with Pierre it hardly scratches the surface.

What about his 37 years as a teacher in the Glendale (Calif.) Unified School District? “One day, some kid was talking about hot air balloons, so I brought one to class and we launched the kids. It’s a miracle I was never fired.”

How about the time, prior to enrolling at UPS, when he owned a nightclub in Tacoma and met Joan Baez and Bob Dylan? “We mostly had American jazz, which I loved and knew backwards and forwards; folk music was just for the weekdays.”

He once drove a car from Venice, Italy, to Beijing, China, avoided capture by drug smugglers in Burma (“I pretended to tie my shoe, and because I looked like I was ignoring them, I wasn’t abducted”) and terrorists in Afghanistan, and learned to speak English in the U.S. Army, starting with the swearwords. (He follows that last part with a string of expletives before trailing off, laughing.)

How then to close out a piece on Pierre Odier, former double-major in art and languages, current explorer, a man whose chief goal, at age 75, is to search the globe for disappearing peoples and cultures? Who has to estimate when you ask how many languages he speaks? (“About eight.”)

The full title of Tolkien’s first novel, about a traveler and his many adventures, is The Hobbit, or There and Back Again. If anything, a book about Pierre’s life would be called There, and There, and There, and There . . .

“When I was teaching I was going 100 percent. As soon as summer hit, boom, I was out the door. Now that I’m retired, I’m going 150 percent,” he says, halting to think for a quarter second before blasting onward. “I never understood that you wait to do something. No! You just go. Put one foot in front of the other? Now you’re two steps closer than you were before.” — Bryan Bernart

WHAT WE DO:

Lacey Chong ’03

Spa swag for warriors

When Lacey Chong was corresponding with her friend Becca, a Marine Corps officer deployed to rural West Africa during the Ebola crisis in 2014, she learned that Becca didn’t have regular access to bath, body, and feminine hygiene products. There was no shortage of organizations sending items either men or women can use, but none served the needs of women specifically.

Lacey reckoned that sending items like eye creams, skin care and beauty products, and hair products to deployed female service members could help them stay prepared for the conditions under which they worked and boost their morale.

“So I collected a bunch of bath and body stuff from my friends to mail to Becca and her female colleagues,” Lacey said. “It was a simple matter of cleaning out our bathroom cabinets.” Those packages were so enthusiastically received that Lacey decided to expand the effort and founded the nonprofit Spa Swag for Warriors. Since its creation in January 2015, Spa Swag has sent packages of high-quality items to about 300 women posted in hardship locations across the Middle East, West Africa, East Africa, and Southeast Asia.

Now makers of health and beauty products are joining in. Donations have come from companies like Cate McNabb, Tom’s of Maine, Estée Lauder, Kiehl’s, Drybar, and Arbonne.

Lacey still has a demanding day job as a freelance national security consultant, but she hopes Spa Swag will continue to grow. “We aim to send every woman overseas a spa swag bag,” she said.

Got a medicine cabinet full of beauty products you know you’ll never use? Spa Swag eagerly accepts donations-in-kind. spaswagforwarriors.org
At their Fremont headquarters, the Loggers of Tableau: From left, Tom Friedlander ’05, Ben Bradley ’08, Jason Schumacher ’10, Max DeLawyer ’14, Cameron Ford ’13, Courtney Drake ’10, Andrew Barker ’10, Ray Randall ’10, Patrick Green ’14, and Wyatt Lewin ’06.

PLACES WHERE LOTS OF LOGGERS WORK:

Tableau Software, Seattle

A picture is worth a thousand words—so goes the old saw. A sizeable cadre of Puget Sound alumni at Seattle-based Tableau are aiming to drive up that value considerably.

Jason Schumacher ’10 works on the social impact team at Tableau, which creates data-visualization products. "The big thing about the pictures that we’re producing is that they’re not static, they’re interactive infographics. In this case a picture is worth 20,000 words."

In the era of big data everyone from scientists to business people to sports teams has a lot of numbers to crunch. Jason has worked with colleges to help them use Tableau and now assists nonprofit organizations in figuring out and representing their data.

There are at least a couple of dozen Loggers at Tableau, and Archer spoke with 11 for this article. Among them they had 13 different majors, just one of them in computer science. The rest had studied everything from business to English to history to politics. So when someone asks what you’re going to do with that humanities degree, refer them to Aaron Frein ’08, a philosophy major who helps fix software bugs and who says he learned a lot from Descartes. "Forensic deconstruction of conceptual systems, which is basically what you learn to do when you read a text in a philosophy course," Aaron says about what he does.

It turns out that software companies are not just cloisters of coders. They need people in sales, product analysis, quality assurance, and a variety of business functions. Liberal arts majors are well suited for such positions.

"The humanities background is becoming more and more desired within the tech field because of its holistic way of being able to answer problems and learn things," says Jason.

Tom Friedlander ’05 is in sales at Tableau. He majored in politics and government, and business administration, and figures the former has helped him articulate arguments while the latter gave him the nuts and bolts of reading business reports.

"The blend of those two things has benefited me in the long run," Tom says.

SAY IT IN PICTURES On this page and the facing page: These infographics on the Tableau website caught our interest.
"I'm getting paid to learn here," adds Cameron Ford '13. "This industry moves so quickly and this company moves so quickly that every day I'm seeing new problems. A huge part of my job is just being able to stay current and stay ahead of the curve."

Granted, you do need people to write code if you're going to create software, and Patrick Green '14 is the only alum with a computer science degree in the group we interviewed. Patrick also took courses in African American studies, poetry, art, and music, and says his time playing football taught him a lot about time management, teamwork, mental toughness, and, alas, dealing with disappointment.

The alumni at Tableau speak glowingly of the supportive culture at the company, where they find a sense of community. Their job satisfaction seems off the charts.

"At UPS you have that home feeling," Patrick recalls. "Ron Thom always talked about home, and when you're at Tableau you also feel at home."

"The place is young, the place is growing quickly, the place is hungry, the place is doing meaningful work," says Wyatt Lewin '06. "I think that all of that stuff resonates pretty well with the type of people I see coming out of UPS."

Andrew Barker '10 says a lot of his classmates weren't sure they wanted to go corporate.

"But this is not the stereotypical corporate environment," Andrew says of Tableau. "It's a lot of fun!"

While a few of these alumni found their way to the company on their own, Puger Sound connections brought several others into the fold. The class of 2010 is well represented, and former roommates Jason, Andrew, Courtney Drake, and Ray Randall all work together. Ben Bradley '08 had an inside edge; he worked with Career and Employment Services at Puger Sound and met some Tableau recruiters when he brought them to campus for a career fair. The company sounded interesting to him, and it turned out to be a good fit. Others appreciate the information they received through the Alumni Sharing Knowledge Network.

"There's a never-ending connection between people who go to UPS," says Max DeLawyer '14. Jason takes that concept even farther.

"They are my family in life," he says of his alumni colleagues. "I didn't think that I'd end up keeping these relationships for so long and that they'd mean so much to me."

— Greg Scheiderer
Faculty check in on their former students

Meghan Cleary Harvey '05 and Prescott Harvey '04

50-50

by Julie Nelson Christoph, professor of English

As faculty we are privileged to catalyze critical moments in young people’s lives. We see glimpses of what students will become, but those glimpses are rarely meaningful except in retrospect. In spring 2004, in our Rhetoric of Literacy course together, I would not have predicted that I would one day be sitting and talking about the value of an English degree in a changing world in the living room of Meghan and Prescott’s new house, with their napping toddler nearby.

In college Meghan was a star student—a peer tutor at the writing center and a scholar who combined interests in sociology and anthropology with writing and culture. Prescott chafed at pure scholarship and was always looking for ways to apply concepts to everyday life, advertising, and popular culture.

Meghan and Prescott each held a special place in my heart, but I would not have especially connected them to each other until I received a book in the mail from them in 2010: The World of Warcraft Guide to Winning at Life. Level-by-Level Strategies for Mastering Reality, by one Prescott Harvey, with the acknowledgment: “Thank you, Julie Christoph, for catching me at the end of my education … and taking seriously my quest to bring video games into the literary canon.” Meghan was listed on the copyright page as the book’s editor. They had met again in Seattle several years after graduation and had been surprised, themselves, by the attraction.

Thanks to the wonders of Facebook, I was back in touch just in time to follow some big moments in their lives. With the early-career experiences from their first few years behind them—Prescott’s in various film production jobs in California and Meghan’s as an editor working at a publishing firm in Seattle—they were about to embark on some really exciting and surprising adventures.

Meghan and Prescott moved in together on a 35-foot yacht Meghan had purchased as housing while she was in Seattle. (Living on a yacht sounds glamorous, but it also can be an affordable housing investment in a city with sky-high rents.) Prescott continued to cobble together work in film, and Meghan got a new job as the first social media manager for the American Sailing Association (ASA). Together, they refurbished their floating home, learning all kinds of skills along the way. Meghan’s Facebook posts from this era feature some odd updates, such as:

Meghan “is thinking about the hauling force required to lift a 100 pound load with a single block runner rove to advantage if there is 10 percent friction on the sheaves.”

Meghan “is learning the ancient skill of finding exactly where she is, using only the sun and a pencil.”

“Commuting by bike is badass. Commuting by foldable bike in Los Angeles is circus shit. I get whistled at a lot, and not in the good way.”

“Can’t believe Prescott fixed an engine problem that the ‘L.A. Yanmar specialist mechanic’ couldn’t figure out. I picked the right chief engineer for Velella, it seems :-).”

Velella, their boat, is named after Velella velella, hydrozoans of a beautiful blue color that live on the surface of warm ocean water around the world and that move by catching prevailing winds on their small dorsal “sails.”

In September 2009, Meghan and Prescott set off together for a trip that they chronicled in ASA publications and on a Wordpress blog
(velellasdrift). Meghan had gone from taking a phy ed. sailing class her senior year at Puget Sound to becoming a U.S. Coast Guard-certified captain with a 50-ton master license. And Prescott had become not only an analyst of digital technology but a mechanic of all manner of life-supporting sailing technology. For almost two years they lived on the boat on a shoestring budget and sailed together from Seattle to southern Mexico, up to the Sea of Cortez, and back to the Pacific Northwest.

Back on land, they were married in 2011 and moved to Portland. In addition to their day jobs, they realized Prescott’s concept of an impressively nerdy interactive comedy Web series called The Monday Knights (about a group of role-playing gamers who go all-in for their fantasy world), thanks to a successful Kickstarter campaign and a lot of late nights. Their son was born in 2013, and Meghan is now working as director of publishing partnerships for editorial agency Girl Friday Productions, and Prescott as senior copywriter for Portland advertising firm Juliet Zulu.

I recently had the pleasure of spending an afternoon catching up with them. Star Wars was on our minds because Prescott had been much in demand as a Star Wars commentator. J.J. Abrams, the film’s director, actually called Prescott in 2013 as he was making the film, after Prescott’s beautiful 2013 open letter to J.J. Abrams went viral. (Google it, if you haven’t seen it!)

As we drank our tea and watched the rare Portland snow fall outside, our conversation turned from Star Wars to the value of English degrees in an increasingly STEM-oriented world. Prescott commented, “I think that if you’re an English major and you’re good, there’s going to be a huge demand for you.” Meghan agreed and added that she’s seen the value of interdisciplinary thinking in her work and has sometimes found herself able to make contributions because she wasn’t trained specifically for the career in which she’s working: “I think where people fail in business is where you start talking to yourself. The more you’re making connections with people who don’t think like you, that’s where big ideas move forward.”

Both of them acknowledged the importance of teamwork in creative work. Meghan said, “I think that English majors sometimes get into the mindset that a creative field has to be literally creative—like you’re the one generating the ideas—but the whole team is so critical and highly creative also. It’s super interesting to read about famous author-editor relationships. It’s like they’re married, you know? It’s totally a 50-50 result.”

As this couple reflected on their work from the “idea-generating” and “feedback-giving” ends of the creative spectrum, I marveled at what they’ve accomplished separately and together in the short decade since their graduation. I’m always happy when my students surprise me in class, and it’s nice to see how those surprises develop in the longer term.

Why context counts

Normally we don’t spend too much time in this magazine talking about how great the liberal arts are. UPS alumni already know that. You live it. But sometimes what our grads have to say about the kind of education they got really moves us. Such as this:

When Professor Christoph interviewed Prescott and Meghan, both affirmed the value of their liberal arts degrees—which, for example, had made them confident to bone up on physics for their sailing adventures and unafraid to delve into sometimes-dense historical research. Prescott said, with a liberal arts education, “Having a rough outline of history—all these subjects in your head—is kind of like having everything sitting on a shelf that you can then access when the need arises. That is valuable, especially in a creative field.” For example, to:

Foster good taste. “In the advertising world, taste is everything. The higher you rise in advertising, the more important good taste becomes. You are essentially selling your clients your good taste, and your good taste becomes the face of their brand. Some people are born with good taste. I, unfortunately, was not. But UPS helped me cultivate taste by showing me the canon of narrative works, and helping me understand why it was important. From there, I could start deciding which pieces in the canon spoke to me, and help me refine my own ‘taste.’ As a writer, this is invaluable.”

Help us articulate the why. “Opinions are like assholes. Everyone’s got one. What’s important is the ability to articulate the why behind those opinions. If you can explain why, you can bring people on board with your vision. If you can’t articulate the why, you’re just another passionate blowhard. In college, the ability to articulate that way is called ‘critical thinking.’ In the business/creative world, it’s called ‘leadership.’”

Make us the stewards of human history. “I look back at the original episodes of The Simpsons and see allusions to Dickens, Edith Wharton, Stanley Kubrick. Twenty-five years ago, the writers were drawing upon the ‘canon,’ centuries of literary and artistic works. I look at episodes of The Simpsons today (along with Family Guy, South Park, etc.) and they’re filled with allusions to the Kardashians, Donald Trump, the legalization of marijuana. We are becoming the culture that ate itself, obsessed with consuming and regurgitating pop ephemera.

“One of the biggest challenges for any creative is to be original and avoid clichés. Knowing the canon gives me an advantage over peers. When I come up with ideas, I can look beyond what’s happening on Twitter, grabbing inspiration from Melville or James Baldwin or Shakespeare. Building on the canon is increasingly a lost art, and having a frame of reference beyond social media gives me a unique tool set.”

“It also helps to make sure that these great works are not forgotten. With the constant bombardment of information, it’s easy to dismiss classic literature and art as irrelevant. But the storytelling techniques used by Faulkner and Joyce still influence today’s best movies, games, novels, and television. Knowing and using these tools can mean the difference between a craftsman and a hack.” — JNC
Scott was nothing short of an extraordinary student. His facility in electric guitar translated well to the classical guitar lessons that were required for the music major. In addition to guitar, and because of his desire to play in the university orchestra, he also took cello lessons through Community Music and happily mused, “Even if I’m last chair in the orchestra, I’m in the orchestra!”

Each week in our individual meeting for his composition lesson, I would hear about some new embarking. I knew he was completing a double major in English and music, and I remember thinking he was going to overload his schedule unnecessarily when he told me he was also going to start piano lessons. Did I mention he took conducting, too?

His senior project was his composition Symphony No. 1: Les Carnavalesques, inspired by the writing of literary critic Mikhail Bakhtin. Because he was in the orchestra, he was able to assemble some fellow students to perform this chamber symphony at his senior composition recital. He masterfully conducted all five movements. He also played the piano at his recital, accompanying a singer in the three songs he wrote on the verse of Northwest poet Denise Levertov.

Graduation in 2006 saw Scott heading to Eugene, Ore., to write his Symphony No. 2 while completing a Master of Music degree in composition at the University of Oregon, my alma mater, with my former teacher Robert Kyr. During his time at Oregon, I visited to give a composition master class and went to dinner with both Rob and Scott. Moments like that one, marked both by feelings of reverence for my former teacher and extreme pride for my former student, highlighted for me the profound and long-lasting nature of the student-mentor relationship.

Scott visited me in Tacoma not long after graduating from the U of O. I learned that among his many other accomplishments, he was making a name for himself as a conductor. For instance, while at the University of Oregon, Scott had conducted the Eugene Contemporary Ensemble, premiering several new works. And after graduating, he conducted the premiere of a new opera and chamber pieces for the Juventas New Music Ensemble in Boston.

Soon thereafter, and after completing additional studies in Siena, Italy, and Berlin, Germany, Scott was off to pursue his Ph.D. in music composition at the University of Pennsylvania. Five years later, Scott was writing his dissertation, Symphony No. 3, and landed his first teaching job (which led him to his current position at Curtis) as a music professor at Bates College in Maine.

These days Scott has one of the most promising careers of any young composer I know. He comes through Tacoma every few years, and I get a chance to hear about his most recent accomplishments. In January his North Woods for female vocal ensemble on the texts of Roman historian Tacitus was reviewed in The New York Times and the Boston Globe following a performance in New York City. In February he was in Hong Kong with members of the Hong Kong Philharmonic recording his chamber piece, Let There Be Not Darkness But Light, for the Naxos Records label. In April he returns to the University of Pennsylvania, specifically to the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, to compose and conduct a “whisper play” on texts from ancient Babylon, Egypt, Central America, and South Asia.

Needless to say, I am incredibly proud of Scott and his accomplishments. Yearly, I am reminded of Scott when, inevitably, young, bright electric guitarists announce during Orientation Week their desire to be a music major. “Remember Scott Ordway!” has become a mantra for my colleagues and me in these instances.
1944
After World War II, Army Specialized Training Program recruit John Fague went on to graduate from Penn State and studied veterinary medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He practiced as a veterinarian in his hometown of Shippenburg, Pa. For more than 50 years John has been writing a weekly column for his local newspaper titled “Do You Remember.”

55th Reunion
June 10–12, 2016

Mark Smith’s book, In the Wake of Lewis and Clark: From the Mountains to the Sea, was selected by the editors at Amazon.com as a “Best Book of 2015.” Through stories gleaned from journals and letters, and vintage photos of the landscape before it was forever changed by hydroelectric dams, the book helps readers experience the journey in the same way the Corps of Discovery did. Mark’s other books are Raising Cain: The Life and Politics of Senator Harry P. Cain, about one of Tacoma’s best-known mayors; and Community Godfather, which tells the story of community activist Sam Volpentest and how he used his political connections to shape the Hanford Nuclear Site and the neighboring Tri-Cities communities. The Tacoma Historical Society recognized Mark in 2015 with the Murray Morgan Award, presented to an individual who has “significantly contributed to the efforts to preserve and communicate local history.”

Jon Pokela has spent the past 25 years working on the exterior styling and the interior design of large, private, and production yachts. He recently returned to the world of fine art. Jon did postgraduate study at the ArtCenter College of Design in Los Angeles. Throughout his career of designing yacht interiors, he’s included his fine art as part of the décor package. His work has appeared in several one-man and juried shows in the Northwest and nationally. Jon is a member of the American Society of Marine Artists and the Peninsula Art League. View Jon’s work at pokelamarineartist.com.

Jerry Thorpe was elected assistant secretary of the Tacoma Sons of Norway, Norden Lodge No. 2. He says he is looking forward to the 2016 International Sons of Norway Convention, which will be held in Tacoma Aug. 22–27. Jerry has been appointed parliamentarian for the convention.

Donald Edgers published his fourth book, The Evolution of a Teacher, which chronicles 52 years of his life, beginning as a student through his 30-year career as a high school teacher of 17 different subjects. As a teacher Don commuted nearly 500,000 miles and went through 16 different vehicles. Don is a third-generation Fox Island, Wash., native whose past writing has focused on local history, especially that of Fox Island.

1961

Janet L. Steadman's art quilts are displayed in museums and galleries around the world, including a piece hanging in the U.S. Embassy in the Ivory Coast. In February a friend's granddaughter took one of Janet's quilts to be hung in Palmer Station, Antarctica. With this development, Janet can say her work is displayed on all seven continents. She lives on Whidbey Island, Wash., and continues to work in her studio for an hour or two each day, creating her art quilts.

Juris Macs ’58, ‘P87’ has retired from the surgical staff at Grays Harbor Community Hospital after 46 years. After graduating with a UPS double major in biology and chemistry, Juris earned his M.D. at the University of Washington in 1962. Accompanied by his family, he moved from Minneapolis, to Chicago, to Bakersfield Calif., finally settling in Grays Harbor to practice general surgery. According to graysharbortalk.com, Juris was 14 when he and his family emigrated from Latvia to the United States, narrowly escaping the concentration camps. In Grays Harbor, Juris has enjoyed being part of a small and close-knit community. He has a special interest in medical advances and for many years traveled to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle to teach trauma courses to aspiring surgeons.

1951

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1962

David Campbell was elected 2016 president of the Washington State Fair—one of the biggest fairs in the world, drawing more than 1.6 million people each year. David also served as board president in 2007. According to The News Tribune, the Washington State Fair has long been a Campbell family undertaking: his father, Robert, served on the board of directors and also as board president in 1962, 1970, and 1981. David, who was born and raised in Puyallup, Wash., where the annual fair is held, has been in auto sales for 50 years, currently as the general manager of Harshman Buick GMC in Puyallup. He and his wife, Lani, have four children and 11 grandchildren.

1970

A retired UMC pastor, James Monroe served as CEO for the Maua Methodist Hospital in Kenya beginning in 2012. Just before he and his wife, the Rev. Sue Owen, were scheduled to return to the U.S. last spring, Al Shabaab activity led to the evacuation of all nonessential, non-Kenyan personnel in the area. James’ role as CEO was considered essential, however. Sue wouldn’t leave without him, so the two stayed on for an additional month while a new CEO was recruited. They barely slept, listening for sounds of gunfire and trying to figure out what to do if an attack on the hospital were to materialize. The threats of violence have been sustained. James and Sue traveled to the U.S. in June 2015, settling in Sisters, Ore. But James found himself again in a hot spot. He joined the board of directors for the Great Basin Society, which oversees the Malheur Field Station, a research and educational facility adjoining the Malheur Wildlife Refuge that was occupied by armed protesters in January the Malheur Field Station director was evacuated. He moved in with James and Sue until it was safe to return. James told us: “It has been interesting being in what should be a peaceful part of the world—a wildlife sanctuary at that—and being surrounded by armed personnel carrying FBI hostage rescue teams, U.S. Army demolition experts, and forensic specialists, many of whom are based out of the Malheur Field Station.”

1972

In a unanimous election, Walter Nolte ’72, M.A. ’75 was chosen to become interim president of Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Ore. Last year Walter retired from the presidency of Casper College in Wyoming, after serving in that post for 11 years. During his tenure at Casper, in 2012, a gunman took the lives of two people on the campus. UCC officials believe that Walter’s experience in dealing with that tragedy will help UCC recover from the mass shooting that occurred there in October. It was following this attack that Walter reached out to the presidential search committee to ask if he could be of any help. Walter began his teaching career as a graduate history instructor at UPS and as a history instructor at Pierce College and Tacoma Community College. He will serve as interim president of UCC until a new president is named.

2016 Alumni Awards winners

These distinguished grads will be honored at Reunion June 11. Watch for extensive coverage in the summer edition of Arches.

Professional Achievement (Lifetime) Larry Gill ’60

Service to Puget Sound Tom Leavitt ’71, J.D. ’75, P’10, Trustee Emeritus

Service to Community Teva Sienicki ’97

Young Logger Service T’wina Franklin ’88, M.A.T. ’07
Mike Veseth began The Wine Economist blog (wineeconomist.com) in 2008. A Puget Sound professor emeritus of international political economy, Mike also is the author of several books on the economics of wine. His most recent, Money, Taste, and Wine: It’s Complicated (2015), was reviewed in the No. 1 slot of the year-end edition of Wine Spectator magazine, and Mike was named an Excel Wines’ 2015 Top 100 Most Influential Blogger. He now serves as a Puget Sound trustee and continues to travel the world speaking to wine industry groups and gathering material for future books, articles, and talks.

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In 2015, Greg Dohrn began a two-year contract as a consultant for the city of Liberty Lake, Wash. According to The Liberty Lake Splash, he launched his consulting company in 2005 and has been an instructor with the Urban and Regional Planning program at Eastern Washington University since 2010. At Liberty Lake, Greg has been charged with streamlining the municipal comprehensive plan and development regulations in accordance with Washington’s Growth Management Act. Greg previously was director of community development in the cities of Edgewood, Kent, and Burien, Wash., and he spent time on the public works side in Tacoma early in his career. From 1982 to 1989, Greg served as assistant director of the Washington state Department of Community Development.

Mike Purdy ’76, M.B.A. ’79, an independent presidential historian, and visiting political scientist Michael Arrime, in Puget Sound’s Department of Communication Studies, is giving a series of six free lectures on campus titled “Who Will Win the White House?” The series runs Jan. 21–June 7. It provides historical background on the election process and a thorough analysis of the 2016 campaign and its “hot-button” issues.

George Bryant began coaching Spokane Nordic Ski Association’s junior racing team 11 years ago when his children became interested in competitive cross-country skiing. According to an article in The Spokesman-Review highlighting his coaching career, this season four members of George’s team qualified for regional races at the 2016 USA Cross Country Skiing Junior National Championships held in Cable, Wis., in March.

Peter Orser was elected to the Beazer Homes board of directors in February. Peter has been working in the homebuilding industry for 30 years. He was president and CEO of the Wayne Homes Group of companies until he left the company in 2015 to become president of the Runstad Real Estate Center Advisory Board at the University of Washington, and he was recently appointed by Gov. Inslee to serve on the Washington State Affordable Housing Advisory Board.

According to The Olympian, Gary Schminkey is the new chief financial officer at DuPont, Wash.-based America’s Credit Union. Gary previously was executive vice president and CFO at Columbia Banking System, the parent company of Columbia Bank. Before that he worked at Hewlett-Packard, Mannesmann Tally Corp., and Key Bank of Washington.

In January, Tim Gould began work as vice president for administrative services at Tacoma Community College. The administrative services VP oversees financial services, facilities, and information systems. Previously Tim was chief financial officer to the associate vice president of facilities services at Seattle University, where he earned his M.B.A. Glad to have you back in town, Tim.

Steven Webb, superintendent of the Vancouver, Wash., public schools since 2008, was named 2016 Washington State Superintendent of the Year. He is one of four finalists for the American Association of School Administrators National Superintendent of the Year. Steve also was named one of Education Week’s 2016 Leaders to Learn From. Steve got his master’s in teaching at Lewis & Clark College and his Ed.D. at Seattle U.

In December 2015, Dexter Van Zile published his book, Submitted Under Protest: Essays Written in Defense of Western Freedom (paperback and Kindle versions, 213 pages). The book is a collection of Dexters’s previously published essays in response to the failure of Christian churches and parachurch organizations in the United States and Europe to respond to the threat of jihadism. The text documents how these churches and the institutions they support have legitimized hostility toward Israel and have failed to speak up for Christians living in Muslim-majority countries. Dexters has served as Christian media analyst for the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA) since 2006. Mountain Rider’s Alliance has hired Tom Winter to be its lifestyle director. He has been involved with MRA since its founding in 2010. Tom has lots of experience working in the ski industry. He is a founding editor of Freeze magazine, and he has won numerous awards for his ski photography and writing. Currently he is American manager of the Freeride World Tour.

Central Washington University Math Professor Stuart Boersma received the Pacific Northwest Section of the Mathematical Association of America’s 2016 Meritorious Service Award. In addition to the PNM-MAA recognition, Stuart received the MAA Trevor Evans Award for “A Mathematician’s Look at Foucault’s Pendulum” in 2006. According to a CVU news item, Stuart also co-hosts CVU’s annual “code-breaking” competition, which is an annual cryptanalysis contest for undergraduate students. The first competition attracted about 50 students from the Pacific Northwest. It has grown in popularity and, in 2015, had 150 entrants from across the U.S. and Canada.

26th Reunion
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Robert Robideaux ’91, P’17 was appointed executive vice president of JLT Specialty USA, a specialty-focused insurance provider. Robert brings more than two decades of experience in the risk and insurance industry to his new role.

Kathleen Fritz Rogers is a new account executive at FreshAddress, an email marketing database service. According to Noozhawk.com, in Santa Barbara, Calif., Kathleen will work with nonprofit, academic, and business clients to help solve email deliverability issues, increase response rates, and launch multichannel and custom social media campaigns. Kathleen earned her M.P.A. at the University of Washington.

The fourth edition of Essentials of Chemical Dependency Counseling (456 pages, softcover, PRO-Ed, Inc.), co-authored by Erik Schoen, was released in December. The well-known textbook presents the full range of issues related to chemical dependency, treatment, and prevention that today’s counselors-in-training are faced with.

Mark Ozingas was sworn in as a Clallam County commissioner. Mark, a Sequim, Wash., Democrat, will spend the next four years working on a governing board that serves as the executive and legislative branches of county government. Mark won last November’s election with an incumbent, with 53.2 percent of the votes.

Sara Pritchard, a professor at Cornell University, is researching the history and politics of light pollution, according to the Cornell Daily Sun. Her first book, Confluence: The Nature of Technology and the Remaking of the Rhone, was inspired by her time spent living in rural southeastern France. She earned her master’s and Ph.D. in history at Stanford.

Einar Jensen’s book, Ancient Fire. Modern Fire: Understanding and Living With Our Friend and Foe (224 pages, softcover, PyxJack Press), was released in February. In it he examines the history of dealing with fire and offers tools for being prepared to meet fire in the wildland-urban interface. Einar lives in Highlance, Colo., and is the community risk reduction specialist for South Metro Fire Rescue. He is also president of the Fire and Life Safety Educators of Colorado.

Sara Freeman, associate professor of theater arts at Puget Sound, wrote an extensive article for the Mainstage section of the Theater Historiography website about her research on and directing of Guislain de Castro’s The Force of Habit, presented on campus last fall. The theater-historiography.org website is a resource for theater students and scholars.

20th Reunion
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Soprano Erin Hennessey Guinup performed a recital titled “Songs of My Ancestral Roots” at the University Place Civic Center on Nov. 20, 2015. According to a News Tribune article, her performance...
Greg Fox was one of nine elected fellows of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers for 2016. The ACCFL promotes the field of commercial finance law through education, legislative reform, and recognition of distinguished practitioners, jurists, and academics. Greg is currently the chair of Lane Powell’s Bankruptcy and Creditors’ Rights Practice Group.

Joanne Warren M.A.T.’97 is the new assistant principal at Hawkins Middle School in Belfair, Wash. According to the Kitsap Sun, Joanne’s first teaching job was in 1996 at Cedar Heights Junior High in the South Kitsap School District. She taught language arts for four years, then moved on to teaching social studies at South Kitsap High. In her new role Joanne will be in charge of student discipline and support, teacher training, and staff evaluation.

Michael Buchanan was back in the Pacific Northwest on tour with The Book of Mormon, the popular Broadway musical. He has been on the road with the show for three and a half years as an ensemble member. Michael caught the musical theater bug after a sixth-grade trip to New York, where he saw Phantom of the Opera and Cats. He was excited to have the opportunity to show his fellow cast members around Seattle and to see the New Year’s Eve fireworks show from the Space Needle.

Chris Harder assumed the post of director of Business Oregon on March 22. He was appointed by Gov. Kate Brown. Business Oregon is the state’s economic development agency. Chris, an Oregon native, has served as an economic development director at the Portland Development Commission, the city of Portland’s economic development agency. He managed the Business and Industry Division and led Portland’s efforts to support entrepreneurship, innovation, and trade. Previously, Chris was the director of Economic Analysis for the North Carolina Department of Commerce and a senior budget analyst in the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management.

Dan Abrams and Greg Steen founded the Denver outdoor apparel company Flylow Gear more than 10 years ago. The company is known for its winter-weather technical and lifestyle clothing, but in April it launched a line of warm-weather clothes. About 40 of Flylow’s 250 distributors agreed to sell the clothing line, particularly mountain retail stores. Its largest footprint is the Rocky Mountain region, followed by New England, the Pacific Northwest, and California. According to businessden.com, Dan was born in Boston but moved to Denver at age 7. After graduating from UPS, he worked as a ski instructor at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort in Wyoming. He then returned to Denver and studied marketing at the University of Denver. After graduating in 2004, he and his ski partner, Greg, founded Flylow.

Nearly two years ago, Arches reported that Theo Smith’s wildly successful Missoula, Mont., based Indian food cart, Masala, was looking to grow into a restaurant. On Feb. 22, Theo opened his authentic Indian and Southeast Asian restaurant in Missoula, retaining the name Masala. He traveled throughout India in 2012. When he returned home, he began recreating the meals he enjoyed while traveling. The majority of the ingredients on Masala’s menu, come from the western-Montana area. For example, the restaurants serves a small plate and pint pairing during happy hour, of Tibetan Momos (potstickers) made from local grass fed beef. Find out more at facebook.com/masalamontana.

Back in college, Angela Cashman Keeffe and Courtney Ludwig Marshall’s ’03 dreamed of running a coffee shop together. Now that dream has become a reality. In March, Angela and Courtney debuted their business, Gig Harbor Markee Coffee Shop and Wine Bar. Open seven days a week, the shop serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. It also hosts live music on Friday and Saturday nights. Both women have experience in the restaurant industry, which is evident in the rave reviews pouring in. According to The News Tribune, the duo is donating $3 back to the nonprofit Fish Food Bank of Gig Harbor for every pound of coffee they sell.

Beth Taimi Tiffany was chosen to be one of 23 senior-level athletics administrators to participate in the 2016 NCAA Pathway Program, the NCAA announced in January. The Pathway Program (formerly known as the NCAA Fellows Leadership Development Program) is a yearlong experiential learning opportunity that provides exposure to every facet of an athletics department. Beth is associate athletic director at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y.

Chris Wood was named head cross country coach and the first director of sports performance at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Fla. According to lynnlightningknights.com, in his last position, at Pfeiffer University (Misenheimer, N.C.), Chris started the Falcons’ men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track and field program from scratch for the 2014–15 season. During his tenure there he led the Falcons to consecutive NCAA regional appearances. Prior to his time at Pfeiffer, Chris ran the track and field and cross country programs for two seasons at Husson University in Bangor, Maine. He guided the women’s cross country team to a pair of North Atlantic Conference Championships (2011–12) and was named the 2012 NAC Coach of the Year while designing and implementing a comprehensive sports performance program for Husson’s 18 athletic teams.

Cara Evans Cantonwine began work as the new executive director of the Portland Symphony Choir earlier this year, after singing with the choir for eight years. She was previously director of programs for the Fort Vancouver National Trust in Vancouver, Wash., where she worked with community partners and volunteers to produce numerous large public events, most notably the Veterans Parade at Fort Vancouver, the General George C. Marshall Youth and Music Scholarship, and the Bicentennial Celebration.

SMILES ACROSS BORDERS

Last year Jeff Berndt ’91, a North Carolina-based dentist, was in Bakong, Cambodia, as part of a team sponsored by Global Dental Relief. Over the course of six days, the volunteers saw 998 children ages 6 to 16 years old, and provided examinations, cleanings, fluoride, sealants, composites, and restoration and extractions. This past November Jeff was back at it in Nepal, and he will return to Cambodia in July. It will be Jeff’s 11th time volunteering with GDR.

Global Dental Relief was established in 2001 to provide free dental care and oral health education to families in Nepal, northern India, Cambodia, Kenya, and Guatemala. GDR returns to see the same children every two years to provide continue care. Its dental camps have up to five dentists, several hygienists, and five to 10 nonmedical volunteers who treat upwards of 100 children per day.

Jeff grew up in Yakima, Wash., and earned his D.D.S. at USC and an M.S. in orthodontics at The University of North Carolina. He provided public health dentistry at the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic for eight years before going back to complete an orthodontic residency at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2010.
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Public Leadership Award programs, and Independence Day at Fort Vancouver. Prior to her work for the trust, Cara was special events manager for the city of Vancouver, Wash.

Amanda Smith was named director of the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts on Dec. 18, 2015. Amanda was a visiting artist at Temple University, Rome, Italy, and was awarded a residency at Art 342 in Fort Collins, Colo. She has taught at Indiana University and Minnesota State University, Mankato, and most recently was a visiting assistant professor and gallery director at Doane College in Nebraska. Amanda was an artist in residence at the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts in 2014 and took part in a show at the center titled “Risk and Repair” from July through September 2015. She earned her M.F.A. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. See her work at amandasmithart.com.

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Erin McKibben and pianist Christopher Davis were featured performers in the Lompoc Music Association’s opening concert on Jan. 17, 2016, according to the Lompoc Record in Santa Maria, Calif. Erin continues as principal flutist for the Los Angeles-based modern music collective wild Up, whose New York City debut was listed as “Best Classical Music of 2015” by The New York Times. Erin also is the owner and director of the Santa Barbara School of Music and a teaching artist for the Incredible Children’s Art Network. Find out more at erinnmckibben.com.

John Hansen was the lead author of an article about massive open online courses (MOOCs), published in the Dec. 4, 2015, edition of Science magazine. The article, titled “Democratizing education? Examining access and usage patterns in massive open online courses,” looks at the relationships between socioeconomic status and enrollment in and completion of free MOOCs offered by Harvard and MIT. John is in graduate school at Harvard.

Jesse Proudfan was named one of GeekWire’s 2015 Newsmakers of the Year. More than 12 years after founding Blue Box, he sold his cloud computing startup to IBM last summer. Jesse now serves as a technical consultant for IBM. He was named GeekWire’s Young Entrepreneur of the Year in 2014. Jesse continues as a mentor at 9Mile Labs and at the University of Washington.

Meese Agrawal Tonkin is the flutist in En Canto, a multi-ethnic, female-led, seven-piece musical group that plays world pop music described as “a combination forro, samba, and choro-inspired originals and reimagined covers of classic Brazilian hits.” The band’s first CD release show took place on Dec. 5, 2015, at The Royal Room in Seattle. The group’s first album of original songs was inspired by a month spent in Brazil in 2014. More at encantobrazil.com.

Erinn McCarthy has written a “ski and snowboard guide to language and culture” titled Speak Japanese And Sh*t (96 pages, softcover), the first in the Talk Good Travel Series. Originally composed as a present for friends traveling to Japan, she decided to self-publish her guide. Erinn’s author bio notes that she spent 13 months as the solo, awkward American in an all-Japanese high school. Her book provides translations needed for basic skills such as meals and road signs, along with other tips for skiing in Japan. Erinn currently lives in Tahoe City, Calif., and works at Alpine Meadows ski resort. Find out more at speakjapaneseandshit.com.

Graham Klag was mentioned in an Oregon Coast Today article about an event, Sound of Nature, Sound of Art II, that was held in Lincoln City, Ore., last December. The collaborative performance highlighted correlations between music and visual arts. In his role as REEF education coordinator for the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council, Graham led Taft High students in an environmental art project inspired by nearby Cascade Head nature reserve. He works with local students to promote and integrate ecological restoration efforts into classrooms and into the community. Through his conservation work and field experiences, Graham is inspired to create images based on what he finds and sees, to express the complexity of the natural world and our relationship to it. View his art at grahamklag.com.

A.J. Middleton joined the BYU football coaching staff in January. The Salt Lake Tribune article announcing his appointment included that A.J. is on the strength and conditioning staff. He worked at UNLV in 2015, and over the two years prior to that spent time with the USC and the University of Redlands strength and conditioning programs. A.J. also worked as an assistant track and field coach at Puget Sound in 2013.

Erick Peirson earned his doctorate in biology from Arizona State University, Tempe, in May 2015. He is now employed as a postdoctoral research associate at ASU, and as a scientific software engineer for A Place Called Up Consulting. Congratulations, Erick!

Megan Schrader wrote a guest commentary for GeekWire on Dec. 13, 2015, titled “Don’t Impose Antiquated Rules on the Sharing Economy,” about the Seattle City Council’s consideration of a proposal that would force ridesharing drivers to organize as a union whether they want to or not. Megan’s article also says she is executive director for TechNet (technet.org) in the Northwest region. Before her current position, Megan worked with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs, providing consulting and advocacy services to a range of municipal and technology clients.

Professor Emeritus of Communications Studies David Droge M.Ed.’10 wrote about his experience counting ballots as a Pierce County temporary election worker in the Feb. 5, 2016, edition of the News Tribune.

Alexander Keyes’ exhibit “to europe,” on display downtown at the old Woolworth building from December till March 17, was the subject of an article in the Tacoma Weekly. Alexander offered painters’ drop cloths on which spilt paint took on the appearance of...
starscapes; cereal boxes cut and arranged into a map of the solar system; and big, wildly detailed cutaway rocket ships constructed from plywood and recycled cardboard. Really visually arresting. Photos at alexanderkeyes.com, under “work.” Alexander earned his M.F.A. at the University of Oregon in 2014.

In January the Lake County Examiner of Lakeview, Ore., reported that David Lev was hired as youth library assistant for the Lake County Libraries. In his new job David is in charge of weekly story times in Lakeview, the summer reading program, and helping with front-desk and patron services. He received his master’s in Library Information Science at Emporia State University’s Portland, Ore., campus.

An article on Nov. 19, 2015, in The Elm, the student newspaper of Washington College in Chestertown, Md., profiled Dylan Poulsen, who joined the mathematics and computer science faculty at Washington this past fall. Dylan completed his Ph.D. at Baylor University in 2015.

Tanya Rogers is a Ph.D. student at Northeastern University. She’s contributed to a number of papers in marine biology journals in recent years, but we also note from her bio on Northeastern’s Marine Science Center website that the versatile Tanya is a scientific illustrator and a birder.

5th Reunion
June 10–12, 2016

The News Tribune reviewed Aaron Badham’s “Inflated Fabrications,” which was on display in the college’s Kittredge Gallery in February. “From the doorway the objects on the floor—all a few feet wide and high—look exactly like brightly colored inflatable plastic,” the paper observed. “Surely if you kick them they’ll float around.” Except that up close one realizes the playful-looking objects are powder-coated steel.

James Luu was the feature subject of a March 2 article in Willamette Week focusing on his work for more than two years as an independent salesperson for the company Passion Parties, performing as his alter ego, drag queen Lulu Luscious. That was until rival Pure Romance, whose business model doesn’t allow men to be consultants, purchased the company. In the article James said he liked the flexibility of freelance work, often referred to as the “gig economy,” but independent contractors don’t enjoy legal employment protection equal to that of traditional workplace employees. James has hired the same lawyer who fought to overturn Oregon’s gay-marriage ban, with the intent to be at the cutting edge of employment law in the state.

We report with pride that Peter Bittner’s story for the summer 2014 edition of Arches, “A Nomadic State of Mind,” won a Merit Award in the 2015 communications awards for the Northwest district of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

In February Olivia Weitz joined the staff of The Idaho Press-Tribune as a reporter on the paper’s “watchdog team,” covering Canyon County and the cities of Nampa and Caldwell. Olivia should have no trouble orienting herself to her beat; she is a native of the area.

In early March we Arches editors were delighted when Ian Fox stopped in to Arches World Headquarters to say in while he was in town. Ian was an Arches intern during his senior year, and we’ve been following his advancing career. He told us that he’d left his contract job at NPR in Washington, D.C., to take a full-time job as donor relations associate in philanthropic partnerships at the Pew Charitable Trusts. Really interesting experience, he said, but he’s still angling for a job in the newsroom at NPR.

The San Luis Obispo Tribune in February ran a story on Sean Swift’s creation, Muesli Munch. Business major Sean said in the article that most breakfast foods presented as healthy are anything but. “Granolas are made with cheap filler oils like canola that have little nutritional value. ... But Muesli has a natural sweetness from the dried fruits, and the oils are healthier because they come from nuts and seeds,” he said in the story. Sean experimented with his Muesli Munch for about a year before bringing the product to market two years ago. At present it’s sold in health food stores and co-ops in central California and online (mueslimunch.com); Sean hopes to eventually be in Whole Foods stores nationwide.

A CURRENCY FOR THE INTERNET OF THINGS

In February we learned that Nicolas Cary ’07 was a speaker at the World Government Summit in Dubai. His paper, “Intelligent Assets: Unlocking the Circular Economy Potential,” appeared in the World Economic Forum Agenda, alongside contributors like Bill Gates, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz, and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim.

In it Nicolas wrote: “Imagine a world in which a Berber guide in the Sahara can instantly send a payment to anyone in the world, at near zero cost. Imagine a world where your intelligent refrigerator detects that you are running low on eggs and automatically orders them from Amazon with expedited drone shipping. Your fridge escrows the funds with a geolocational trigger, and when the drone arrives the payment is instantly done. Or better yet, imagine a world where you are running late for a flight and the Heathrow Express is severely delayed. Well, good news, you can order your self-driving, self-repairing, and materially refurbished car and pay a surcharge fee to negotiate with all the other self-driving cars on the road to get out the way, automatically.

“Unfortunately, before this can happen we have to completely reinvent the way payments work and leverage a recent, critical innovation in computer science known as the Bitcoin block chain. Credit cards and other payment systems are inflexible channels for the age of the Internet.”

Nicolas is co-founder of Blockchain, a database “wallet” that keeps track of Bitcoin transactions. He is also co-founder of YBUSA, a youth entrepreneurial accelerator for young adults, and he is a partner at PipelineDeals, a Seattle-based software company that employs a number of Puget Sound grads.
Alumni
Esther Mann Luehrs '44, P'69 passed away on Nov. 13, 2015. She was nearly 92. Estie was born in Pasadena, Calif., and raised in Warren, Ohio. She was CPS senior class president. In 1945 she married Lew Luehrs. In 1959 the two built a home in Vancouver, Wash., and later, in 1970, they built a home in Union, Wash., at Alderbrook Golf & Yacht Club, and retired there in 1973. The couple enjoyed travel, golf, dancing, and singing in church choirs. They spent their winters in Pahump, Nev. Estie lived at Glenwood Place Senior Living in Vancouver for the past eight years. Lew preceded her in death in 2009, after 64 years of marriage. Survivors include three children, including Greg Luehrs '69; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Ruth Behrens Cootsona '48 died on Dec. 29, 2015, at the age of 90. She was born and raised in Puyallup, Wash., and after receiving her degree in French literature, married Thomas Cootsona '50 in 1949. They made their first home in Seattle, later moving to Portland, Ore., and then in 1961 the Cootsonas left the Northwest for the San Francisco Bay Area. Ruth raised their two sons and wrote for local publications. She also participated in several philanthropic organizations. In 1981 Tom and Ruth purchased a tennis space shop, Top Spin Tennis, which they operated until 2004 with the help of their sons. They continued to work with their oldest son in his pro tennis shop until 2008. Ruth and Tom then retired to Chico, Calif. Tom predeceased Ruth in April 2015, after 65 years of marriage. Ruth is remembered for her kindness, elegance, and creativity. Two sons and three grandchildren survive her.

James Johnson '49 passed away on Nov. 15, 2015, at age 91. He was born in 1924 in a log cabin in northeast Washington state. When he was 12 his family moved to Alaska, where he developed a love of the outdoors. Jim graduated from Juneau High School in 1942 and soon after enlisted in the Army. He served as a field radio operator for Army combat engineers during World War II. Jim saw action in the Battle of the Bulge and the Battle for Central Germany. After the war, determined to make a contribution to world peace and justice, Jim attended Puget Sound and earned his degree in political science. In 1949 he married Olive "Bansy" Tuttle '51. Jim continued his education, receiving his master's degree in U.S. foreign policy and international relations at the University of Washington. Jim held leadership positions in numerous human rights organizations, including the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the World Affairs Council in Seattle, the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle, and the National Urban League Washington Bureaus in Washington, D.C. He lobbied Congress for the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and as part of President Johnson's War on Poverty, helped introduce anti-poverty programs including VISTA. Jim served for 16 years in the Office of Economic Opportunity in the South Region. Late in his career he was a special assistant in the district offices of U.S. Rep. Tom Foley and U.S. Rep. Jim Wright. In retirement he volunteered with recreational programs for youth and the American Red Cross, and he assisted disabled individuals. He also worked on political campaigns. Jim served on the boards of the Friends of the Library, supporting The University of Texas, Arlington libraries, and the Youth Orchestra of Greater Fort Worth. He enjoyed singing in church choirs for many years, had a passion for fishing, and enjoyed Frisbee golf, computer games, repairing cars, and visiting with family and friends. Jim’s will of 66 years, six daughters, 10 grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter survive him.

Robert Langlow '49 died on Jan. 30 at the age of 93. He was born and raised in Tacoma and married Betty Yenne in 1944. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, returning to Tacoma after military service to complete his college degree. Robert worked in retail sales and management. He and Betty raised three children and moved to Oregon in 1964. Robert was an active member of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Portland for many years. Robert’s wife of 68 years and his brother, Kenneth Langlow ’49, preceded him in death. His son passed away on Feb. 10. Two daughters; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and other family including nephew Scott Langlow ’75 survive Robert.

Rolland "Ron" Upton Jr. '49 passed away on Jan. 12, just shy of his 88th birthday. He was born in Seattle and grew up in Southern California. Ron returned to the Pacific Northwest to attend Puget Sound, followed by graduate school at Columbia University on a Carnegie fellowship. He became superintendent of schools in Lavinia, Mich., a town experiencing unprecedented growth at the time. Thirty schools were opened in the district during Ron’s administration. As the chief administrator for a top district in Michigan, Ron was nationally sought after for speaking engagements. He also taught at Michigan State University. Ron bred and raced Standardbred horses for many years. After leaving Michigan Ron became a consultant for school districts in Menlo Park and Irvine, Calif. He retired to Orcas Island, Wash., and sold real estate there for several years. Ron was a member of the Screen Actors Guild and performed in community theater productions and on commercial television. He was involved in community improvements wherever he lived. His wife of 66 years, Jane Starkey Upton ’51; two daughters; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and one sister survive him.

James Caillouette '50 passed away at home in Pasadena, Calif., on Christmas Day 2015. He was 88. Jim was born in Los Angeles but moved with his family to Lakewood, Wash., at age 12. He attended Clover Park schools and served as president of his junior and senior classes and as student body president. Jim played drums in high school and was part of a dance band in high school and throughout college. In 1945 he joined the Navy and served as a naval aircrewman for two years, returning to the Northwest to attend college at Puget Sound. In 1950 Jim and Joan Thompson ’51, whom he had met in seventh grade, were married. Jim went on to study at the University of Washington School of Medicine and was preceded in death by his wife. Jim enjoyed fishing, gardening, playing in community choirs, and was a member of the Pacific Coast Obstetrical and Gynecological Society and served as the group’s president. Jim was issued 33 patents for various medical products and devices. He authored and co-authored more than 35 scientific papers. Jim served on the board of the Polytechnic School for 10 years and was past president of The Valley Hunt Club. He also was a member of The Twilight Club of Pasadena, the Economic Roundtable, The California Club, and The Athenaum at the California Institute of Technology. Jim’s wife of 68 years, three children, and 10 grandchildren survive him.

Gale Force ’50 died on Dec. 29, 2015, at age 91. Raised in Bremerton, Wash., he graduated from high school there in 1942. Gale then served in the Navy during World War II. He attended both CPS and the University of Washington and went on to co-own a Union service station for eight years. Gale then worked at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, retiring as an electrical planner in 1984. He married Betty Jane Otto in 1956. Gale was a life member of the Bremerton Upton Masonic Lodge No. 206. He also held memberships in the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, Kitsap Old Timers Association (baseball), and the Kitsap Square Dance Association. Gale enjoyed woodworking and spending time with his grandchildren. His wife of 59 years, one daughter, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren survive him.

William Luebke ’50 died at the age of 88 on June 6, 2015. Bill was a graduate of Franklin Pierce High School in Tacoma. He served in the Air Force from 1945 to 1946. Bill was a retired captain from the Tacoma Police Department, with more than 30 years of service, and he was a Medal of Valor recipient. He was a member of Rotary and the Masons, and both he and wife Pat were active in the Order of the Eastern Star. He served as president of the Puyallup Valley Daffodil Festival, and he was instrumental in starting the Fourth of July show tradition in Tacoma. Bill also served as the chief security officer at the Western Washington Fair for many years. He and Pat moved to Leavenworth, Wash., more than 25 years ago and became active in local government and service groups. Bill was elected mayor of Leavenworth and served as chair of the Aging and Adult Care of Central Washington Advisory Committee, among other positions. His son preceded Bill in death. His wife, Pat, followed Bill in death on Jan. 15, 2016. Survivors include a daughter, a sister, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Robert Wolf ’50, ’51 passed away on Nov. 18, 2015, the day after his 87th birthday. Bob was born in Tacoma and raised in Yelm, Wash., where he was active in school, church, and Scouting activities. He graduated in 1946 as salutatorian of Yelm High School. Bob attended DePauw University and then transferred to the College of Puget Sound, where he earned degrees in speech and education. On campus he was a member of the Adelphian Concert Choir, and he participated in theater productions as an actor and student director. Bob also was a member of the Tamanawas yearbook staff. He earned the Robert Brandt Memorial Award and was named to Who’s Who in American Colleges. Bob worked for the Puyallup School District as a teacher and drama supervisor. He met his wife, Kathryn Helwig, while teaching in Puyallup. The two married and moved to Yelm to join Bob’s family’s business. They raised three children in Yelm and participated in numerous civic and booster organizations, including the Yelm Planning
Commission, Yelm Tree Advisory Board, PTA, and Scouts, among many others. Bob and Kathy were passionate about education and established a Dollars for Scholars chapter for Yelm High School graduates. In retirement Bob put his love of history and storytelling to work as a tour guide for the Washington state capitol. Bob’s wife of 53 years preceded him. Three children, a foreign exchange student “Son,” and nine grandchildren survive Bob.

Henry Semmern Jr. ’51 died on Dec. 30, 2015. He was 88. Hank was born in Tacoma and graduated from Stadium High School in 1945. He played baseball in his younger years and in college. Hank was a member and former president of the Tacoma Athletic Commission. He was an avid sports fan and golfer and was a member of the Fircrest Golf Club. Hank spent his career in auto sales, first as co-owner with his father of Semmern Motors in Tacoma and later working for then- Osborne-McCann Cadillac. He was a life member of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Hank is survived by his brother, Don.

Carol Otterson ’53 M.A. ’59 died on Jan. 31, a little more than a month shy of his 89th birthday. Carol attended Tacoma and Puyallup schools, graduating from Puyallup High in 1944. He enlisted in the Navy and served in World War II and in the Korean War. After completing military service, Carol ran into his childhood friend June Sabol. The two fell in love and were married in 1954. Carol was a math and music teacher in Rochester, Wash., and at Jason Lee Junior High and Wilson High School in Tacoma. He later became Tacoma Public Schools’ director of budget and data processing and was key to introducing computers to the district. Carol was active in the community and served on the boards of Good Samaritan Hospital and the Educational Employees Credit Union. He also served on several committees as a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Puyallup and later Peace Lutheran Church in Tacoma. Carol enjoyed boating and fishing, and commuting.

Gary Salzieder ’53 passed away on Dec. 2, 2015, at age 84. He grew up in southeast North Dakota, and came to Tacoma to attend the College of Puget Sound in 1949. After graduating, though, he joined the Navy. After his military service, Gary went to work for then-Lockheed Corporation in California. He returned to Washington to purchase and operate Gary’s Dairy Queen franchise located on the corner of Meridian Street and River Road in Puyallup, Wash. He was active in the Puyallup Lions Club, the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship, and the Greater Tacoma Christian Laymen’s Outreach breakfast. He also was involved at Life Christian Church in Tacoma, and was known as the “dancing usher.” Gary tutored elementary students in Spanaway, Wash., for 20 years, receiving the Volunteer of the Year award in 2008. He is remembered for his generosity and joyful spirit. Numerous nieces and nephews survive Gary.

Kathleen Childs Campbell ’54 died on Nov. 19, 2015. She was 83. Kate was born in Tacoma and graduated from Stadium High School. While a student, she met her future husband, Ken Campbell ’50, who was Puget Sound’s assistant registrar at the time. The two were married in 1952. They fell in love with the Butte, Mont., area and moved there to raise their family of three children. Kate was active in her children’s activities, including as a Girl Scout leader and as the country’s first female coed explorer executive with the Boy Scouts of America. Ken and Kate established Big Sky Adjusters Inc., an independent insurance claims office, and worked together for 30 years. The two homesteaded property, built a log cabin, and raised a herd of mammoth donkeys. They were named Dakota and Mule Society honored four of their herd with hall of fame status. Kate was a member of Alpha Phi sorority and Beta Sigma Phi International. She was a longtime board member for the Silver Bow County Fair, and she tutored adults. Kate was an avid non-fiction writer and published many works in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series, along with other anthologies and publications. Husband Ken preceded her in death in 2005, after 53 years of marriage. Their grandson died serving in Iraq. Three children, 10 grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren survive Kate.

Clyde Cooper ’54 passed away on Nov. 24, 2015, at age 89. He was born and raised in Morton, Wash., where he lived his entire life except during Army service and his time enrolled at Puget Sound. Clyde met and married his wife of 60 years, Sally McLean Cooper ’52, at CPS. Over the years he worked as a teacher, business owner, dog trainer, and logger. Clyde was active in the Morton community as president of the PTA and as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Morton Husky Scholarship Committee, and the Morton Planning Commission. Clyde also volunteered his time to the Morton United Methodist Church. He enjoyed hunting and fishing in local lakes and in Alaska. Clyde found joy in cooking for friends and family gatherings. In his later years he taught himself woodworking, building clocks, tables, chairs, and desks for family members. His wife, four daughters, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild survive him.

The Rev. Dr. Peter Misner ’55 passed away on Christmas Day 2015. He was 82. Born in Pasco, Wash., Peter grew up in the Tri-Cities area and graduated from Kennewick High School in 1951. After graduating from the College of Puget Sound, where he met and married his wife, Susan Rausch Misner ’54, Peter completed a Master of Divinity degree at Boston University School of Theology in 1959. He received his Master of Science Theology in 1975 and his Doctor of Ministry degree in 1979, both at New York Theological Seminary. Peter served churches as a pastor and member of the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. He returned to the Northwest Conference for a short time as pastor of the Redmond, Wash., UMC from 1959 to 1964. Back in Maine, he presided at various churches until 1993, when he became the founding pastor of Union Church of Belgrade Lakes, a United Methodist Church. He served in several capacities in the New England Conference, including as conference chaplain and chair of the Maine Conference Board of Higher Education and Ministry, among many other committees and council appointments. Peter was a life president and president of the Boston University School of Theology Alumni Council and a member of the school’s board of advisors. He participated in the National Council of Churches, as an executive delegate in West Germany, and he was chaplain to the Maine state legislature. Peter also was active in local Rotary and Kiwanis International clubs, as well as in the University of Puget Sound Alumni Council. He co-wrote Words for Your Wedding with David Glusker, used widely by couples, clergy, and others. Former Puget Sound President R. Franklin Thompson married Peter and his wife of 60 years, Susan Rausch Misner ’54. The Frankenks hosted the wedding at their residence on campus. The Misner Room in Collins Memorial Library is named for Peter and Susan. The Misners also supported the construction of Rausch Auditorium on campus, named in honor of Susan’s father. Susan, their five children, 10 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren survive Peter.

Glen Duggar ’56 died on Dec. 1, 2015. He was 88. Glen was born in Centralia, Wash., and raised in Tacoma, where he graduated from Lincoln High School. He was a varsity football player in high school and met his wife, Dolores, at LHS. After a short stint in the Army, Glen returned to Tacoma and attended CPS. He went on to the University of Washington School of Dentistry and in 1962 opened the Fircrest Medical Arts Center. Glen practiced family dentistry until he retired. He was a longtime member of the Fircrest City Council and was mayor for one term. Glen was active in the Association of Washington Cities, serving on the executive committee. He was a long-standing member of the Pierce County Dental Society, the Washington State Dental Association, the Fircrest Golf Club, and the Tacoma Elks. Daughter Jody preceded Glen in death. Survivors include three children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

James Healy ’56 passed away on Dec. 23, 2015, at age 81. He grew up in Tacoma and attended Saint Patrick Catholic School and graduated from Bellarmine Preparatory School. After earning his bachelor’s degree in English, Jim went on to obtain a law degree at the University of Washington. He practiced law for 51 years, retiring in 2012. When he was younger, Jim backpacked all over the world, climbed Mount Rainier, and sailed in the Vic-Maui International Yacht Race. He enjoyed reading, yearly trips to Maui with wife Mary-Jo, and spending summers on the Key Peninsula with his family. His wife of 45 years, a son, and a grandson preceded him. Two children and three grandchildren survive him.

Jean Williams Mazzei ’56 passed away on Jan. 9 at the age of 83. She was born in Portland, Ore. Her father was a civil engineer working on construction of Highway 99. As sections of the road were completed the family would move to another town along the route, as a result Jean attended 28 schools before graduating from J.M. Weatherwax High School in Aberdeen, Wash., in 1951. Jean excelled at tennis throughout her life and was a longtime member of the Tacoma Lawn Tennis Club and the Lakewood Racquet Club. Jean taught history at Franklin Pierce High School for 25 years. She particularly enjoyed teaching courses in world cultures and was concerned about developing events, especially in the Middle East. Jean and her husband of 53 years, Sandy Mazzei
Jayne Dahl Jueling '58 died on Jan. 20, 2016. She was 89. Jayne Dahl was raised in Tacoma. She taught in Tacoma Public Schools for more than 30 years, retiring in 1989. Jayne was married to Helmut Jueling '39 for 18 years before his passing in 1990. Survivors include Jayne’s son, James Dahl, Helmut’s daughters, Jill, and Julie Nipp-Lipman, former Puget Sound English instructor and director of the Center for Writing, Learning, and Teaching; and three granddaughters.

Benjamin Bedzis ‘61, M.A. ’64 died on Nov. 27, 2016, three days past his 96th birthday. Benjamin Bedzis was born in a dairy farm, in Amsterdam, N.Y., and was inducted as a private into the National Guard in 1940. Ben served in the Pacific Theater during World War II and was awarded a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Silver Star. He later served in Germany on occupation duty and at various military posts throughout the U.S. in 1950, while stationed at then-Fort Lewis near Tacoma, he met and married Eleanor Nemac. She preceded him in death after 47 years of marriage. Ben saw combat duty during the Korean War along with duty in Japan. He retired from the Army after 20 years, at the rank of lieutenant colonel. Ben then earned his teaching degree and taught in DuPont, Wash., and in the Tacoma Public Schools for 20 years. In retirement he traveled extensively, enjoyed golf, and volunteered at the VA golf course at American Lake for 14 years. Ben was a member of the Eiks for 34 years, the Military Officers Association of America and the Washington Retired Teachers Association. He moved to Panama retiree community in Lacey, Wash., in 1998. There he met and married Orma Stout in 2001. Survivors include his wife, his son, and two granddaughters.

Max Wills '61, P'81 died of a cardiac arrhythmia on Jan. 21. He was 77. Max was born in Boppard, Germany, and lived in Germany and Austria before moving with his family to Tacoma in 1948. After Puget Sound he earned a doctorate in organic chemistry at the University of Washington in 1965. Max worked for the Shell Development Company in Emeryville, Calif., before beginning his career at California Polytechnic State University in 1967. He was instrumental in developing the polymers and coatings program at Cal Poly and was internationally recognized for his work developing new methods of analysis of volatile organic compounds. Max retired as professor emeritus more than 10 years ago but continued laboratory research until his passing. Outside of work he enjoyed swimming, gardening, train travel, river rafting, and tai chi. Max also enjoyed eating salads, stinky cheese, and pei, and spending time with friends and family. His wife, Susan Currier, professor and associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts at Cal Poly, preceded Max in death. Two children, Max Wills, and Anne Wills Lindquist ’81 and her husband, Jay Lindquist ’82, seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and Max’s brother, Klaus Wills ’62, and Klaus’ wife, Karen Walker Wills ’62, survive Max.

Wilbur “Luke” Lucas ’62 passed away on Feb. 2, at age 80. He enjoyed his career as a teacher and coach of football, golf, and swimming. Luke was an avid gardener and grew dahlias “the size of dinner plates” to share with friends. He is remembered as a storyteller and for his “wacky” sense of humor. Luke and his wife of 57 years, Donna, volunteered for many years in Marriage Encounter and Engaged Encounter weekends, and at Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat near Lake Chelan, Wash. Survivors include Donna, three daughters, and four grandchildren.

Thora Holden Wagner ’62 passed away on Feb. 4. She was 92. Thora was born in Tacoma and was a 1941 Stadium High School graduate.
She married William Gregory in 1945, and the couple had three daughters. In 1961 Thora married Jack Wagner '47 and moved to Kent, Wash., for a combined family of five, including Jack’s two sons. She was active in the Kent community and gave generously of her time and talents. Five children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren survive Thora.

Sue Jones Walgren ‘62 died on Jan. 9 at age 85. She was raised in Colorado, graduating from Wheatridge High School in 1949. For two years, before transferring to Puget Sound, Sue attended then-Colorado A&M University, where she was a member of Delta, Delta, Delta sorority and was chosen sweetheart of Sigma Chi fraternity. She earned a bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy at Puget Sound. The summer after graduation, Sue married Gordon Walgren, an attorney in Bremerton, Wash. Sue enjoyed boating and international travel, and she loved the arts, including creating her own collage, photography, and painting compositions. She served on the Bremerton Arts Commission for many years, and she was a member of the Bremerton Sons of Norway and the library council in Bremerton. Animals also were important to Sue throughout her life. Her husband of 53 years, two daughters, and three grandchildren survive her.

James Andrews ‘64 died at home on Dec. 17, 2015, after battling lung cancer. He was 73. Born in Portland, Ore., Jim moved with his family to Lake-wood, Wash., when he was 5. He graduated from Clover Park High School in 1980. Jim was affiliated with Theta Chi fraternity at Puget Sound and remained active in alumni activities throughout his life. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he continued his academic pursuits at Pacific Lutheran University, earning his master’s in law and justice. Jim retired from the Washington Department of Corrections after 30 years of service. He enjoyed family camping and bowling, and he served as a youth bowling coach for many years. Jim also enjoyed time with family and friends at the Tacoma Rainiers baseball games. He volunteered for many years at The Oregon Trail Center. His wife of 48 years, Kate; two children; and five grandchildren survive Jim.

George Grobins ‘65, P’01 passed away peacefully at his home in Yelm, Wash., on Dec. 10, 2015. He was born in Latvia, and his family came to America and to Tacoma in 1950. George graduated from Stadium High School in 1959 and from the University of Puget Sound in 1965, and furthered his education with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Creighton University in 1969. He founded Health Centered Family Dentistry in University Place, Wash., and practiced there for 35 years until his death. George was recognized as a pioneer in holistic dentistry and the use of mercury-free materials. He had many passions in life and loved riding his horses, hunting and fishing, and cooking. George’s three sons, including Jon Grobins ‘01, his daughter, and three grandchildren, his two brothers, including Andy Grobins ’77; and many friends survive him. A son and his parents preceded George in death.

James Stewart ‘67 died on Nov. 21, 2015, after a long battle with cancer. He was 73. Born in Canada, Jim spent his early years in Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, before his family moved to Calgary, Alberta, where he graduated from high school and was one of Calgary’s top junior golfers. After high school Jim moved to Ames, Iowa, to live with extended family, during which time he was drafted into the U.S. Air Force and stationed at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, Mont. He received the Strategic Air Command Educational Achievement certificate for completing two years of college credits. Upon discharge, Jim moved to Puget Sound, where he met his wife, Ann Schneider ’66. He was affiliated with Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity at UPS and played on the golf team. Jim and Ann were married after his graduation and moved to Phoenix, where Jim attended the then-American Institute for Foreign Trade and became an American citizen. He began his career with Dun and Bradstreet in New York City, where he and Ann lived for a year before Jim was transferred to Paris. They spent two and a half years exploring the city, learning French, and enjoying museums during low tourist season. Returning to the States in 1971, Jim began his long career in banking with Seattle First National Bank. He earned an M.B.A. at Seattle University in 1975, and he was a graduate of the Pacific Coast Banking School. Jim joined the international division of Seafirst Bank and handled business relations with Canada in Vancouver, B.C. In 1979 he and his family moved to Mount Vernon, Wash., where for three years Jim was the first president of the former Valley Bank. Jim returned to Seafirst for one more year in Vancouver before shifting career gears in Mount Vernon and commuting to Seattle for work, the last 10 years as senior vice president and regional manager of Skagit and Island counties for Whidbey Island Bank. Jim retired in 2012 at age 70. He was a longtime member of the Skagit Golf and Country Club, and was involved with Skagit Rotary Club and as a board member of the Rotary Foundation. He also served on the Mount Vernon planning commission for six years and was on the finance committee of Skagit Valley Hospital until poor health forced his resignation. Jim supported youth programs and coached his children’s athletic pursuits. Ann and Jim took several trips to New York and Paris over the years and finally ventured west to Hawaii a few times, too. His wife of 48 years, three children, and six grandchildren survive him.

Adelaide Benson Thompson ‘67 was 101 years old when she passed away on Aug. 17, 2015. Her family said she “personified women of the Greatest Generation.” She is remembered for her warmth, grace, intelligence, and abiding love. Adelaide was a resident of Welcome Home assisted living at the time of her passing.

Kenneth Lee White ‘67, M.B.A.’68 died in Bangkok, Thailand, his home for 29 years. He was 69. Ken’s childhood was spent in Latin America and in New England before his return to the U.S. in 1955. Ken started at UPS in 1963, managing the business administration. He pledged Sigma Alpha Epsilon and served as president of the fraternity during his junior year. On the advice of Prof. John Prins, Ken spent his senior year at then-Netherlands Business School, Nyenrode, launching the exchange program between it and Puget Sound. Ken returned to Tacoma for his M.B.A. in 1968. He later attended a management-training program in Saranac Lake, N.Y., where David Rockefeller recruited him into Chase Manhattan Bank’s management program for overseas executives. Ken rose quickly through the ranks at Chase, with posts in the Caribbean, Panama, the Bahamas, and Pakistan prior to settling in Bangkok in 1986. In 1992 Ken left his position as Chase’s senior vice president for Southeast Asia to start Pacific Siam Strategic Consulting Company. As his career evolved his attention shifted to promoting corporate governance and transparency in Thailand, as a director of many prominent companies as well as The American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand and The Siam Society. He recognized the importance of working with individuals on a one-to-one basis, and he coached and mentored young entrepreneurs, giving them tools and guidance that would help them professionally and personally. Between his consulting work, board seats, mentoring, coaching, and being sought out by many for advice, Ken was a friend and confidant and always willing to offer counsel to those who asked. Ken is survived by his wife, Ann Osborne White ’70; children Montie and Travis; and grandchildren Lauren, Liam, and Reed.

Diana Cole ‘68 died on Jan. 13, her 70th birthday. She earned her degree in home economics at Puget Sound and was a teacher for a time. Diana was involved with Lange Foundation animal rescue. She was a resident of Beverly Hills, Calif., at the time of her death.

Arda Lablond Barbee ‘69 passed away on Jan. 28, at age 86. She was born in Minneapolis and enjoyed many years as a special-education teacher in Puyallup and Richland, Wash. Brother Dale Lablond ’56 preceded her in death. Two children, a stepson, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren survive Ardie.

Greta Husvag ‘70 died on Dec. 1, 2015, at age 67. She was involved with the Adelphi Concert Choir and the Madrigal Singers when she was on campus. Greta was a resident of Lakewood, Wash.

Joel Medicott ‘71 passed away on Jan. 28, after a 10-year battle with congestive heart failure. He was 72. Joel was born and raised in Tacoma. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1961 and was on the football and wrestling teams there. He also played clarinet, saxophone, oboe, and bassoon. During the summer Joel worked on his grandfather’s farm in Yakima, Wash., and during college he worked at Mountain View Cemetery. He served in the Navy from 1965 to 1968, stationed at Naval Auxiliary Landing Field in Monterey, Calif. During off hours Joel enjoyed body surfing at the beach in Carmel, Calif. Returning home after the service, he earned his degree at UPS and taught physical education and coached at Summer High School for 31 years. Joel was football defensive coach and head wrestling coach at Sumner; his teams earning numerous league and regional wrestling championships and the state football championship twice. Joel enjoyed time with family and friends, golfing, snow skiing, fishing, hiking, boating, and running. He once finished the Sound to Narrows footrace in under an hour. Joel’s wife of 37 years, Maggie; three children; and two grandchildren survive him.

Denis Nadeau ‘73 passed away at his home in Fircrest, Wash., on Jan. 11. He was 67. His wife of 47 years, Lorraine; their five children; and 10 grandchildren survive him.
Bayard Johnson '74 died on Feb. 10 after a long battle with cancer. He was 63. Bayard was born and raised in Seattle and enjoyed studying philosophy and writing at Puget Sound. He was a screenwriter and producer in Los Angeles. Bayard wrote and produced feature films for Warner Bros., Disney, Sony Pictures, MGM/UA, and 20th Century Fox. He wrote screenplays based on the classic Tarzan character, *Tarzan and the Lost City* in 1998, and *The Second Jungle Book: Mowgli & Baloo* in 1997. Bayard made two feature films in Africa, the first, *Damned River*, released in 1989, is among the top 20 action movies of the 1980s in the Netflix database, according to an article in Variety magazine. He co-wrote a television series for HBO and produced a feature film about the HIV epidemic (Cover, 2007). Bayard co-wrote the film *Man in a Cage* in 2015 with son Coiter, who also directed and produced the film. Bayard also co-wrote the feature screenplay *Wounded Knee* in 1993, and the book *If You've Forgotten the Names of the Clouds, You've Lost Your Way: An Introduction to American Indian Thought and Philosophy.* Other projects include co-writing, producing, and directing the award-winning short film *Looks Twice*, based on a traditional Lakota story. As the band's founding member, Bayard released several albums with Mother Nature's Army. He also produced *LSD: Leafy Stakes Duets* (1997) with Timothy Leary. Survivors include his wife, Lyndal; two sons; two grandchildren; and his parents, Richard and Virginia.

Vernon Thomas '74 died on Jan. 30 at age 88. He was born and raised in Port Angeles, Wash. Vern served in the U.S. Navy before joining the Seattle Police Department in 1951. He retired in 1982 as assistant chief. In 1983 Vern was appointed King County Sheriff public safety director, and in 1984 he formed the Green River Task Force. He retired again in 1987, and served as the vice president of security for the 1990 Goodwill Games. Vern enjoyed time with his family and riding his Harley-Davidson motorcycle. His wife of 57 years, Yvonne, predeceased him. A son and daughter survive Vern.

Maryann Batt Reintert '79 passed away on Jan. 20 after battling Huntington's disease. She was 68. Born and raised in Tacoma, Maryann was a graduate of Wilson High School. As wife and mother, she devoted her life to her family. Survivors are her husband of nearly 50 years, two children, and a grandson.

Remembrance compiled by Julie Coleman '12, family friend: Irish McKinney '80 died from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident on Aug. 17, 2015. He was 64. According to a California Highway Patrol news release, the accident took place near Needles, Calif. Irish and wife Marjorie Billings McKinney '66 were on a cross-country road trip visiting friends and family when the rear tire of their motorcycle failed. Marjorie was badly injured and airlifted to University Medical Center in Las Vegas. She is now back home in Western Washington and recovering well. Irish was a passionate supporter and defender of the biker lifestyle. He was an ambassador to the National Coalition of Motorcyclists and A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments, organizations dedicated to promoting fair motorcycle legislation. His involvement with NCOM and ABATE brought him and Marjorie back to the UPSC campus in the fall of 2010, when Irish acted as the biker community's photographer for a public event associated with a student-led Arts and Humanities Summer Scholar research project, "Biker: Who Are These People?" Following this event, Irish and Marjorie were featured in *Arches* "One of a Kind" issue (autumn 2011). A canned fundraiser and lifetime advocate for the needy, Irish worked tirelessly to raise funds for the White Center Food Bank in Seattle. The local community called upon him frequently to encourage others to donate to worthy charitable causes. Professionally, Irish was an enrolled agent with the IRS and a skilled tax preparer who helped many people prepare and submit their tax returns each year. How dearly Irish will be missed and how deeply he affected his loved ones and his community was evidenced by the more than 700 people in attendance at a memorial service held at his place of worship in Federal Way, Wash., last October. The several-mile-long motorcycle procession to the service was a sight and sound to behold and brought tears to the eyes of onlookers and participants alike. Irish's smiling eyes and wisdom will be missed by all who had the great privilege to know him. He is survived by his wife of more than 30 years, a daughter, two stepchildren, and seven grandchildren.

Brenda Horie Cole '82 lost her battle with adenoid cystic carcinoma on Dec. 13, 2015. She was 55. Brenda was born at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, and was raised in Oahu. After earning her degree in occupational therapy at UPS, she married Brian Cole '79 on May 22, 1982, at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii. The couple then moved to Kadena Air Base on Okinawa, Japan, where Brian was stationed. While there, Brenda worked as an occupational therapist in the U.S. Department of Defense schools there. After their two children were born, the Coles went back to Hickam Air Force Base for five years before moving to Southern California. Brenda continued to work as an occupational therapist throughout the Los Angeles area. She was an active member of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., and enjoyed her hula sisters. Brenda's greatest joys, outside of seeing her children grow and graduate from college, were her two grandchildren, Jett and Jax; Brenda's husband, children, grandchildren, and many dear friends survive her.

Sondra Siegel Turkins '82 passed away on Nov. 25, 2015, from pancreatic cancer. She was 55. Sondra grew up in the Denver area and graduated from Cherry Creek High School in Greenwood Village, Colo. She earned her bachelor's degree in English literature at UPS and worked in the commercial health industry for 30 years. Sondra is remembered for her strength and independence and her love for her family, friends, pets—and the Denver Broncos. Survivors include her husband, Alex; children Ashley and Evan Rose, her mother, and two brothers.

Donald Maskell '95 died on Jan. 11 at age 52. He was born in San Bernardino, Calif. At age 4, Donald moved with his family to Tacoma, where he graduated from Stadium High School. After college he worked for the Washington State Department of Agriculture for a year before being hired at The Boeing Company. Donald worked on projects such as the B-2 Spirit Stealth Bomber, the F-22 Raptor, and the P-8 Poseidon in the configuration management section. He was a member of Elks Lodge No. 174, the 28th District Republican Club, and the Towne Family Association. Donald's interests included travel, art, aviation, reading, hiking, jogging, history, music, theater, and wine, and he enjoyed animals. He is remembered for his sense of humor and quick wit. His sister, Cecilia Maskell '83, and other family members survive him.

Dana Swanson Nicholls '90 passed away on Dec. 24, 2015. She was 47. Dana grew up in Tacoma and graduated from Bellarmine Preparatory School. She attended Washington State University for two years and then transferred to UPS, where she graduated with honors in occupational therapy. Dana worked at Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and other community clinics in the area. Her area of specialty was working with children, and she received additional training to best serve them. In 1993 she married Heath Nicholls. By 1996 they had three children, and Dana was a stay-home mom. She decided to homeschool all three of her children; her oldest son is a freshman in college, her daughter is a senior in high school, and her youngest is a sophomore in high school. Dana lived a life strong in her faith. She is survived by her husband, three children, and other family.

Remembrance by Roxie Devine Daggett '00: Nathanael Daggett (a.k.a. Rockobean): his father and mother, John and Hilary Daggett (a.k.a. Mr. Bear and Chol); little sister, Theodora
Elizabeth “Betsy” Catlin ’01 lost a long battle with depression on Dec. 27, 2015. She was 37. Betsy was raised in Montpelier, Vt., where she began lifelong passions for sports, animals, and the environment. She also raised sheep and heifers, with her siblings on the family’s farm and was an accomplished equestrian, competing on a national level as a junior rider. Betsy graduated valedictorian of Montpelier High School in 1998. She continued as a riding instructor and developed as a trainer with the St. Lawrence University riding program. Betsy completed a double major in philosophy and chemistry at Puget Sound, graduating magna cum laude, and she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. During her college years, she took a year off to do atmospheric research aboard an icebreaker off the coast of Alaska. After graduation she began a Ph.D. program in philosophy, later deciding to attend Vermont Law School, with a focus in environmental law. Betsy earned her J.D. in 2008, summa cum laude. She served as a Supreme Court clerk for Vermont Justice Brian Burgess before becoming an attorney at Dunkel Saunders Elliott Raulvogel & Hand, an environmental law firm in Burlington, Vt. Betsy’s work as an attorney resulted in some of Vermont’s largest wind and solar facilities. She served on the board for the Vermont River Conservancy and kept a farmhouse in East Montpelier, where she cared for retired show horses from St. Lawrence University. Betsy enjoyed gardening in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter. She was an avid reader and enjoyed movies and listening to music. Betsy’s parents, two siblings, and other family members survive her.

On March 12 the 1976 Puget Sound men’s basketball team returned to Memorial Fieldhouse to celebrate the 40th anniversary of its NCAA Division II National Championship. Twelve players were in attendance, along with former athletic trainer Zeke Schultd ’68 and former athletics director Doug McArthur ’53. (Head coach Don Zech P’84 passed away March 22 at age 83.) More than 125 friends and family of the ’76 team were there, too. President Ron Thomas welcomed the team and commented on what a special occasion it was to be “dining with giants.” In their final three games of the 1976 NCAA Tournament, the Loggers defeated North Dakota 80-77 in the quarterfinal game and then upset defending national champion Old Dominion 83-78 in the semifinal. The Loggers entered the title game against the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, whose wagish fans had made “Puny Sound” T-shirts. Those fans were shocked when the giants from Puget Sound won the title game handily, 83-74. Following dinner and several speeches, Saturday night’s reunion concluded with a film of highlights from that big game. The champs, from left: Curt Peterson ’76, A.T. Brown ’76, Matt McCuly ’78, Mike Kunz ’78, Mark Weils ’76, P’05, Phil Ham ’79, Zeke Schultd ’68, Tim Evans ’78, Rick Walker ’78, Rocky Botts ’78, Brant Gibler ’76, Mike Hanson ’78, and Steve Freimuth ’78. Mike Strand ’79 and Jimmy Stewart ’78 were missed.

Erica Schurman ’99 and Aaron Applegate were married on Sept. 19, 2015, in Golden, Colo. Erica’s sister-in-law, who was Aaron’s dental hygienist, introduced the two! Loggers in attendance were Kristin Rollins Menzie ’99, Diana Kawulok Franklin ’99, Marcia Lovegren Kinne ’99, Rhett Bernstein ’99, Marcie Gross ’99, and Jessica Waters Davis ’99. The couple honeymooned on Maui and Kauai. They live in Westminster, Colo., where Erica is an occupational therapy manager at Children’s Hospital Colorado, and Aaron is an operations manager at Remotely, a Denver-based tech startup.
Alisha Antone '00, D.P.T. '05 is pictured here with a client at his new clinic, A2 Physical Therapy, which opened March 1 on 6th Ave., just across the street from Gray Lumber. After practicing physical therapy in Tacoma for more than 10 years, he says, "I am thrilled to open a P.T. practice in my hometown. We believe in our community. Each visit will leave you with less pain and on your way to a healthy lifestyle, with many memories ahead with family and friends." A2 Physical Therapy provides holistic health care with a specialty in lower back and neck pain, ergonomics, and corporate wellness. The clinic offers individual and group wellness packages, too, with a mission to "provide the highest level of physical therapy and wellness services with a commitment to form authentic relationships, earn trust; create customized wellness plans, and by never prioritizing profits over people." Alisha and wife Jenilee live in the North End with their three sons. Find out more at A2pt.family. Photo by Erin Spencer Hargis '03 (erinnhargisphotography.com).

Rachel Quisenberry '02 and Matthew Bennett invited their friends and family to one of their favorite spots in the High Sierra for their September 2015 wedding at Mammoth Lakes, Calif. They were elated to have so many Loggers in attendance, including fellow communication major Dave Avramovich '03, who married the couple. Rachel and Matthew live in sunny Pasadena, Calif., where Rachel is an account manager with Lundbeck Pharmaceuticals, and Matthew is a project manager with Rudolph and Sletten, general and engineering contractors. Front, from left: Sara Sabelhaus Lutz '02, Ali Hummels Daniels '02; Heather Mahoney Skagen '03; Erin McGillivray '02; Lindsay Smith '02; Sarah Parker Winkler '04, Ashley Allen Gill '02; the bride and groom; Courtney Ludwig Marshall '03; Melissa Kelly Vieira '04, Feather Robles Billings '00; Brian Billings '99, and Sarah Gross Gradis '01. Back, from left: Brooke Cornett Magnusson '02; Caitlin Prueitt McFeron '02; Kathryn Ross '02; Emily Weber '02, Anna Marsh Fitzpatrick '03; Adriane Ougendaal Friedman '03, Tim Friedman '02; Megan Apperson Gallegos '04; Michael Vieira '02; Karen Thomas '02, Robin Davis Case '68, P'02, Dave Avramovich '03, Bret Burton '02, Tyler Case '02; Jenny Kalbfleisch Leitzinger '03; Anne Crase Jones '00, and Sarah Hesseltine Templin '02.

Travis Anderson '04 and Kendra Gurnett '05 were married on Aug. 22, 2015, at Crockett Barn on Whidbey Island, Wash. In attendance, back, from left: Patty Pike Britt '73, Susan Lord Krutzsch '74, Jim Britt '73, Chris O'Donnell '05, Shawn Brady '04, Olin Wick '04, uncle of the bride Tony Kiriluk '76, Mason Bowman, Elle Smith Miller '06, and Alana Hagney East '05. Middle row, from left: Mary Baker Maybee '74, Cate Hamilton O'Donnell '05, Andy Sloan '05, Morgan Stone Sloan '05, Jenna Watts Brum '06; the groom and bride; mother of the bride Stephanie Kiriluk Gurnett '74, P'05; Robin Francis Brady '05; Laura Kukulan '05; and Dorothy Schafer McGatlting '05. Front, from left: Mari Takamura '05 and Alicia McConkey Bowman D.P.T. '07. The newlyweds live in the Ballard/Phinney Ridge neighborhood of Seattle. Kendra is a senior marketing manager at Nordstrom, and Travis is a sales representative at Paycom.
Marianne Tweedie '05 married Jeff Norris on Oct. 24, 2015, at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra. From left: Jeremy Zegas, Megan Stump '05, the bride and groom, Katie Rose '05, and John Ramsey. Jeff and Marianne live in Canberra. They both work for the Australian government.

Jacques Plaa '04 married Lauren Bonds at Beldi Country Club in Marrakesh, Morocco, on Oct. 9, 2015. Puget Sound friends and "948" housemates (the address where they all lived together as students in off-campus housing) joined them in Marrakesh for their wedding celebration, along with family and friends from 22 countries. Jacques and Lauren met while living in London and currently reside in Hong Kong. From left: Kyle Lunde '04; Erin Carlson '04; the groom and bride; Anna Marsh Fitzpatrick '03; Elizabeth Rankin Sadak '03, M.A.T.'07; and Drew Stefan '04.

About classmates

The Classmates editor is Cathy Tollefson '83, P'17. You can call her at 253-879-2762 or email ctollefson@pugetsound.edu.

Where do Classmates entries come from?
About half come directly from you, either in letters or in email updates. The rest are compiled from a variety of public sources such as newspaper and magazine clippings, and press releases sent to us by employers when, for example, a Puget Sound grad at the company gets a new job. We publish Classmates information both in the print edition of Arches and on the Web in the online version. It is our policy not to publish pregnancy or engagement announcements, or candidacies for political office. However, we are happy to publish news of births, marriages, and elections to office. Classmates submissions are edited for style, clarity, and length. We put a lot of effort into making sure entries are accurate, but sometimes we slip up. Please let us know if you see incorrect information published in Classmates.

Scrapbook
High-resolution digital photos or prints preferred. Kindly identify alumni in the snapshot. Also, please, for baby pictures, include alumni parents in the photo.

Publication deadlines
Aug. 15 for the autumn issue, Nov. 15 for winter, Feb. 15 for spring, May 15 for summer

To send Classmates entries or to change your address
Electronically: pugetsound.edu/infoupdate or email Classmates Editor Cathy Tollefson at arches@pugetsound.edu.
Post: Arches, University of Puget Sound, Office of Communications, 1500 N. Warner St., Tacoma WA 98416-1041.

When submitting a change of address, please include your old address.

A note on names and abbreviations
Undergraduate class years appear after names as numerals preceded by an apostrophe (e.g., '73). "P" = parent; "GP" = grandparent. "Hon." = honorary degree. For graduate degrees, "M.S." = master of science; "M.B.A." = master of business administration; "M.A.T." = master of arts in teaching; "M.Ed." = master of education; "M.P.A." = master of public administration; "M.M." = master of music; "M.S.O.T." = master of occupational therapy; "D.P.T." = doctor of physical therapy; "J.D." = doctor of law.
Becky Larsen '03, right, and Cindy Pease recently celebrated their three-year wedding anniversary. The couple were married on the beach on Maui, Jan. 16, 2013. Becky and Cindy live in Austin, Texas, with their four small dogs. Becky recently accepted a position as a production artist at Apple, and Cindy works for Lennar Homes as a new-home consultant. In their free time, they enjoy traveling and discovering new restaurants in the city. Belated congrats!

Ben Lee '06 and Jen Salisbury were married on Sept. 6, 2015, on Vashon Island, Wash., where they now live. It was a barn wedding, with lots of fun and friends and dancing! From left: Anna Price-Meader Waldman ‘04, Andrew Marsters ‘05, Baird White ’05, Tyler Thirloway ’05. Professor of Biology Peter Wimberger, the bride and groom, Brenden Goetz ’07, Brad Vickers ’05, Brian West ’05, and Dylan LeValley ’05

Adelaide Christina Bede was born Feb. 6, 2016, to Ryan Bede ’05 and Heather Houglum Bede ’05, M.A.T.’06. Addy, who weighed 6 pounds and 8 ounces and was 18.5 inches long, is pictured here at 3 weeks old, with brother Kasen, 2 1/2. The family lives in Northeast Tacoma. Heather teaches high school music appreciation from home through the K12 online public schooling program, and Ryan continues to teach voice in the Community Music Program at UPS. He also teaches choir at Life Christian Academy and is very active with local opera companies. He'll make his Seattle Opera debut in The Magic Flute next year!

Andrew Parker ’08 and Chelsea Zarnowski ’07 were married in Chimacum, Wash., on July 25, 2015. They were happy to share their big day with many friends and family members. In attendance, from left: Carlie Meader McAninch ’07; Nick Vasilis ’07; Anastasia Vasilis; Emma Donohew ’08, the groom and bride; Liana Campus ’10; Eric Delacorte ’09, M.A.T.’11; Liz Hoffman ’09; Aaron Danno ’09; and Jess Rothfus ’09. There but not pictured: Ryan McAninch ’06. The couple live in Seattle, and both work for The Boeing Company.
Ben Ahlvin '08, M.A.T.'12 and Bill Gifford M.Ed.’80 tell us that at 5 a.m. on June 23 they will begin cutting through the seas of the Inside Passage in the Race to Alaska, from Port Townsend, Wash., to Ketchikan—about 750 miles of 50-degree water. With abundant luck and fair winds our all-Logger crew will sail and row (no motors allowed) their 17-foot Montgomery across the finish line five days after they start. First Prize is $10,000; the runner-up gets a set of steak knives. Last year there were 53 entrants in the race. Fifteen finished, one of whom was Bill. Racers carry GPS trackers, so fans can follow their progress on a live-streamed map that is updated every 10 minutes (r2ak.com, and check out the fun and informative FAQ section of their site).

Mary Ann Valentine ‘07 and Daniel Nelson (UW ’06) were married on July 18, 2014, at DeLille Cellars in Woodinville, Wash. Puget Sound friends in attendance were: Scott Valentine ‘07, Annie McCullough ’07, Betsy Walker ’07, Renee DeVoursney Hendricksen ’07, Nick Kiest ’08, Megan Kiest-McFarland ’07, Nell Shamrell-Harrington’07, Evan Tucker ’07, Tamara Baker-Wagener ’07, Carly Campbell Meadows ’07, Kat Sorensen Misrack ’07, and Dan Gonzalez ’07. Mary Ann and Daniel live in Seattle, where Mary Ann is assistant director of Continuing Medical Education at UW School of Medicine, and Daniel is business director for the Law Offices of James Egan.

Chelsea Taylor ’08 and Wing Liu celebrated their marriage with friends and family in San Francisco on Dec. 31, 2015. Chelsea says: “Happy Liu Year!” In attendance, back, from left: Justin Harvey ’09, Jordan Conley ’09, Ellie Wolf ’08, Walker Cahall, and Derek Robbins ’08. Front, from left: Tessa Wix ’09, Sonia Ivancic ’08, the bride, Natalie Whitlock ’08, and Erik Lind ’08. Also in attendance though not pictured: Ryan Bettinger ’08, Alex Lichty Heisel ’08, Zack Stoddard ’08, and Valarie Barone Toda ’08.

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David Mensonides '08 and Kalli Kamphaus '10 were married on Sept. 12, 2015, at Champion Orchards in Manson, Wash., near Lake Chelan. Logger attendees included a dozen former football players and lots of friends. Back row, from left: Kainoa Higgins '08, M.A.T.'09; Molly Gibson '11, M.A.T.'12; Brian Eggers '09; Stefan Berglund '09; honorary Logger Morten Bruhn; Miles Murphy '10; Conner Gehring '10; and John Elam '11. Third row, from left: John Oppenheimer '80, P.'11; Deanna Watson Oppenheimer '80, P.'12; Scott Lelli '08; Rachel Ridings '06; Eddie Behringer '08; Spencer Crace '10; Stefan Berglund '09, honorary Logger; Morten Bruhn; Miles Murphy '10; Conner Gehring '10; and John Elam '11. Second row, from left: Diana Small '08; Katie Stock Eggers '10; Ginny Steinbach '08; and Nicole Berglund '10. Front, from left: Lindsay Stratton '10; Erin Cronshaw '06, M.A.T.'08; honorary Logger Sam Bathurst; Danny Mensonides '09; the bride and groom; Tim Mensonides '06; Rory Lee '07; and Emily Hogan '08. Kalli and Dave live in Puyallup, Wash., where they bought a house in May 2015. Kalli is a paraeducator for the Tacoma Public Schools and also helps Dave at Comeback Sports, where he's general manager (comebacksports.com).

Kartar Khalsa '13 was married in Surrey, B.C., on Sept. 19, 2015, at her husband's family's home. More than 500 people attended the traditional Sikh wedding! The ceremony was held in the backyard, and the reception in the front yard. Kartar grew up in the Sikh faith, and her husband, Attar, grew up in Canada as a Canadian Indian Sikh. Many UPS alums were able to join the celebration. From left: Morgan Hellyer '14, Lauren Hektner '13, Kartar, Kariann Lee '13, and Kyle Lee '14. Also in attendance though not in this pic: Maggie O'Rourke '14, Sadie Boyers '14, Daniel Akamine '16, Amy Stromme '14, Nikki Polizzotto '14, and Bailey Gilmore '14. The couple live in Portland, Ore., where Kartar is a nurse at Oregon Health & Science University, and Attar works as a home renovations contractor.

Jen Baron '10, M.O.T. '13 married Jonathan Colwell on July 18, 2015, at Titlow Lodge in Tacoma. Puget Sound friends were on hand for the celebration, from left: Jenny Ikard '11, M.S.O.T. '13, Sarah Lewis M.S.O.T. '13, Katie Thierry M.S.O.T. '13; Aimee Brison Karani '11; the bride, Amanda Fischels M.O.T. '14, Jenny Klassen Burke '03, Tara Curtis M.O.T. '13; Malia Delacruz '09; and Olive Oyango M.S.O.T. '14. Jen works as an occupational therapist in the University Place School District, and Jonathan is a physical therapist at St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma.

Kristen Anderson Murphy '88 and Kendal Freyer Keyes '10 met up at the annual conference of the National Guild for Community Arts Education in Philadelphia, Nov. 11–14, 2015. Kendal was representing Music Center of the Northwest, a Seattle-based community music school where she is administrative coordinator. Kristen is the director of Puget Sound's Community Music program. The two first met when Kendal was a music-business student at Puget Sound. Kendal later taught violin and viola lessons for Puget Sound's Community Music Department in the School of Music.
From left: Hillary Handler ’13, Rose Marie Leslie ’12, Christine Isabella ’13, Jenny Moore ’12, and Sarah Evert ’12 got together in Minneapolis before attending the third coldest football game in NFL history! Hillary and Rose Marie are students at the University of Minnesota. Hillary is pursuing a master’s degree in genetic counseling, and Rose Marie is in her second year of medical school. Sarah lives in Minneapolis and works for a nonprofit health insurance organization. Christine and Jenny drove in from Wisconsin to support the Seahawks! Christine is pursuing a Ph.D. in biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Jenny is in her second year of medical school at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Go Hawks!

Hari Sreenivasan ’95 and Taylor Beard ’13 met in San Jose, Calif., at a dinner event hosted by KQED thanking donors for their support. Taylor is a development associate for the local public media station. Hari is anchor of PBS NewsHour Weekend. He spoke to the KQED event audience about his experiences as a journalist.
What is that song?

A cool subtle pleasure of living in a college residence hall is the chance to wander down the corridors and hear every sort and style and speed of music trickling or blasting from rooms as you pass, such that a casual stroll is not only a remarkably varied musical education but a substantive hint at the nature and character and provenance and habits of the inhabitants—for example the room that always plays the Grateful Dead, and the room that always plays heavy metal, and the room that always plays thumping rap, and you see what I mean; you and I just made some swift assumptions about those residents, did we not?

The room that specialized in soft rock like the Eagles and John Denver; the one room from which I ever heard opera (mostly Bizet for some reason, why would anyone listen to opera all the time and never listen to Puccini and Mozart and Verdi?); the dark room upstairs that played only dirges and requiems and hymns, as far as I could tell; the room that played hardly anything but the Beatles (and the members’ later solo records, and even God help us all the shrieking records of Yoko Ono); the fine distinction between two rooms that played Southern music, the first playing only plaintive classics like Hank Williams and Conway Twitty, and the other playing only country rock like the Marshall Tucker Band and the Allman Brothers; the one room occupied by men that seemed to play nothing but women, from Joni Mitchell to Laura Nyro to Joan Jett to the late, great Dinah Washington; the room from which I seemed to hear nothing but crooners from the ’50s; the room from which I heard a preponderance of mariachi and ranchera and banda music; and even a room where I heard, more often than not, the music of John Philip Sousa. That young man, a senior who had earned the right to live alone, was so seldom seen corporeally in our hall that we speculated he actually lived elsewhere and just used the room for band practice.

The thought occurs to me now that wandering along the floors of a residence hall is not unlike listening to the radio, by which you are presented with many sorts of music you would not ordinarily choose for yourself, but which occasionally startle you with a strange beauty, foreign to your usual predilections and proclivities; and now that the eclecticism of commercial radio is a thing of the past, and specialization both on the airwaves and in our iPods is all the rage, perhaps we have lost something that we did not know we liked—the chance, every 10th room, or once a day on the radio, to hear a song you would never hear in the normal course of your musical adventures; a rap song that for once is not about drugs and sex and power and sneering, but about courage and endurance and camaraderie; a country song that for once is not about trucks and sex and loneliness, but about shy love or a mother’s defiant courage; a folk song that for once is not an inane repetitive whinny but a piercing connection into the old wild weird of the land from which it arose; a song from another country, another race, another ancient story altogether different from the one you know, or think you know; a song played by strange instruments, sung from a different place in the throat; the song that seems to have been waiting for you patiently for years, until finally you walk by the right room, at the right moment, and you stop cold, arrested, fascinated, absorbed, intrigued, enthralled, puzzled, riveted; and then, if you are like me, you knock gently on the door and ask the shaggy tousled mammal within, Say, what is that song? — Brian Doyle
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