

Connecting Be Known and Stand Tall

Not long after we introduced the phrase Stand Tall last fall, there was a question that began popping up around campus: "Is Stand Tall replacing Be Known as the university's promise?" The answer is no.

Be Known has been at the core of who we are since we opened our doors in 1891, and it will continue to be foundational to the George Fox University experience. We only recently put a name to it, but professors and staff have been connecting with students in authentic ways – personally, academically and spiritually – long before Be Known started showing up on billboards.

So, what do we mean by Stand Tall? The short answer is, it's what we aspire for our students. Certainly we want them to thrive in whatever career path they choose, be that in the arts, business, medical practice, ministry or any other field. But it's so much more than that. By delivering on our Be Known promise to students, we hope to inspire and equip them to serve, to lead and to boldly share the love of Christ.

When I think of these character traits, I think of people like Fabian Jimenez, a 2017 alumnus who is standing tall as an engineer, a mentor and a giver. The first member of his family to graduate from college, he is now an engineer on the team that oversees the maintenance, everyday operations and capital improvement projects of six major bridges over the Willamette River. But he's not content to simply work. He also volunteers with multiple nonprofit organizations, mentors students interested in pursuing a career in STEM fields, and regularly returns to campus to work with our aspiring engineers.

This special edition of the *George Fox Journal* is dedicated to telling the stories of students and alumni who personify what it means to Stand Tall. You'll read about one of our students, Emery Miller, who started his own charity and has helped raise more than \$300,000 for the American Heart Association. Another, Tracy Boyd, a mother of four who is blind and currently in our graduate counseling program, created a community for parents who are blind to share tips and encouragement with one another. And there's alumnus Greg Lutze's story – that of a former business student who went on to cofound VSCO, one of the world's most popular photo editing and sharing apps, all without compromising his faith or commitment to family.

I hope and trust these stories inspire you as they do me. They are a good reminder of why we love George Fox and why the mission of this institution is so critical to the world at large.

Robin Baker President

Andrew Shaughnessy

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OUR VISION

To be the Christian university of choice known for empowering students to achieve exceptional life outcomes.

OUR VALUES

- → Students First
- → Christ in Everything
- → Innovation to Improve Outcomes



University Explores Partnership in Allied and Mental Health College in Southern Oregon

In line with its recent addition of healthcarerelated programs, George Fox is exploring the possibility of partnering in an allied and mental health college in Roseburg, Oregon.

This spring, the university signed a memorandum of understanding with Oregonians for Rural Health, a coalition dedicated to promoting the health and vitality of the state's rural communities, to determine the scope, degree programs and location for a facility that would offer advanced degrees for healthcare professions. The exclusive

partnership between the parties also includes a provision to explore fund development and in-kind contributions to build and equip the college facility.

The need for healthcare education in Southern Oregon is great, as the region faces "growing allied and mental health workforce shortages that pose serious healthcare access issues," according to Kelly Morgan, CEO of Mercy Medical Center in Roseburg, and a longtime member of the Oregonians for Rural Health coalition.



George Fox has expanded its healthcare education offerings in recent years, adding a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (2004), a doctorate in physical therapy (2012) and an RN to BSN degree-completion program (2019). The university will also begin a physician assistant program in January of 2021.

The scope of what programs will be offered in Roseburg has yet to be determined, but plans call to offer degree programs at the bachelors, masters and doctoral levels. Ultimately, the goal of the proposed project is threefold: to provide a reliable pipeline of skilled allied healthcare and mental health professionals in multiple high-demand medical fields, to connect individuals to living-wage jobs through locally delivered degree programs, and to create economic growth and stability across the region.

The potential addition of a Southern Oregon site is the latest example of George Fox's commitment to addressing the growing need for healthcare education and services. The initiative also ties into the university's mission, which charges its students to "serve with passion."

In addition to physical therapy and nursing, the university runs a behavioral health clinic, a physical therapy clinic and a counseling clinic. The proposal also aligns with George Fox's commitment to develop programs that offer hands-on practical training and provide a muchneeded service to the community.

Plans Move Forward to Develop Health Sciences Facility in Newberg

Southern Oregon isn't the only new location George Fox is considering as it continues to expand its health sciences programs. This spring, the university is negotiating with a local family, the Werths, to build a facility in Newberg that would house its physical therapy and physician assistant (PA) programs. George Fox anticipates entering a lease with the Werths prior to the building's completion date in January of 2021.

To date, a workable floor plan has been designed and the outside of the building is in the design stage. The building itself will be located at 448 Werth Blvd., close to Providence Newberg Medical Center. The physical therapy program has been housed in the Roberts Center since its inception in 2012, and the physician assistant program will begin in January of 2021.

Alumni Plaza Celebrates Legacy of Bruins Past and Present



A new Alumni Plaza featuring a 10-foot-tall, 1,200-pound bronze bear is serving as a rallying point for George Fox alumni and fans and as a visual reminder of what it means to be a Bruin – ready, fearless and strong.

At the center of the 3,400-square-foot plaza, completed in the fall, is "Mama Bear," created by sculptor Ryan Wilhite over a three-year period. The bear looks to her right – the traditional place of honor – to symbolize that the plaza is a place of honor to be shared by all Bruins. It is mounted in the middle of the space to represent a bridging of the gap between Bruins past and present.

Wilhite, son of alumni Steve and Nancy

Wilhite, drew inspiration for the design from time he spent observing bears while hunting and fishing in Alaska. He insisted the bear be realistic, and before creating the piece he did extensive research on bears' anatomy and behavior. Once a sketch was selected, the bear was created first as a 30-inch clay sculpture before being enlarged and recreated as a full-sized clay statue.

Ultimately, about 30 molds, divided into twofoot sections, were created by Firebird Bronze foundry, which poured wax into them to create wax patterns that were cast in ceramic liquid and fired. Molten bronze was then poured, and assembly was done with welding and grinding. The finishing touch: a coloring with patina and wax. The final statue was delivered in time to be unveiled on homecoming weekend in October.

The plaza, made possible by an \$1,800 in-kind donation by alumnus Phil Thornburg of the Winterbloom landscaping company, is located between the two venues alumni visit most often: Bauman Auditorium for performing arts productions and Stoffer Family Stadium for athletic events. The location of the plaza was strategically chosen for its proximity to Welcome Weekend and commencement events, serving as a bookend for the beginning and end of the undergraduate student experience.

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Teaching Theology in the Age of Netflix

A new method of delivering Bible and religion curriculum aims to spark discussion and connect with students

The goal of creating an enduring, impactful first-year theology course is the impetus for an overhaul of general education Bible classes this fall.

The new THEO 101-102 course for freshmen will incorporate a large plenary lecture on Mondays, a small-group mediated discussion on Wednesdays, and a large-group panel discussion on Fridays. The single, year-long integrated course will replace the current BIBL 100 and RELI 300 sequence, which used traditional classroom lectures to disseminate biblical texts. The program will use both the Bible and the Apostles' Creed for its principal themes.

"We're not just thinking about a neat, new way to deliver some courses," says Brian Doak, chair of the College of Christian Studies. "We're looking to make a big statement with this course – to revolutionize the way our students experience Bible and theology at George Fox, and to be a center stage for conversation about theology at the university."

In addition to biblical and classic texts, the curriculum will incorporate nontraditional teaching tools into the mix, with media outlets such as The Bible Project and Netflix serving as inspiration for ways to better connect with today's student.



Community Mourns Loss of Longtime Supporter Ken Austin



The university community lost one of its biggest benefactors and dearest friends with the death of Ken Austin on May 1, 2019. Austin and his wife Joan, who preceded him in death in 2013, were consistent givers to George Fox through scholarships, gifts, the donation of land and, since 1987, the funding of an annual performance by the Oregon Symphony on campus.

In 2002, the family pledged 23 acres of land on the corner of Crestview and Villa roads that was developed into the Austin Sports Complex, home to the university's soccer and women's lacrosse programs. More recently, in 2014, the Austins' 15-acre plot of land and 7,000-square-foot home atop Parrett Mountain was donated for the purpose of creating a place for contemplation, reflection and prayer – the Hy Vista Retreat Center. Their legacy is also reflected on campus in the form of a flower garden in front of the Stevens Center, dedicated to the memory of Joan's mother Esther Zemke.

Ken, 87, also served the university as a member of its board of trustees since the mid-1980s (most recently as an honorary member), and his counsel and friendship was treasured by President Robin Baker, who met with him regularly.

Cofounders of A-dec – one of the largest dental equipment manufacturers in the world – the Austins were known throughout the region for their philanthropic gifts to educational, civic and community causes. In addition to George Fox, they supported his alma mater, Oregon State University, as well as Newberg schools, the Oregon Symphony, the Special Olympics, the Oregon Health and Science University School of Dentistry, and countless other charitable organizations throughout the state of Oregon.

University Recognized for Value, Innovation in Latest U.S. News Rankings

For the 31st year, George Fox was named one of "America's Best Colleges" by *U.S. News & World Report*, while also earning high marks in the publication's annual college rankings issue for overall value, innovation, engineering and undergraduate teaching programs, and its offerings for veterans.

George Fox ranked 24th out of 127 schools in the "Best Regional Universities" West category and made the magazine's "Best Value Schools" list, landing at No. 18 out of 58 in the "Regional Universities West" category. The university was also listed in the "Best Undergraduate Engineering Program" rankings and was recognized for the quality of its undergraduate teaching programs, ranking No. 8 in the "Best Undergraduate Teaching" catego-

ry among regional universities in the West.

In addition, George Fox was listed as one of the magazine's "Best Colleges for Veterans" and rated high (No. 7) in its regional category of the "Most Innovative Schools," deemed as those colleges and universities that "are making the most innovative improvements in terms of curriculum, faculty, students, campus life, technology or facilities" in a survey of peer institutions.

U.S. News wasn't alone in its praise of the university: Niche.com, a website dedicated to evaluating schools, neighborhoods and workplaces based on public data sets and more than 100 million reviews and survey responses, ranked George Fox as the "Best Christian College" in Oregon for 2019.



George Fox's U.S. News & World Report rankings

- No. 24 "Best Regional Universities West"
- No. 18 "Best Value Schools" in "Best Regional Universities West"
- No. 8 "Best Undergraduate Teaching Programs" in "Best Regional Universities West"
- No. 7 "Most Innovative Schools" in "Best Regional Universities West"
- No. 15 "Best Schools for Veterans" in "Best Regional Universities West"
- No. 82 "Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs" (ABET-accredited schools offering a bachelor's or master's degree)

New Residence Hall on Track for Fall 2019 Completion



Construction of Newlin Residence Hall – a 48,300-square-foot dormitory on the east side of campus – is on track to be completed by the time undergraduate students return to campus this fall.

The four-story building will house approximately 190 students – the largest living facility on campus – and will complete a residential quad of buildings with existing dorms Brandt, Le Shana and Gulley. The new addition allows

for more students to live on campus, a key to enhancing the undergraduate experience, according to Brad Lau, vice president for student life. "We believe that living on campus creates incredible opportunities for spiritual and social growth and transformation, which is core to our Be Known promise," he says.

The facility is taking shape this spring and summer as teams of plumbers, electricians, framers, tapers, painters, tile setters, glazers, and exterior crews complete the final touches.

Newlin Hall, named in honor of the institution's first president, Thomas Newlin (1891-1900), is being built in the wake of steady enrollment growth in recent years. George Fox enrolled a record number of traditional undergraduate students in 2017 (2,414) and nearly matched that mark in 2018 (2,389). The university has broken the 4,000-total-student enrollment mark for three straight years.

BRUIN NOTES

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What's Next

The Class of 2019 moves on to new careers and grad school



Name: Bethany Woods
Major: Interior Design
What's Next: Masters of Architecture
program, University of Oregon

"International mission work has always been part of my life, so I'd love to do architectural projects in developing countries to build stronger and healthier communities."



Name: Maddie Pirkl Major: Engineering What's Next: Mechanical engineer, Siemens

"In the future I hope to meld my passion for travel and innovation with my work in the field of mechanical engineering."



Name: Michael Chaney Major: Accounting What's Next: Accountant, Moss Adams

"My George Fox experience has been categorized by the stretching, challenging and expansion of my knowledge and character."



Name: Quinlan Morrow Major: Biology What's Next: Research assistant, Druker Lab, OHSU

"My ultimate goal is to become a physician. While I apply to med school, I will be doing leukemia research. I am so excited to be back in a cancer research lab!"



Name: Kaheela Reid Major: Biology What's Next: OHSU-PSU School of Public Health

"I'm going to grad school to get my master's degree in public health. My dream is to improve the health of communities through out the world"



Name: Logan Benfield
Major: Elementary Education
What's Next: English Teacher,
Josiah Venture, Czech Republic
"I will teach at English camps, showing
the love of God to the students there.
I will also get to teach English in Czech
schools, mentor Czech students, and
lead a youth group. I hope to develop
my skills as an educator and as a



Name: Kyler Schubkegel Majors: English and Philosophy What's Next: Yale Divinity School

"By God's grace, I have been offered a fulltuition scholarship to pursue a master's degree in religion and the arts. In the long term, my goal is to do research in theology that helps the American church to understand the role of beauty in the life of faith."



Name: Maricruz Arias Major: Exercise Science What's Next: Doctor of Chiropractic program, University of Western States

"This is like a dream coming true! I want to be a chiropractor not only to be able to help those with physical pain, but to help those who can't afford the treatment."



Name: Pablo Gaspar-Lopez Major: Social Work What's Next: Master of Social Work program, George Fox University

"Thanks to my time here I have learned the importance of incorporating my faith into my practice in a healthy manner that will benefit me and the people I work with."

Recent Recognition

Cinematic Arts Awards

The Broadcast Education Association's (BEA) National Festival of Media Arts announced its 2019 Festival winners, which included George Fox students and faculty. Cinematic arts major **Nicola Pieper** took second place for student scriptwriting (writing for television), while in the student narrative film competition senior **Gina Dodds Ferguson** claimed an "Award of Excellence" for her poignant



short film, *They All Fall*. In addition, professor **Matt Meyer's** feature-length film, *Changing Time*, took home an "Award of Excellence" in the Faculty Film and Video Competition.

Canyon Commons, Hadlock Student Center Recognized





WoodWorks, a national wood products design council, selected the university's dining hall, Canyon Commons, as recipient of its "Institutional Wood Design Award." The facility was one of nine national winners in the council's 2019 Wood Design Awards, which celebrate innovation and excellence in wood building design across the U.S. The honor recognized the work of the project's architect (Hacker), structural engineer (KPFF Consulting Engineers) and contractor (Andersen Construction).

Another university facility, the Hadlock Student Center, was named the first-place winner in the Education – New Construction category at the DJC TopProjects Awards in May at the Oregon Convention Center. Soderstrom Architects and Todd Construction teamed up on the entry and were on hand to accept the award, which honors the best building and construction projects in Oregon and Southwest Washington

English Professor Praised for New Book

English professor **Guadalupe Garcia McCall's** book All the Stars Denied received accolades on multiple fronts.

It was named one of the "2019

It was named one of the "2019 Best Children's Books of the Year" in the Fourteen and Up Category by Bank Street College of Education, was a

finalist for the Texas Institute of Letters' "Best Young Adult Book" award, and landed on the "2018 Best Multicultural Children's Books" list created by the Center for the Study of Multicultural Children's Literature. In the book, the author tackles the hidden history of the U.S. and its first mass deportation event that swept up hundreds of thousands of Mexican American citizens during the Great Depression.

Another of Garcia McCall's books, *Shame the Stars*, was chosen by the Texas Center for the Book at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission as Texas' Great Read for 2018.

Hernandez Selected for Hispanic Impact Award

The Faith and Education Coalition of the National

Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference awarded **Rebecca Hernandez**, associate provost and chief diversity officer, the 2018 Hispanic Impact Award at its annual Hispanic Education Summit last fall.

Hernandez was selected based on her work nationally through the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, Commission on Diversity

and Inclusion, as well as work on the George Fox campus. With the assistance of Provost Linda Samek, Hernandez has led efforts to increase the hiring of more diverse faculty, staff and administrators to reflect the increasing diversity of the university's student body.

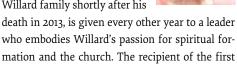
Morse Presented with National Dallas Willard Award

The seminary's MaryKate Morse was honored with

the Dallas Willard Award, presented by the Missio Alliance at the organization's national conference, Awakenings, this spring.

The award, created by the Willard family shortly after his

award was NT Wright in 2017.



The inscription on the award reads, in part, "As a champion and pioneer in the field of spiritual formation, especially as it relates to Christian leadership, we recognize the unique and lasting impact Dr. Morse has made as a church planter, pastor, author, teacher, mentor, wife, and mother."

Cuddeford Honored by Oregon Physical Therapy Association

Tyler Cuddeford, director of the university's physi-

cal therapy program, was honored as recipient of the 2018 Mercedes Weiss Award, given annually by the Oregon Physical Therapy Association "to recognize those in our profession that have provided out-



standing services to the profession of physical therapy," according to the organization's website. The Mercedes Weiss Service Award was established in 1976 to publicly acknowledge the outstanding contribution of members of the profession in one or more of the following areas: clinical practice, education, administration, research and practice management.

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Faculty Members Honored as Top Teachers, Researchers for 2018-19

nce again, George Fox honored four of its own with the presentation of teaching and research awards for the 2018-19 academic year. At the undergraduate level, Sarita Gallagher and Rhett Luedtke were recognized as the top teacher and researcher, respectively, while at the graduate level Daniel Kang and Leah Payne won the corresponding awards.





Gallagher, an associate professor of religious studies, has taught at George Fox for nine years and specializes in courses in cross-cultural ministry, world religions, church history and biblical theology. "I love George Fox's emphasis on serving the world with compassion and excellence in whatever profession you are in," she says. "The greatest joy that I have as a professor is seeing my students grow and learn both in their professions and as followers of Christ. I am very honored to win this award. It has been a joy to teach here all these years, and I look forward to many years to come."



Rhett Luedtke Undergraduate Researcher of the Year

Luedtke, a professor of theatre, said he was "completely surprised" by the honor, but he shouldn't have been. While the award came partly in recognition of his 16 years of directing plays at George Fox (32 shows and counting), the primary reason for his selection resulted from his artistic direction of the Big Bridge Theatre Consortium, a group of 12 college theatre programs he formed three years ago for the purpose of developing new plays dedicated to peace and interfaith conflict. "Given the rise in Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and general xenophobia in our country over the past year, we felt called to commission new plays to foster dialogue on our campuses about religious diversity," he says. "This work is the pinnacle of the integration of my Christian faith as a Quaker and my work as a theatre artist. I'm excited to see how God blesses our communities through it."



Daniel Kang Graduate Teacher of the Year

For Kang, an associate professor of physical therapy, there is nothing more satisfying than hearing stories of how his former students are making a difference in their communities. "My accomplishment lies in the impact I am making in future therapists and, in turn, the ripple effect it has on the community," he says. "It is not just my technical knowledge that I wish to share with our students; rather, I strive to be a positive agent in shaping the character and motivation of future physical therapists. I believe it is in this authentic sharing of myself that translates to worthy



Leah Payne Graduate Researcher of the Year

Payne's scholarship has been prolific since she joined the seminary in 2014. Since then, she has authored or coauthored 10 articles and book chapters and has presented 11 juried papers at academic conferences. She has also served on multiple grant teams that have won over \$2 million. In addition, she has published multiple articles in Christianity Today and The Washington Post, and she cohosts, with professor Brian Doak, a podcast called Weird Religion, giving her an outlet to discuss "funny explorations of religion and pop culture," she says. Her first book, Gender and Pentecostal Revivalism: Making a Female Ministry in the Early Twentieth Century (2016), was named winner of the Pneuma Book of the Year by the Society for Pentecostal Studies. "I love getting to know my students and being a part of their lives as they make important decisions, explore who they are, and learn about the presence of God in their lives," Payne says. "Our students are extraordinary!"



Nicole M. Enzinger (education) contributed a chapter, "Integers as Directed Quantities," to Constructing Number (Springer International Publishing), published this spring. Enzinger's chapter on children's thinking about integers is part of

a book that synergies research across two disciplines: mathematics education and psychology.

Ed Higgins (English emeritus) published his poem "Reversal" in the print edition of the Spring 2019 issue of *The Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature*, created by the English department at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.



Mark David Hall (politics) coedited a book, America and the Just War Tradition: A History of U.S. Conflicts, published this spring (University of Notre Dame Press). The book examines and evaluates each of America's major wars from a just-war perspec-

The Windhover

POVERTY AND THE POOR

IN THE WORLD'S

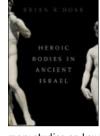
RELIGIOUS TRAGILIERS

tive. Using moral analysis that is anchored in the just-war tradition, the contributors provide careful historical analysis evaluating individual conflicts.

Randy Woodley (seminary)
contributed a chapter,
"Poverty and the Poor in
North American Indigenous
Traditions," to the book
Poverty and the Poor in the
World's Religious Traditions:
Religious Responses to the
Problem of Poverty (ABC-

Clio/Praeger Publishers). He also wrote a chapter, "Truth to Power: Daniel Chapter 3," published in the book *Unsettling the Word: Biblical Experiments in Decolonization* (Mennonite Press).

Brian Doak (Christian studies) is publishing two books this summer, a monograph and a major coedited volume, both with Oxford University Press. *Heroic Bodies in Ancient Israel* examines the heroic world of ancient Israel within the Hebrew Bible, and

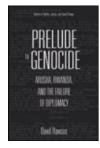


shows that ancient Israelite literature operated within and against a world of heroic ideals in its ancient context. In *The Oxford Handbook of the Phoenician and Punic Mediterranean*, edited with Carolina Lopez-Ruiz, a wide range of scholars write sum-

mary studies on key historical moments, areas of culture, regional studies and areas of contact, and the reception of the Phoenicians as an idea, entangled with the formation of other cultural identities, both ancient and modern.



published a book, Prelude to Genocide: Arusha.



Rwanda, and the Failure of Diplomacy (Ohio University Press), in the fall. Rawson, a former U.S. ambassador to Rwanda, was an active participant in the peace talks in the early 1990s and gathered materials from those years for the benefit of future historians. In his book, Rawson

assover

provides insight into what went wrong leading up to the tragedy.

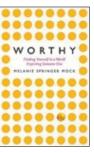
Nathan Slegers (engineering) published the book Passover: The Story of Easter from the Beginning (Come Thirsty Ministry) in 2018. In it, Slegers explores the coherency of God's plan of redemption from creation to the resurrection.

Guadalupe Garcia McCall (English) published



a book, All the Stars
Denied (Lee & Low Books
Incorporated), in the fall. In
a companion novel to her
acclaimed Shame the Stars,
Garcia McCall tackles the
first mass deportation event
that swept up hundreds
of thousands of Mexican

American citizens during the Great Depression, told through the perspective of a 15-year-old girl.

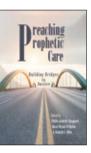


Melanie Mock (English)
released a book, Worthy:
Finding Yourself in a World
Expecting Someone Else
(Herald Press), in 2018.
According to the publisher,
the book "sifts through the
shape and weight of expectations that press Christians
into cultural molds rather

than God's image. By plumbing Scripture and critiquing the 10-billion-dollar-a-year self-improvement industry, Mock offers life-giving reminders that we are fearfully and wonderfully made."

Aida Isela Ramos (sociology) authored a book chapter, "A Changing Landscape: A Sociological Perspective," in A Plentiful Harvest: Practices for Effective Ministry Among Latinos (Pathway Press), released in 2018.



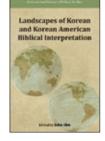


Sunggu Yang (Christian studies) contributed chapters to two books in 2018: "A Three-Fold Homiletic Lesson from Dr. King's Pastoral and Prophetic Preaching on Violence" was published in *Preaching Prophetic Care* (Wipf & Stock), and "The

Promised Land: A Postcolonial Homiletic of Promise in the Asian American Context" was published in *Homiletic Theology Project Vol. 3* (Wipf & Stock).

 $\textbf{Roger Nam} \ (\text{seminary}) \ \text{published a chapter}, \ \text{``'Half}$

Speak Ashdodite and None Can Speak Judean': Code-Switching in Ezra-Nehemiah as an Identity Marker for Repatriate Judeans and Koreans," in *Landscapes of Korean and Korean American Biblical Interpretation* (SBL Press) this spring.





Wright, King Become National Champions

An individual national championship represents the pinnacle of any track and field athlete's career. For Annie Wright and Sarah King, it happened twice in three months.

In May, Wright won the women's heptathlon on day two of the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field

Championships in Geneva, Ohio, with 5,101 points. A day later, King joined her atop the podium, winning the women's 400 meters with a time of 54.68 seconds — a school record.

Previously, in March, King won the women's 400 and took second place in the women's 200 at the

NCAA indoor championships. Wright, meanwhile, won the women's pentathlon with 3,729 points — the third-best score in Division III history. At the conclusion of the season, she was named Women's Field Athlete of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.



George Fox Teams Win Six Conference Championships

In October, the men's cross country team tied with Pacific Lutheran to claim a share of their first-ever Northwest Conference championship. It was the first of the season, but wouldn't be the last, as five more teams — women's basketball, lacrosse, women's golf, women's track and field, and men's track and field — also ended conference play in the top spot.

All that winning helped the Bruins achieve a best-ever second-place finish in the Northwest Conference All-Sports Trophy standings, and also resulted in five conference coach of the year honors: John Smith (men's and women's track and field), MaryJo McCloskey (women's golf), Michael Meek (women's basketball) and Katie Mastropaolo (lacrosse).



Women's Track and Field Team Finishes Third in Nation

The women's track and field team maintained consistent excellence throughout the season, finishing third in the nation in both the NCAA indoor and outdoor championships. As a result, Adam Haldorson was named Women's Assistant Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. John Smith, meanwhile, was named Women's Head Coach of the Year in the West region by the USTFCCCA.



Lacrosse Team Earns First NCAA Postseason Appearance

The lacrosse team went undefeated in conference play, won its fourth consecutive Northwest Conference championship, and in May earned its first-ever trip to the NCAA Division III Women's Lacrosse Championship. Lois Ray earned NWC Player of the Year honors, leading the conference in goals and assists.



Green-Richards Hits Scoring Milestone

In November, Mason Green-Richards reached 1,000 career points in just the fifth game of his senior season. He would go on to finish his career as the university's 10th all-time scorer with 1.402 points.



Football Team Breaks Scoring Record

In November, the George Fox football team scored 41 points in the first half and went on to beat Puget Sound 62-48, setting a school record for total points scored in one game.



In the swim team's inaugural season, Aspen Monkhouse became the first Bruin to compete at the NCAA Division III Swimming and Diving Championships in March, finishing 24th out of 63 swimmers in the women's 50-yard freestyle with a time of 23.68 seconds.



Lackey Claims Top Spot at NWC Tournament

In April, Joshua Lackey of the men's golf team shot a 5-under 67 at the Northwest Conference Championships, earning tournament medalist honors and setting a school record in the process.





Women's Golf Team Finishes Seventh in Nation

Ranked as high as second in the nation during the season, this May the women's golf team finished tied for seventh out of 25 teams at the NCAA Division III Women's Golf Championship in Houston. The finish was tied for fifth-best in school history and came during the program's 10th straight NCAA postseason appearance. MaryJo McCloskey, meanwhile, was named West Region Coach of the Year for the fourth time.



Coppolino Takes Helm of Women's Basketball Team

In April, Michael Coppolino was named new head women's basketball coach, replacing Michael Meek, who a month prior accepted an offer to coach the women's basketball team at the University of Portland. Coppolino led Mount Saint Mary College of New York to a 35-1 conference record the past two seasons and was twice named Skyline Conference Coach of the Year. He'll look to continue a winning tradition at George Fox that includes three Final Four appearances and a national championship in 2009.



Building Blocks to the Future

Engineering major Grant Davis parlays his love of LEGO bricks into a design for production – and possibly a career

By Sean Patterson

around the globe, and there's a chance you may come across Grant Davis' latest cre-Davis, a sophomore engineering major from Beavercreek, Oregon, teamed with a fellow LEGO lover in Canada to create the company's first-ever pop-up book. The kit - featuring two walls hinged at the base that open to reveal a LEGO scene - hit the market last fall, making Davis the first person in

isit a toy store anywhere

The design is the brainchild of Davis, a lifelong builder who, like many children, was fascinated with the many ways the bricks could be configured to create vehicles, towns, ships and landscapes. Rather than be content with prefabricated kits, however, Davis opted to take his hobby a step further - design his own scenes, inspired by his imagination and the desire to create.

Oregon to have a design accepted and produced

by the company.

Like a painter uses canvas, Davis uses LEGO bricks as his artistic outlet. He particularly enjoys building castles and pirate scenes, and his work has been displayed in museums and recognized with best-of-show designations at some of the world's largest LEGO conventions. But he's not content to simply build for the fun of it.

"I like trying to come up with new things that nobody has thought of before, with the same pieces that everybody else in the world has," he says. "That's the fun challenge of it. And it's what led me to try my hand at entering a LEGO design
I'm hoping to pay some of my college expenses

Equipped with his pop-up book idea, Davis befriended a fellow builder online, Jason Allemann in Canada, and together they developed a prototype they submitted as part of LEGO's ongoing design contest, via the company's LEGO Ideas website. Getting the attention of company executives is simple: Drum up enough fan support for your design, and it will be considered for

Specifically, Davis and Allemann needed 10,000 fan votes for their product to be eligible for development. The duo submitted their idea in early 2017 and saw instant interest - about 5,000 votes in the first couple months – before watching it gradually gain momentum and hit the 10,000 mark in early 2018. With that, a master builder at LEGO headquarters in Denmark reviewed the design and approved it for production.

"A painter's limitation is 2D, and they use paints," Davis says. "I use 3D, and my limitation is whatever pieces LEGO happens to make. Being creative with limitations is where really fun things happen. So, if I have 30 of these pieces sitting in my house and I see somebody online come up with some amazing way to use them, I'm like, 'Oh my gosh, now I can do that, too.' It's really fun to try to innovate like that."

Davis and Allemann's kit comes packaged with two scenes and allows users to create their own pop-up scenarios. "That was one of the key features we emphasized in our pitch - that it's not just this one scene you can build. It's a book with an infinite number of stories in it. We want people to make their own inserts, their own stories."

Davis isn't privy to how many kits have been produced - the company is guarded with that information - but he and Allemann do receive 1 percent of profit royalties, which they split. "That doesn't sound like a lot, but if they sell 100,000 kits, that adds up pretty quickly," Davis says. "So,

Ultimately, he hopes to pursue a career with the company he first fell in love with as a child. "Ideally, I'll just move to Denmark and become a master builder with LEGO," he says. "And if that doesn't work out, I'll always have my electrical engineering degree to fall back on, which isn't too bad of a fallback plan."



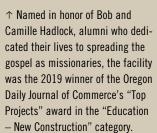
The university has added quite a few new buildings in recent years, but perhaps none are as visually stunning or universally celebrated by students as the Hadlock Student Center. Opened last fall, the 48,000-square-foot space offers students all the tools necessary to stay fit, have fun, compete, and even explore their natural surroundings.

The facility features three basketball/volleyball courts, an elevated indoor track, a rock-climbing wall, two yoga/dance/aerobics studios, and a

fitness center with floor-to-ceiling views overlooking Hess Creek Canyon. Beyond that, there is a rental center where students can check out equipment for a wide range of outdoor activities, in addition to student leadership offices and a student lounge.

With plenty of space for intramural sports and all manner of campuswide activities, Hadlock has quickly become a favorite spot for students to work up a sweat, host events, or simply connect with friends and hang out.





- ← Need a backpack or tent for a weekend camping trip? Want to go paddleboarding, snowshoeing or simply play some Spikeball on the quad with friends? The Hadlock Rental Center has it all at student-friendly prices.
- → The facility's 4,200-square-foot Fitness Center provides a diverse selection of cardio equipment, including treadmills, recumbent and upright bikes, rowing machines, ellipticals, spin bikes and stair steppers.
- ← A spacious student lounge and furnished student government offices offer an ideal location for students to gather.



TOGETHER WE STAND TALL

WHEN CHALLENGES COME, YOU HAVE TWO CHOICES: STAND DOWN

OR STAND TALL. WE ARE BRUINS, AND WE STAND TALL. READY.

FEARLESS. STRONG. 9 IN A WORLD THAT NEEDS COMPASSION,

WE SHOW LOVE. IN A WORLD THAT NEEDS LEADERSHIP, WE STEP

FORWARD. IN A WORLD THAT NEEDS VISION, WE LOOK TO NEW

POSSIBILITIES. IN A WORLD THAT NEEDS HOPE, WE POINT TO

CHRIST. AND WE DO IT TOGETHER. 9 ROOTED IN TRADITION,

BUT ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD. FACING OUR FEARS, BUT NEVER

SHAKEN. LEADING WITH STRENGTH, BUT ALWAYS SERVING. UNITED

IN OUR DIVERSITY, NEVER DIVIDED. BECAUSE TOGETHER, WE STAND

TALL. J IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE FIELD OF PLAY, WITH

OUR FAMILY AND IN OUR CHURCH, IN THE BOARDROOM AND ON THE

MISSION FIELD, FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T STAND UP FOR THEMSELVES,

WE STAND TALL. 9 WE ARE BRUINS. READY. FEARLESS. STRONG.

WE'VE BEEN CHALLENGED, EQUIPPED, KNOWN - AND NOW WE'RE

READY. BRUINS STAND TOGETHER. AND TOGETHER WE STAND TALL.

At George Fox, our promise is that every student will **Be Known** — personally, academically and spiritually.

BE KNOWN

STAND TALL !

When students are known in this way they become inspired to **Stand Tall** in everything they do. To serve, to lead, and to boldly share the love of Christ.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

For years a limb abnormality kept Evan Bonazzola from working out - until a team of student engineers created a solution that led to a day he won't soon forget

By Richard McNeal

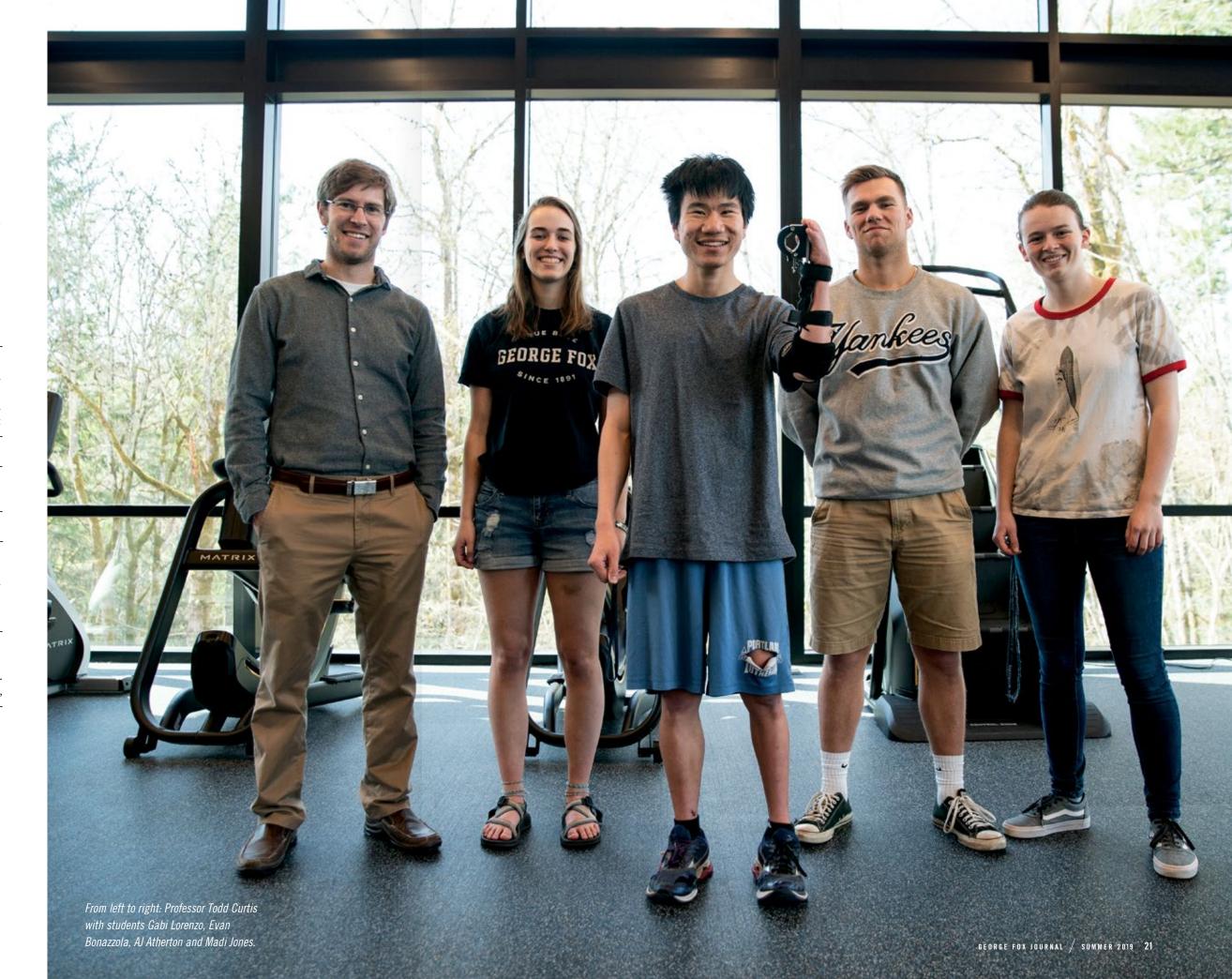
66 ■ ey Todd, guess what day it is?" That's the challenge student Evan Bonazzola playfully presents to physics professor Todd Curtis as the pair stand together in the weight room of the Hadlock Student Center on a Friday afternoon.

It's mid-April, and there is a cacophony of activity in Hadlock at the moment: students are working out, clanging weight machines and plodding on treadmills; a group is playing basketball downstairs, the piercing squeaks of their high tops and thumping dribbles punctuating the atmosphere in familiar juxtaposition; the card-swipe gates at the front entrance offer the occasional electronic de-ding!, inevitably followed by an audible welcome from the front desk attendant; and then there's the student-curated Spotify playlist sounding throughout the facility.

Despite the surrounding din, three engineering students looking out of place in their street shoes and blue jeans - are huddled together, focused on making a few final adjustments to a prototype prosthetic device they've designed specifically for Bonazzola.

Also an engineering student, Bonazzola was born with symbrachydactyly, a condition characterized by limb abnormalities. His left hand is underdeveloped and prevents him from accomplishing tasks in the same way someone with two fully developed hands might - say, working out at the gym. Bonazzola boasts a refreshingly positive perspective, though, often leveraging his limb difference to make all the stereo-





typical hand jokes one would expect. If a friend asks him to help move something, for instance, he mischievously replies, "Yeah, I can give you a hand."

For the most part, Bonazzola can creatively address any issues his smaller left hand presents - which include daily tasks like tying his shoes. Although there are a few activities – like playing the piano and rock climbing - he hasn't quite figured out yet, there is one pursuit in particular that has loomed large in the back of his mind for several years: pull-ups.

In high school, Bonazzola had to attempt pull-ups for a required physical test. When he struggled to complete one and fell, the P.E. teacher didn't hesitate asking for the next

"It's like being

able to run after

only being limited

to walking, or

like running with

weights and then

having them

suddenly fall off."

person in line. Not only that, at the request of his gym instructors, Bonazzola found himself jogging around the track instead of participating in the day's scheduled activity on more than one occasion. Ever since, he dreamed of one day conquering the weight room.

"Hey Todd, guess what day it is?" The professor isn't sure. He looks at his watch; he can't recall the date.

Curtis is one of the faculty advisors for the Servant Engineering program, a two-semester course in which all junior engineering majors enroll. The purpose of the course is to demonstrate how engineering skills can be used to help others, so students are placed in small groups with a faculty advisor and tasked with working on a service-based engineering project dur-

ing the year. Recent projects have ranged from the immensely practical (designing mirrors for mobility devices) to the extremely involved (developing methods for teaching microfluidics in the public school system). Though diverse, all projects share a common theme: human-centered design, that is, focusing on client problems that actually exist rather than considering problems personally exciting to the engineer.

Two years ago, Curtis decided he wanted his groups to begin working in the area of prosthetics. According to the professor, an abundance of highly developed prostheses perform 90 percent of daily tasks effectively, but there is a narrow gap of activities that even typical prostheses do not accomplish well. What's more, nearly 60 percent of people with missing upper limbs do not use prostheses simply because they are expensive or uncomfortable.

"We wanted to look at that need and look at how we can come up with task-specific, low-cost prosthetics," he says.

As a result, Curtis' three-student Servant Engineering team worked with Bonazzola to develop a prosthetic "hand" that would allow him to exercise in Hadlock, specifically using free weights and doing pull-ups.

"Hey Todd, guess what day it is?" The three engineering students - Gabi Lorenzo, Madi Jones and AJ Atherton - overhear Bonazzola's question and momentarily stop their conversation.

For this engineering team, at least, the day marks a significant milestone in the work they have done to help him achieve his

> goal of weightlifting and doing pull-ups. After hours of research, interviews, brainstorming (a process they affectionately refer to as "PAINstorming"), and countless iterations and adjustments, they are finally ready for Bonazzola to test out their prototype prosthesis.

One of them invites him over: "Here, try to put this on."

He slips the brace over his left arm using his right hand. Atherton asks how it feels. Bonazzola struggles locking the carabiner that connects the elbow brace to the wrist brace – it'll get easier with practice, Lorenzo assures him. He wonders how the elbow brace is supposed to fit; Jones says whatever feels comfortable.

After a couple of minutes, the prosthesis is secure on Bonazzola's left arm, and everyone turns their

attention to the pull-up bar. There is a thick foam pad already set up beneath the bar, no doubt serving as both step stool and safety precaution. Bonazzola hops up, decidedly grips the bar with his right hand and guides the C-hook around the bar with his left. The team watches him from behind. Two pull-ups later, they are all smiling in awe. Bonazzola is smiling, too. He does a couple more pull-ups. Someone utters, "Oh, wow." And another,

Later, Bonazzola describes the feeling of those first pull-ups: "It's like being able to run after only being limited to walking, or like running with weights and then having them suddenly fall

Lorenzo captures what the engineers felt: "We never thought he'd be able to do it. We never thought that our design or our bracing system was going to be able to withstand a pull-up. And so the moment he actually did a pull-up, we were like, 'Wow, that actually worked!"

can be anchored to the wrist portion, an aluminum C-hook (for pull-ups)

or a 3D printed plastic clamp (for weightlifting).

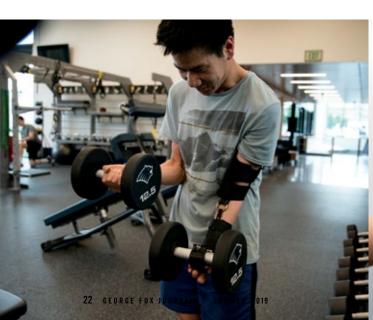
After testing the prosthesis on some other workout equipment, the group migrates to the rack of free weights on the south wall. Evan secures a 12.5-pound dumbbell to his left hand using the clamp attachment, then grabs a second 12.5-pound dumbbell with his right hand and begins alternating bicep curls. A brief smile flashes across his face as he lifts his left arm. The heaviest weight he has ever lifted with his left hand before this day was two pounds. And since that first test, he has lifted as much as 25

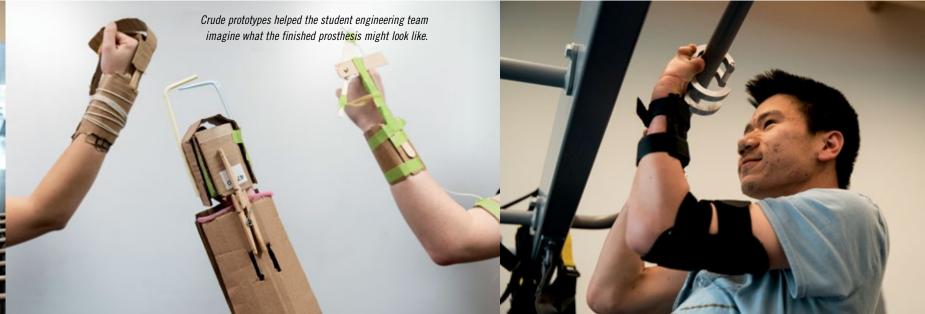
Finished with the free weights, Bonazzola removes the prosthesis. He hands the brace to the student engineers who begin chatting about some minor adjustments they need to make in the next week or two. He approaches Curtis.

"Hey Todd, guess what day it is?" The professor comes up blank, so Bonazzola delivers the answer, capturing the significance of all that has just transpired in a way only he can: "It's Evan-Gets-A-Hand Day!"

If you have a limb difference and are open to exploring solutions with a George Fox Servant Engineering team, they'd love to talk with you. Email Todd Curtis (tcurtis@georgefox.edu) for more information.







'BLINDNESS DOES NOT DEFINE US'

Tracy Boyd has found community, support and purpose in a group she created for parents who are blind

By Andrew Shaughnessy

ne soggy, winter day in early 2019, Tracy Boyd's phone rang. Facebook was on the line. "We're thinking about doing something to celebrate International Women's Day," the voice on the phone said. "Your name came up."

Boyd, a mother of four who is blind, serves as president of Mommies with Guides, a

Boyd, a mother of four who is blind, serves as president of Mommies with Guides, a Facebook group for blind parents with guide dogs to share the struggles and joys of parenting, offer tips and tricks, and celebrate their trusty canine partners.

In March, the social media platform recognized and honored Boyd as one of nine women who had positively impacted their communities through Facebook. They flew her and her guide dog Chiffon down to the company's California headquarters, all expenses paid. There, Boyd and the other women participated in a live Facebook video where they talked about the community and support that they had found and built through their Facebook pages.

It was a rare and well-deserved moment of acknowledgement for Boyd. But then, she doesn't do it for the recognition. Boyd's story is one of grit, perseverance and active compassion. She has faced countless challenges over the course of her life. Yet, she not only continues to fight, hope and dream for herself; she has built a community that supports and inspires others to do so as well.

"Blindness does not define us," Boyd says. "We are all kinds of women and men, parents and grandparents, and we participate in parenting just as fully as sighted people."

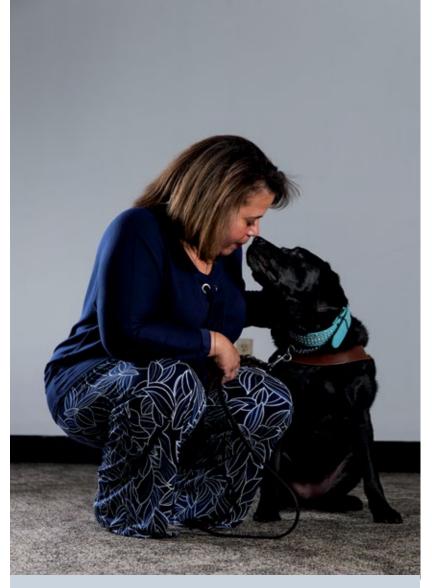
BUILDING COMMUNITY

Boyd was born with congenital glaucoma – a condition in which pressure builds up in the eyes, damaging the optic nerve and gradually causing blindness. The doctors didn't catch it at first. Then one day, when she was about six months old, her mother opened the blinds in her room to let in the light, and Boyd began to scream.

"I had my first surgery that night," she says.

Since then, Boyd has had over 100 surgeries and seven cornea transplants to keep the pressure in her eyes under control. In the years to come, her sight gradually deteriorated. By the end





"Chiffon and I have been together for seven years. I often refer to it as a partnership. It is my job to know where I'm going and how I'm going to get there, and it's her job to keep me safe. ... I would do anything for her, but she really puts her life on the line for mine."

of high school, she needed a magnifying glass to read a book. After each of her children was born, a bit more of her sight slipped away, the shapes and colors fading until light and dark were all that remained.

"When I was parenting for the very first time, there was no blind parents' support group for me," says Boyd. "I only knew one or two other blind moms, and they were not local."

There was no one to show her strategies for parenting blind, no one to tell her to safety pin a bell to the back of her toddler's shirt, to talk through the hard days or celebrate the wins. She had to figure it all out for herself.

Then, in 2013, Boyd attended an event hosted by Guide Dogs for the Blind, and everything changed.

"I was there with my 17-year-old daughter, my six-month-old baby and my husband," Boyd recalls. "And my baby was moving around and making baby noises."

"Do you have a baby?" asked a woman sitting at Boyd's table.

"Yes," Boyd replied.

"I'm a blind mom, too!" she responded.

By the end of the evening, Boyd had met three other blind moms. Together, they decided to form a Guide Dogs for the Blind alumni group specifically for blind parents with guide dogs. Early on, the group had telephone conference calls once a month, sharing stories and encouraging one another.

there specifically for blind parents with guide dogs," says Boyd. "I decided we needed to be bigger. We needed to be able to invite more parents than just people in Portland and Vancouver, and the best way to get out to more people was through Facebook."

With her daughter's help, Boyd built the group a Facebook page, and Mommies with Guides was born.

OFFERING SUPPORT

Today, Mommies with Guides boasts 2,400 followers from across the globe. Blind parents share their ups and downs, their triumphs and trials. They celebrate when puppies become fully certified guides, and mourn the heartbreak when an old and faithful companion passes away. "Blindness does

The page is full of photos and stories. In one post, Mommies with Guides secretary Braden Dashney tells the story of walking through a parking lot when his guide dog, Fonzie, suddenly pulled him into the street. He was about to scold the dog when he realized a car had been rapidly backing out of its parking space. It was a close call, and Fonzie had saved his life.

"That's got to be about five times that he has either refused a command that would have put us in danger, or taken some crazy evasive action to avoid getting hit," Dashney wrote in the post. "Thanks buddy, extra treats today."

Many people use the page to ask parenting questions like, "What's the best way that you have found to feed your baby with a spoon?"

Feeding a squirmy baby is a relatively straightforward task for a sighted person. When you're blind, it takes some strategy. And so people will give tips like, "I find the corner of my child's mouth with my finger, then I guide the spoon there with my other hand."

The group has encouraged people who wanted kids, but thought that their blindness would make the task impossible, to go for it and have children. It's spurred others to try the guide dog lifestyle.

The community has encouraged Boyd, too. Several years ago, doctors began to suspect that Boyd's youngest son, now 6, had glaucoma. To be sure, they needed to examine her son under anesthesia. Boyd was terrified. Would her son be OK under anesthesia? Had she somehow passed on her eye disease? She posted about the situation and her fears on Mommies with Guides, and the support poured out.

"All of these other moms and dads shared their stories of how the same thing had happened to them." Boyd recalls. "It was so reassuring to hear that this was not just a crazy thing that's happening to me and my family. This is happening to other blind people and their families, too."

She wasn't alone. None of them were alone. And that made all the difference.

Showing Grit

not define us.

We are all kinds

of women and

men, parents and

grandparents, and

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parenting just as

fully as sighted

people."

Faced with hardship, many people just give up. They adopt a victim mentality or decide they're incapable of overcoming the obstacles before them. Not Boyd. She's no quitter. She's a community builder, an instigator, and, perhaps most importantly, a stubborn, relentless optimist.

"I have never even entertained the idea of 'I just have to give up' or 'I can't do that," says Boyd. "When a challenge is in front of me, I want to get past it, over it, and beyond it. I have appreciated the people who have made a difference in my life by being there for me, by supporting me, by walking through the mud

> with me. That's been huge. And so I want to do that for other people."

> Today, in addition to running Mommies with Guides, Boyd is studying clinical mental health counseling as a graduate student at George Fox University. She hopes to become a therapist and help veterans better connect to their communities and to the people in their lives.

> "That's so important for their life and for the lives of the people they love," she explains.

> Boyd believes that her life experience uniquely equips her to speak into struggling veterans' lives. "Whatever they're struggling with - maybe it's some sort of life-changing disability, maybe they came back and the person they are married to is not interested in continuing a relationship - sitting down with a therapist who has been through a lot of challenges themselves makes a difference. I can say, 'I

know that things will get better.' And they're going to know that's authentic."

For now, Boyd hopes to continue inspiring other blind parents to live their lives to the fullest.

"Blind or not, you can be a fully participating parent," Boyd says. "I have met so many people who told me that because their mom or dad was blind, they didn't get to play sports or go swimming when they were growing up ... stories of how people in their blindness limited not just themselves but their children. If I could say anything to a blind parent it would be, 'Raise the bar for yourself so that you raise the bar for your kids."

The way Boyd sees it, there has never been a better time in history to be blind than right now. Voice technology and mobile apps make the world so much more accessible for the blind than even a decade ago. The playing field is leveling. For those with a supportive community at their backs and the courage to face challenges head on, the opportunities are there for the taking.

"Don't let fear stop you," Boyd says.

She sure hasn't.

"We realized that there weren't a whole lot of resources out

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'THE LORD IS A REFUGE'

By Kimberly Felton

Forced to move from Iraq due to his family's Christian faith, Marvin Hozi has thrived, overcoming numerous obstacles to earn back-to-back full-ride scholarships from George Fox and Stanford

he message was clear: Move out or die.

This wasn't graffiti scrawled on a building in inner-city gang territory. It came in the form of a notice posted on Marvin Hozi's parents' house in an upscale neighborhood in Iraq. From "Your neighbors," it read. His parents could not confirm who wrote it, but they believed it.

Hozi was 6 years old. He does not remember much of that time, but he knows his Iraqi-born Christian family was the minority, and the Muslim-majority country would no longer tolerate them. The family was on deadline.

New home. New culture. New language.

With their lives in danger, the United Nations granted the Hozi family refugee status and allowed their move to Jordan. They left their home within the week. Jordan was just the first stop. Next was New York, then California, and finally Hermiston, Oregon, where relatives lived at that time. With approximately one year and a birthday in nearly every location, Hozi was 10 when he, his parents and his younger brother settled in Eastern Oregon's largest town, in a rocky and arid region of the Northwest that reminded them of home.

With the agility of childhood and the strength of his family supporting him, Hozi settled into each culture and community, discovering that his new country held vast diversity. "Very different communities, New York, Oregon and California," Hozi says. "I had pretty significant experiences taken from all of them. In order to adapt, I had to interact with the community and just become involved in what they were doing."

A minority in their home country, the refugee family remained a minority at each new stop. But Hozi never saw that as a handicap.

"It's a pretty fun experience ... taking all the experience from all the communities and having it used throughout your life," he says. "It provides a broader knowledge of what's going on around you. It's really useful."

When his family arrived in Hermiston, they spoke only Arabic. Hozi, then in the fifth grade, decided to change this, teaching himself English by watching hours upon hours of movies and television shows.

Perseverance, his parents say, is the strongest characteristic they have seen their son develop through their multiple moves.

"He strives for knowledge and continuously works hard despite the hard challenges he faces every day," says his father, Atheer.

"The Lord is a

In high school, Hozi discovered the language of computer science and quickly learned that this skill could help others. As a junior, he and his team won the Congressional App Challenge and a trip to Washington, D.C., for developing a "Touch and Talk" Chrome app, helping students with speech or dexterity issues. "I brought together a team in computer science, and we worked on this project that really contributed to my community," he says. "That was a change that I loved to bring in my community."

In 2018, Hozi graduated as a valedictorian with two full scholarship offers – from George Fox and Stanford. He saw no reason to choose between the two. Instead, he asked Stanford if they would apply his scholarship to a master's program. Stanford agreed. Hozi's goal is a doctorate in computer science, focusing on reverse engineering cyber security.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

Hozi believes anything is possible. His family escaped Iraq. They were able, with patience and perseverance, to immigrate to the U.S. He did not ask if he could learn English; he determined to learn it. He didn't ask if he could attend Stanford University; he applied and got a full-ride scholarship.

Hozi's tenacity and optimism find their roots in his father, a man who, like the biblical Joseph, had to lead his family to safety. Through four years of uprooting and resettling, Atheer held Psalm 9:9-10 like a banner before them: "The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you."



refuge for the

oppressed, a

stronghold in

times of trouble.

Those who know

your name trust

in you, for you,

Lord, have never

forsaken those

who seek you."

- Psalm 9:9-10

"I have used this verse from the Bible since our departure from Iraq to encourage my family," says the elder Hozi. "It perfectly describes our journey and is a verse that gives hope and encouragement to us every day."

"That connection with faith has helped me historically push through my challenges by relying on God and that he has a plan for me," Hozi says. "So I rely on my faith pretty extensively every day to help me get past challenges."

CHOOSING COMMUNITY

While Hozi's friends and dormmates occasionally ask questions about his past – usually while playing ping-pong in the dorm lobby – his story, common in other parts of the world but not on the university campus, does not figure strongly in his day-to-day life. Yet Hozi credits his journey for developing his deep respect for community and his ability to face challenges.

"I like to think that since I've overcome such challenges, I'm now better adapted to face challenges, which I'm grateful for," he says. "I've definitely experienced challenges at George Fox, and because of my background I haven't thought about giving up and just pushed through the challenges."

Having to face obstacles himself, Hozi has grown comfortable in the role of helping others overcome them, whether by standing up to a bully in middle school or by helping friends in high school who struggled with academics.

"I believe by helping the community, it's a cycle," he says. "You help the community and the community returns to you ... they provide support. The community's kind of your foundation, so it's really an essential part of your life."

Hozi's favorite example of community is not about him. Several years ago, a teacher from a town near Hermiston was fighting cancer. When Hermiston's basketball team played the team from that teacher's school, both sides of the court hoisted banners and signs of encouragement. Hermiston then created fundraisers to support the teacher.

"So, my community ran donations for another city's teacher," he says. "I found that to be pretty astonishing, how they stood up and they were self-less, caring not for themselves but for another teacher from another city. That was pretty amazing to me. I

learned the value of how communities interact, and I learned to admire that value and just not take it for granted."

This conviction led Hozi to George Fox University, where he found the academic program he wanted and the community he needed. Here, being Iraqi and a refugee are, if anything, positive. "I love being different," he says. "That gives me motivation to continue doing what I love, and it serves as a basis for just kind of being proud of what I do."

Proud of his family's courage and faith. Proud of his academic achievements. And proud of the community at George Fox University that continues to encourage him to believe anything is possible.

STRONG OF HEART

Emery Miller's desire to better the lives of those around him was birthed out of tragedy – a life-threatening heart defect that fueled his determination to defy the odds

By Sean Patterson

word of advice for those who happen to meet Emery Miller: Don't tell him he can't accomplish something. You're only fueling his fire and setting yourself up to be proven wrong.

Miller should have died before the age of 1. Born with a hole in his heart and a failing aortic valve, he required four open-heart surgeries before the age of 7. As a child, the hospital became a second home – so much so that the facility offered his parents a reserved parking spot. He literally became the face of Phoenix Children's Hospital, his smiling mug shot beaming on promotional posters encouraging people to support children like him.

All the while, Miller kept baffling his doctors. "Based on their tests, I should have been on the floor turning blue," he says. "Instead, I was playing with toys. They said I was the happiest sick kid they'd ever seen."

Doctors told him he would never play sports. He played T-ball. He was then told he would never play at the coach-pitch level. He did. Middle school ball? "Out of the question," they said. He did that as well. Varsity baseball was the next test. Mission accomplished.

Today, Miller can't help but chuckle when he ponders this reality: The kid who was told he would never be active – never

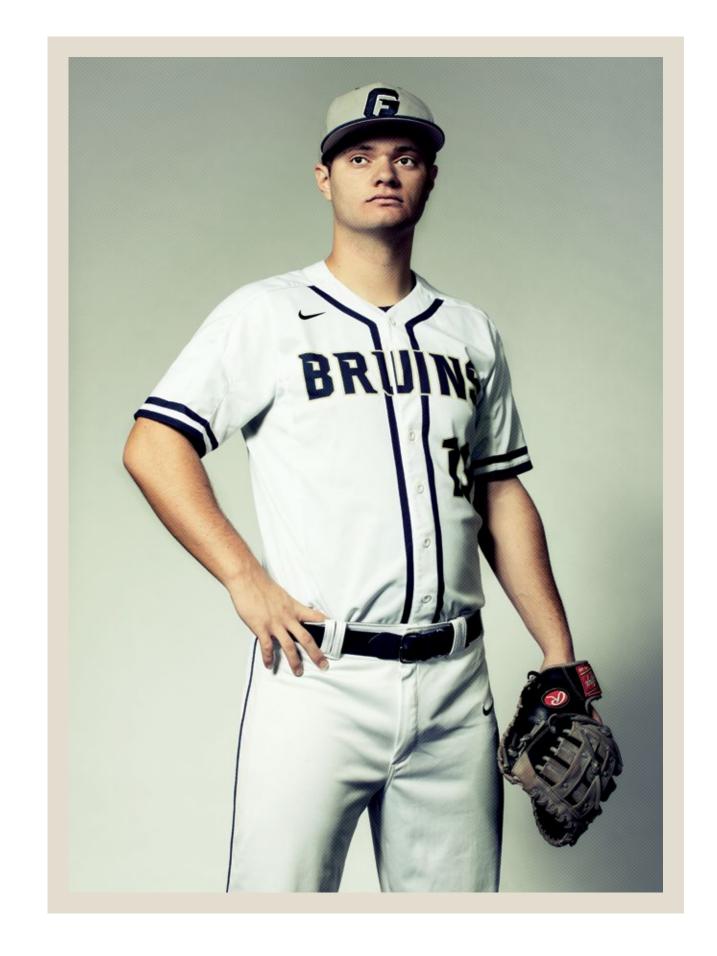


live a "normal life" – is now playing collegiate baseball at George Fox University, overseeing a charity that's operating in 13 states, and serving as a spokesperson for national organizations that include the American Heart Association and United Way.

"In my life I've been told a lot of things," says Miller, a sophomore finance and management double major from Phoenix. "But anybody who knows me knows I have a 'Whatever you tell me I'm going to prove you wrong' attitude. In fact, I enjoy hearing people tell me I can't do something. I would love some of my early-childhood doctors who doubted me to come watch me play ball. They wouldn't recognize me."

Miller's defiance of the odds is fueled by a choice he made early on: Don't let negative experiences define you. It's a belief that so resonates with him that he chose those very words as the tagline for his charity, Team Emery. Rather than let misfortune take you down, use it as motivation to fight back and, in doing so, inspire others. It's that resolve that led him to start Team Emery – a nonprofit launched by a simple idea he had as a fifth-grader.

"I had this thought that, if I could give a token of gratitude to help out another family, that would be sweet," he says. "So I gave a teddy bear to another kid, and my mom posted something on



Facebook. Within 20 minutes, we had 45 likes, 20 comments and five people saying they wanted to donate bears."

Miller didn't know it at the time, but his gesture of kindness was about to catch fire. Teddy bear donations began trickling in, and as word spread, the bear parade intensified. In its first year, Team Emery donated 400 bears to Phoenix Children's Hospital – one for each child who had been admitted. Another 1,200 were given out in the charity's second year, 1,600 in its third, and 2,200 in its fourth. All told, Team Emery has donated more than 44,000 bears in eight years

after raising a record annual total (9,000 bears) in 2018. Looking ahead, the charity plans to add a scholarship in 2019, named in memory of one of Miller's childhood friends, Dustin Tack, who died five years ago.

"When you say, 'You want to make a difference? Come, follow me,' you'd be surprised how many people get in line behind you," Miller says. "People want to help. They want to make a difference. They just need to be inspired on how to do so."

Team Emery was officially estab-

lished as a nonprofit in 2016, and ultimately Miller hopes to see the organization operate in all 50 states. It's just one branch of his charitable endeavors. Through speaking engagements at high-profile events – including those where he's spoken alongside former NFL and television celebrities – Miller has helped raise more than \$300,000 for the American Heart Association. At one particular event where he was being honored for his community service, Miller had the opportunity to meet the event's keynote

"Michael Phelps mentioned me in his speech. How cool is that?" Miller laughs. "Seriously, none of this would have been possible if I hadn't been born with this heart issue. I never would have had the opportunity to meet Michael Phelps, or speak at an event in Washington, D.C., where President Obama's top aides were in attendance. Nobody would have ever chosen the start I had in life, but I'm doing my best to make something good

speaker - 23-time Olympic swimming gold med-

alist Michael Phelps.

come of it."

Wherever he goes – the classroom, the ball-field, the hospitals – Miller is compelled to seek those who are down and encourage them. It's a desire born out of his experience and nurtured by the love, support and encouragement he's received from his parents, teachers and coaches. "Medically speaking, I shouldn't be here, so why am I here?" he asks, pausing to reflect on the philosophical nature of the question. "I don't ask, 'Why me?' I ask, 'Why was I given this opportunity?""

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Miller's message of hope and encouragement serves him well on campus and on the field of play. George Fox head baseball coach Marty Hunter calls him the "ultimate team guy." Fellow teammates admire his determination and good-natured attitude, and he considers the baseball team his "other family." The guy who, as a freshman, was the out-of-stater who knew no one on campus has transformed into a mentor to younger players. To them all, his message is the same.

"Bad things are going to happen to you in life," he says. "The storms are going to come, so get ready. The key

is to not let them define you. Don't let negative experiences ruin your life. It's easy to do, and sometimes it is easier to lay down and say, 'This stinks.' But God never said life was going to be perfect. What he does say is, during those rough times, he's going to be there with you."

Miller is also a firm believer in the exponential power of generosity. "I don't think people realize how much they can accomplish by doing the simple things," he says. "It doesn't have to be big. Just give \$1 to the American Heart Association. Donate a bear. Play bingo with someone at Friendsview. Just get involved and change the life of one person. They, in turn, will hopefully do the same for someone else.

"I guess that's what I think of when I hear 'stand tall.' When you stand tall it will inspire those around you to stand tall with you. When you have an entire community doing so, it turns into a state and, hopefully one day, a nation. When that happens, what's going to stop us?"



AND THEN IT ALL CHANGED

By Kimberly Felton



Cancer opened a new world of questions for Delana Lincoln and Rylan Schubkegel. They don't have answers – but they have hope.

odgkin's Lymphoma, stage 4."

Rylan Schubkegel, 18 at the time, saw the moisture gather in his mom's eyes – but this mom of two young-adult, active, healthy (healthy, right?) boys maintained control. He saw the grief on his dad's face, the shock on his brother's face, and turned to the

"OK, so what's next?" the teen asked. What he thought was a pulled muscle led to a week of tests and scans at Seattle Children's Hospital. Blood work, a urine sample and X-rays on the first day suggested a malignancy. By the end of the first week, CT and PET scans and a bone marrow aspiration pointed to Hodgkin's Lymphoma. A week later, the biopsy confirmed the doctor's guess.

"I was the one who was gritting my teeth and saying, 'All right. I've got treatment, all this stuff, ahead of me, but it's not going to get in the way of my life," Schubkegel recalls. What he really wanted to know was, "Can I go climbing tomorrow?"

Later, he would understand the hellish journey of battling cancer. But in this moment, the roller hockey athlete just wanted to get it done.

Delana Lincoln found out she had cancer the day she was cured. In her upside-down story, infections led to tests, then scans, then – three months into her journey – surgery to remove a mass in her bladder. After two agonizing weeks of no news, the doctor told her she had a malignant tumor in her bladder – a cancer that typically shows up in 80-year-old people, not teenagers. The surgery removed it. "It's gone, and it should never come back," the doctor said. No radiation. No chemo. No hair loss. Done.

Following the morning appointment, Lincoln asked her mom to drop her off at school. "It's just a normal day. I'm fine," she thought. Spotting her boyfriend and best friends between classes, she joined them – and started sobbing.

"I felt like I was out of my body and was like, 'I'm not sure why I'm upset. I don't know what's going on," she recalls. Suspended between celebration and grief, grappling with her near miss, she called her mom to take her home. "There was no reason that I should've had this. I was like, 'This feels like I need to be celebrating, but I don't know how to celebrate it."

LIFE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME

Lincoln had just begun her senior year of high school when the infections started. Leadership meetings gave

way to doctor appointments. But she didn't talk about it. She just wanted life to be normal – and there was nothing normal about a girl who hates needles enduring an IV, lying still for a CT scan, wondering what they would find. Without making the conscious decision, she ignored this precarious part of her life as much as possible. Enough people knew; the family had support. Yet a number of friends at school had no idea.

But there was no ignoring Schubkegel's attack against cancer that began at the end of high school. Chemo and radiation kept him from his job at the grocery store and gave him a new bald, brave look. The hair was easier to lose than losing a year of college. He was accepted into the William Penn Honors Program at George Fox, where his brother was entering his junior year. But college would have to wait, because retching out his guts would not.

Still, Schubkegel made use of his forced year off. He missed a summer of work but went back to his job at the grocery store when he could. He published songs on iTunes, developed a small business selling greeting cards and programmed his own computer game. And he went into remission.

"Recurrence," as it turns out, is a dirty word.

Five months after ending his bout with cancer, the cancer was back for another round. It's harder the second time, when you know what's coming. Harder to remain certain of your path when college is delayed again. "Cancer isn't

"To me, George Fox symbolized hope," Schubkegel says. "I planned on pouring my heart and soul into the mental and spiritual education I would receive. Fox is where I committed myself to pursue my dreams. ... It became synonymous with my hope for the future."

The second treatment – hitting back hard at the aggressive disease – was difficult.

"The more medical trials I had to endure, the longer I had to postpone my education. I became more despondent," Schubkegel recalls. "Did God not want me to attend Fox? Did he not care about my passions and

dreams?" Questions like these swirled about in his mind as the chemo coursed through his body.

In the midst of this second battle, the university joined the fight. The honors program stipulates entrance only in the fall. But the program director made adjustments to allow a late entrance, sent the extensive reading list to Schubkegel, and told him to be ready to join discussions on campus in January.

"My family and peers ... helped assure me that my dreams were within God's plan," Schubkegel says. "I became wholly convinced when George Fox gave me the opportunity to join the honors program during the second semester. This strengthened my resolve, allowing me to endure the suffering while rejoicing in hope."

Schubkegel moved into campus housing in January of 2019 and finished his second round of treatment a month later. The most recent scan was clear. "The doctors say there is no cancerous activity in my body, but that's also what they said after treatment in 2017," he says. "Medically, the odds are in my favor. However, my confidence in my health has been somewhat uprooted."



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Even Lincoln, who is told a recurrence is unlikely, has released her hold on certainty. "If it was random the first time, and not supposed to happen to me, why won't it happen again?" she asks. "Sometimes I get into this questioning mode and I tell myself, 'Stop. Give it to God. He knows the whole story.' He literally knows the whole story."

FINDING THE GOOD IN THE BAD

Safely within her identity of a normal freshman at George Fox University last fall, Lincoln decided to share that story – at least what she knows so far. "George Fox is all about being known," she says. "That's their thing. How freeing is it to know that people know you and they know you well, and they know your story?

"I prayed about it, and a year after the day of my surgery I made an Instagram post with an ugly selfie I took in the hospital ... and I literally shared the whole story. The responses I got were awesome. They're like, 'This is awesome. You were able to do so much still, but also be going through this. This is so inspirational.'

"This is why I wanted to share this, for people to be inspired by it."

As the student who arrived mid-program at college due to cancer treatment, Schubkegel couldn't hide his story. "I might be known as that kid who had cancer," he says, "but ... it allows

for this vulnerability between people; it allows you to connect on a much deeper level and suffer with people."

Lincoln, a social work major, and Schubkegel, a computer science major, find themselves more aware and thankful for the good things – large and small – than perhaps they used to be. Their friendship, for example, would not have happened outside of this shared journey.

Yet they are careful to say that the good does not justify the bad. They are deeply grateful for the good, while refusing to tie up their stories with a pretty bow.

"The way I look at it," Schubkegel says, "... for a Christian, there's something very powerful and sig-

nificant about suffering. It doesn't matter if ... that suffering will bring about some tangible good in this world – that really isn't the point of suffering.

"But I do think in suffering ... you are actually suffering with Christ in whatever you're going through. That understanding has shed a whole new light on what I've gone through and what may come in the future. ... Cancer isn't the reason I have faith, but it has strengthened the faith I already had."

The victory against hopelessness, Schubkegel says, is more important than his victory against cancer. "It has prepared me to endure whatever suffering God allows in my life, and always to rejoice in the hope while enduring the suffering."

"I came to a place of 'not everything happens for a reason, but God works ... good out of all the things that happen," Lincoln says. "I can't see that good right now, and I don't know how long it'll be until I can see the good, but there is going to be good because we are promised that. That's when I finally felt comfortable sharing my story, because ... if God is promising that this story is going to have good, let's tell the whole world."

THE ANTI-INSTAGRAM

By Andrew Shaughnessy

"Yes. I'm an

entrepreneur. I've

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forward with that.

But ultimately

I'm a dad. I'm a

husband."

reg Lutze is a busy man. As cofounder and chief experience officer of VSCO (Visual Supply Company), the 2000 George Fox alumnus is the head and heart behind one of the top creative tools on the market. VSCO's mobile photo editing and sharing app has more than 45 million active users, a robust following of talented creatives and a stack of awards.

Yet, despite the success and accolades, Lutze has managed to stay grounded.

In a market that demands users chase likes, shares and followers, he built a product that fosters authentic creativity, connection and growth. In a business culture that lauds loud achievers, he leads with quiet character. And for Lutze, that begins with family.

"Yes, I'm an entrepreneur. I've got a startup. I've got to keep pushing forward with that," Lutze says, speaking to George Fox business and art students. "But ultimately I'm a dad. I'm a husband."

"We have to prioritize what's important," he adds. "I don't schedule meetings after 4 p.m. so I can get home with the kids. I try to take Thursday mornings off so I can go get coffee with my wife. It's not perfect. Sometimes I have to travel. But I think just acknowledging that is a start."

It's not the message one might expect from a young executive thriving in the hard-charging tech world. But then again, Lutze and the company he helped create are far from typical.

STEPPING INTO THE GAP

Lutze graduated from George Fox with a degree in business administration. He spent the next decade working as a designer and creative director for agencies in Seattle and New York, including serving as an art director for Microsoft's Xbox team. Much of his work was in the music industry, creating websites and branding for rock stars and hip-hop artists. It was one of Lutze's designs, a website for the indie band Jimmy Eat World, that caught the attention of VSCO CEO and cofounder Joel Flory.

"We formed a relationship from that and started talking about everything: faith, family, what would a creative company that we would really be proud of look like?" says Lutze.

Those conversations soon transformed into action, and in 2011 Lutze and Flory cofounded VSCO in Oakland, California. They entered the market at the perfect time. In 2011, most people were still using Instagram as their primary tool to edit and share photos. When Instagram was bought by Facebook and evolved into a full-blown social network, its atmosphere and content changed. With the change, a vacuum emerged in the mobile photo editing market, and in stepped VSCO.

Since its inception, VSCO has garnered more than 50 million downloads, and has been named Apple's "App of the Year," one of Google Play's "Best Apps," and one of Fast Company's "Top 10 Most Innovative Companies on Social Media." The speed with which the app gained popularity was no less thrilling. When VSCO launched version 2.0 in 2013, it had over 1 million downloads in the first week.

VSCO combines powerful photo-editing tools with a creative community. Built to be accessible and empowering to beginners, the app provides preset filters (or "presets" in VSCO lingo) that endow mobile photos with the visual qualities of old-school film. For more advanced photographers and designers, the editing

options go far more granular than Instagram or your run-of-the-mill photo editing app, allowing users to crop, sharpen and adjust everything from white balance to skin tone. You can even take photos in RAW format, enabling even greater creative control in edits.

CULTIVATING CREATIVITY

On the social side, VSCO's Discover page allows users to browse, find and follow other artists for inspiration. Looking to build a space for people to take creative risks, grow and discover the fruits of others' creativity without the pressure inherent to social media platforms, Lutze and Flory intentionally left out popularity metrics – no public follower

counts, likes or comments.

"We don't have numbers. Those just aren't important to us," Lutze says. "As a result, you get people who show who they are, not who they hope someone else sees them as. It's a different dynamic, and we want that creativity. We want that place where people can be honest, where they can be themselves and know that they are valuable just as they are."

In a 2017 Creative Mornings talk, Lutze told the story of a friend who was passionate about portrait photography, but because portraits didn't garner likes and comments on Instagram, he only

posted landscapes. His creative passion remained hidden, and to Lutze, that was incredibly sad.

"Social media is fun," he admitted. "It's a way to connect people. It's a great marketing tool. On the flip side, there's a lot of mental health issues that are evolving from it. People feel an incredible amount of pressure to perform, to show who they're not, and that can be wearing on your spirit."

Most profit-driven businesspeople would look at VSCO's predecessors and competitors and see only dollar signs. But Lutze is driven by a vision to empower and connect culture creators. Though he does not consider VSCO a "Christian company," his faith and character have informed VSCO's



STORIES



"On any given day, in every country in the world, millions of people are using what Greg has helped create to express themselves and grow as creatives," says Flory. "One of the things that has impressed me most about Greg ... is that it is never about the numbers, the fame, or even what the potential personal gain could be. It has always been and will always be about the individual creators whose lives are being impacted by VSCO."

Passion + Skills + Values

After a recent visit to campus, Lutze walked away excited and hopeful for the future entrepreneurs and creative graduates coming out of George Fox.

"You can sense this passion in them, this drive," he says. "They're really tying together what they're learning about business to their values and faith. That combination is such an important one."

That combination of passion, knowledge and character is rare, but it's one that Lutze exemplifies. He leads amidst a business

culture that glorifies long hours and workaholics. There's always one more meeting, one more project, one more thing to do. Yet, in the midst of the madness, he has managed to build a company culture that values kindness and balance, and a product that cultivates fearless creativity and encourages artists around the world to be themselves.

"Sometimes standing tall is about being humble," Lutze says. "It's about listening. It's about doing the quiet things that go unnoticed. It's about admitting you're wrong."

"At VSCO, our core values are 'Always Moving Forward,' 'Be You,' 'Build Together,' 'Creator First' and 'Stay Humble,'" Flory adds. "Those values were born out of Greg's leadership style, and whenever I talk to new employees I tell them to watch Greg as he lives these five values every day. Greg has the 'superpower' of bringing people together and making everyone feel heard."

Sometimes, courage looks like quiet tenacity: choosing to model character and balance rather than bravado and dominance. Where most bow and scrape to the almighty dollar and the tyranny of more, Lutze is standing tall.



In the 39 years **Jim Foster** worked at George Fox, he served in almost every administrative role in academics, from department chair to interim provost. He was dean, at one time or another, over every faculty area at the university.

What kept him at George Fox for nearly four decades, however, had little to do with administrative power and everything to do with students. At his core, Foster is a teacher, and it's the classroom experience he'll miss most as he calls it a career this summer.

"I love teaching, and on the few occasions when I did not teach in a semester I felt like I was disconnected from what the university is all about," he says. "I think I am a teacher at heart and could never quite leave it behind."

As much as he enjoyed his tenure, however, he knew this was the time to step aside. "When you find yourself teaching the children of the first students you taught it is affirming, since their parents wanted their children to have the same experience, but it is also a reminder about how much time has passed. Time to retire."

Known for his quick wit and humor, Foster often used both to keep his students engaged in the material – or, in one instance, to keep them from failing. Such was the case when one particular student was in jeopardy of flunking because he didn't meet the class's participation requirement.

"One year I instituted a policy that if students missed a certain

number of classes they would not pass the class," he recalls. "I had one student who kept missing class, and finally toward the end of the semester he missed again, dropping below the minimum number of attendance days. So, I took the whole class to his dorm and got him out of bed."

The literal wake-up call was just one instance in which Foster endeared himself to his students. He also took the time to get to know them outside the classroom, as he did on a number of Juniors Abroad trips. "On one trip with Jim I recall hearing a lot of laughter coming from the first floor," President Robin Baker recalls. "I went down and found Jim playing a card game with the students called 'President.' It was clear students had embraced him as both a leader and part of the group."

Foster says his favorite class to teach was Human Development because, unlike some subjects, "it relates to everyone in the class" and "is all about them, from the beginning of their lives to wherever they are in development."

As for what he's most looking forward to in retirement, Foster is quick to answer: "Flexibility. Monday mornings. Traveling with my wife during the off-season – something we could not do with an academic schedule. And I plan to continue to write novels."

After all, Foster's "George Fox Book" – 39 years in the making – has already been written.



avigating jungles – of both the literal and figurative variety – kept **Viki Defferding's** teaching career interesting, fulfilling and unpredictable in her 30 years at George Fox. As a chaperone for Juniors Abroad trips to Central America, she got a taste of the tropics firsthand. As an associate professor of Spanish, she had the opportunity to, as she puts it, "guide students through the jungle of language."

"I loved watching the lights go on as a student realized that something in another language actually makes sense," she says. "I also loved teaching the Literature of Spain and Literature of Latin America classes, working together with students to discover many of the hidden meanings of the texts."

Defferding came to George Fox in the late 1980s after teaching previously in public schools. The university's emphasis on faith – and its encouragement to express that faith freely in the classroom – invigorated her. "I came from secular schools, so it has always been such a joy and privilege to be able to share the gospel, pray and worship together with students in the classroom," she says. "To have been able to work, pray, share and cry with my colleagues has also been very precious."

The job also came with plenty of laughter. One memory that stands out came on a Juniors Abroad trip to Central America. "We went zip lining, and one of my colleagues braked too early and didn't have the momentum to zip through to the next station. She was dangling helplessly until a nice worker zipped out to rescue her. We've had a lot of laughs over that one."

Fittingly, Defferding concluded her George Fox career with a Juniors Abroad trip to Spain, Portugal and Morocco this spring. Looking ahead, she plans to travel, especially to Central America, where she's involved in ongoing school and church projects in the

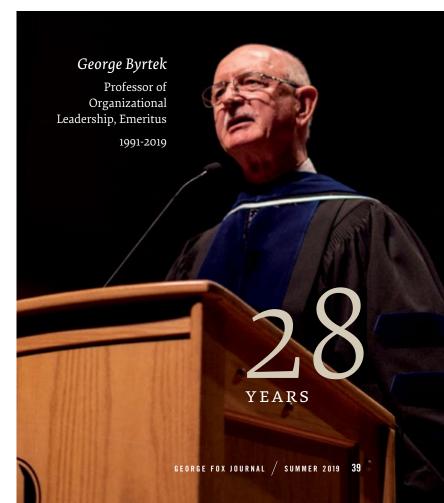
town of Copan Ruinas, Honduras. And, of course, there will be more time to spend with grandchildren – "a lot more time," she says.

or 28 years, **George Byrtek** freely admitted to his students they were part of what he calls his "conspiracy to make the world a better place through their ongoing influence." He did so by helping students gain insight into how individuals and teams function in the context of organizations and equipping them with practical tools they could use in the business and non-profit worlds.

Byrtek, a professor of organizational leadership in the university's Department of Professional Studies, says two things kept him at George Fox for more than a quarter of a century: the opportunity to make a significant difference in the lives of students, and the joy of working with colleagues who shared his passion to educate tomorrow's influencers.

"Having previously worked in the financial services industry for more than 20 years, the contrast between working in business and working at a Christian university has been stark and a clear fulfillment of a sense of calling," he says. "Serving Christ and helping students actualize the potential he has invested in them has made my work a joy."

Originally from Wisconsin, Byrtek wasn't familiar with Oregon's culture when he began teaching at George Fox in the early 1990s. Commuting from Newberg to Eugene, where his initial cohorts met, he was bewildered by the Grateful Dead bumper stickers and the "1960s hippie culture" of the community. "When I shared this observation with my colleagues, they just laughed and



said, 'Welcome to Oregon," he recalls.

Byrtek certainly felt at home at the Portland Center, where his favorite classes to teach were Organizational Behavior, Operations Management and Strategic Management. He enjoyed challenging students because he knew that their struggle to grasp the material – and overcoming that struggle – would serve them well beyond graduation.

In retirement, Byrtek still plans to invest in lives, though this time on a more personal level. "God has blessed my wife Meg and me with 13 grandchildren, and a good portion of my time will shift from investing in students to investing in those young lives," he says. "So, one could say my conspiracy to make the world a better place through others continues."

Series teve Delamarter was in his 30s when he distinctly discovered his life's calling: to minister to the health and vitality of the church by helping its leaders love Scripture and read it responsibly. Twenty-six years of teaching at Portland Seminary gave him the venue to fulfill that call.

The professor of Old Testament's passion for ancient texts took him on numerous trips to the ancient world, among them a 2004 sabbatical that included stops in Israel to research the Dead Sea Scrolls of Qumran and to Ethiopia, one of the first countries to adopt Christianity and home to priceless manuscripts of the Ethiopian Orthodox tradition.

Ultimately, though, Delamarter says it was the people - the

students he guided in the classroom and his coworkers at the seminary – that made it a joy to go to work in the morning.

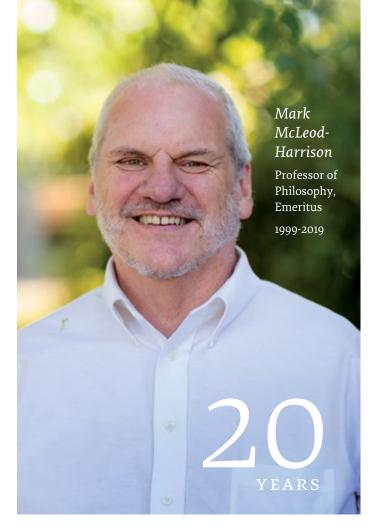
"I've been blessed to work with committed and capable colleagues in our department," he says. "But what I've loved most is the joy of engaging with students. Seminary students span all ages, genders, races and theological persuasions. To invite them into a learning community and watch them become the primary medium for one another's learning is very gratifying."

Delamarter's favorite classes to teach reflect his love of Scripture: Introduction to the Old Testament, Spirituality and Creation, History and Literature of the Second Temple, and Hebrew. He also relished the opportunity to usher students through what he calls a "rite of passage": making their presentations at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature.

"We digitized manuscripts, transcribed texts from the manuscripts, aligned texts for computer analysis, generated statistical data, debated about the proper interpretation of the data, and devised the best ways in which to visualize and explain our findings," he says. "Then, we'd all head out to the meeting, where about 12,000 people from North America and beyond meet each year to share their work. Those were great experiences."

Though he's retiring from the seminary this summer, his scholarship will continue. He is currently involved in four major projects that relate to manuscripts of the Ethiopian Orthodox tradition. His motivation can be summed up in a question: "What can we learn from people by studying the marks they left?"





he classroom has proven to be a place of lighthearted discussions, laughter and some pain for **Mark McLeod-Harrison**, who leaves the university this summer after 20 years as a professor of philosophy.

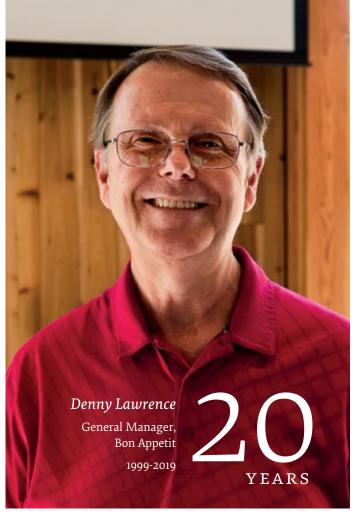
Classes such as Philosophy of Art were among his favorites. "Art is just weird – and terrific – and no one agrees about what it is, so it makes for fun discussions," he says. "My students have often inspired me with their questions, their answers, and their humor. That keeps one alive in the classroom."

Conversely, McLeod-Harrison has experienced heartbreak. One of the most profound moments in his career came after one of his students, J.J. Avery, died in a car accident. "His father found one of J.J.'s papers on his computer after the accident and sent it along to me," he recalls. "The course was on mysticism, and J.J.'s final sentence was, 'But we'll have to wait until we die to find out."

McLeod-Harrison may be retiring from George Fox, but he plans to continue working on special projects. He's uncertain if he'll remain in the area. "We may move to Canada – or someplace sunnier," he laughs. "We'll see."

e was the man overseeing Bon Appetit's operation on campus as thousands of meals were being served over the past 20 years. It comes as no surprise, then, that **Denny Lawrence's** most indelible memories had to do with the joy – and frustration – associated with service.

"I have truly loved working with and for our students," he says.



"They are an amazing group who have challenged us, supported us, gotten frustrated with us at times, but who have always done so with grace."

The job wasn't without its challenges. With university enrollment up dramatically earlier this decade, he and his staff were hard-pressed to keep pace in a kitchen that was built for a much smaller clientele in the 1960s. On one occasion, he thought perhaps the Bon Appetit staff would be liberated.

"A fire broke out in the ceiling of Klages," he says. "We couldn't figure out the source of it until the fire department came using a heat sensor and put it out. Afterwards [former plant services director] Clyde Thomas and I both agreed we missed our chance for a new dining room, as we should have let it burn."

Lawrence and his crew did get that new dining facility with the opening of Canyon Commons in 2016. But as welcome as that was, it was the relationships made that he most treasures.

"One of my fondest memories was mentoring a young single mom who worked for us," he says. "She had grown up in a dysfunctional family and had decided to change the legacy of her family. She took classes, picked up extra shifts, got her GED and attended college. I was so proud of her that we both wept. Today, she is a manager of a health clinic."

So, what's next for Lawrence? "Spending more time with our eight grandkids, working on my golf game and tending to our home. It's been somewhat neglected, so it's time for me to get my fingers dirty again and help with the landscaping and gardens."

By Barry Hubbell

1940-49

Norval Hadley (G49), named to George Fox's list of 125 most noteworthy and significant people during its 125th anniversary observance, is sharing his life's story in a new book, Going the Extra Mile: Adventures with God in Seventy-Five Countries, published in July by Barclay Press. At 91, he is the only surviving member of the famed Four Flats Quartet, a group formed in the late 1940s that, in 1956, became the World Vision Quartet that sang around the world for 15 years. The quartet appeared with Billy Graham, performed on national (ABC) radio, and led two evangelistic tours of Asia. He remained with World Vision for 28 years. He also served as director of World Vision Relief and as director of Prayer Ministries. In 1971, he was named superintendent of Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends, serving from 1971 to 1979. Later, he administered Friends outreach work in more than seven countries as executive director of Friends Mission. He also led New Call to Peacemaking, a national cooperative move-

1950-59

Darwin (Cub) Grimm (G57, MA67), at 85, is winning sports awards. Last summer at the Montana Senior Olympics, he competed in nine events over seven hours, taking eight firstplace finishes and setting five meet records. During the summer he competed in three meets, winning 21 gold medals in three states. A strength and fitness coach for more than 60 years, he has competed in senior adult track and field competitions for more than 25 years, specializing in sprinting and jumping events. A retired Nazarene pastor who lives in Sheridan, Oregon, he's also published a book, Life is Relationship, and has created a card program called "Keys to Athletic Success" to help others eniov an abundant life.

Floyd Weitzel (G57) continues leadership in a group he began 37 years ago in Eugene, Oregon, last fall leading two bird-watching walks in the area. The organization, Birds of Oregon and General Science, is the outgrowth of his classes, Birding for Seniors, first offered through the science department at Lane Community College in 1982 and renamed its current moniker 10 years later. Weitzel taught science classes at George Fox from 1958 to 1965, then began teaching at Lane Community for 26 years, ending in 1992.

1960-69

Kent Thornburg (G67) is the 2018 recipient of the national March of Dimes Agnes Higgins Award, presented in White Plains, New York, in July of 2018. It was awarded for his "pioneering research and education that has changed the way scientists view maternalfetal nutrition and the risk of chronic disease later in life." His work demonstrates and explains why babies born prematurely, at low birthweight or with intrauterine growth retardation are at greater risk of developing heart disease, diabetes, obesity, osteoporosis and other late-onset diseases. It is the 42nd award for Thornburg, who has been at Oregon Health & Science University since 1975. He is the M. Lowell Edwards Chair of Cardiovascular Research at OHSU's Knight Cardiovascular Institute, a professor of medicine at the OHSU School of Medicine, and director of both the OHSU Bob and Charleee Moore Institute for Nutrition & Wellness and the Center for Developmental Health in the Knight Cardiovascular Institute.

1970-79

Glenn Ludtke (G71) was a grand marshal for the 2018 Junteenth Celebration parade in Fayette, Missouri. He moved there in July of 2017 after a music career in Portland. The annual event in the city of about 3,000 is sponsored by the St. Paul United Methodist Church and is a celebration of the abolition of slavery. Ludtke taught music in Portland public schools for 24 years, until 2004, at the elementary, middle and high school levels. He also served as a music curriculum specialist for five years and as an arts curriculum specialist for four years. In Fayette, he is a docent at the Ashby-Hodge Art Gallery, pianist at the St. Paul Church, plays for services at St. Mary's Episcopal and St. Joseph Catholic churches, and is a member of the Fayette Arts Festival board.

Peggy (Stands) Fowler (G73) was back on campus in February as part of the university's Industry Insiders series, speaking to students and guests in an evening presentation. She earned high praise from the state when she was presented an Oregon History Makers Medal by the Oregon Historical Society in 2015. Fowler began a career with Portland General Electric, Oregon's largest utility, the year after she graduated, and climbed its management ladder until she became the CEO from 2000 to 2009, when she stepped down after 35 years with the company. She is credited with being a "glass ceiling breaker" and was one of Oregon's most admired executives, named in 2005 as the Most Admired CEO. She served as a member of the George Fox Board of Trustees from 1991 to 2006.

Geoff Proehl (G₇₃) in June completes a 25-year tenure at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, retiring from his role as a professor, director and advisor in the theatre arts department. His entire professional career has been at UPS, with the exception of six years (1988-94) on faculty at Villanova University in Pennsylvania. He has published several books and articles, including Coming Home Again: American Family Drama and the Figure of The Prodigal and (with three others) Toward a Dramaturaical Sensibility: Landscape and Journey. In 2016, he received the G.E. Lessing Award for Career Achievement, awarded by his North American theatre-arts peers in the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas organization.

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JOB? HAD A BABY? GOT
PUBLISHED? GOT MARRIED?
SHARE WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU

Send updates to George Fox Journal, 414 N. Meridian St. #6256, Newberg, OR 97132; call 503-538-2118; email alumni@georgefox.edu **Kati (Burman) Voth** (G75) is in two positions at Friends organizations in Newberg. She is a bookkeeper with Barclay Press and also works three mornings a week as bookkeeper with the Newberg Friends Church. Barclay Press serves Friends through the publication of books, pamphlets, curriculum and periodicals.

Dan Dunn (G77) had his own special day, April 7, when his church, North Coast Family Fellowship in Seaside, Oregon, staged Dan Dunn Day in two services. The retirement event was held to "celebrate the legacy of Dan Dunn and all he's done," according to the church's Facebook post. He also was featured in an article in the city's Seaside Signal newspaper. He has been with the church for 22 years, 15 of those in children and family ministries and the last five as pastor of shepherding and counseling. Before his arrival at the church, affiliated with the Conservative Baptist Church, he was a youth minister for more than 20 years in Phoenix and Glendale, Arizona.

Tom Hewitt (G77) has hung up his microphone after 20 years as play-by-play broadcaster for Portland State University football and basketball games, and has ended his own golf show that aired on various Portland radio stations for 27 years. He's now golfing on his own schedule after moving to Sun Lakes, Arizona, with Cheryl (Wacker) Hewitt (G78). The "Voice of the Vikings" also was a teacher and coach, coaching basketball for 41 years at the college and high school levels and teaching for 32 years in the Portland School District, retiring in 2011. He broadcast 224 consecutive football games, more than 500 basketball games, and in all more than 800 events at PSU.

Linda Byrd (G78) has joined Wycliffe Bible Translators and is a curriculum writer and program leader with Refuge 139, a day camp-style program designed to meet the emotional and spiritual needs of missionary children. Since 2016, she's been affiliated with Wycliffe's JAARS program and is based in Newberg. She writes biblically based thematic program materials and travels to various locations worldwide to help conduct the program, so far to Cameroon three times, Malaysia twice and Ethiopia once, with a trip planned this fall to Germany. Her career has included service with Pioneer Clubs, direct-

ing Oregon's Camp Cherith, teaching as an outdoor school field instructor, working for Global Outreach Group for five years ministering with Christian Camping International, and leading Creation Celebration training in the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Croatia.

Bev (Ankeny) Chapman (n79) started in August as the director of advancement at Greenleaf Friends Academy in Idaho. Beginning in 2001, she and her husband, Wayne Chapman (G75, MA86), were involved in Christian camping ministry at Twin Rocks Friends Camp in Oregon and Quaker Hill Camp in Idaho. She previously was guest services director at both camps. Prior to that, they were Northwest Yearly Meeting missionaries in Peru and Bolivia. Greenleaf Academy is a private Christian school with just over 200 students in grades one through 12.

1980-89

Wes Friesen (G80), although retired, continues to be active in teaching and advising. He is founder and president of Solomon Training & Development, which specializes in training related to leadership, management and building teams. Since 2012, he has also been an adjunct professor at George Fox, teaching organization theory and management in the Adult Degree Program. Until 2017, for nearly 37 years, he was with Portland General Electric, managing billing, credit and payment functions within customer service.

Jim Le Shana (G81) is the new superintendent of the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends, heading 41 Quaker churches in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. The sponsoring body of the university, it is headquartered in Newberg adjacent to campus. His father, David, was president of George Fox from 1969 to 1982. The new superintendent was selected after a national search. Since 2012, he had been vice president of academics and director of the master of arts in transformational leadership program at Barclay College in Haviland, Kansas. For more than 30 years he was pastor of Rose Drive Friends Church in Yorba Linda, California. He helped found and has served as chairman of the Friends Center, a seminary program for Friends leaders at Azusa Pacific Haggard Graduate School of

Theology in California. He also has served on the George Fox University Board of Trustees since 2004.

David LaBounty (n82) is about to begin his seventh year as superintendent of the Warden School District in Central Washington, near where he grew up in Moses Lake. He moved to the position after 12 years with the Bethel School District, near Seattle, where he was principal of Challenger High School, an alternative school. Previously, he was a YMCA leader in Downey, California. This followed a career in pro baseball after being drafted by the Kansas City Royals and playing for teams owned by the Pittsburgh Pirates and Seattle Mariners. A pitcher, he played for minor league teams on the southeastern coast, in the Mexican League, and with Bellingham of the Pacific Coast League.

Janelle (Dealy) Nordyke (G82, MBA16) is now with the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church, headquartered in Newberg, as director of finance. She began in July after a brief stint with the Newberg Friends Church as bookkeeper. A CPA, she worked at the NWYM before, as a bookkeeper in the 1980s. More recently, she was a contract accountant with Union Gospel Mission in Salem, Oregon, after nearly 12 years with the city of Newberg as finance director, ending in 2014.

KEY

Traditional graduate

n Traditional nongraduate

MA Master of arts

MS Master of science

MAT Master of arts in teaching

DMgt Doctor of management

DBA Doctor of business administration

MBA Master of business administration

MDiv Master of divinity

DMin Doctor of ministry

MEd Master of education

EdD Doctor of education

EdS Education specialist in school psychology

PS Portland Seminary (formerly George Fox Evangelical Seminary)

PsyD Doctor of psychology

DPT Doctor of physical therapy

ADP Adult Degree Program

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS news & life events news & life events ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

David Wilkinson (G82) has opened Massage-WORKS, a rehabilitative bodywork center, in a historic building in downtown Albany, Oregon. He has been working with body mechanics through coaching, athletic training and massage therapy for more than 35 years and is a certified medical massage practitioner who trains other therapists in rehabilitative massage through an apprentice program and seminar course. He is the inventor of a water immersion massage table for therapy. He has been accepted to work on rotation as part of the medical team at one of the U.S. Olympic training centers, preparing athletes for the 2020 Olympics.

Wade Witherspoon (G82, EdDo7) has both a new work transition and a new government position. In January, he became director of education for the Transportation Intermediaries Association, headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, and he is a new member of the city council of Lafayette, Oregon, where he lives. He was elected in the November election by residents of the city of 3,750 and is now serving as council president. It's a return to government leadership for Witherspoon, who, while living in Newberg, was a member of its city council for a four-year term ending in 2013. In his new professional position he works from home and telecommutes, with trips to the Washington, D.C., area as needed. His job is with a nonprofit organization that is the voice of transportation intermediaries to shippers, carriers and government officials. In the four years prior, Witherspoon was director of education and training with TranStrategy Partners Inc. in Vancouver, Washington. He also continues as president of his own company, LifeCo, founded 10 years ago to help individuals and organizations maximize their potential through life, executive and management coaching, and youth leadership training. He is a former George Fox baseball coach (1983-85).

Sheri (Hagen) Dejmal (G84) is children's ministries director for the Community Evangelical Free Church in Susanville, California, serving in that capacity for 19 years after previously serving in volunteer positions for nine years. She also teaches piano and flute to students in the Honey Lake Valley area.

Paul Davis (G85) is a national account manager with the Bose Corporation, based in Minneapolis, which designs, develops and sells audio equipment and systems. Working with the company since 2011, he previously was with Cisco Systems for 13 years, the last

10 as a senior account manager working with two of its top retail accounts, Best Buy and Target.

Kathy (King) Watson (G85, MA14) has moved from board member to employee at Friendsview Retirement Community in Newberg, where she is director of health services, overseeing the Beals Health Center and residential care floors. She started in April of 2018, leaving her own independent business providing organizational development, strategic planning, fund development and interim executive services to nonprofit organizations. Until 2017, for 13 years, she was with Providence Newberg Medical Center as program coordinator for seven years and program manager for six. Her involvement included management of the Newberg community outreach program, Faith in Action, a coalition connecting volunteers with those with special needs.

Becca (Smith) Whitham (G85) received the 2018 Spur Award for the "Best Western Romance Novel" from Western Writers of America. She received the honor in June of 2018 in Billings, Montana, along with her coauthor Gina Wellborn. The book, The Promise Bride, is the first in a three-book series and the eighth of her 11 currently published works. She is an independent writing and editing professional living in Fort Lee, Virginia, where her husband, Nathan Whitham (G85), is a chaplain in the U.S. Army. She was a paralegal before concentrating exclusively on writing. She had her first book contract in 2014. Before becoming a chaplain in his mid-40s, Nathan was a police officer, prison chaplain and pastor.

Cindy (Mortier) Helvie (MA86) and Mike Helvie (MA86) are in their third year as missionaries with Habitat for Missions in Nepal, but overall have been in missionary service for 26 years. They co-serve as dean of students at Himalayan Graduate School of Theology, where 40 to 50 students are working on their master of divinity degrees, all in ministerial positions already. Both also teach courses there and at Ebenezer Bible College, the oldest Bible college in Nepal. In addition, they are member care facilitators for a diverse team of missionaries, with 17 adults from their mid-20s to early-60s and 13 children.

Stephen James (G86) is an orthopedic spine surgery specialist in Cumming, Georgia, in practice for 22 years. He graduated from Western University of Health Sciences/College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific

in 1991. He specializes in minimally invasive orthopedic spine surgery and has performed more than 8,000 spine procedures. Previously, he served on the faculty of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in New York for four years before moving to the Atlanta area. He travels across the nation to provide training to other surgeons interested in learning his surgical techniques.

Gerald Oliver (G88, MAo5) started in November as an agent with Kerry Oliver State Farm Insurance in Eugene, Oregon. Previously, he represented several insurance companies through his own Secure Insurance Group in Albany, Oregon, working with senior citizens preparing for retirement and advising on life and health planning and expenses.

1990-99

Pat Casey (G90) made national headlines in September, announcing his retirement from a legendary baseball coaching career. The announcement came just weeks after he led Oregon State University to the NCAA national championship, the third title of his OSU career. He has coached 31 years - 24 at Oregon State, where he was 900-458-6, and seven at George Fox (1988-94), where he went 171-113-1, won six conference titles and three NAIA District 2 titles. Under Casey, Oregon State won five Pac-12 championships and made six trips to the College World Series. Five times he was named National College Baseball Coach of the Year. Casey remains at Oregon State as senior associate athletic director and has the option to return to coach after the 2019 season.

Peter Coulson (ADP90) is a senior research analyst with the Idaho Department of Corrections in Twin Falls, in that role since 2011. But he is probably better known outside the office. He's been featured on television news (KITV in Boise, in February of 2018) and is a conference speaker, most recently in April in Idaho Falls at the East Idaho Professional Development Day conference. There, he talked on respect, responsibility, resilience and reason. On TV, he was featured as a youth basketball referee who passes out Lifesavers candy to kids and parents in the stands, with the goal of helping children make wise choices. He relies on his experiences and background of being born in Austria, left in an orphanage, being adopted and growing

George Fox Grads Find Community and a Mission Through Socially Conscious Fashion By Andrew Shaughnessy

When **Monique Boehme** (Go4, MATo6) and **Molly Walter** (Go6) met as students in George Fox's Academic Resource Center in the early 2000s, they never imagined the adventures ahead of them.

After graduating with a master's degree, Boehme took a job teaching junior high at a private school. But after having her first child, she decided to stay home to care for, and later homeschool, her kids. A few years later, she discovered Sseko.

A socially conscious fashion brand headquartered in Portland, Sseko employs bright young women in East Africa, giving them jobs making sandals, jewelry, bags and accessories. They are paid a fair wage, receive life-skills training and mentorship, and save a portion of their income – matched 300 percent at the end of their term – enabling every woman who graduates Sseko's program to attend university. "I fell in love with the concept, the mission and the impact," Boehme says.

When Sseko launched its Fellows
Program a few years later, she jumped at
the chance to get involved. Sseko Fellows
function as the stateside sales team for the
business. These "impact entrepreneurs,"
often women working out of their homes,

buy kits of products from Sseko and sell them in their communities, sharing stories of impact along the way.

Walter, meanwhile, had spent a decade working in marketing after graduating from George Fox. "Almost four years ago, I got tired of schlepping auto loans and talking to the world about things that didn't really matter," she says. "I decided to quit my corporate job and go freelance, working out of my home."

The freelance life, Walter discovered, can be a lonely existence. When she was invited to a Sseko event, Walter reconnected with Boehme and quickly realized she had found something special. "This was an opportunity to use my storytelling skills for something that has a global impact on women," she says.

Walter joined Boehme's Fellows team, "The Dreamers and the Doers," and they got to work sharing Sseko's story, vision and products. In the years since, Boehme and Walter's team of Fellows has grown to around 100 women, and their sales work has helped employ and empower many



Molly Walter (left) and Monique Boehme (right)

"My time at Fox introduced me to some really powerful, brave, passionate women. ... I draw from their courage and determination to create opportunity for those who have fewer opportunities."

women in East Africa. In 2018, Boehme and Walters had their biggest year yet. By hitting a major sales goal, they earned a two-week company incentive trip to Uganda.

"We just fell completely in love with the culture," Boehme says. "It was incredible."

Both women credit George Fox faculty with influencing their passion for empowering women through business.

"My time at Fox introduced me to some really powerful, brave, passionate women – my advisors, my cohort leader in my master's program," Boehme says. "I draw from their courage and determination to create opportunity for those who have fewer opportunities."

Through Sseko's Fellows program, Boehme, Walter and hundreds of other women have found a way to merge their entrepreneurial heads with their humanitarian hearts. They have found community, a mission, and a way to make a lasting impact on the world – together.



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up in the U.S., and understanding firsthand about bridging racial and cultural divides and building healthy relationships.

Nicole (Miller) Hyatt (G90) is now a special education instructional facilitator for the Newberg School District. She is in her third year in the position but has been with the district since 1994 as a special education teacher, most recently at Joan Austin Elementary from 2005 to 2016. She currently works with six elementary schools, providing professional development for groups of teachers as well as one-on-one coaching to help them better assist students receiving special education services.

Gregg Koskela (G90) is now communications and community relations coordinator with the Newberg School District, his third title in two years. He started with the district in 2017 as executive assistant to the superintendent. He became coordinator of board and community relations 10 months later, and last August he gained his current position when the district office was reorganized. The new position allows him to be in schools and the community more often.

Shawna (Shankle) Wilcher (n92), already director of youth ministries with Oregon City Church of the Nazarene, is now lead coordinator and ministry leader for the Celebrate Recovery program at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility for Women in Wilsonville, Oregon. The Celebrate Recovery program aims to help those in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, sex addiction, eating disorders and sexual abuse.

Christine (Deboy) Drazan (G93) is a member of the Oregon House of Representatives, taking office in January after being elected in the fall general election. A Republican, she won nearly 60 percent of the vote. A resident of Oregon City, she represents House District 39 that includes much of the area in Clackamas County. It's a return to the legislature for Drazan, who, in the 1990s and 2000s, was a top staffer to Republican leaders and was chief of staff to the house majority leader and speaker of the house. Professionally, she has served for seven years as executive director of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition, a statewide nonprofit that supports the preservation of Oregon's history and culture. She also has served on the Clackamas County Planning Commission and the Canby, Oregon, School District budget committee.

Rolf Potts (G93) has another new book in circulation: Souvenir debuted in March 2018, part of an Object Lessons series by Bloomsbury about the hidden lives of ordinary things. His book blends reportage, memoir, anthropology and cultural criticism to explore the 4,000-year history of travel souvenirs. He also has started a new podcast, Deviate with Rolf Potts, that began in November 2017 and has surpassed a quarter of a million downloads. It features off-topic conversations with a wide range of experts, public figures and interesting people. Potts has reported from more than 60 countries for the likes of National Geographic, The New Yorker, Slate.com, The New York Times Magazine, Sports Illustrated, National Public Radio and the Travel Channel.

Jennifer (Swanborough) Hricik (G94) is leadership gift specialist with Northwestern Michigan College, a 5,000-student community college in Traverse City. She started in 2016 after just over 10 years as project manager for marketing solutions and director of client services with Credo, a higher education consulting firm in Whitsett, North Carolina. From 1994 to 2003, she was associate director of undergraduate admissions at George Fox.

Lyn (Sanstrum) Lindbergh (G94) is the founder and president of her new startup business, Couch to Active, established in 2016. Her book, Couch to Active: The Missing Link That Takes You From Sedentary to Active, was released in August, and in November it received a finalist position in the 15th annual Best Book Awards competition, sponsored by American Book Fest. The book is intended to offer a guide that works readers through behavior change and self-advocacy skills to a more active life. With 20 years of corporate management experience, she is now a certified personal trainer, group fitness instructor and certified Pilates instructor living in Bainbridge Island, Washington.

Chad Madron (G95) has two professional careers: performer and project analyst. By day he is with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, while on evenings and weekends he is booked on stage with ComedySportz, both in Portland. As project analyst he handles coordination, analysis and administrative support for the power division of the council, a U.S. Congress-created interstate compact giving the Northwest a greater voice in how energy is planned and managed along with preservation of natural resources, especially fish and wildlife. He has been in the position since 2013 after nearly two years

with the Bonneville Power Administration as a project specialist (contractor) for strategic planning. He has been with ComedySportz since 2016, performing main-stage shows Friday and Saturday evenings up to three times a month. He also occasionally performs in long-form improv or other themed shows in the 10 p.m. "After Hours" productions.

Tammy O'Doherty (G95), after serving in the position from 2006 to 2017, is back in her same role as program coordinator for George Fox's Graduate Department of Clinical Psychology. Previously, she was an administrative assistant for the university's undergraduate psychology and writing/literature departments from 2001 to 2005.

Tricia (Gates) Brown (G96, MA97) had two essays published in February: "Sin is About Not Knowing Who We Are" in a Christian Century blog and "More Similar Than Different" in *Oregon Humanities* magazine. Calling herself an "everyday theologian," she is a resident of Nehalem, Oregon, where she is a writer, garden designer and pastoral counselor. With a PhD from the University of St. Andrews, Scotland (2000), she currently is a postulant for ordination in the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon.

Jim Domen (G96) has founded and is president of Church United, a pastoral network of 500 ministers in California committed to change the culture of communities in California and to "equip pastors as culture-changers" by sending them to Washington, D.C., and Sacramento for annual "Awakening Tours." A May 2018 event in Sacramento drew 120 pastors. He says his mission is to "transform California for Christ." An ordained pastor, he spent six years at California Family Council, an affiliate of Focus on the Family, and from 2011 to 2014 he was a leader with Multisport Ministries, a national men's athletic ministry. He started Church United, headquartered in Newport Beach, in 2016. Domen says he left a homosexual lifestyle after realizing his true identity is not based on sexuality, but based on his life as a Christian husband, father and ministry leader. He was the subject of a lengthy New York Times article June 20, 2018, that started, "If you want to understand American politics today ... you need to know

Leah (Taylor) Gomes (G96, MAT98) is now an enrollment counselor for George Fox's Adult Degree Program. Previously, she was a third-grade teacher at Newby Elementary School in McMinnville, Oregon, for three years and, from 2009 to 2014, she was a student teacher supervisor at Linfield College in McMinnville. In addition to being a George Fox graduate, she has another strong tie to campus. Her father, **Craig Taylor** (G74), was an employee for 43 years, including serving as director of athletics from 1988 until his retirement two years ago.

Diane (Marr) Longmire (G96) is an adult and elder team leader with Central Washington Comprehensive Healthcare in Walla Walla, Washington, a private nonprofit organization with services for behavioral health and substance use disorder. In her position for nearly five years, she supervises a team of therapists, case managers, peer counselors, chemical dependency professionals and day support staff in an outpatient setting. She previously was clinical lead for the intake unit with the Department of Human Services in the same city.

Mindy (Fox) Mickelson (G96), a track and cross country runner while a student, is back on campus, still involved in sports as the new compliance officer and office manager in the athletics department. She started in July of 2018 after working as a training administrative assistant at Metro in Portland for a year and, for six years, with A-dec in Newberg in several administrative positions. She has a strong connection with George Fox. It's the name of her grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather. Her husband, Steve Mickelson (G95), is sales director with the Port of Vancouver USA in Vancouver, Washington. He has been in that position for five years after working more than 13 years as a marine business development manager with the Port of Portland. They live in Sherwood, Oregon.

Wendy Brown (ADP97) is now in Benson, North Carolina, where she is an independent mentor, consultant and facilitator of the FASCETS neurobehavioral model, training parents, caregivers, educators and community members to work with those coping with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder and other brain-based disabilities. She has a strong interest after adopting four children with brain-based disabilities and finding no support. In November, she became a certified trainer with the nonprofit Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Consultation, Education and Training Services organization. The previous four years she worked with the Idaho Child Welfare

Research and Training Center, supported by the social work department at Eastern Washington University in Cheney.

Brian Heinze (G97, MAT98) and Susanna (Christie) Heinze (G98) are both teaching at Skagit Valley Community College in Mount Vernon, Washington. She started in 2006 in biological sciences, and he began three years later in mathematics. She is currently division chair for sciences. Her popular YouTube channel with hand-drawn diagrams of complex science topics is recognized as one of "11 Amazing Biology YouTube Channels That Will Have You Gripped" on interestingengineering.com. It is described as "fun and informative," as "very easy to listen to" and with an "easily digestible style." She received a master's degree in physiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Mark Hovee (PsyD97) is a clinical psychologist with STG International at a detention center for illegal immigrants in Arizona. A resident of Marana, Arizona, he started working in the state in 2016 at the Chinle Comprehensive Healthcare Facility, an Indian Health Service operation. Previously, he was a clinical psychologist with the West Virginia National Guard for more than two years, followed by a half-year (2015) as a clinical psychologist in Qatar as a medical faculty associate with George Washington University. His autobiographical memoir, Wayward Soldier: A Reserve Psychologist's Memoir and Analysis During the Second American-Iraqi War, was shared as part of the 2018 Guadalajara International Book Fair in November. A follow-up and more comprehensive book, Clarion Summons: Essays of a Reserve Psychologist During the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars, is planned for release this

Chad Krober (G97, MBA04) and Megan (Dye) Krober (G98) have launched Ambleside of the Willamette Valley Christian School in Newberg. Started in 2017 and located in the Newberg Friends Church, Ambleside, serving kindergarten through eighth grade, opened with 27 students. The school is one of only 16 in the U.S. – and the only one west of Colorado – that offers a curriculum based on education theories of Charlotte Mason of Ambleside, England. She is the school's principal. He is production sales manager with Academy Mortgage Corporation in Wilsonville, Oregon, in that position since 2016 after five and a half years as a mortgage

consultant with Guild Mortgage Company in Wilsonville.

Jon Rubesh (G97) and Sharla (Rhoades) Rubesh (G99) are back in the United States after more than 12 years on the mission field in Chiang Mai, Thailand, serving with The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM). They now live in Trout Lake, Washington, where she is a stay-at-home mom and he is a human resource director for CORD Ministries International, a missionary-sending organization.

Gabriel Silva (ADP97) is small business services coordinator with the Oregon Business Development Department, known as "Business Oregon". In the role for 12 years, he is a member of the department's business finance team, responsible for working with service providers and small business development centers statewide and connecting consultants with small business owners. He manages the Small Business Development Center Network, the Government Contact Assistance Program and the GROW Oregon program contracts. Previously, he was also employed in state government, from 2004 to 2008 serving as equal opportunity officer with the Oregon Employment Department.

Letha Tawney (G97) has become the highestranking state official among George Fox alumni. On May, 22, 2018, after nomination by Gov. Kate Brown, she was confirmed by the Oregon State Senate as a member of the three-person Oregon Public Utility Commission. Tawney says she is thrilled to be asked to serve as a regulator and play a new role in the state's transition to affordable clean energy. The commission regulates Oregon's investor-owned electric, natural gas and telephone utilities and select water companies. Tawney had been director of utility innovation and the Polsky Chair for Renewable Energy with the World Resources Institute, headquartered in Washington, D.C., starting in 2009. The last five years she led the WRI's electricity initiative in the U.S., developing new business and regulatory models for companies in the power sector. Previously, she was a policy analyst for Emerald Arc Consulting for two years. She has a master's degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (2008).

Todd Zalk (ADP97, MBA07), after nearly nine years with Wells Fargo Bank, is now vice president for commercial lending and business banking with SELCO Community Credit

Minthorne Leaves Legacy of Leadership, Generosity

By Barry Hubbell

After nearly three-quarters of a century, **Roger Minthorne** (G47) is no longer helping guide and shape George Fox University. He passed away March 10 in Newberg at the age of 92. President Robin Baker spoke for the university at his memorial service.

The 1947 graduate held nearly every leadership position possible at George Fox, with the exception of the university presidency itself. It started as a student, when he served as student body president his junior year before being named class president as a senior.

Then, in 1950, at the age of just 24, he was elected to head the George Fox College Alumni Association as president for three years. He stepped up to a higher level in 1973 when he was named to the George Fox Board of Trustees as an alumni association representative. That began a 45-year role as a board member – 27 as an active member and 18 as an honorary member.

He was far from a passive board member. For many years he served as chair of the Finance Committee, then in 1984 he was elected trustee vice chair, serving a five-year term. Finally, he was elected to the top position as board chair in 1989, serving the maximum five-year term.

He was chair when the university celebrated its centennial year in 1991 and constructed the now-landmark Centennial Tower that became the inspiration for a new university logo. He also was chair when the university found a way to save historic Wood-Mar Hall and constructed the adjacent Edwards-Holman Science Center.

Beyond his leadership, Minthorne was a significant financial supporter. For many years he and his wife, Mildred, supported the Minthorne Family Scholarship, an annual award for incoming Friends students. They made another significant investment with a gift of \$100,000 to create the 900-square-foot Minthorne Art Gallery, opened in 2006 in the Hoover Academic Building.

As alumni know, it's not the first Minthorne name on a college facility. Minthorn Hall (without the "e" on the end) is the university's oldest building, constructed in 1887 and moved to campus in 1892. It is named for Minthorne's great uncle and aunt, Henry and Laura Minthorn. They served as foster parents to former president Herbert Hoover, as Henry was the first superintendent of Friends Pacific Academy, which grew to become George Fox University. That family tie, perhaps, sparked some of Minthorne's fondness for the university.

Minthorne was honored by his alma mater with his naming as Alumnus of the Year in 1982. In 2016, as part of the university's 125th anniversary celebration, he was named to its list of 125 noteworthy and significant people who have created and shaped the institution.



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Union's commercial and business banking division. He is in the company's Portland (Forest Park) branch, one of 15 branches in Oregon. He focuses on financing owner-occupied and investor commercial real estate in Oregon and Washington. With Wells Fargo he held four positions during his tenure, the most recent as vice president relationship manager III for a year after nearly seven years in commercial lending and business banking.

Eloise Hockett (MEd98, EdDo6) is heading a nonprofit, faith-based organization, Marafiki, helping equip and promote sustainability through missions projects in Africa. The focus recently has been in the village of Muliro in western Kenya, near the Uganda border. As president of the board of Marafiki (the Swahili word for "friends"), Hockett also travels to the site to help directly with education and healthcare needs. Founded in 2006 and based in Newberg, Marafiki currently emphasizes help with professional development of teachers, health assessments and health education in schools, educational support for girls, sanitary supplies for girls, and support for women's economic development. It raises funds through direct donations and through fundraising events. Hockett has been an education professor at George Fox since 1998 and is currently co-chair of the School of Education and chair of undergraduate teacher education.

Julie (Walker) Huckestein (ADP98), president of Chemeketa Community College, has announced her retirement, effective June 30. She was named to head the 12,500-student Salem, Oregon, college in 2014. She has worked in community colleges for more than 32 years, including 18 at Chemeketa, where she was vice president and CFO before being selected president. She started as assistant to the chief financial officer and director of business services, in that role for 10 years before being promoted to CFO in 2011. As president, she is credited with establishing programs in robotics, anesthesiology technology, bilingual education and diesel technology, along with reviving the music program and securing funding for an agricultural complex and construction of a new women's softball field. Previously, she was at Linn-Benton Community College, based in Albany, Oregon, for 14 years, ending as director of budget and finance.

Aaron Marshall (G98), who started at the Santa Barbara Zoo in California six years ago this June, is now its chief operating officer. He assumed the position in December after

starting as director of education in 2013. He is working on capacity building, strategy, succession and organizational development while leading education, human resources, membership, operations, retail and volunteer programs. In addition, he has completed a PhD in experiential education, received from the University of Edinburgh.

Gail (Ruyle) Muller (ADP98, MBA00), after six years with the Tillamook Creamery as corporate recruiter and training administrator, is now in the Portland area. She is recruiting and staffing director with HR Answers, Inc. of Tigard, Oregon. For company clients she facilitates candidate recruitment, screening and placement of individuals for interim, part-time or full-time positions. For two years, until 2017, she was a member of the Northwest Oregon Workforce Board, addressing employment and economic issues in a five-county area.

Cari (Hogan) Nimeth (G98) completed a master's degree in theological studies in 2017 at Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, a suburb of Denver, where she lives. She is in her fifth year as a curriculum writer/editor with the Christian Education Department of the Salvation Army. She writes and edits teen leadership and discipleship material used by the Salvation Army across the nation.

Jamie Ridley-Klucken (G98) has joined the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a safety evaluator. She is with the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, Division of Phamacovigilance. She started in August, working in Silver Spring, Maryland, while living in Leesburg, Virginia. In her position she assesses safety-related issues for marketed drug and therapeutic biologic products, leading to various regulatory actions and communications for safe use of the products. She left Shenandoah University in Fairfax, Virginia, where she had been for six years as assistant and later associate professor of pharmacy practice. She also volunteers at the Loudoun Free Clinic, which helps low-income people and the uninsured in Leesburg.

Heather Umstead-Hines (G98) is regulatory exam coordinator with Seterus in Beaverton, Oregon. She moved into the auditor coordinator position in July. The large national mortgage service company in January was purchased from IBM. She started with IBM in 2006 in a customer service role, then moved to support desk/senior specialist, to project

coordinator in 2012 and to business controls tester in 2016.

Cherie Buckner-Webb (ADP99) in November's general election was elected to a third three-year term in the Idaho State Senate. First elected in 2012 after two years as a state representative, she represents Idaho District 19 in north Boise. She won by a 75 percent margin to represent about 40,000 residents. A fifth-generation Idahoan and first African American to be elected to the Idaho senate, Buckner-Webb, a Democrat, currently serves on the senate's education, state affairs and transportation committees. The founder (2007) and principal owner of Sojourner Coaching, she also sang Amazing Grace at the Jan. 4, 2019, inauguration of Idaho Gov. Brad Little on the steps of the state capitol in Boise.

Dan Foster (G99, MBA04) in April was promoted to vice president and principal coach at Building Champions, Inc. He had been executive coach since joining the Lake Oswego, Oregon, business in 2011. The firm works with leaders, managers and business professionals to intentionally build their business and lives through helping them increase their influence, make better decisions and achieve the results they desire. Previously, he was manager and principal broker with Prudential Northwest Properties in Newberg and Sherwood for eight years. He also has planted a new home-based church, Saturate, in Newberg, meeting without a designated church structure and focused on missional community groups and outreach.

Jane (Seale) Gramenz (G99, MAT01) and Paul **Gramenz** (Go2) have moved to Cave Creek, Arizona, where she continues her work as a dyslexia specialist and advocate in private practice and he is a physician. A former elementary school teacher, she opened her own business, Ms. Jane's Tutoring & Dyslexia Services, in 2015. In 2017, she achieved Advanced Certified Dyslexia Tutor recognition. He now is an emergency medicine physician with North Valley Emergency Specialists at Banner Thunderbird Medical Center in Glendale, Arizona. They moved in 2017 from Salem, Oregon, where he was department chief and medical director of Salem Emergency Physicians Service at Salem Hospital. He started in Salem in 2009 following an emergency medical residency at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.

Aaron Haynes (G99) in October was inducted into the Hood River Valley (Oregon) High

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School athletics Hall of Fame, honoring his cross country achievements. He now is a first-grade teacher at May Street Elementary in Hood River, Oregon. He also is head coach of a combined Hood River Valley Middle School and Wy'east Middle School coed cross country team.

Lida Herburger (ADP99), with Lane Community College in Eugene, Oregon, for nearly 20 years, is now dean of student success. She previously was director of student success for nearly three years, ending in 2016, when she became director for an outreach center in Cottage Grove, Oregon, providing credit and non-credit educational support services. Previously, she was management coordinator for engaging students and student success.

2000-09

Sarri (Tate) Gibson (Goo) this last year was visiting assistant professor of education at George Fox. It was a return to campus after she taught on an adjunct basis from 2013 to 2015. She also was a visiting professor (2017-18) at nearby Linfield College, where she was an adjunct professor starting in 2012.

Jonathan Rickey (Goo) in July started as director of athletics for the Arizona network of Great Hearts Academies in the Phoenix area. It has 22 academies that teach a core classical liberal arts curriculum, with 98 percent of students going on to college. This follows his serving 10 years as director of athletics with Glendale (Arizona) Preparatory Academy. Previously, he was a teacher and assistant principal at Imagine Schools in Surprise, Arizona, for three years after being an ACCLAIM Academy teacher for four years.

Susan Rieke-Smith (MAToo) is the new superintendent of the Tigard-Tualatin (Oregon) School District. She started in July, moving from heading Springfield (Oregon) Public Schools, where she had been for four years, the last three as superintendent following positions as assistant, then interim superintendent. Previously, she was with the Salem-Keizer (Oregon) School District for five years as a principal and the last three years as director of instructional services. In 2011, she was named Oregon Middle School Principal of the Year by the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators and the Oregon Association of Secondary School Administrators. At Tigard-Tualatin, Oregon's ninth-largest

school district, she guides 1,140 employees and 12,800 students in 17 schools.

Keith Schneider (Goo) is back on campus as assistant director of campus recreation in the new Hadlock Student Center. It follows three years of managing operations at Nike's Rock Gym in Beaverton, Oregon. Since 2015, he also has run Beyond the Wall Climbing, a rock-climbing business he cofounded in 2015. He previously was at George Fox as director of housing from 2011 to 2015 and as an area coordinator the four years prior. His experience also includes time (2004-07) at Warner Pacific University, where he was director of leadership development and student programs.

Jason Brown (Go1) is in West Chester, Ohio, where he is manager of the analytical chemistry department at Q Laboratories. He started in October, moving after just over three years as quality control lab supervisor with Fujimi Corporation in Tualatin, Oregon. He now is responsible for day-to-day operation of the chemistry lab, including sample flow-through, analyst training and compliance to industry standards. Q Laboratories provides microbiology, analytical chemistry and research and development services to companies in the food, pet food and dietary supplement industries.

Drew Coleman (Go1) and Marisa (Merritt) **Coleman** (Go1) work together in his role as team lead of the Drew Coleman Team under Hasson Company Realtors in Lake Oswego, Oregon. The 12-member team is one of the top producers in the Portland area. He has been with Hasson for 18 years. In December, he became president of the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors. The same organization named him Broker of the Year in 2015. Since 2017, she has been marketing and events coordinator with the Coleman team. She also is in her second year as communications manager for West Hills Christian School in Portland, crafting a consistent branding and voice for the school.

Nathan Goff (Go1) is cofounder and chief technology officer of ClearlyRated, founded in 2003 and now with 33 employees in Portland. It changed its name this year from Inavero after the launch of ClearlyRated, an online directory that empowers buyers of business services to search for providers in their area based on independently validated client ratings and testimonials. It works with business to-business service providers to maximize the value of their client experience surveys. Goff,

since 2008, manages the product strategy ad development at the company.

Shannon (Vandehey) Buckmaster (Go2) is the new CEO of the Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce in Newberg. Named in June of 2018, she now guides the 400-member organization promoting area business and tourism. Her background includes adjunct teaching at George Fox (she has a master's degree in divinity from Yale), business sales and leadership, and public motivational speaking, including raising awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse recovery. In December, she was the speaker for George Fox's midyear commencement ceremony for 160 graduates.

Candyce (Kintner) Farthing (Go2, MEdo7) is now superintendent of Legacy Traditional Schools in Nevada, a network of three K-8 public, tuition-free charter schools. She leads educational growth and direction for campuses in North Valley (Las Vegas), Cadence and a new campus opening this fall in southwest Las Vegas. The Legacy system has 18,500 students in 16 schools in Arizona and Nevada. Farthing moved from Coral Academy of Science, a K-12 charter school program with classes in Las Vegas and Reno. She started as chief academic officer in 2015 and was in that position for a year before assuming the role of chief operating officer. Previously, she was executive director of Oregon Connections Academy, Oregon's largest tuition-free virtual public school. He was in that role for a year after joining the academy seven years earlier as a teacher for eighth-grade language arts and later serving as principal of the school's kindergarten through eighth grades.

Anne-Renee (Stewart) Gumley (Go2) released her newest book in April: Shiny Things: Mothering on Purpose in a World of Distractions. She also has coauthored and cohosted a website and podcast designed to bring hope and encouragement to mothers. This is in addition to being a stay-at-home mom and working part time with her family's Special Events Party Store in Wasilla, Alaska, which she owns with her husband, Andrew Gumley (Go2). In February, he participated in the Iron Dog snow machine race in Alaska, billed as the "world's longest, toughest snowmobile race."

Travis Melvin (Go2) in September joined KPD Insurance in Springfield, Oregon, as workers compensation adviser/risk management consultant/commercial insurance agent. He moved from a position as surgical sales

consultant and territory sales manager with Steelhead Surgical in Eugene, Oregon. Previously, he started CrossFit Revival in Eugene in 2010.

Derric Shannon (ADP02, MBA07) in December reached Navigators Club's gold-level status for sales in his position with Expedia CruiseShip-Centers. He has been in the travel business for four years and lives in Meridian, Idaho. In 2018, after 28 years, he ended his career in business development, marketing and public relations through his own DJ Shannon Enterprises company. In addition, starting in 1985, he was involved in motor sports, first as car owner/driver for eight years, then continuing in media and public relations work with NASCAR in a variety of positions until 2018.

Randy Trani (MEdo2, EdDo9) is superintendent of the Corbett (Oregon) School District, now in his 15th year in the district, where he formerly was a principal for five years of Corbett Middle School, where he was named Oregon Middle School Principal of the Year. Previously, until 2005, he was a science teacher for five years in the Newberg School District. He is the author of two books on education: Fallacies in Education: Why Schools Are Mired in Mediocrity and Built to Fail: Structural Deficiencies and Student Failure.

Helena (Telfer) Christiansen (Go3) and Keith Christiansen (Go3) are living in Lyle, Washington, while he works nearby at Insitu Group, Inc., a subsidiary of Boeing, in Everett, Washington. He is an aircraft systems engineer, starting in 2013.

Angie (Frank) Taibbi (Go3) graduated from George Fox with a degree in health and human performance. Now she is back on campus as a leader in the program. She began July 1, 2018, as program director of the athletic training education program, also serving as the clinical education coordinator and assistant professor. Prior to her arrival, she was director of rehabilitation and lead physical therapist for three and a half years with Infinity Rehab in Newberg. Before that, she was an acute care physical therapist with Salem Health from 2006 to 2014. She received a doctor of physical therapy degree from Arizona School of Health Sciences in 2006.

Aimee (Peterson) Hovis (Go4, MBA08) in July became business manager for the South Wasco County (Oregon) School District. Located in Maupin, it encompasses 600,000 acres and has 226 students in a grade school and junior/

senior high school. She lives in Tygh Valley.

Brian Ogle (Go4), in a complete career change, has switched from his original work as a computer programmer to being a dentist. In June of 2018 he took over Chehalem Dental in Newberg, purchasing the 38-year-old business where he was once a patient while a student. He was encouraged to become a dentist by the dentist from whom he bought the practice. After graduating from dental school at Oregon Health & Science University in 2015, he practiced in several different clinics serving low-income areas in rural Oregon.

Pamela Ferris (ADPo5) in 2018 received Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation and in November started as a financial advisor trainee with the Edward Jones Company in Yelm, Washington. She previously was with State Farm Insurance for more than 12 years, moving up through various positions to end as team manager for training the last three years after being a claims team manager for a year.

Elisabeth (Mehl) Greene (Go5) in February was honored with the world premiere of her new opera, *Hajar*, which won the third annual Opera Composition Contest sponsored by the Maryland Opera Studio and Artist Partner Program, created to support the cultivation and performance of new work. She wrote both music and libretto. The opera retells the Jewish and Islamic stories of Hagar/Hajar, casting her as a contemporary Syrian refugee mother trying to reach safety in America with her young son. Greene, who lives in Ranson, West Virginia, is visiting researcher at the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. With a doctorate from the University of Maryland, where she has taught since 2005, she also is a self-employed composer.

Christina Aleckson (MBAo6) in April was named one of *Portland Business Journal's* 2019 Women of Influence in a ceremony featuring Oregon Governor Kate Brown. Prior to that, in October, she was awarded 2018 Woman of the Year honors by the national Women in Insurance & Financial Services organization. Aleckson is founder, CEO and a financial advisor at Single Point Financial Advisors in Beaverton, Oregon. Founded in 2007, the organization helps individuals and businesses identify goals and work toward those goals through long-term investments.

Christopher Ball (ADP06) is division controller with Campbell's Snacks, in his second year. He oversees four manufacturing facilities of the Snyder's-Lance Division of the company, based at its Charlotte, North Carolina, headquarters. He was with the Snyder's-Lance company for seven years, including two years as Charlotte Bakery Plant controller. Snyder's-Lance was purchased by the Campbell Soup Company in 2018 and was integrated with Pepperidge Farm into the new Campbell's Snacks division.

Chad Clark (Go6) has joined the faculty of John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, as assistant professor of music. He directs choirs and teaches choral technique at the school of 2,200. After graduating from George Fox, he spent two years at Lithuania Christian College as a residence hall director. He then came back to the United States to earn a master of music education degree from Arizona State University in 2010 and taught music at the high school level in Denver for five years. Most recently, he was at the University of Iowa studying for a doctorate and teaching in the music education department. He received his PhD this year.

Ken Cook (Go6) and his business, Prepared Marketing, were featured in a Newberg Graphic story headlined, "A Unique Approach to Marketing." It describes the firm as "not your typical marketing firm" because it uses adaptive marketing, considering business growth concepts such as finance, acquisition costs, profit and loss statements. The business specializes in analytical marketing, according to Cook. Established in 2012, it has four employees and recently doubled its space to create its own video recording studio. Previously, he was the director of marketing with Christian Apologetics and Research Ministry in Nampa, Idaho, for nearly 12 years.

Kevin Kopple (Go6) was recently featured in a podcast of "The Dugout," a weekly interview series of baseball coaches and personalities involved in the college baseball recruiting process. Others in the series have included spokesmen from Princeton, Oberlin and the University of California, Davis. Kopple is in his 13th year with the Bruins, currently serving as assistant coach, recruiting coordinator and director of game management. He has a master's degree in sports management from the United States Sports Academy in 2015.

Terra Mattson (MAo6) has authored InCourage: Raising Daughters Rooted in Grace, a 222page book released in September by her own business, Living Wholehearted. Established in 2011 with her husband and located in Tualatin, Oregon, it is dedicated to helping leaders live with integrity. It offers professional counseling and supervision, consulting, workshops and ongoing retreats. She is a clinical director, a licensed marriage and family therapist, a counselor and a retreat speaker nationwide. In 2014, she helped found Courageous Girls, an organization with a curriculum to support gatherings of young girls and their mothers who have intentional and biblical conversations.

Kim Newman (MATo6) is the new program director at the M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust, chosen last July. She connected with the foundation, headquartered in Vancouver, Washington, through eight years of participating in programs offered by and working with its science programs. She was a Partners in Science grantee - a program she will now direct - and then program coach while teaching life science the last six years at Camas (Washington) High School, where she also served as its Magnet Internship coordinator. Previously, for nine years, until 2012, she was a teacher with Portland Christian Schools. The Murdock Chartitable Trust provides grants to organizations in five states in the Pacific Northwest. Since its inception it has awarded more than 6,400 grants totaling in excess of \$951 million.

Patrick Shuckerow (Go6, MEd10) in July became the new principal of Forest Hills Elementary School in Lake Oswego, Oregon. He is guiding a 450-student, kindergartenthrough sixth-grade school with 38 staff. He previously had been with the Sherwood (Oregon) School District as instruction and data coordinator for three years. He was lead facilitator for the Sherwood Equity Team, a 30-member strategic planning group charged with increasing accessibility for underserved students. He began his teaching career as a third-grade teacher.

John Van Cleef (ADPo6) in September was named executive director of the Community Resource Center in Encinitas, California. It is a nonprofit agency fighting hunger, homelessness and domestic violence in North County San Diego. He left a position as director of Palomar Health in Escondido, California, where he had been for just over four years. Previously, he was with the YMCA of

San Diego for nearly a year as executive manager after nearly 21 years with the Salvation Army as an executive director in California, Oregon and Nevada.

Melissa Vigil (MBA06), who started with Northwest Community Credit Union in Eugene, Oregon, seven years ago, is now its CEO. She was named to the position in 2017 after serving nearly four years as chief strategy officer/chief administrative officer. Previously, she started as human resources director in 2012. She worked before in three human resources positions in Corvallis and Albany, Oregon.

Aaron Bear (MAo7) in October became director of major gift funding and planned giving for Mission Aviation Fellowship in Nampa, Idaho. It's a change from his previous position as director of the MAF Foundation. The Christian nonprofit group provides aviation communications and learning technology services to more than 1,000 Christian and humanitarian agencies and isolated missionaries and indigenous villagers in remote areas. He has been with the organization since 2006 after serving four years as children's pastor with the Mountain Home (Idaho) Assembly of God Church. He also is an adjunct professor with George Fox, teaching the course Christian Faith and Thought online since

Jeffrey Bilbro (Go7) is associate professor of English at Spring Arbor University in Michigan, where he has taught since 2012 after receiving a PhD in English from Baylor University in Texas. He is a frequent author and, in the fall, released Virtues of Renewal: Wendell Berry's Sustainable Forms. It follows his book Wendell Berry and Higher Education: Cultivating Virtues of Place, coauthored with Jack Baker. Berry is an American novelist, poet, environmental activist and cultural critic. Bilbro also is editor of the Front Porch Republic, a conservative, communitarian, localist blog.

Bryan Donohue (Go7) was named 2018 All-West Coast League Coach of the Year for his managing (for his third year) of the Kelowna, British Columbia, Falcons baseball team. The collegiate summer league has 11 teams in Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. It's one of two coaching positions for Donohue. During the school year, he is head coach of the Mt. Hood Community College Saints in Portland, a position he has occupied since 2008. Playing for the Bruins, he was an All-Northwest Conference first baseman and a second-team All-West Region selec-

tion during his two seasons. As a senior, he was named a second-team All-American by D3baseball.com. He still holds George Fox's all-time career batting average record at .435.

Spencer McAuliffe (no7) was featured in a Feb. 20, 2019, article in the *Peninsula Clarion* newspaper (Kenai, Alaska) as he played the eccentric title character in a production of *Willy Wonka* by the Kenai Performers community theatrical group. McAuliffe has been performing for nearly 20 years with nearly two dozen shows under his belt. By day, since 2017, he works with Soldotna Professional Pharmacy.

James Fishback (ADP07) is an attorney with AltusLaw, a law firm in Portland that provides legal representation to small and mid-sized companies through litigation, transaction and regulatory compliance matters. He is in his sixth year with the company while also teaching as an adjunct faculty member in technology and management at George Fox. He received his law degree in 2016 from Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland.

Kathi (Newton) Gatlin (G07, MEd12, MA16) is in her third year as spiritual director and spiritual formation group facilitator with Boldly Loved Ministries, which she founded in 2016. She says it is a "means to create space to walk alongside others in their own spiritual journey and share ways of understanding God anew through contemplative prayer and teaching." It offers courses, direction meetings and retreats, usually at North Valley Friends Church in Newberg. Previously, she was with George Fox University for nine years, as a senior enrollment counselor for five years, ending in 2014, after nearly four years as a first-year seminar instructor.

Debbie Geyer (ADP07) is the 2018 recipient of the James B. Weatherby Award, given for her service to the Idaho City Clerks, Treasurers and Finance Officers Association. The organization presented the award in September. She has worked for the City of Caldwell, Idaho, for nearly 18 years, the last 14 as city clerk. She started work with the city, where she grew up, in the planning and zoning department. Geyer is former president of the association. She has been involved in several other organizations and currently chairs the Caldwell Youth Master Plan Committee.

Michelle Livingston-Dickson (Go7, MATo8) is in Sydney, Australia, where she provides relief teaching for two schools – a casual teacher in a variety of subjects at St. Andrew's Cathedral (Episcopal) School and high school teacher

Tolon Pursues Her Passion for Law

By Andrew Shaughnessy

Fresh out of Fordham Law School, George Fox alumna and former ASC student body president **Elizabeth Tolon** (G12) is living the dream as a young lawyer in New York City. Despite her current success, she didn't always plan on going into law. In fact, she began her years at George Fox studying music education. "I wanted to be a high school choir teacher," she explains, "but I'd always loved political science."

At first, Tolon settled for taking a few political science classes on the side, working toward a minor. Before long, supported and encouraged by professor Ron Mock and former professor Michael MacLeod, she added political science as a second major and began to explore new options.

"I appreciated how Ron approached difficult topics, whether about the global environment or state and local issues," Tolon says. "When I asked him about it, he said, 'You should go to law school. They'll teach you how to think."

Rather than jumping straight to law school after graduation, Tolon decided to spend several years pursuing things she loved. She worked

for the Portland Timbers and Major League Soccer, and served in the food and beverage industry, learning about good food and fine wine. By the time she applied and was accepted to law school, Tolon was emotionally and mentally ready. "I had taken the time to get to know myself," she

Tolon did well at Fordham, eventually landing a job as an associate with Ropes & Gray LLP, a large international



The 2012 alumna works as an associate in the litigation department, defending large corporations in court cases and doing pro bono work advocating for families separated at the U.S./Mexico border.

law firm. Today, she works as an associate in the litigation department, defending large corporations in court cases and doing pro bono work advocating for families separated at the U.S./Mexico border. It's high-speed, varied, challenging work - the sort that can easily consume a life - but Tolon keeps herself balanced. Just after passing the bar, and before starting work at the firm, she pursued and earned her sommelier certification. Next year, she is marrying her "law school sweetheart."

"I love my life," she says.
"I'm maybe one of the few young lawyers who really loves their life."

Looking back, Tolon credits George Fox's emphasis on community as being a major influence on her philosophy of a life well lived. She carried that value system with her to Fordham and found a group of like-minded lawyers who supported one another both as professionals and, more importantly, as human beings.

"I have this amazing, strong community from law school that's built around common beliefs," she says. "Loving your neighbor, supporting those who need you,

defending the defenseless, and, throughout, holding true to who you are."

This, perhaps, is the most remarkable thing about Tolon's story. Yes, she's an achiever in a challenging profession. Yet throughout her journey, she's not lost sight of the things that make a life beautiful: love, character, the support of a solid community, and relaxing with friends and a glass of wine.



in visual arts with the New South Wales Department of Education. She has done both since 2014. Previously, for two years, she was program coordinator with the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities' Australia Studies Centre.

Tim Nelson (Go7) in June begins his 13th year with Delap LLP, one of Portland's largest accounting firms, headquartered in Lake Oswego, Oregon. A certified public accountant, he started with the firm as tax senior, advanced to tax manager in 2013 and in 2016 was promoted to senior tax manager. He works primarily with pass-through entities, C corporations and individual tax compliance, with an emphasis on state and local tax compliance.

Jeremy Baker (Go8) uses his computer science degree as a software engineer with Act-On Software, Inc. in Beaverton, Oregon. He is in his seventh year after nearly four years with Epiq Systems, also in Beaverton, where he also was a software engineer his last two years.

Peter Jackman (Go8) is a senior engineer at the Center for Aircraft Structural Life Extension at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He is in his 10th year, involved in failure analysis of more than 700 aircraft parts in support of Boeing, Lockheed and Northrop aircraft tear-down programs. He also is in his sixth year as a volunteer with Kids Hope USA, mentoring a child each week.

Amanda Swanson (Go8) is trafficking intervention coordinator with the Oregon Department of Justice and Attorney General in Salem, Oregon. She began in 2015 and works with counties statewide to build their response to commercial sex exploitation of children. Previously, for five years, she was with the Sexual Assault Resource Center as a commercial sex exploitation of children development and resource manager.

James Wolfer (Go8) has two careers going. In January of 2018, he started as financial crimes consultant with Fargo Bank in Portland. This uses his master's degree in criminal justice criminology received in 2012 from the University of Cincinnati and follows two years as an investigator with SAIF Corporation, then a year as a police officer with the Grand Ronde (Oregon) Police Department. While a police officer, he made a wooden flag to donate to the department. He posted a photo

on Facebook and soon other police officers, firefighters and veterans were requesting the large flags. That has led to his second career, in 2017, establishing Valhalla Wood Forge in Newberg. A year later, he began designing his own custom, high-quality and individually designed wedding rings created of wood and metal, each hand turned and polished. Rustic wood furniture is now being added.

Adrian Bucur (MDivo9), after two years as associate pastor, in June of 2018 became lead pastor for Journey Community Church in Camas, Washington. This follows eight years as a chaplain, most recently at PeaceHealth Southwest Washington Medical Center.

Luke Fletcher (Go9) completed his three-year residency at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston last summer and now is in Portland on a three-year hematology/oncology fellowship at Oregon Health & Science University. He received his MD degree in 2015 from the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. His wife, Andrea (Dooley) Fletcher (Go9), is a full-time mom, leading a small group for doctor wives.

Emily Hodgin Forbes (Go9) is a plant-based nutritionist and educator operating her own business, Love & Plants, in Newberg, started in 2015. She offers cooking classes, meal planning, nutrition coaching, grocery store tours, group workshops and personal chef services. With a certificate in plant-based nutrition from Cornell University, received in 2013, she also draws from her background of nearly two years as a healthy eating specialist at Whole Foods and her travels to 28 countries worldwide seeking healthy meals. She visits George Fox several times a year to perform cooking demonstrations as part of the university's Nutrition Matters program.

Stefan Lagielski (no9) last fall became the new head coach of the boys' tennis program at Prairie High School, his alma mater, in the Battle Ground (Washington) School District. He also is an assistant tennis pro at the Vancouver (Washington) Tennis Center where he learned to play growing up. Previously, he was a coach at various academies near Austin, Texas.

Jasmine (Ah Choy) Langeliers (Go9, MA12) is a counselor at Sherwood (Oregon) High School, starting in the position in 2017 after five years as a counselor at Sprague High School in Salem, Oregon. She is one of five school

counselors at the school of 1,700 and is one of two counselors for the 2019 senior class.

LeAnn (Dolly-Powell) Naillon (ADPo9) is a global strengths evangelist with Soar, a national organization that helps individuals and organizations develop innate strengths and maximize uniqueness. She is based in Boise and connects Soar with executives, individuals, entrepreneurs, HR professionals, nonprofits and faith groups. She started in October after more than three years with Gallup as a certified strengths coach and five years as a consultant and international exchanges coordinator with the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at the University of Montana.

Stephen Pick (Go9) in July became the new executive director of the Journey Theater Arts Group in Vancouver, Washington, where he performed as a student when it was called Christian Youth Theater. The nonprofit group offers classes and camps for youth 6-18 and produces 12 musicals each year. Pick is responsible for everything from set and lighting design to managing business accounts and fundraising. In 2011, he and fellow alumus **Caleb Thurston** (G10, MAT15) founded Valley Repertory Theatre in Newberg, producing four shows a year for four years. Last year, Pick received a master's degree in directing and arts administration from Boston University.

lan Reynoso (MATo9) is the new head football coach at Glencoe High School in Hillsboro, Oregon, moving up in the fall from an assistant position as defensive line coach. He has been with the school of 1,600 students since 2014 as an art teacher and also boys' and girls' track coach. Previously, he was with Tualatin (Oregon) High School for five years as a football and wrestling coach and art teacher.

Anna (Moreshead) Schmitt (Go9) is assistant dean of students at Boise State University, in that position since 2015 after nearly two years as impact scholars coordinator working with former foster youth attending the university. She received a master's degree in social work from Boise State in 2013.

Megan (Servoss) Stanaland (Go9) is in her second year as an educational assistant with the Central Point (Oregon) School District. This follows more than eight years as program director - talent with the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Rogue Valley in Grants Pass, Oregon.

2010-19

Lauren (Kewley) Creel (G10) in August became program administrator for City of Hope in Duarte, California. She started in 2016 as administrative program coordinator with the nonprofit clinical research, medical treatment and medical education organization. Previously, she was an administrative intern at University of California San Diego Health while earning a master's degree in social work from San Diego State and a second master's degree in public health from California State University in 2016.

Jasmine Holliday-Hairgrove (G10) is a selfemployed Licensed Clinical Social Worker living in Kyle, Texas, actively involved in serving the needs of underserved patients in two counties. This spring she taught Family Medicine and Community Healthcare, an introduction to citizenship and community service, at Baylor University Family Health Center. She has a master's degree from the Baylor School of Social Work.

Janelle Holmboe (MBA10) is now vice president for enrollment and dean of admissions at McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland. She started in July and is responsible for developing and implementing the college's financial aid, marketing and enrollment management strategies. She moved from a position as vice president for enrollment at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina, where she had been for nearly four years. Earlier, she was dean of admissions at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts, for just over two years, following just over six years at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, as associate director of graduate admissions.

Christina (Voigt) LeBlanc (G10) is in Brooklyn, New York, while working with World Vision as a peace-building advocacy specialist, in that position for nearly three years. She started with World Vision as a peace-building advocacy coordinator, beginning in 2014, shortly after receiving a master of arts degree in international development from Eastern University in St. Davids, Pennsylvania. She is jointly working with the Advocacy and Justice for Children team, focused on bringing World Vision's field experience in peace building to influence the New York policy agenda, promoting grassroots youth peace building at the United Nations.

John Regier (MA10) in February became director of graduate, adult degree and international admissions for George Fox. He moved into his new role after a year as associate director of graduate and adult degree admissions, also serving as an admissions counselor for the university's Portland Seminary. He joined the seminary full time in 2014 as associate director of masters programs after five years as a part-time online facilitator and educational technologist. He is currently pursuing a doctor of education degree at George Fox.

Aimee (Timmons) Reman (G10) is a counselor/case manager with St. Mary's Home for Boys in Beaverton, Oregon. She started in 2017. Founded as an orphanage, St. Mary's now offers residential treatment and services to at-risk boys ages 10 to 17 who are emotionally disturbed and behaviorally delinquent.

Tina Roberts (MBA10) is the assistant principal for Napoleon Junior High in Napoleon, Ohio, named in June of 2018. Previously, she was a Title I reading teacher in Lima (Ohio) City Schools for four years.

Michele Rosato (ADP10) is an accounting analyst with OEG Inc. in Portland. She is in her eighth year with the electrical contracting firm after being with FluorEnterprises in Hillsboro, Oregon, for seven years as an administrative assistant. She and her husband are trained marriage coaches for Marriage Team.

Chris Schuller (MBA10) is in his second year as a R&D program/project engineer/manager at HCL America / Becton Dickson in Sandy, Utah. Previously, for nearly two years, he was with GE Healthcare as lead supplier quality engineer. HCL is a global technology company that helps enterprises reimagine their businesses for the digital age. Becton Dickson is a global medical technology company, and HCL provides information technology and software services.

Natalie (Gould) Tomko (G10) is in her third year as digital marketing manager with eG Innovations in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her responsibilities include website performance, increasing rankings and leads, link building, traffic growth, email marketing and social media. The company provides IT performance monitoring, diagnosis and reporting solutions for its clients. Previously, starting in 2013, she was in Austin, Texas, with Advice Interactive Group as vice president for content management.

Tyler Walker (ADP10) is now a physician with the U.S. Army. In June 2018 he began residency at Eisenhower Army Medical Center at Fort Gordon in Augusta, Georgia, following his May graduation from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. He is an Army captain on active duty during his three-year residency, followed by a four-year service commitment. His specialty is family medicine. He and his wife, Amanda Walker (G09), have four children and live in Grovetown, Georgia.

Jennifer Bell (G11) has accepted a position in London with her company, Janrain, based in Portland. She is a technical consultant, with the customer profile and identity management software company since 2016. Earlier, she was with InsideTrack in Portland as a success coach for nearly four years.

Kevin Brown (G11) and Laura (Minthorne) **Brown** (G11) live and work in Hillsboro, Oregon, where he is an English language development teacher at Glencoe High School. He started in 2016 after receiving a master's degree in teaching. His teaching career started at Millard South High School in Omaha, Nebraska, then West Linn-Wilsonville public schools. Laura received a doctorate in occupational therapy in 2017 from Creighton University and practices with the Northwest Regional Education Service District in Hillsboro (her primary position, serving 12 schools) and is contracted part time with Forward Stride in Beaverton, Oregon, a nonprofit comprised of therapists and volunteers using horse-centered therapies to help enrich lives.

Kara (Betzer) Cones (G11) is administrative assistant and media specialist with Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Lake Oswego, Oregon. She started in 2016 after nearly three years as assistant director of KinderCare Education in Lake Oswego.

Shaun Davis (ADP11, PsyD17) in October joined Cornerstone Clinical Service, with offices in Milwaukie and Tigard, Oregon, as a licensed psychologist. The group of 23 Christian psychologists specializes in work with children, adolescents and families. Previously, she was a psychologist resident with Providence Medical Group in Sherwood, Oregon.

Kyler Dougherty (G11) and **Nicole (Johnson) Dougherty** (G11) won a 2018 Top Shelf award for design excellence given by the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association at its November conference in Tennessee. They designed the cover of the book *Bible Infographics*

René Makes Big Impact as a Big Brother

By Andrew Shaughnessy

It was the beginning of **Randall René's** (ADP14, MBA17) junior year of high school, and things were rough. His mom had gone into rehab for the fourth time. His stepdad, a violent, abusive man, took his daughters – René's sisters – and left. Sixteen years old, and he was all alone.

"I didn't want my grandparents to worry ... so I carried on with my business," René recalls.

He'd go to school, mostly, scraping by with the minimal 1.8 GPA so he could still play sports. But he went to work every day, bagging groceries at Fred Meyer to buy food and help pay for his mom's needs. René started to consider dropping out of high school, and that's when he met Carl Lavier.

"Lav" was the gym teacher and coach for football and track. He'd give René a hard time about skipping class, but he was always there – present, with a listening ear and an encouraging word. When René shared that he planned to drop out, Lav told him, "Randy, I know it's tough, but I expect to see you here. Don't let me down." René didn't.

René's other boyhood champion was his grandfather. He did volunteer work all around town, serving in soup kitchens, working with the church, and coaching Little League. Often, he brought René along.

"I had these two great men in my life," René said. "I went through some rough spots, but I have a great career and life now because people took the time to love and care for me. They took a little extra hardship on themselves to give me a better foundation to build my life upon. So now I want to be able to do the same, to give back."

After high school, René served a stint in the Army, then moved back home to Oregon, ending up in the telecommunications field. Looking to further his education, he discovered George Fox's management and organizational leadership program. For two years, he worked all day and went to school on nights and weekends. As a boy, René had nearly dropped out of high school. As a man, he earned his bachelor's degree with a 3.98 GPA. Two years later, he returned to George Fox for his MBA.



In 2018, René was named "Big of the Year" by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oregon.

Lav and his grandfather were in the back of his mind the whole time – his templates for life. René served as a reserve police officer for the city of Hillsboro for 14 years, and in 2012 he started volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"My current 'little's' name is Henry," René says. "He's 11 years old – a great kid – and we couldn't be a better match."

Like René, Henry has had his share of hardship. His father passed away years ago, and René finds himself acting as a male role model. He's there for Henry – present, with a listening ear and an encouraging word, just like Lav was for him. René's efforts have not gone unnoticed: In 2018, he was named "Big of the Year" by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oregon.

"All this garbage I've been through in my life ... it was for a reason," René says. "I'm right where I need to be right now."

for Kids, released by Harvest House Publishers in Eugene, Oregon. They have been with the firm as graphic designers since 2013, doing product creation and art direction as well as planning and running marketing campaigns. The company has a list of 1,200 titles and has sold 100 million books worldwide, all affirming biblical values and helping readers grow spiritually.

Aubrey Ferguson (G11) started in August as assistant labor and travel coordinator with WorldStage, Inc. in Tustin, California, an events services, audio-visual, lighting and events staging firm. Previously, she was in travel services positions with the television series *Yellowstone*, Horizon Scripted Television, Inc., and XOJET, a private charter jet company.

Kimberly (Newton) Hergert (G11) has returned to campus. In September she again became costume shop manager for George Fox theatrical productions, resuming a position she previously held from 2012 to 2016 and during the 2009-10 academic year. She also was the shop's seamstress from 2007 to 2011. In all, she has done costume design for more than a dozen productions. Her experience also includes time with Valley Repertory Theatre in Newberg and with Theatre Vergo, Pacer Drama and After School Productions.

Cristina Juarez (MAT11) and Mario Juarez (ADP14, MAT17) live in Newberg while teaching in nearby cities. She teaches third grade at Bridgeport Elementary in the Tigard/Tualatin School District, starting in 2012 after a corporate career with Cigna and HealthNet. He started teaching in 2015 and is a fourth-grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary in Woodburn, Oregon, after assisting the principal in a mentoring program for students. That followed employment with the U.S. Army Reserve and with FedEx. They are involved in English Language Development with Esperanza Iglesias en Cristo, a Spanish-speaking church in Tualatin, a branch of Horizon Christian Church.

Thomas King (MBA11) was reunited with his birth family after 64 years, including a sister in Oregon and aunts and uncles in Washington. They celebrated Thanksgiving together last year for the first time. Last fall, he also became a managing partner with ES3, LLC, an emergency operations, planning and support firm in Bothell, Washington. Previously, for six years, he was planning section chief EMG with Seattle Seafair.

Peter Martin (n11) in July of 2018 became a financial adviser with Northwestern Mutual in Salem, Oregon, moving from a position as a benefits consultant with Aflac.

Luke Neff (MAT11, EdD15), who has been serving as director of instructional technology with the Newberg School District since 2014, has added a new role this year as director of strategic partnerships. He already had moved his office to Newberg High School so he could assume librarian duties. In addition, he oversees grant development and acquisitions and public/private partnerships for the district. He began with the district in 2011 teaching humanities at the high school following a year at Chehalem Valley Middle School.

Vivi Caleffi Prichard (MBA11) in November became the new diversity and equity officer with Chemeketa Community College in Salem, Oregon. She had been the college's Title IX officer since 2015, responsible for leading efforts toward gender equity in education. She held several human resources positions where diversity and equity were a component after joining Chemeketa in 2008.

Mary Puntenney (G11) in September started Family Connections Therapy in San Diego, where she is a licensed marriage and family therapist, licensed professional clinical counselor and registered play therapist. The two-partner practice offers therapeutic services to children and youth through 18 and their families. She previously was a mental health therapist with Family Health Centers of San Diego for two years, and prior to that was with Community Research Foundation for more than three years as a child, youth and family clinician. She earned a master's degree in clinical psychology, marriage and family therapy at Azusa Pacific University in 2014.

Kaitlin (Christiansen) Wade (G11) is an early childhood special education teacher with the David Douglas School District in Portland. She started in 2015 following completion of a master's degree in special education at the University of Oregon.

Breanna (Nix) Bogar (G12) is student records coordinator at Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences. She has been at the osteopathic medicine school in Yakima, Washington, since 2015 and moved to her new position a year later. Previously, she was at Life Pacific College in San Dimas, California, where she held positions in the registrar's office for nearly three years, ending as assistant

registrar. She also is a health fitness coach and assists her husband in his work as youth pastor at West Valley Foursquare Church.

Nancie Carmichael (MA12) in October released The Unexpected Power of Home (Why We Need It More Than Ever), her 10th book. The veteran author and her husband founded and own Deep River Books in Sisters, Oregon. Together they have authored 15 books. They also were founding publishers of Good Family Magazines, which included Christian Parenting Today, Virtue and Parents of Teenagers magazines. Deep River Books is designed to mentor new, emerging and/or relatively unknown authors with the intent of helping with marketing, sales and distribution. Books it publishes are available to more than 30,000 wholesalers, retailers and booksellers nationally. Her spring talk on the topic of her latest book drew 200 women in Bend, Oregon.

Amanda (Winkelman) Howard (G12) started the new school year last fall as director of marketing for Westside Christian High School in Tigard, Oregon. She left a position as project manager with Dunthorpe Marketing Group in Portland, where she had been for about a year and a half after more than two years as marketing coordinator and producer with Pivot Group in Portland. Westside has just over 200 students.

Cinthia Manuel (MBA12) is in her second year with Portland Leadership Foundation, starting as director of internships and in 2018 moving to director of workforce initiatives. Earlier, for more than three years, she was with Oregon Health Co-Op, serving as web, marketing and communications strategist. Portland Leadership Foundation is a non-profit with the purpose of strengthening and developing leadership for the spiritual and social renewal of the area. In May of 2018 she received Linfield College's Alumni Service Award.

Randy Rabehl (MBA12) in January was promoted to chief financial officer with TitleOne Exchange Co. in Boise, moving up from his previous position as senior vice president and controller. A CPA, he has been with the firm for 15 years after earlier being an escrow manager for 10 years with First American Title Company in Portland.

Roy Abdun-Nur (G13) is back in the Northwest after four years on the East Coast, where he earned a master of fine arts degree in interior design from Virginia Commonwealth Uni-

versity in 2015, then worked for two years as a junior interior designer with KSA Interiors in Richmond, Virginia. He moved back to Portland to work as an interior designer with LRS Architects, Inc. in 2017 before joining Mahlum, an architectural and interior design firm, as an interior designer in the spring of 2018.

Della Anderson (G13) received a master's degree in Christian ethics from Yale Divinity School in 2017 and now is in Texas, where she is a sixth-grade social studies teacher with the Bastrop Independent School District. She started in August after being a garden and yoga teacher at Trulove Montessori in Austin.

Christopher Benjamin (G13) is one of three candidates to become the next director of the Klamath Symphony Orchestra in Klamath Falls, Oregon. In November he conducted the symphony in its fall concert. In 2016, he started as director of choirs at Henley (Oregon) high and middle schools, and he also teaches at his studio, Higher Heights Vocal Studio, in Klamath Falls. In addition, he coaches wrestling and track at Henley schools and is youth pastor, worship leader and pastoral assistant at Consumed by the Harvest Family Worship Center.

Jessi (Fink) Freitag (G13) and Daniel Freitag (G14) have both changed employment positions, but still live in Wood Village, Oregon. He is now senior financial analyst with Adidas in Portland, moving up from a role as marketing financial analyst that he started in 2016. She has now left Adidas, where she was assistant manager in marketing operations for just over two years. Since January she has been marketing and operations manager with Liv Foods, Inc., a startup company in Salem, Oregon, that produces organic superfood energy bars. As a senior at George Fox, her business capstone project was a company that made and sold desserts and candy in the Bruin Den on campus. Now, her career has come full circle. Since February, the university's food service provider, Bon Appetit, has been selling LivBars on campus.

Carly Halverson (G13) in 2018 received a master's degree in higher education and student affairs from the University of Portland and in the fall joined Gonzaga University as residence hall director. While studying at Portland she was an assistant hall director for two years. This followed nearly two and a half years as key partner concierge with Evanta, a

Portland professional training and coaching company.

Hayley Delle (G14) is in her second year as administrative assistant at Caravan Coffee in Newberg. The Fair Trade Coffee firm, with 12 employees, is an outgrowth of the founding of the Coffee Cottage, long familiar to George Fox students and employees. Previously, for two years, she was manager of Social Goods Market and Newberg Wine Lockers in downtown Newberg.

Christine (Jordan) Dolan (G14) and Willy Dolan (G14) live in Gresham, Oregon, while she is a second-grade teacher at Verne Duncan Elementary School in Happy Valley, Oregon, part of the North Clackamas School District. He is a graduate admissions counselor at Concordia University in Portland, in that position since early 2018 while working on an MAT in music teacher education. He left a position of nearly two years with Spirit Media as director of digital marketing.

Erin (Hento) Gima-Derrow (G14) is an athletic trainer with Work-Fit in Everett, Washington, working along with her husband. They both received master of science degrees in movement and leisure science in 2016 from the University of Idaho and started work in Everett shortly thereafter. The company works with industrial employees for accident prevention and fitness.

Norbert Haukenfrers (DMin14) is the new incumbent parish priest at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Okotoks, Alberta, Canada. He started in September after serving just over 11 years as priest and rector at St. David's Anglican Church in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Kevin Mills (MEd14) has moved from principal of West Linn (Oregon) High School to become vice principal of Lake Oswego (Oregon) Junior High. He started in July, leaving the West Linn-Wilsonville School District after 10 years. He started as an advanced math teacher in 2008, later became athletic director for one year, then was named assistant principal. In his new role he is being aided by assistant principal Jeff Giberson (MAT02), who started in 2016 after being with the Beaverton (Oregon) School District since 2004, including five years as student supervisor at Barnes Elementary and two years as student supervisor at Westview High School.

Unique (Cramer-Buck) Page (MA14), after three years as an adjunct professor, started

in the fall as director of the Individual and Family Matters Counseling Clinic at George Fox. A licensed professional counselor in Oregon and a therapist with a private practice since 2016, she worked the previous year as an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Counseling at Multnomah University in Portland. She was a resident therapist at the Saint Child maternity home in Beaverton, Oregon, from 2015 to 2017.

Tim Porter (EdD14) this summer moves from the South Umpqua (Oregon) School District to become the new superintendent of the Scappoose (Oregon) School District. He has been head of the 1,500-student district for the last three years after two years as director of technology and student achievement at South Lane (Oregon) School District and five years as curriculum director with the Sweet Home (Oregon) School District. Earlier, he had 11 years of classroom teaching experience in math and science. Scappoose has 2,500 students in five traditional schools and two charter schools.

David Shin (G14) is a financial representative with Country Financial in Tualatin, Oregon. In that position since shortly after graduation, he helps clients with retirement services and insurance products. He also is a member of the board of directors of Union Gospel Mission in Portland.

Sterling Smith (G14) and Jessica (Rivera) **Smith** (G16) have both changed jobs but continue to live in Portland. In December, he became fleet manager with J.B. Hunt, managing truck drivers and overseeing their safety, compliance, pay and dispatches. He left a position as accountant/office manager with Clive Coffee, held for just over a year. In February, she moved from volunteer coordinator to communications coordinator with the Portland Leadership Foundation's Embrace Oregon initiative, where she has been on staff since July of 2017. It connects community members with vulnerable children and families in partnership with the Oregon Department of Human Services. Portland Leadership Foundation's CEO is **Ben Sand** (MDiv10), in that position since 2008.

Joe Armstrong (MBA15) is the new additive manufacturing manager with Nike Air Manufacturing Innovation in Beaverton, Oregon. He started the position last fall after serving as tooling supervisor for the previous two years when he joined the global firm. Previously, he was with Blount International,

Inc. in Portland for more than five years, the last year as manufacturing supervisor.

Javier Gutierrez Baltazar (G15) is a juvenile probation officer with the Marion County Juvenile Department in Salem, Oregon, now in his second year. Previously, for nearly four years, he was a business and employment specialist for WorkSource Oregon, part of the Oregon Employment Department, where he assisted job seekers with employment resources and skill development.

Tim Dandini (ADP15) is in his first year as commercial property manager with Wall to Wall Stone Corp in Vancouver, Washington. The company is a manufacturer and distributor of natural stone and quartz. Previously, he was project manager with Natural Stone Designs in Tualatin, Oregon, for more than three years after working in foreman and superintendent positions on construction projects for several Portland-area firms.

Desiree Fisher (EdS15) is principal of 1,140-student Lakeridge High School in the Lake Oswego (Oregon) School District. She joined the district in 2004, most recently serving as assistant principal at Lakeridge for two years before her current position started in July. Previously, she was a teacher, school counselor and dean of students.

Jacob Flaherty (n15) is completing his third year with Lange Estate Winery in Dundee, Oregon. He started in direct sales and since July has been in both sales and marketing. Earlier, for two years, he was an associate with World Financial Group in Portland.

Andrew Hammerquist (G15) is now an urgent care athletic trainer with Saint Alphonsus Medical Group in Boise, Idaho. He started that position in May of 2018 after joining SAMG as an athletic trainer in 2016. Previously, he was with Therapeutic Associates Physical Therapy in Nampa, Idaho.

Scott Hewetson (ADP15), a recent finalist for the City of St. Helens' (Oregon) chief of police, is in his 22nd year with the Hillsboro, Oregon, Police Department. He is a detective lieutenant overseeing the general assignment of detectives and youth services units as well as domestic violence and crime analysis teams, with 27 employees in all. He also is threat assessment team coordinator. In addition, he has his own part-time business, The Hewetson Group, which provides pre-employment background investigations,

executive vetting services and administrative/HR investigations.

Ofelia McMenamy (ADP15) is a senior case manager with Multnomah County (Oregon) Aging, Disability and Veterans Services, screening for and determining eligibility for public services. Now in her second year, she previously was with nearby Clackamas County for nearly 11 years, the last eight as a bilingual community corrections technician. She returns to Multnomah County after previously working there for more than nine years, the last five as a civil deputy sheriff. She received a master's degree in communication from The Johns Hopkins University in May of 2018.

Jordan Moody (G15, MAT17) has returned to the George Fox campus as a student accounts specialist, joining the student accounts office in May of 2018. He previously was a substitute teacher in the North Clackamas (Oregon) School District for a year.

Jami (Roos) Morris (G15) has returned to her alma mater, Sprague High School in Salem, Oregon, as girls' basketball coach. As a senior there she led the state in scoring at the Class 6A level. Prior to her return, she was assistant girls' basketball coach for two years at Blanchet Catholic High School in Salem, helping the team win the Oregon state 3A championship her first year and reaching third place the next year. As a point guard for George Fox she helped the Bruins reach the NCAA Division III Final Four in her freshman and senior seasons

Haley (Bellows) Toms (G15) is the new athletic director at Three Rivers Christian School in Longview, Washington. She started last August after two years as a domestic violence legal advocate at Emergency Support Shelter in Longview. She's now using her background as a three-sport athlete in high school. Three Rivers has 630 students in elementary, middle, and high schools on three campuses. Toms continues as owner of the Eff Cancer Movement, a small business started in 2014 to help her pay medical bills as she went through treatment for cancer. The company continues to donate a portion of apparel sales to cancer patients.

Mackenzie (Green) Wroblewski (MAT17) is teaching English language arts for third through eighth grades at Timber Ridge School in Albany, Oregon.

Marina Alcala-Medel (G16) has joined George Fox's Office of Advancement as a gifts and data specialist, working in that position since August of 2018. Previously, she was an engineering intern with Engineering Ministries International, working in the Nicaragua office, and with Hoffman Construction Company in Portland. As a student, she worked two years in the advancement office as a research and data assistant.

Andrew Bergh (G16) is a music teacher at Tillamook (Oregon) junior high and high schools, where he has more than 200 students involved in the choir program. He started the fall after graduation. He is also a member of the Male Ensemble Northwest, a professional men's chorus comprised of music directors from Oregon, Washington and Idaho. In December, he directed the Tillamook Community Chorus in a Christmas pageant, performing to a full house at the Tillamook United Methodist Church.

Ashley (Mitton) Borror (G16) and Brenn Borror (G17) are in Fullerton, California, where he is creative director with Convene and she is a doctoral student in clinical psychology and a teaching assistant at Biola University, where she received a master of arts degree in psychology in 2018. Convene has a mission of connecting, equipping and inspiring Christian CEOs and business owners to grow exceptional businesses and become higherimpact leaders to honor God. Brenn directs and implements digital marketing strategies, designs print materials, and designs and maintains the company website. He also oversees social media and email marketing. Previously, he was a web designer at George Fox for over a year, ending in 2017.

Derek Brown (EdD16) is now director of teaching and learning with the Newberg School District. In August he transitioned from director of data and assessment, which he started in 2017. He also is responsible for federal programs and assessment in his new position. Previously, he was a manager with the Oregon Department of Education for nearly seven years.

Linda Dibble (MA16) is in line to become the head of the Mennonite Church USA. In March she was approved as moderator-elect, to serve a two-year term beginning this July, then would step up to moderator for the 2022-2023 biennium. The denomination has about 70,000 members in 65 congregations.

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She was approved by the church's executive board, then affirmed at a constituency leaders council meeting in March. Final approval is needed at the Mennonite church's national convention in July in Kansas City, Missouri. She is a chaplain and member of the Mennonite Church USA Executive Board, is on the pastoral leadership team for the Pacific Northwest Mennonite conference, and chairs the Albany (Oregon) Mennonite Church leadership team. She and her husband manage a five-acre Christmas tree farm in the Albany area, where she also has grown and sold vegetables. Previously, she was in the accounting field for 20 years.

Catherine Gutierrez (ADP16) is facilities and human resources coordinator with Vtech in Beaverton, Oregon, starting her third year in that role. She started in 2016 with the firm that designs, manufactures and distributes corded and cordless telephones and electronic learning toys. In October, she received an MBA from Pacific University.

Jenna Holmes (G16) is back at George Fox as a specialist in media production services. She did similar work for the university from August 2017 to January 2018, then again from December 2018 to April, when she assumed her current position. She also worked in the department as a student from 2013 until graduation. On the side, she has her own business, Jenna Holmes Photography, started in 2014.

Michael Iwai (ADP16) in December received an MBA from Northwest Christian University in Eugene, Oregon, and is seeking to become an adjunct instructor in business and criminal justice courses at a Christian university. He is a lieutenant with the Oregon State Police, in his 23rd year. He is station commander in Salem, in his third year, after nearly eight years as a sergeant, also serving for six years as drug recognition expert state coordinator. He started in law enforcement as a military police officer with the U.S. Army, serving for five years.

Ashley (Geissler) Lackey (G16) and Ryan Lackey (G16) are back in Newberg, where he spent the 2018-19 academic year as an adjunct instructor at George Fox teaching writing. He also taught at Warner Pacific University in Portland and Clark College in Vancouver, Washington. She is a pharmacy assistant with Costco in Wilsonville, Oregon. He received a master of arts degree in English language and literature from Oregon State University in 2018. This fall they will move to

California, where he will enter the University of California, Berkeley PhD program in English.

Leisha Leyson (ADP16) in August was promoted from human resources administrative assistant to human resources specialist in the Channels and Harbors Project of the Operations Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Portland. She has worked in the Portland District for four years.

David Linton (MBA16) has been named a senior associate in structural engineering with Mackenzie in Portland. The firm is involved in architectural and interior design; structural, civil and traffic engineering; and land use and transportation planning. With the company since 2012, Linton is a project engineer and manager and recently led seismic upgrades of several fire facilities. He has had articles published on how wood-framed structures function under the impact of a tsunami. Previously, he was a structural designer with APT Engineering in Corvallis, Oregon, for two years.

Mitzi Martinez (G16) is a career and academic planning coach with George Fox University's IDEA Center, which helps students transition from college to the job market. She began last fall after receiving a master's degree in college counseling and student development from Azusa Pacific University in 2018. She also worked the previous year as a graduate assistant in the student programming and activities department at Biola University.

Cassie Pauley (G16) in October was promoted from social media coordinator to social media and pubic relations manager with Evelyn & Bobbie, a Portland-based women's clothing retailer. She supervises web influencer and campaign events, writes social media copy, and assists in managing paid social promotion and reporting. Previously, since 2016, she was a freelance social media manager and copywriter.

Candace Pelt (EdD16) in August was named assistant superintendent for student services with the Oregon Department of Education in Salem. She left the Newberg School District, where she had been special programs director for five years. In her new role she oversees food service, transportation and special education for state schools. Previously, she was involved in Newberg's programs in English language learning, migrant services, alternative education, special education and federal title programs.

Wonsil Sayson (G16) is a registered nurse at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland. She started in August of 2017. She also is in her fourth year as a volunteer with Good News Community Health Center, a faith- and community-based nonprofit organization serving the Rockwood and East Multnomah County areas of Portland.

Kelsey Vaughn (G16), after two and a half years as development associate and membership coordinator with the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum in McMinnville, Oregon, started in October as development associate with Youth Music Project in West Linn, Oregon. It is a nonprofit music school in Clackamas County with more than 3,000 students.

Mike White (MBA16) divides his time in four career areas. He is director of operations and president of High School Options in Salem, Oregon, a three-year-old nonprofit that has the goal of inspiring students, bridging the gap between higher education and career outcomes. He is an adjunct business instructor and small business adviser at Chemeketa Community College and also a speaker, mentor and trainer (in his third year) with The John Maxwell Team in Portland, helping participants improve leadership abilities. Finally, he is founder and owner of Best Damn BBQ Sauce, started in 2018.

Emylina (Burunov) Boettcher (G17) and Mark Boettcher (G18) live in Portland. She is marketing director with Ambassador Wealth Management, a financial planning company in Vancouver, Washington, starting in that position in April of 2018. He is an electrical engineer with Landis Consulting, an engineering services firm with offices in Salem and Lake Oswego, Oregon, starting in May of 2018. He provides design and drawing development for systems involving industrial, health care, education and commercial projects. Her company was founded by her father, Petr Burunov (ADPo6), in 2009. He is president of the firm that helps in planning for estates, income tax and retirement, and management for assets and portfolios, legacy and charitable giving.

McKenzie (Schaffer) Hamburg (G17) in December became business development pursuit coordinator with WE Communications, moving from her previous position of assistant account executive, held for nine months. She is based in Bellevue, Washington, headquarters for the firm founded in 1983 as Waggener Edstrom Communications,

Rodriguez Works to Change Lives as an Elementary School Principal By Andrew Shaughnessy

Perla Rodriguez (EdDo6) has served as a principal for minority-majority elementary schools in Oregon's Forest Grove School District for 16 years, and has worked in the district for more than two decades. Over the course of her career, Rodriguez has led through budget crises, served as coordinator for the district's dual-language program, moved kindergarten from a half day to a full day, and implemented the school district's first clothes closet for students, its food bank, and a school uniform policy.

Her efforts have not gone unnoticed: In April of 2018, the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators named Rodriguez the 2018 Oregon Elementary School Principal of the Year. But praise, she insists, is not her motivation. "I don't know anyone who gets into education for the recognition," she says.

Rodriguez began her academic career at Boise State, where she studied bilingual education – a choice rooted

in experience. Her parents had emigrated from Mexico, and Rodriguez and her siblings were the first in their family to be born in the United States. Remembering the challenges of her own childhood, Rodriguez was determined to follow a path that would allow her to change lives for the better.

"I thought about being a social worker, but I wanted to be on the preventative side," she says. "I wanted to make a difference in kids' lives as an educator."

After graduating from Boise State, Rodriguez moved to



The Confederation of Oregon School Administrators named Rodriguez the 2018 Oregon Elementary School Principal of the Year.

Portland to serve as a third-grade teacher at Echo Shaw Elementary School, intentionally seeking out a bilingual school where she could put her skills to work.

She thrived, but before long found herself asking big-picture questions. She wanted to make a difference beyond her classroom, to have a voice in the systems and policies, and to lead. Rodriguez earned a master's degree in school administration from Concordia University and a doctorate from George Fox, both while continuing to teach.

"I wanted to go somewhere where I wouldn't get lost, where people would know me," she says of George Fox. "I wanted to know that if I missed a class, they would miss me."

Rodriguez took her first principal job at Cornelius Elementary School, serving there for nine years before taking her current position as principal of Echo Shaw Elementary. Over the years, she's faced countless obstacles in her quest to make a difference. Yet, according to Rodriguez, her biggest challenge has been creating a positive and empowering space for Latinx kids in the midst of a toxic

political climate.

"Kids aren't immune to those conversations," she says.
"We want to be a school where everyone feels secure in their identity."

Creating a place where kids feel safe is a clear priority for Rodriguez. Beyond that, she also hopes her school is helping shape people poised to make a difference in their communities and in the world. "I want our students to be the next change-makers," she says. "We just have to give them the



a public relations firm associated with its largest client, Microsoft.

Corey Jensen (MBA17) is in San Francisco where he is a marketing assistant with Informa, a worldwide publishing and events company. He started in February of 2018 after moving from a recruiter position with Apex Life Sciences, also in the San Francisco area.

Kylie (Weatherford) Koch (G17) and **John Koch** (G17) are in Nampa, Idaho, while she is branch office administrator with Edward Jones in Boise and he is working part time while going to school in a physical therapy license program.

Robert Mitchell (G17) is now a police officer with the City of Newberg. He started as an intern with the city in March of 2017 and as an officer in April of 2018. In August he graduated after 16 weeks of training with the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem, Oregon. The speaker for the graduation ceremony was Chris Skinner (MBA10), chief of the Eugene (Oregon) Police Department.

Lauren (Gilham) Morikawa (G17) and **Michael Morikawa** (G17) live in Newberg, where she is a wobbler (children 12 to 24 months) teacher at Play and Learn Daycare. She started soon after graduation. She also is currently enrolled at George Fox, studying for a master's degree in school counseling. He is with Andrew Physical Therapy in McMinnville, Oregon, as an athletic trainer. It has two locations and specializes in orthopedic and sports rehabilitation.

Brennan Rains (G17) is back on campus as a financial aid counselor. He started in November after a year and a half as a management trainee for Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Tigard, Oregon.

Mckenna (Martin) Tillotson (G17) has left her position as affinity marketing coordinator for George Fox University, taking a new position as a project coordinator with Pivot, a marketing and advertising agency founded in Tigard, Oregon, in 2004.

Craig Tinline (MBA17) has been promoted from senior associate to principal consultant with Mercer in Portland. He has been with the international human resources consulting firm since 2007, starting as associate and holding the senior associate position for eight years. He develops global benefit strategies and leads a number of global teams.

Nikolas Tripp (G17) in September was promoted to lead software engineer from software developer with Access Solutions in Portland. He started with the company in 2016. It provides foreign material exclusion for the power generation industry.

Hunter Bomar (G18) in February joined the staff of the *Keizertimes* newspaper, a weekly with a distribution of 3,500 in Keizer, Oregon. He is covering the city of 35,000 near Salem as community reporter, with emphases on events and local businesses. He also is a specialist in the Oregon Army National Guard, in his fifth year.

Dawn Boyd (ADP18) in April was announced as the new executive director of the Sisters (Oregon) Outdoor Quilt Show, an annual July event that is internationally recognized as the world's largest outdoor quilt show. More than 1,300 quilts representing fiber artists from around the world are displayed for a single day, with more than 10,000 visitors each year from all 50 states and more than two dozen countries. Three full-time staff and hundreds of volunteers organize the free event. She has moved to Sisters from Grants Pass, Oregon.

Bobbi (Luper) Chamberlain (ADP18) is with Oregon Health & Science University as project manager for Research Administration. She is responsible for day-to-day operations of projects and budgets for large logistics-based projects. She has been with OHSU since 2002, starting as office manager/executive assistant.

Charan Cline (EdD18) this summer will complete seven years as superintendent of the 1,200-student, three-school Yamhill-Carlton (Oregon) School District. Previously, for just over two years, he held simultaneous half-time positions as superintendent of the North Douglas School District in Drain, Oregon, and as assistant superintendent of the Douglas Education Service District serving the entire county. Earlier, he was director of student achievement for two years for the Douglas ESD, coordinating services for 14,000 students in 13 school districts.

Lindsey (Doran) Coates (G18) has stayed on campus as assistant director of George Fox's annual giving program. As a student she was a phonathon caller and supervisor for two years, also working for two years as a special projects facilitator for Doran Automotive in Newberg.

Robert Day (ADP18) made news headlines in March as he announced his retirement, effective May 1, completing one year as deputy police chief for the City of Portland, the second-highest in command in a department that has approximately 1,000 full-time officers, 100 reserves, 50 cadets and 300 civilian positions. He was the first to fill the new position created with the hiring of a new police chief a year ago. He reports he would like to continue in consulting work, lecturing or teaching in the field of public safety and criminal justice.

Kelsey Dody (G18) is a software development engineer with Clearwater Analytics in Boise. She previously was a software development intern with the company the summer before being hired full time. It provides automated investment accounting, performance, compliance and risk reporting for financial firms, companies and governments.

Nicholas Felt (G18) has started his career as a software design engineer with Tektronix in Beaverton, Oregon, where he interned as a software quality engineer the summer before his senior year. The company creates and manufactures testing and measuring equipment.

Tanya Gore (MA18) has established her own business, Tanya Gore Counseling, in West Linn, Oregon, opened in May of 2018. As a marriage and family therapist she specializes in assisting couples, families, individuals and adolescents.

Jesse Hawkins (G18) started in August as a hardware design engineer with Tektronix in Beaverton, Oregon.

Seth Hoiland (G18) is ticket sales account manager for the Portland Trail Blazers professional basketball team at the Rose Quarter in Portland. He started in June of 2018.

Joah Logan (G18) is back in his hometown of Sandpoint, Idaho, where in March he opened (with a partner) Monarch Marketing. He is using his degree in marketing to offer local businesses the opportunity to grow their online presence by monitoring, tracking and projecting consumer behavior.

Ethan Moss (G18) is using his degree in computer science as a systems administrator in George Fox's institutional technology department. He was a programmer in the department for four years as a student before accepting a full-time role in August.

Evan Rickards (G18) has joined Westlake Consultants as a CAD designer. He is with the civil team, helping with subdivision drafting and preliminary research for proposed projects. The Tigard, Oregon, firm provides consulting engineering, surveying services and land use planning.

Jaydee Romick (DPT18) in February joined Apex Performance Wellness Rehab in Tigard, Oregon, to lead its rehab division as well as treating a range of sports injuries and chronic pain. Her previous clinical settings included a stint at Nike. She lectures in the Portland area on nutrition, corporate wellness and how to live a healthier lifestyle.

Ekaterina Seledkov (G18) has started her career as a financial aid counselor at Warner Pacific University. She started in June of 2018 at the Portland school with about 400 undergrads and 1,100 students.

Britta Stewart (G18) is using her history degree in a very direct way near her alma mater. She is museum manager for the historic Hoover Minthorn House Museum, just a block from campus. She started just after graduation after serving nearly two years as an intern while still in school. On campus she was an assistant in the archives for her last two years. The Hoover Minthorn House, built in 1881, is the oldest house still standing in Newberg, and is the former home of 31st U.S. President Herbert Hoover.

Dominique Thibault (G18) is a marketing coordinator with the Americas Regional Marketing Team of Milestone Systems in Beaverton, Oregon. It supports the open platform community with IP video management software (VMS).

Jake Thiessen (G18) has joined the George Fox University marketing communications office as a content specialist, responsible for creating social media and video content for the university. He started in January and is using his degree in cinematic arts and his experience as a student working in the department as a content producer.

Emily (Olson) Warila (G18) and Noah Warila (G18) live in Beaverton, Oregon, near his work as electrical engineer with Corbin Consulting Engineers. Using his degree in that field, he started shortly after graduation and is involved with industrial power systems with emphasis on data centers and their support buildings. She is a registered nurse, employed

by the Salem-Keizer (Oregon) School District. She works in three elementary schools and one middle school, responsible for providing care for students' day-to-day needs, case management for medically complex students, and health-related training and education for school staff.

Austin Wischhoefer (G18) in January started as a project engineer with Charter Mechanical Contractors in Sherwood, Oregon. The employee-owned company is a provider of mechanical and process piping services in the Northwest. Since graduation he had been with Energy Performance Engineering in Newberg as a project manager.

JUST MARRIED

Marion Comfort (n51) and Donna (Wilhite) Coleman (G65), Sept. 8, 2018, in Newberg.

Philip Smith (G77) and Sarah Link, Dec. 29, 2018, in Newberg.

Stephen James (G86) and Marsha Glinski, Sept. 29, 2017, in Wailea, Hawaii.

Paul Stoltzfus (PsyD95) and Clara Schrock, June 24, 2018, in Columbus, Ohio.

Mark Hovee (PsyD97) and Wenfang Zhu, Aug. 10, 2018, in Marana, Arizona.

Bree Stairs (Go1) and Erik Young, July 16, 2017, in Neskowin, Oregon.

Jennifer Whiteacre (Go1) and David Moore, July 21, 2018, in Hamilton, Massachusetts.

Berenice Hitchman (ADPo4) and Dan McGarthy, Sept. 8, 2018, in Meridian, Idaho.

Peter Jackman (Go8) and Sharley Schreiner, March 3, 2018, in Woodland Park, Colorado.

James Wolfer (Go8) and Nicole Bailey, Aug. 26, 2017, in Bend, Oregon.

LeAnn Dolly-Powell (ADPo9) and Brett Naillon, Oct. 14, 2017, in McCall, Idaho.

Anna Moreshead (Go9) and Brad Schmitt, Sept. 14, 2018, in Poipu, Hawaii.

Lauren Kewley (G10) and David Creel, June 17, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Sarah Wilmot (G11, MA14) and Matthew Davies, Dec. 28, 2018, in Oregon City, Oregon.

Jacob Baker (G13, MAT16) and **Erin Moriki** (G13), July 15, 2018, in Dundee, Oregon.

Erin Hento (G14) and Bryan Gima-Derrow, July 28, 2018, in Snohomish, Washington.

David Shin (G14) and Natalie Schaumann, Oct. 6, 2017, in Newberg.

Sterling Smith (G14) and **Jessica Rivera** (G16), July 30, 2017, in Oregon City, Oregon.

Nolan Staples (G14) and Natalie Koskela, July 6, 2018, in St. Paul, Oregon.

Jessica Adrian (G15) and **Luke Hammer** (G15, DPT18), Aug. 5, 2018, in Canby, Oregon.

Jacob Flaherty (n15) and Catherine Ng (G17), May 19, 2018, in Eugene, Oregon. Mackenzie Green (MAT17) and Andrew Wro-

blewski, June 30, 2018, in Dallas, Oregon. **Ashley Geissler** (G16) and **Ryan Lackey** (G16),

Dec. 28, 2017, in Chehalis, Washington. **Ashley Mitton** (G16) and **Brenn Borror** (G17),
July 2, 2018, in Littleton, Colorado.

Austin Adams (G17) and **Megan Dwier** (G18), May 3, 2018, in Independence, Oregon.

Emylina Burunov (G17) and **Mark Boettcher** (G18), Sept. 1, 2018, in Vancouver, Washington.

Lauren Gilham (G17) and **Michael Morikawa** (G17), June 16, 2018, in Onalaska, Washington.

Emily Klockner (G18) and **Nikolas Tripp** (G17), Sept. 22, 2018, in Portland.

John Koch (G17) and **Kylie Weatherford** (G17), Aug. 18, 2018, in Arlington, Oregon.

Derek Richwine (G17, MAT19) and Brooke Bolen, Sept. 21, 2018, in Union, Oregon.

McKenzie Schaffer (G17) and Dalton Hamburg, Sept. 13, 2018, in Oregon City, Oregon.

Larisa (Shkopu) Sidorov (G17) and Paul Sidorov, Oct. 21, 2017, in Milwaukie, Oregon.

Emily Olson (G18) and **Noah Warila** (G18), July 15, 2018, in Milwaukie, Oregon.

Austin Wischhoefer (G18) and Olivia Antony, June 2, 2018, in Salem, Oregon.

Emilee Kamps (G16) and Cody Stacy, Oct. 13, 2018, in Bellingham, Washington.

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS news & life events news & life events ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

BABY BRUINS



Sarah (Bowder) Kolodge (G99) and Tommy Kolodge (G99), a boy, Keller Thomas, Aug. 8, 2017, in Newberg.

Carrie

(Sutton) Cummings (Goo) and Alex Cummings, a girl, Claire Athena, June 23, 2017, in Topeka, Kansas.



Helena (Telfer) Christiansen (Go3) and Keith Christiansen (Go3), a boy, Anton Alan, Jan. 9, 2018, in Hood River, Oregon.

Mindy (Venable) Hammond (Go3) and Chris Hammond (Go8), a girl, Fia Renee, April 9, 2019, in Portland.



Janelle (Goeres) Ralph (Go4) and Benjamin Ralph, a girl, Camille Lynn, Sept. 23, 2018, in Sams Valley, Oregon.

Elisabeth (Mehl) Greene

(Go5) and **Samuel Greene** (Go5), a girl, Aurelia Isabel, Nov. 19, 2018, in Leesburg, Virginia.

Alexis (Piersma) Heinrichs (Go5, MEdo9) and Bradley Heinrichs, a girl, Lilyana Sue, Jan. 24, 2018, in Newberg.

Ashley (Emerick) Christensen (no6) and Brandon Christensen, a boy, Jett Weston, Aug. 31, 2018, in Richland, Washington.

Kara (Rasmussen) Davis (Go6) and Michael Davis, a girl, Eva Blythe, May 15, 2018, in Baker City, Oregon.



Charyse

Appledoorn Hill (Go6) and Joshua Hill, a boy, Killian Robert, July 29, 2017, in Salem, Oregon.

Eliza (Morain) Knieriemen (Go6) and John Knieriemen, a boy, Ethan Patrick, Oct. 15, 2017, in Dallas, Texas.





Lindsay (Peterson) Knox (Go6) and Kelly Knox, a girl, Lydia Karen, Jan. 19, 2018, in Tualatin, Oregon.

Lianne (Hoffman) Leach

(Go6) and Dane Leach, a boy, Shem Acre, June 4, 2018, in Portland.

Danae (Dougherty) Moore (Go6) and John Moore, a boy, Ronan Douglas, Aug. 3, 2018, in Newberg.



Heather (Spencer) Orton (Go6) and Trevor Orton (Go8), a boy, Wright Ellis, July 26, 2018, in Portland.

Michelle Livingston-Dickson

(G07, MAT08) and Timothy Dickson, a girl, Rachel Weil, Feb. 26, 2018, in Sydney, Australia.

Dania (Salgado) Behrens (Go8) and Tyler Behrens, a boy, Moses Milo, June 13, 2018, in Beaverton, Oregon.

Gretchen (Bail) Cooper

(Go8) and Cory Cooper, a boy, Flynn Quincy, March 12, 2018, in Spokane, Washington.



Andrea (Dooley) Fletcher (Go9) and Luke Fletcher (Go9), a boy, Abraham Martin, June 25, 2017, in Houston, Texas.

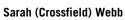
Danielle (Morford) Newkirk (Go9) and **Corbin Newkirk** (G11), twin girls, Hazel Lynn and Eliza Louise, Oct. 16, 2018, in Clackamas, Oregon.

Heidi (Bail) Brown (G10) and Christopher Brown, a girl, Lucy May, April 27, 2018, in Oregon City, Oregon.



Jasmine Holliday-Hairgrove (G10) and Ross Hairgrove, a boy, James Byron Thomas, March 20, 2018, in Austin, Texas.

Christina (Voigt) LeBlanc (G10) and Brian LeBlanc, a girl, Ada Evelyn, Feb. 12, 2018, in New York City.



(G10, MAT12) and Jesse Webb, a boy, Elias Theodore, Sept. 23, 2018, in Palmer, Alaska.



Samantha (Skillman) Carr (G11) and Brent Carr, a girl, Charlotte Vera, Feb. 2, 2018, in Newberg.

Kyle Shepard-Kiser (G11) and

Lydia Shepard-Kiser (G11, MA15), a boy, Everett James, Feb. 12, 2019, in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Ali (Lefebvre) Toedtemeier (G11, MA16) and **Travis Toedtemeier** (G10), a boy, Noah Dean, Sept. 9, 2018, in Newberg.

Kaitlin (Christiansen) Wade (G11) and Matt Wade, a girl, Yvette Ann Marie, March 22, 2018, in Portland.

Patrick Agamata (G12) and Elaine Agamata, a girl, Samantha Ashley, Aug. 21, 2018, in Portland.



Breanna (Nix) Bogar (G12) and Zachary Bogar, a girl, Camilla Rae, Jan. 1, 2018, in Yakima, Washington.



Amanda (Grandon) Fink (G12) and Arthur Fink, a girl, Everett Joy, Aug. 10, 2018, in Tacoma, Washington.

Jacqueline (Pickett) Lai

(G12) and Gregory Lai, a boy, Oliver Ryder, Sept. 24, 2018, in Bethesda, Maryland.

Christine Dolan (G14) and Willy Dolan (G14), a boy, Oliver Jack, April 24, 2018, in Clackamas, Oregon.





Lauren (Pena) Dykstra (G14) and Nathaniel Dykstra (G15), a boy, Paxton Vincent, Nov. 4, 2018, in Hopkins, Minnesota.

Caroline (Hudson) Jovanovich (G14) and Peter Jovanovich (G16), a girl, Paisley LouEllen, June 11, 2018, in Seattle.

Latosha (Clem) Akana (G15) and Kolton Akana, a girl, Kalani Sue, Sept. 24, 2018, in Yreka, California.

Wonsil Sayson (G16) and John Sayson, a boy, Sion Lee, Jan. 1, 2017, in Clackamas, Oregon, and a boy, Johan Robert, Feb. 23, 2019, in Clackamas, Oregon.

IN MEMORY

Geraldine (Tharrington) Willcuts (n45), Jan. 14, 2019, in Newberg.

Ardys (Gossard) Roberts Alteneder (n46), March 31, 2019, in Newberg.

Roger Minthorne (G47), March 10, 2019, in Newberg.

Leona (Harmon) Lyda (G49), Dec. 2, 2018, in Boise, Idaho.

Floyd Watson (G49), May 27, 2019, in Newberg.

Derrol Hockett (G50), May 3, 2019, in Newberg.

Lois (Clark) Smith (G50), Oct. 15, 2018, in Newberg.

Glen Mills (n51), Jan. 12, 2019, in Newberg.

J.D. Baker (n52), Nov. 28, 2018, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Bethlin (Judd) Harmon (G52), May 31, 2019, in Newberg.

Frank Starkey (G52), March 7, 2018, in San Luis Obispo, California.

Ralph Beebe (G54), May 27, 2019, in Newberg.

Lucille (Lewis) Brown (G54), Nov. 13, 2018, in Newberg.

Patricia (Keppinger) DeLapp (n54), Jan. 17, 2019, in Salem, Oregon.

Yvonne (Hubbard) Carr (G55), March 22, 2019, in Chandler, Arizona.

Roland Hartley (G56), Jan. 22, 2019, in Sherwood, Oregon.

Joyce (Hester) Gloeckler (G58), Sept. 8, 2018, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Richard (Dick) Mott (G₅8), Feb. 9, 2019, in Paonia, Colorado.

Paul Morse (G59), Oct. 16, 2018, in Newberg.

Annie (Longstroth) Tycksen (n59), Oct. 13, 2018, in Newberg.

Duane Fodge (n62), Aug. 14, 2018, in Newberg.

Robert (Bob) Johnson (G63), March 26, 2019, in Newberg.

Dean Dormandy, (PS64), Aug. 21, 2018, in Fruitland, Idaho.

Larry Craven (G69), March 22, 2019, in

William (Bill) Curtright (G71), March 6, 2019, in Turner, Oregon.

Alda (Johnson) Clarkson (G73), June 7, 2018, in Newberg.

LaVern (Roy) Muhr (n75), Oct. 10, 2018, in Woodburn, Oregon.

Douglas Wilhite (n82), Oct. 15, 2018, in Eagle Creek, Oregon.

Lynn Ford (G82, PS84), July 22, 2018, in Woodland, Washington.

Lori (Perry) Anderson (G86), Feb. 5, 2019, in Brea, California.

Susan McDowell (G95, MA99), April 16, 2018, in Salt Lake City.

Lisa (Shafer) Backman (Go₃), Nov. 18, 2018, in Dundee, Oregon.

Michael Duckett (n10), Feb. 16, 2019, in Boca Raton, Florida.

Dylan Givargiznia (n17), Nov. 16, 2018, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Gerry Clark (n18), Feb. 19, 2019, in Denver.

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How have you felt known at George Fox?

"Peers, professors and staff have all impacted me in a way that has made me grow in my faith and as a person." - Kevin Tshilombo

"The faculty in the art department truly take the time to get to know you as a person and your passions." Megan

Francisco

"My professors make sure I'm doing well spiritually, mentally and academically. I've felt known and loved by the community here at Fox." - Alice Marchuk

"The community that has formed around me is supportive, caring and helpful. I know they have my best interests at heart." - Malachi Tamminga

"The community here is incredibly warm and welcoming. Making friends here is how I felt known!" - Claire Hsu

"Professors who recognize you the next semester."

- Thierry Van Os

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"Through intentional interactions made by professors and friends to get to know me." - Evan Engstrom

"Professors have invited me to their offices for study help or even to just talk about life!" - Sidney Moses "My professors want to get to know me, and they care about my future and my well-being." - Karsyn Rockwell

"I feel at home." - Fernando Velazquez



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Weekend adventures just got a lot better for George Fox students. Whether it's kayaking on the Willamette, snowshoeing on Mt. Hood or camping at the coast, Bruins can now rent a wide variety of outdoor gear at prices designed to accommodate a college student's limited budget. It's all part of the university's focus on health and fitness, led by the campus recreation team at the new Hadlock Student Center. See more on page 16.