

EVERGREEN

The Evergreen State College Magazine

Fall 2009



MAKING WAVES

Greeners Bring Passion to Politics

Shaping the Future of Democracy

*“Ideas are great arrows,
but there has to be a bow.
And politics is the bow of idealism.”*
– Bill Moyers



In the nearly 40 years of Evergreen’s existence, Greeners have demonstrated their commitment to activism, politics and social justice. Evergreen students make up a quarter of the interns in Washington state’s pioneering legislative internship program. Numerous Evergreen alumni serve in local, state, tribal and national government as elected officials, senior executives and professional staff.

With the economic and social challenges facing our states, our nation and the world, Evergreen alumni in elected office face difficult and often unprecedented decisions. With record voter turnout in the last presidential election, constituents’ expectations for elected officials are high. Whether addressing environmental issues and green jobs, the viability of Washington’s ports, or the financial and cultural needs of Indian tribes, Evergreen’s unique approach to collaborative problem-solving prepares these decision-makers to create solutions that work. You’ll learn about some of these leaders, and the changes they have made possible, in this issue of our magazine.

Greeners truly believe they can change the world. Here on Cooper Point, we see you do it every day. We’re proud to be a part of your success, and the success of future generations of Evergreen students.

Ann Mary Quarandillo
Editor

Evergreen Magazine Online

You may notice that the Evergreen Magazine itself has undergone some changes. We have reduced the number of pages—saving money and paper—while continuing our efforts to keep you informed about Evergreen’s innovative students, faculty and alumni, and their impact on the communities we share. You can help us continue to conserve resources by letting us know if you’d prefer to read the magazine online only. Just send us your current email address and we’ll send you a link to each future issue.

To receive the magazine online only, please email alumni@evergreen.edu with your name and current email address.

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On the cover: Washington Senator **Kevin Ranker '97** (40th District) shows his commitment to the health of Puget Sound and Washington's coastal communities. **Photo:** Carlos Javier Sánchez '97



Senator Kevin Ranker, at the Lime Kiln Lighthouse on San Juan Island, wants to protect both the beautiful views and the fishing and other marine industries that bring economic vitality to the north Puget Sound.

Islands *of* Opportunity

With a passion for the coast and ocean and the coastal communities that depend upon them, Sen. Kevin Ranker stays true to his roots.



Photos: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

In the early 1990s, a tan young man with curly blond hair and saltwater in his veins was sitting on a pristine beach in Australia watching the sun rise over the ocean. A fourth-generation surfer whose great grandfather started fishing, diving and surfing in California in the 1920s, he had grown up on the coast, splitting time between Orcas Island and Southern California. As an avid fisherman, swimmer, sailor and surfer, he cherished the coastal lifestyle. But on that morning, he realized he wanted to do more. If he wanted to enjoy more days like this, he needed to start giving back to the ocean and the coastal communities he loved.

In 2008, **Kevin Ranker '97**, was elected state senator in Washington's 40th District, including San Juan County, parts of both Skagit and Whatcom Counties, and nearly 700 miles of coastline. In a district that covers Bellingham, Mount Vernon, Anacortes and the San Juan Islands, he is the first senator elected from the islands in more than 100 years. In his freshman year, he was named vice chair of both the Senate's Agriculture & Rural Economic Development and Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation committees and was also appointed to the Environment, Water & Energy and Transportation committees.

Ranker has brought his passion for the coast and ocean to his work as a policymaker. Before his election to the Senate, Ranker served on the San Juan County Board of County Commissioners. Known for his boundless energy, he simultaneously served as chair of the Washington Counties Transportation Committee, chair of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, chair of the Washington Coastal Counties Caucus and member of the Washington Shoreline Hearing Board. His efforts were focused on implementing successful economic development strategies, protecting agricultural lands and developing opportunities for the preservation of coastal and ocean environments and the goods and services they provide.

As a senator, Ranker continues his commitment to community issues. He advanced key climate change legislation and coastal and ocean policy with a constant focus on local economies. He developed and sponsored legislation that set new standards for state vehicle emissions, building efficiencies, and oil spills. Another priority for Ranker this year was Senate Bill 5688—legislation that expanded the rights of Washington state registered domestic partners. “This is a very powerful issue for me. It is an issue of equality,” says Ranker. “We give certain rights to married couples—I believe strongly that not giving those rights to all loving couples is discrimination.”

In the private sector, Ranker is a senior fellow with The Ocean Foundation, an international community foundation and think-tank based out of Washington, D.C. In this role, Ranker advises the foundation and others on national ocean policy. He is excited to see the oceans recognized as a national priority; in June, President Obama established the White House Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force, focusing on the protection, maintenance and restoration of the health of coastal and ocean ecosystems and resources. On Sept. 24, Ranker testified before the task force at the White House Conference Center.

In recent years, he has focused on energy and climate issues—from an ocean perspective. “Global climate change, energy production and the health of marine ecosystems are inextricably linked,” he says. “We must manage our coasts and oceans in a way that accounts for the unprecedented number of activities being proposed. We need to allow for the development of these exciting renewable energies—such as offshore wind, wave and tidal—in a way that promotes them while protecting historical uses and resources to keep coast communities thriving.”

Ranker’s course was shaped by his experiences at Evergreen. His first program with emeritus faculty member Russ Fox focused on community development. “That program caused a huge shift in my thinking,” he says. “I found that I wanted to focus on bridging the gap between economic development and conservation. I wanted to learn how to help communities thrive in ways that also promoted environmental stewardship. My focus on the combination of community development and coastal ecology was set at that time.”

When he started at Evergreen, Ranker planned to study coastal ecology and public policy, then go on to law school in Portland. But a study abroad program in his senior year cemented his commitment to community development work.

As part of a program with faculty member Phil Harding, he studied Indonesian culture, economy and language, and traveled to Indonesia with a plan to film a documentary on his work in the small communities in Eastern Indonesia. But on his way, he visited Nusa Lembongan, a five-square-mile island southeast of Bali, where he discovered a community that was only recently impacted by a massive growth in tourism.


He befriended locals who were hand building a 64-foot outrigger in one of the island’s first efforts to promote ecological tourism. At the invitation of community leaders, Ranker joined the effort to build the boat. He changed his focus to studying and documenting the effects of the nascent tourist industry on this small island, through becoming a part of their community. Upon his return he edited and produced a documentary of the changes he witnessed in the community paralleled by the construction of a “beautiful boat of local woods and bamboo.”

A long journey for a guy who came north from Venice, Calif. in the early 1990s in a 36-foot U-Haul carrying everything he owned, including five surfboards and a fly rod. From surfer to senator, Ranker gradually transformed his love for the oceans and coast toward the advancement of ocean policy, coastal economic and community development, and conservation strategies.

“There has to be a balance between environmental and economic concerns in all communities, but it’s vitally important in coastal communities because our lives and livelihoods are so intertwined with the ocean and its ecology,” Ranker says. “For instance, in the northern Puget Sound we have tremendous opportunities to develop our economy as a marine industry cluster, which can build and maintain jobs, while promoting marine stewardship. We have the perfect combination of skilled boat builders, shipyards and scientific research institutions. But protecting Puget Sound is bigger than just those industries directly tied to the water. From tourism to real estate to building, our local industries rely on a healthy Puget Sound.”

The 40th District’s distinct communities—the Skagit Valley’s rich agricultural lands, Bellingham Bay and the San Juan Islands—are held together by their unique relationship to the Puget Sound.

“Each of our cities and towns has its own special identity, but those of us who live here share at least one thing in common—a strong appreciation of the region’s natural beauty and strong sense of community,” Ranker says. “That sense of community and the geographic diversity of the North Sound are some of its most valuable assets.”



Along with Sen. Ranker, a number of Greeners are making waves in state legislatures across the country.

Rep. Brian Blake '93
19th District, Washington, member since 2002

Rep. Chip Conquest MIT '92
Orange-Caledonia District 1, Vermont, member since 2009

Rep. Cynthia F. “Cindy” (Wood) Evans, '82
7th District, Hawaii, House Majority Floor Leader, member since 2002

Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos '85
37th District, Washington, member since 1998

Sen. Dan Swecker '73
20th District, Washington, member since 1995

Rep. Brendan Williams '92
22nd District, Washington, member since 2004



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Instilled with her mother's sense of justice, Furse decided to march in a large anti-apartheid demonstration before the Houses of Parliament in Cape Town when she was 15 years old. The peaceful demonstrators were confronted with police violence. Furse emerged unharmed but not unfazed. "I lived through fear," she says. "Once that happens, you can live through anything."

Furse later moved to the U.S. with the American doctor she married as a young woman in London, where she was attending college. They settled in Los Angeles and had two children, Amanda and John. She volunteered for a project to assist low-income women in the city's Watts neighborhood, as well as Cesar Chavez's United Farm Workers, which was organizing strikes and boycotts to improve labor conditions for migrant farm workers.

In the late 1960s, Furse and her family relocated to Washington, where she met Billy Frank, Jr. and other Indian people who were conducting "fish-ins" on the Nisqually River to challenge the state's refusal to recognize Native Americans' treaty-protected fishing rights. To aid their cause, she co-founded Citizens for Indian Rights, a non-Indian support organization devoted to educating the public about the law of treaties. "We really got a lot of training and insight from Indian leaders," she says, "and we pulled together volunteers who were willing to speak out for treaty rights." In 1974, the landmark Boldt Decision reaffirmed Indian fishing rights.

Furse became a U.S. citizen in 1972. She returned to college, choosing Evergreen "because it was so creative and I could do the work I was interested in there," she says. She received her B.A. and later moved to the Portland area to go to Northwestern School of Law, which she attended for two years before being recruited to direct an Oregon Legal Services project that was pivotal in restoring the legal status of several Oregon tribes. She went on to co-found the Oregon Peace Institute, which promotes and teaches nonviolent conflict resolution.

Furse brought her sense of righteous indignation to Washington, D.C., after winning the Democratic primary as a long-shot candidate in northwest Oregon's 1st District—even though she had never served in government. She campaigned on issues she thought were important like military spending, the environment and women's concerns. "I didn't think I would win," she admits. "I was amazed when I won the primary and even more amazed when I won the election." When she entered office in 1993 as a freshman in the 103rd Congress, the number of women in the U.S. House of Representatives rose from 29 to 48.

A Passion for Service

Her sense of justice fuels Elizabeth Furse's activism in politics and life

At 73, former U.S. Congresswoman **Elizabeth Furse '74** continues to rattle at the cage of injustice, something's she's been doing since she was a teenager in South Africa.

Social justice activist, labor supporter, advocate for Native Americans, environmental champion and founder of a peace institute, Furse was the first woman elected to represent her Oregon congressional district and the first African-born member of Congress.

Her journey to the House of Representatives and a life of activism began in Nairobi, Kenya, where she was born to a British father and a Canadian mother, and continued through South Africa, where she was raised. When South Africa's National Party came to power in 1948 and instituted the racial policies that came to be known as apartheid, Furse's mother got involved in opposing the draconian system. She helped found the Black Sash, a women's organization that Nelson Mandela described as the "conscience of white South Africa" during the apartheid era.

"IT'S A WONDERFUL HONOR TO SERVE."

Leading for Change

Sometimes, all it takes to start a revolution is a phone call.
by Carolyn Shea

A liberal Democrat in a historically Republican district, Furse sought to reduce military spending, redirect the nation's spending priorities to domestic needs, protect the environment, defend women's abortion rights and increase funding for diabetes research. During her 1994 reelection campaign, the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* called her "the antithesis of Congress' traditional play-it-safe politicians."

During her three terms in office, Furse served on numerous committees, including Armed Services, Banking, and Commerce. She voted against the North American Free Trade Agreement and spearheaded the creation of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus, which grew to be the largest caucus in Congress with more than 250 members in the 110th Congress of 2007 to 2009. "Because of that caucus, we were able to double the amount of diabetes research," says Furse. "I am very proud of that work."

She cosponsored an amendment to ban research and development of low-yield nuclear warheads, or mini-nukes. Adopted as part of the 1994 Defense Authorization Act, the law has withstood several attempts to repeal it. "That amendment killed an entire generation of nuclear weapons," she says, "and it has survived." She also cosponsored the Children's National Security Act, which covered a range of initiatives from children's health insurance to caregiver assistance—all funded with Pentagon budget cuts. Framing the country's security as a matter of giving "children a quality education, access to health care, and a safe place to live and learn," she told colleagues, "We cannot continue to invest in outdated Cold War weapons systems while we neglect our children." The bill unfortunately did not become law.

After vacating her seat in 1999 and returning home to her 70-acre farm and vineyard in Hillsboro, Furse founded the Institute of Tribal Government at Portland State University, which she directed until earlier this year. The Institute provides governance training to elected tribal officials across the nation. The idea for creating the Institute came from the training Furse received as an incoming legislator at Harvard University. "I thought it would be valuable for newly elected tribal officials since there's no place to learn what they're doing," she says.

Furse, the public citizen, sits on several boards, including those of One Economy, an organization committed to bridging the digital divide, and The Pixie Project, an animal protection group—remaining actively committed to the issues that move her. As she says of her congressional career: "It's a wonderful honor to serve."

In the 1990s, the world was in the dark ages about treating chronic pain, the kind that lasts for weeks, months, even years. Physicians had been arrested for prescribing narcotic painkillers to cancer patients. Yet, survey after survey found millions of Americans were suffering from unremitting, uncontrolled pain, making it a major public health problem with serious consequences for not only the afflicted individuals, but also for society at large. One study estimated that pain cost the country \$120 billion a year in healthcare expenses, lost income and diminished productivity.

At the time, **Joan Dukes '73** was senator of northwest Oregon's 1st District (later redistricted to the 16th), representing residents in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties, as well as portions of Washington County. One day, a constituent from Astoria called her about a concern of his. The man was a hospice physician. "He told me a lot of people were dying in pain and they shouldn't have to," says Dukes. He wanted her to take up their plight.

Dukes did—not only for end-of-life patients, but for all patients. As a result of one citizen's request—and a decade of effort—in 2001, Oregon's assembly passed a bill Dukes sponsored to create what is believed to be the nation's first state commission to address pain management. Among other responsibilities, the commission oversees curriculum development for licensed healthcare practitioners, who are now required to complete pain management courses to improve patient care.

Former Oregon state senator Joan Dukes now works to balance the energy and environmental issues facing the Columbia River region. She lives near the historic Astoria-Megler Bridge, spanning the mouth of the Columbia.



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Dukes helped clinch Oregon's reputation as a leader in diagnosing and treating a serious health issue. "We fought for years for this," said Dukes, who along the way encountered opposition from a number of factions, including local medical associations. The outcome was worth it, she says. "I've had people come up to me and say, 'Thank you! I was in constant pain and I'm finally able to manage it.'"

Dukes' pioneering work in this arena continues to reverberate in her state: In 2008, Oregon garnered

the highest (and rarest) "A" rating from the Pain & Policies Group of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health for "having the most balanced pain policies in the country."

Dukes was exposed to politics from an early age. "My parents were very involved," says the Tacoma native, who as a child was introduced by them to Washington Governor Albert Rosellini, who held office from 1957 to 1965. "They knew their government officials and knew how government worked and they passed that on to me."

While studying political science at Evergreen, she worked at the state capitol on the House transportation committee. "I was a committee assistant and I learned how a bill becomes law," she recalls. This background served her well when she relocated to Oregon with her husband, who had taken a job there. "I needed a job and there was an opening to run the elections department for Clatsop County. My unique experience from Evergreen helped me in the position," she says. After two years as the county elections supervisor, she ran for and won a seat on the county board of commissioners, becoming the first woman to do so. She served on the commission for four years.

In 1986, the Democrat was elected to the state senate, an office she held for 18 years, gaining experience in budget, education, transportation and environmental issues. A resident of Svensen, near Astoria, Dukes also made a point of holding town hall meetings to bring together people

in her rural district to advise her and communicate their ideas and concerns. The way she sees it, "No one can expect that any one person is going to come with all the ideas needed to make government run," she says.

During her tenure, Dukes was actively involved in fisheries concerns. "Living here, I don't know how you could not be concerned about fish," she says. She chaired the Pacific Fisheries Legislative Task Force, a multi-state clearinghouse for various regional fishery interests. Made up of lawmakers from five Western states and British Columbia, the council has members report to their respective legislatures and U.S. congressional delegations on relevant issues. "Being on the task force moved me up to federal involvement," says Dukes. "It gave me a broader venue to address Pacific fisheries."

Two years into Dukes' fifth senate term, Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski appointed her to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, an interstate body created by Congress to balance the region's energy and environmental needs. The organization is composed of two representatives each from Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, who address the multiple resource challenges common to all four states, which share the same power grid and Columbia River system.

In announcing Dukes' appointment, Gov. Kulongoski said, "I am confident that her experience in the Senate has prepared her to strengthen Oregon's partnership with our neighboring states on critical natural resource issues so we can work together—not compete—on growing the region's economy while also protecting the environment."

In this leadership role, Dukes sits on the council's fisheries committee, known as the "Fish Four," which focuses on protecting, mitigating and enhancing fish and wildlife impacted by hydropower dams in the Columbia River Basin. The other main committee, the "Power Four," focuses on energy issues. She describes the council as "the table that tries to pull everyone together. There are four states, several federal agencies and a lot of Indian tribes. This is the one place where everyone can come together and have their say.

"We draw artificial boundaries," she says, "but we're all connected to a greater extent than we realize."

From fighting to improve patient care to fighting to improve the conditions fish need to survive, Dukes has a record of making those connections. "I do what I do because it needs to be done," she says. "I've been fortunate enough for constituents to trust me and happy to take their ideas and run with them."

"I've had people come up to me and say, 'Thank you! I was in constant pain and I'm finally able to manage it.'"



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Cultural Legacy

by Carolyn Shea

The Tribal MPA Program



In 2002, after local tribes expressed an interest in graduate studies that would equip tribal members for increasingly complex tribal administration work, Evergreen's Master of Public Administration program launched the Tribal Concentration, focusing on structures, processes and issues specific to tribal governments.

No other college or university in the U.S. currently offers such an advanced degree or professional credentials that reflect in-depth specialization in contemporary tribal governance subject areas.

www.evergreen.edu/mpa/tribal

Celine Cloquet-Vogler MPA '06 was inspired by her family to continue a longstanding tradition of working for the betterment of her people. "I wanted to carry on what my relatives and elders had done," says the second-term councilwoman for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, who graduated from the MPA Tribal Governance program in 2006. "I remember sitting under the table as a little girl, listening to my father and uncle and cousin, who were all involved in tribal government, discussing our quest to be recognized."

In the 19th century, the Cowlitz people lost not only their vast historic land base in what is now southwestern Washington, but also their standing as a sovereign nation. Although scattered geographically, they stayed remarkably cohesive as a people and united in their vision. Their solidarity and perseverance paid off in February 2000, when the 3,600-member tribe won federal recognition after a decades-long struggle.

Despite this triumph, the Cowlitz remains the only landless recognized tribe in the state. It has long sought to rectify that, too; it is awaiting a decision from the Interior Department to establish a 152-acre reservation in Clark County, north of Vancouver. In the meantime, the tribe has never strayed from its efforts to reconnect its members and their cultural traditions, even when faced with economic and social setbacks. To Cloquet-Vogler, who is now at the vanguard of this movement, it's a matter of justice: "To make right what is wrong," she says.

In order to survive as a culture and pass on their heritage and values, the Cowlitz people regularly come together for meetings, ceremonies and social gatherings. Even

though their resources are limited, they continually strive to improve the lives of members. Using funding made available after the tribe's federal status was granted, they provide health care in the two clinics they run in Longview and Vancouver. They also offer scholarship programs to their youth with monies from a 1973 land claim settlement the U.S. government paid for expropriating their land in 1863 without treaty or compensation.

Cloquet-Vogler says the tribe's lack of financial assets poses unique problems to its leadership. "We don't have an economic base," she explains. "We have no casino or anything to create revenue. We're a grant-based economy. That can be challenging." First elected to office in 2004, she says she was moved by her people's confidence in her ability to lead and act in the tribe's best interests, and quickly saw the value of returning to college for her graduate degree. "If I could learn more about tribal government, I could offer more," she says.

At that point, the Tacoma native possessed a B.A. in communications from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and a résumé that included experience in public relations for the Showboat Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, communications for a Seattle law firm, and client relations for an environmental consulting and engineering firm, also in Seattle.

In her MPA classes she was exposed to the lessons of Evergreen faculty members Alan Parker and Linda Moon Stumpff—who together created the graduate program, the nation's first in tribal management—and visiting lecturers like Sam Deloria, the founder and first Secretary-General of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples. "The ability to blend real experience with their teachings was incredibly valuable," she says. "When I come to the council table, I know how to debate issues, hear other opinions and negotiate a proposal and win. Through the power of research and persuasion, I'm able to convince the 21 other people sitting on the council to support my ideas."

Cloquet-Vogler, who lives with her husband and two daughters on a 300-acre farm in Copalis Crossing, was recruited to the position of assistant local agency and development services manager for the Washington State Department of Transportation following her graduation. Working for the state has given her a broader perspective in addressing Cowlitz issues. "I learn state policy and carry that over to tribal policy," she says.

When her children get older, Cloquet-Vogler plans on going to law school to gain further advantages in her quest to work for the benefit of her people. And someday, she adds, "I see my children going to Evergreen."



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Ron Charles was instrumental in the construction of the House of Knowledge complex, including the first S'Klallam longhouse built in more than 100 years.

Rebuilding His Community

Ron Charles has led the S'Klallam tribe into a brighter future

by Carolyn Shea

Ron Charles '97 keeps busy since he retired from office this past summer—for the second time. "I've never been one to sit around," remarks the longtime chairman of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe.

Charles began serving as tribal chairman in the early 1970s, holding the title until 1987, when he stepped down the first time. For the next dozen years, he worked as a commercial fisherman, raised his family with his wife Sharon, sat on the tribal council and pursued his liberal arts degree—with a focus on tribal governance—through the reservation-based community-determined program Evergreen offers at Port Gamble. He graduated in 1997 at age 54, along with his daughter Marlo. Two other daughters, Michelle Jones '95 and Christina Moff '04, also graduated from the program.

"If it wasn't for the reservation-based program, I probably wouldn't have gotten my degree because I would have to go elsewhere, which would have been really difficult," says Charles. "A lot of the things we focused on in the class and in the assignments we did were relevant to what was going on within the tribe and Indian country at the time and helped me when I took over the full-time position of chair."

*"In my lifetime, things have changed so dramatically.
We couldn't have envisioned having something like this when I was a kid.
But we did it."*

A couple years after completing his studies, the father of four and grandfather of 12 again ran for the chairmanship and was reelected—a feat that was repeated over the next decade, until he decided not to run again this year. All told, Charles has led his people for nearly a quarter of a century—through very hard times and much better ones.

In the early days, he says, "Most western Washington tribes were dirt poor and didn't have any resources. They barely had tribal offices, there was no law enforcement and our tribe did very little fishing because our fishing rights had not yet been adjudicated."

Today, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe has a tribal government center, a court and a police department, and it provides a wide array of services—including fiber-optic Internet service—to community residents, from early childhood to old age. Leading the tribe has become a full time job. With a number of businesses in operation, including several treaty-endowed fishing enterprises, a casino, and a market, it has become one of the largest employers in northern Kitsap County. As one of the country's first "self-governance" tribes, it controls programs once administered by federal agencies such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service.

Charles is especially proud of the House of Knowledge, a four-building complex containing the first S'Klallam longhouse to be constructed in more than a century. Completed in 2007 after eight years of planning, fundraising and hard work, the \$4.5 million center includes an elders' center, a career and education center, and a library. Charles considers it a tribute to how far the tribe has come. "It's just amazing," he says. "In my lifetime, things have changed so dramatically. We couldn't have envisioned having something like this when I was a kid. But we did it."

The project reached its finale with the completion of the new, 2,700-square-foot Little Boston Library, which serves about 25,000 patrons per year. The original branch, housed in a 600-square-foot A-frame cabin, was the state's first reservation-based library. It opened in 1974 at the behest of Charles, who loved bookmobiles as a child. In 1999, the Public Library Association awarded it the "Excellence in Small and/or Rural Public Library Service Award." Included in its collection are more than 700 books about Native American history, art and tradition. A copy of the original treaty between the S'Klallam Tribe and the U.S. Government is on display. Charles says the branch is "used as much by the non-Indian community as by our community."

Under Charles' leadership, the tribe acquired an extra 390 acres of land adjacent to the 1,340-acre Port Gamble reservation, located along Hood Canal. The parcel was put up for public auction by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources in 2004, nearly 150 years after the S'Klallams lost title to more than 438,000 acres of ancestral land. Charles calls the gain "important to the tribe's people and its future."

As for his own future, Charles is undecided at this point. "I'm taking a little time. I don't think I'm ready to completely retire. I'll do a little fishing and after that I'll probably go back to work doing something." Undoubtedly, that "something" will involve building new prospects for his people.

The Reservation-Based Community-Determined Program

Two decades ago, Evergreen launched its unique reservation-based community-determined program to improve college access to underserved Native Americans living on various reservations in western Washington. Designed in partnership with the tribes, this distance-education program combines online and on-site classes to give place-bound students the opportunity to pursue an interdisciplinary liberal arts degree. In 2007, the Lumina Foundation funded the Enduring Legacies Project, a collaboration between Evergreen and other institutional and tribal partners to align coursework and create a more seamless pathway to a bachelor's degree for Native American students in Washington state.

www.evergreen.edu/tribal



Photo: Will Austin



RESPECTING THE DEAD

How does a research scientist with a background in philosophy end up being elected County Coroner?

by Ann Mary Quarandillo

Photo: Ted Brummond, U. of Wyoming Photo Services

Television forensic investigators have it easy. They find half a fingerprint and a speck of blood, manage to construct an entire case based on that evidence, and wrap it all up in an hour—maybe two if it's a season finale.

THE REAL LIFE OF A COUNTY CORONER IS MUCH DIFFERENT

With television shows like *CSI* raising unrealistic expectations among juries, a coroner or medical examiner's work has become more challenging than ever. **Tom Furgeson '89** has been working to improve investigative standards as County Coroner for Albany County, Wyoming, since his election in 2007. Before that, he served for three years as deputy coroner. In his view, accurate investigation of unattended or suspicious deaths is a matter of respect for the dead and their families.

"There are about as many medicolegal death investigation systems as there are states," he explains. At one end of the spectrum there are large states like California, with a centralized state medical examiner system. At the other end of that spectrum is Wyoming, with its elective county coroner system, which only requires a high school education, residency in the county and a 40-hour training course within a year of taking office. "These rules leave tremendous room for improvement, and that's why I got involved," says Furgeson. As a trained physical anthropologist and research scientist at the Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center, he is uniquely qualified not only to analyze the biological evidence of death, but to put evidence into the context of human behavior.

His own background helps him deal with the unexpected. He came to Evergreen from Virginia, by way of Kenai, Alaska, where he and a friend went to earn money as commercial fishermen. When a fishing strike shortened the season, they flew back to Seattle, but didn't have enough money to make it back to Virginia. Furgeson took a job in the city, and soon took a class with faculty member Mark Levinsky and other Evergreen faculty at Seattle Central Community College. With Levinsky's encouragement (and proofreading help on his application essay), Furgeson moved to Olympia in spring, 1985.

At Evergreen, he studied writing, philosophy, art and theatre, but was always interested in osteology (the study of bones) and forensic anthropology. After graduation, he moved back to Virginia, completed his B.S. in anthropology at James Madison University, and started his own successful retail and Internet mail-order business. However, Furgeson recalls, "When my business was ready to go to the next level, I started to wonder—is this really what I want to do?" He realized that what he really wanted to do was study bones. He chose to earn his M.A. in physical anthropology at the University of Wyoming so he could study with Dr. George W. Gill, a world-renowned expert in skeletal biology.

He started working as deputy coroner in 2004 because he wanted to do more investigatory work in addition to his research at the Survey and Analysis Center. In 2007, when coroner Julie Heggie decided to step down, Furgeson found himself running for his first elected office.

"When I inherited the office it was literally being run out of a Chevy Suburban," he remembers. He was particularly disturbed about the number of coroners who were funeral directors and ran county offices out of private funeral homes—a conflict of interest that was an integral theme of his campaign.

Today, he has built a staff of four deputies and established an official coroner's office in Laramie. He's been active in legislation concerning the coroner's office, and received a federal grant to do a cost-benefit analysis of implementing a medical examiner system in Wyoming. As president of the Wyoming Coroners' Association, he helped establish Wyoming's first-ever minimum coroner investigative standards, signed by Governor Dave Freudenthal in May 2009, and is currently working with the Department of Health to establish an electronic records submission system, and with the Division of Criminal Investigation to improve state toxicology lab capabilities.

It's scientific and technical work, but for Furgeson, it's truly about respecting the dead, and helping the living deal with the unexpected loss of a loved one. "There are a number of offices in Wyoming that aspire to operate at a level of other states—properly investigating cases and finding out what people need to know about their deceased loved ones," he explains. "Most of our coroners want to do their job well. They're underpaid and underfunded, and I want to help ensure they can do their jobs in a way that conforms with the expectations in 2009."

And those expectations are enormously high. Television shows like *CSI* and *NCIS* give juries an unrealistic impression of the scientific resources available in most jurisdictions, as well as the idea that every case will have irrefutable forensic evidence. "With the pop culture references, expectations of forensics are through the roof right now," says Furgeson. "Jury expectations are very high for DNA analysis and other terms they hear on these shows." Raising the scientific investigative standards in Wyoming will go a long way towards ensuring people can find the answers they need.

In this job, it's critical to analyze the evidence without being distracted by emotion. Within 24 hours of being sworn in as coroner, Furgeson was already investigating a murder. Most of the questions he gets are about cause of death. "Understandably, families can have a hard time accepting the manner of death," he says. "We try to be as accurate as possible, and sometimes the terminology is confusing, so I work to explain it to them." His method includes sitting down to map out why he came to his conclusion and, using skills he learned at Evergreen, constructing arguments based on both the forensic evidence and other information from police reports and witnesses. "Constructing solid arguments is my job," he says. "If I stay steady about that then I'm doing the best I can do with the information I have."

Furgeson has seen graphic and horrific things. "I've seen the worst of it, but I have to look at things from the purpose of what I do—making a legally-defensible statement about the cause of death," he explains. "What bothers me more is seeing the way some of these people have to live. A coroner's case is an unanticipated or unattended death, and most of the time, many of those folks are isolated. I've been in several situations where you can drive by a house every day and not know the everyday, low-key disorder and violence people live in, and that is what is disturbing. And at the coroner's office, we see a disproportionate amount of that."

Furgeson is not sure he'll run again when his term expires in 2011. His research scientist position is already full time, and his coroner duties can add another 40 or more hours per week. He's accomplished a number of his goals for the office and feels like he would leave it in good shape. But it's hard to stop when you see the work you do making a difference. "I truly enjoy my work as coroner—it's very important, very interesting," he says. "I deal directly with families and try to do right by them, and working with law enforcement and medical personnel to get the right answer is very exciting and very in your face. When I'm involved in a case, I don't even think of what time of day it is. It's definitely not a typical job."



Dixon McReynolds

A CAPITOL PROJECT

Evergreen's Interns Make their Mark on Olympia

by Carolyn Shea

When the gavel came down to signal the opening of Washington's 61st legislative session last January, a group of Evergreen students was among the throng assembled beneath the capitol dome.

This contingent was made up of 19 juniors and seniors who had been admitted into the prestigious Washington State Legislative Internship Program. They traded their jeans for suits, and their casual college campus surroundings for the fast-paced officiousness of the Capitol campus to gain a rare, hands-on experience in the laboratory of democracy.

Students accepted into the bipartisan program work during winter quarter, when the legislature is in session. Interns join the staffs of the senators and representatives, and spend their time fielding constituents' concerns, attending committee hearings and other meetings, researching issues being considered by lawmakers, tracking the progress of proposed bills and filling in on day-to-day office chores. "They need to be able to work with people across the political spectrum," says Senate Intern Coordinator Judi Best '90, MPA '92, who organizes the program along with her counterpart in the House. "We've had Democrats working for Republicans and Republicans working for Democrats."

The legislative internship provides on-the-ground training that no textbook can possibly convey, exposing students to the many variables involved in passing laws, and immersing them in a process few people fully comprehend. As observers and participants in the daily workings of the legislature, they learn firsthand about governance in action, an experience that allows them to synthesize political theory and reality.

At the same time, the interns become important contributing members of legislative staffs, providing valuable services that move the process along. They work a full-time schedule in exchange for a monthly stipend, undergraduate credit, marketable skills, professional development and more.

While receiving an education not available in the classroom, they do not entirely escape the classroom. They attend weekly seminars and workshops, which are put together for them by Best and Samantha Barrera, the intern coordinator for the House, working with faculty member Cheri Lucas-Jennings, who coordinates the Evergreen program. They're able to share their experiences with the other interns, vent and get advice. They learn parliamentary rules and procedure and how to write for the legislature.

The program offers panel discussions and meetings with state officials, lobbyists and reporters. In workshops, interns participate in a budget exercise, a mock hearing and a mock floor debate. In simulated committee hearings and floor sessions, the interns are assigned roles as bill sponsors, committee members and interest group representatives. They work bills through a mock House or Senate Hearing. They "become" senators or representatives and work bills on the floor, coming as close to reality as is possible without being elected to office.

Interns must also fulfill academic requirements, which include completing a major research paper and keeping a journal. Their work is evaluated by both field supervisors and faculty sponsors. "We take their goals seriously," says Best. "We try to give them the resources they need to accomplish those goals. We don't want them to leave with regrets."

"You meet a whole lot of people with different opinions about different things, including the people that make the decisions."

— Dixon McReynolds

Aside from the educational and service components, the program gives interns the chance to hone in on their career plans. Some, like Ian Wesley, find that what they wanted to do coming into the internship is not what they want to do when they get out. "I started wanting to work for an environmental nonprofit," says Wesley, a Senate intern and environmental science major. "Now I want to work in government."

Others, like Dixon McReynolds, see more specifically where they fit in or how to accomplish their goals. A senior from Tacoma and the student trustee on Evergreen's board of trustees, McReynolds interned for Sen. Adam Kline (37th District). He met with many constituents in Kline's Seattle district, learned about their concerns and brought those concerns back to the Senator. McReynolds, a retired Air Force veteran, has been heavily involved in helping homeless veterans and families for the past seven years. During the program, he made a point of meeting with other members to get advice. "I was able to talk to lots of legislators about the best way to affect change," he says. Because of his experience, he plans to eventually run for public office. "I think I can do the most good as a legislator."

Among the program's most valuable features are the opportunities it affords for networking and the contacts students make each day in and around the capitol. "You meet a whole lot of people with different opinions about different things, including the people that make the decisions" says McReynolds.

The Washington state internship kicks off with a three-day orientation that includes instruction in legislative ethics, workplace practices, computer programs and current hot issues for the session. The 2009 legislative session was dominated by efforts to plug the state's budget shortfall.

Kelly Norman worked in the office of Sen. Margarita Prentice (11th District), the Ways & Means Chair, so she was keenly affected by the budget focus. "The budget situation made it super stressful," she says. "Most senators get calls from their constituents. Our office got calls from all over Washington." She was in the position of answering many of those calls. "It was the four most stressful and life-changing months of my life," she says, adding that the "most important thing I learned was what I did not want to do: be in state government."

The issues that come up during session inevitably expand interns' horizons. Katherine Hinderlie did research for several bills sponsored by Sen. Jeanne Kohl-Welles (36th District). "I learned a lot—and not what I thought I would have learned," she says, citing puppy mills and taxes as two of the subjects about which she became knowledgeable. The first was the focus of a bill to regulate commercial dog breeding facilities known as puppy mills, which was signed into law by Gov. Christine Gregoire. Sen. Kohl-Welles also introduced a bill to institute a one-percent tax on the state's highest earners, with the proceeds being applied to education. This measure did not pass, but Hinderlie says, "I learned about tax systems, which was much more interesting than I expected."

Selected by a competitive process, legislative interns do not have to be political science majors. "Probably half are political science majors; the other half are everything else," says Best, the senate student coordinator, who is a liaison between students and their faculty sponsors. The last group of Evergreen interns studied a range of subjects from philosophy to history to environmental science—plus political science.

Washington's state legislative internship program is thought to be the nation's oldest. Launched in 1955, it has served as a model for other statehouses across the country. Each year, it receives about twice as many applicants as it can place. Last year, it accepted 80 upper-level undergraduates from colleges and universities across the state; one quarter of them were Evergreen students.

To commemorate the program's 50th anniversary, the House of Representatives adopted a 2005 resolution honoring "the accomplishments and contributions interns have made," adding that they "have provided legislators with a measure of youthful energy, current academic insight, and hours of helpful assistance in serving their constituents and the citizens of Washington State."

When the 2009 regular session of the state legislature adjourned last April, Evergreen's interns left as better-informed citizens. Their career paths were more certain. And their input had benefited the far-reaching work of the Legislature. "It was a magnificent experience," says McReynolds.

**"I learned a lot—
and not what I thought
I would have learned."**

– Katherine Hinderlie



Katherine Hinderlie

by Carolyn Shea

Turning Conflict into Equity

Michael Mills '77, the Ombudsman for the City of Portland, Ore., got an early, David-and-Goliath-style lesson in how empowered citizens can change the system for the better.

Thirty-five years ago, he was among an idealistic and enterprising team of Greeners who rallied around a small, tight-knit Columbia Gorge community facing one of America's most unyielding forces: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

As a freshman, Mills enrolled in a program co-taught by faculty member Russ Fox, whose students participated in a number of urban planning projects around the region. For his second-quarter ethnographic study, Mills chose to examine North Bonneville, Wash., some 150 miles south of the Olympia campus, where several students were already absorbed in research and planning activities. This town, on the north bank of the Columbia River, was overshadowed by its impending demolition to make way for an additional powerhouse at the Bonneville Dam, a major regional source of hydroelectric power.

What he found there captured his attention (and the national media's, too) for years to come. Armed with the in-depth research and assistance provided by Evergreen's students, the emboldened townspeople refused to simply sell their land and scatter. Instead, they created a comprehensive plan for their next community, and challenged the Corps to turn over the land they wanted downriver and help them carry out their relocation plans.

Mills became a planning intern for the town. He ended up spending most of his remaining undergraduate days in North Bonneville, completing independent contracts and internships before returning to campus for his final quarter.

Evergreen's successful collaboration with North Bonneville contributed to the enactment of groundbreaking federal legislation. Referred to as the "McCormack legislation," the 1974 law obligated the Corps to pay for the town's relocation, and granted community control over the planning. With the passage of this measure, North Bonneville won an historic, precedent-setting decision that gave residents the right to move collectively, have a say in the design of their new town and preserve their community.

This hard-won victory left a deep impression on Mills. After finishing his degree (in community planning and development with an emphasis in cultural anthropology), he headed back to North Bonneville to start his new job as a town planner. "I stayed on and worked as a planner for several more years—until the relocation was essentially done," he says. Then, he was elected to the city council.

Mills later took this experience to Anchorage, Alaska, where his consensus-building work on a challenging area-wide zoning issue positioned him for an appointment as the municipality's ombudsman, an impartial go-between for citizens to air complaints against city agencies and officials. "The ombudsman provides another avenue for government accountability and the public interest," said Mills. "You hear a complaint, come up with an independent review and make a judgment based on what's in the public's best interest. If your findings don't agree with the citizen's, then you try to explain why the relevant policy makes sense from a broader community standpoint."

However, if an investigation supports the complainant's case, there's a real opportunity for public-policy change to occur. The role of the ombudsman is to try to resolve conflicts in a fair and non-adversarial way, but proposing solutions or changes often runs the risk of ruffling feathers.

Mills borrows a quote from Sam Zagoria, former ombudsman for *The Washington Post*, "You can always tell who the ombudsman is—They're the ones eating by themselves."

Mills held his Anchorage office for more than eight years. In 1993, he was appointed the first ombudsman for the City of Portland, his hometown. On average, Mills' two-person office handles about 300 cases a year. "Sometimes we're the first resort," says Mills, "and sometimes we're the last resort."

Together he and the deputy ombudsman investigate public complaints and suggest improvements in code, policy and provision of city services. In a city of more than a half-million residents with 20 bureaus and agencies, this diligent duo has succeeded in getting building code violations dealt with more fairly, removed barriers to service access and pushed the government to institute reforms that prevent inequity and conflict from arising in the first place.

During his career, Mills has served twice as president of the United States Ombudsman Association. He has also served on the International Board of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution, now the Association for Conflict Resolution.

One of his biggest challenges as a public sector ombudsman is "to be successful in making recommendations in a large bureaucracy and see them adopted." Another is "making sure we're available and known by a broader segment of the population," especially those who are disenfranchised or underrepresented, he says. "Evergreen gave me the path to understanding different cultures, being compassionate about people's situations and figuring out how to resolve conflicts in a more positive way."



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97



envisioned the port acting as a regional catalyst for the green jobs movement, perhaps by developing its property near Tacoma's Center for Urban Waters on the Thea Foss Waterway. Slated to open next year, this environmental research center will be dedicated to finding solutions to the problems facing urban marine ecosystems. After it opens, Bacon says the port could conceivably "attract incubator companies that blend well with the research being done there."

From 1992 to 1997, Bacon was executive director of the World Trade Center Tacoma, a nonprofit association focused on promoting international trade and providing trade support services to small and medium-sized businesses in the state. During her tenure, she traveled to China on several trade missions and witnessed the country's changing landscape. In 1994, she spearheaded a sister-city bond between Tacoma and Fuzhou, China, the capital of Fujian Province and a port city with a population of six million. Last year, the Port of Tacoma launched a pilot project with Fuzhou to forge regional trade ties. "The sister-city relationship has been primarily cultural," says Bacon. "This added an economic dimension." The first business to benefit from the project was a University Place-based vintner, which broke into the Chinese market after a visit by a Fuzhou delegation.

On the Waterfront

by Carolyn Shea

Visible from Interstate 5, the Port of Tacoma's container cranes loom over Commencement Bay like giant robotic workhorses. Cargo vessels many stories high glide slowly to and from the shipping terminals, where stacks of consumer goods arrive from Asia to be dispatched across the United States, and grain, wood products and other exports are loaded for transport around the globe.

Over the past couple of decades, this bustling terminus has become one of North America's largest seaports and the Pacific Northwest call for several major carriers. Last year, it handled more than 20 million tons of goods valued at nearly \$39 billion. Its activities support about 113,000 jobs in Washington—43,000 in Pierce County alone—and annually generate \$637 million in wages and \$90 million in state and local tax revenue, making it a leading economic engine for the Puget Sound area.

Established in 1918 and publicly owned, Tacoma's seaport is governed by a five-member commission, which sets policy and authorizes major expenditures. **Connie Bacon MPA '88** is a veteran commissioner, who was first elected by Pierce County voters in 1997. An advocate for seeking new ways to attract business opportunities to the seaport, Bacon also tries to anticipate which way the trade winds are going. Four years ago, she presciently advised the industry—which was expanding to meet surging demand—to plan for life beyond the Asia trade boom because the growth would someday inevitably end.

Now, with shipping traffic slowing all over the world, she says the "new economy" calls for the port to "look at other opportunities beyond the maritime business as new revenue streams, so we can spread risk." She

Bacon grew up in New York's Hudson Valley and earned her B.A. from Syracuse University, where she double-majored in economics and journalism. A resident of Lakewood, Wash., Bacon entered Evergreen's MPA program when she was 55, after deciding she wanted to do more policy-oriented work. "It was a terrific experience," she says. "Evergreen is a very forward-looking school. I learned to write again and think more widely and that has served me well ever since."

Bacon sits on the boards of several organizations, including the Asia Pacific Cultural Center. In 2006, she was appointed to the Washington State Economic Development Commission, which advises Governor Christine Gregoire on economic development issues. She is also a senior fellow of the American Leadership Forum, a national group devoted to bringing together leaders from across the country to develop their skills and foster collaboration between them for the public good. Fellows spend a year in intense training, which includes a summer wilderness retreat. In 2007, at age 75, she climbed Mount Adams with her chapter. "It took 13 hours," she says. "I was the oldest and the slowest, so they put me in the front."

The hurdles ahead for Bacon include guiding the port through the current economic climate and into a sustainable future. "There's a lot of work to be done," she says. "And it has to be done with some serious judgment."

EVERGREEN

everywhere

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2010

Evergreen Night with the Sounders

May 2010

Wine Tasting Event, Walla Walla, Wash.

June 2010

The Alumni Association Celebrates Graduation

Summer 2010

Evergreen Expedition: Alaska Cruise

July 2010

4th annual Evergreen Night at Safeco Stadium and pre-game BBQ

Labor Day

Weekend 2010

Evergreen Night with the Rainiers



Friday Harbor Alumni Event

On June 18, more than 20 of Evergreen's numerous San Juan Islands resident alumni gathered in Friday Harbor for coffee, conversation, and some delicious olive oil cake at Café Demeter, the bakery and café owned by Pam Stewart '93 and faculty member Bill Arney. Later, several alumni enjoyed appetizers at Steps, the Friday Harbor restaurant owned by Patti Wickham '92, MES '94 and her son, chef Madden Surbaugh.



Kayak group at Friday Harbor

Photos: Katie Frank

Evergreen Expeditions:

Paddling to the Paleozoic

The inaugural Evergreen Expedition was a resounding success, with more than 15 alumni, students and family members kayaking around the San Juan Islands. Evergreen faculty member Paul Butler gave a geologic overview of the region, and led seminars about the history and geology of the islands. The kayak trip was led by brothers Clark and Jeff Casebolt '85, owners of Outdoor Odysseys in Friday Harbor.



Alumni kayakers Dr. Katherine Gailbreath '96 and Jennifer Leise '03.

Photo: Karen Lin '00

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Stay in touch with Evergreen by making sure we have your most current email address. We'll make sure you receive:

- 1 Our eNewsletter, *The Evergreen Express*: reaching out to a global Evergreen community.
- 2 Advance notice of Alumni events.
- 3 Other important Evergreen news and information.

You can update your contact information at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform.htm, or call 360.867.6551.

Stay connected the sustainable way – send us your email today!

Growing Fast: The Evergreen Alumni Entrepreneurs Association

The online directory is nearing 400 listings.

If you are an entrepreneur who's started a business, founded a nonprofit organization or hold a patent or trademark, please join at:

www.evergreen.edu/alumni/entrepreneurs/join

In addition to your application, you may send up to three images (your picture, logo, product, etc.) in JPG format directly to burtr@evergreen.edu to be included in your listing.

Watch for the searchable directory coming soon!

Check out the directory online at:

www.evergreen.edu/alumni/entrepreneurs



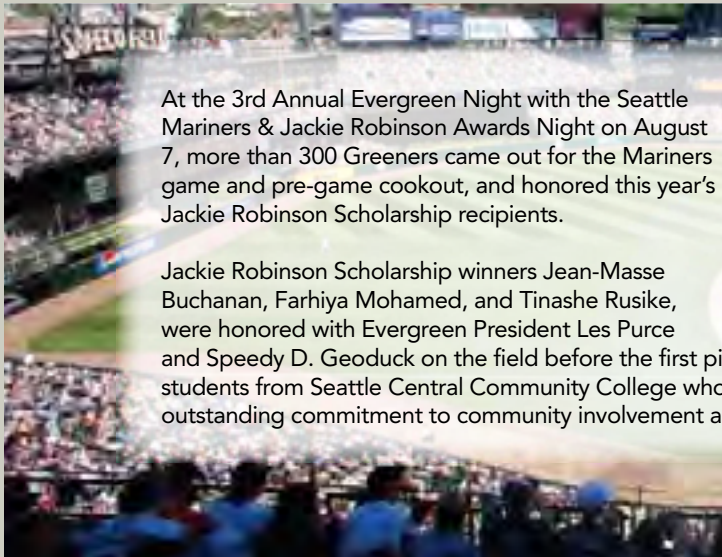
Alumni Cheer Seattle Sounders

On August 5, Greeners cheered on the first-year Seattle Sounders soccer team against top European club FC Barcelona at Qwest Field. Join us in April for the next Evergreen Night.



Photos: Katie Frank

Evergreen Night at Safeco Field



At the 3rd Annual Evergreen Night with the Seattle Mariners & Jackie Robinson Awards Night on August 7, more than 300 Greeners came out for the Mariners game and pre-game cookout, and honored this year's Jackie Robinson Scholarship recipients.

Jackie Robinson Scholarship winners Jean-Masse Buchanan, Farhiya Mohamed, and Tinashe Rusike, were honored with Evergreen President Les Purce and Speedy D. Geoduck on the field before the first pitch. The scholarship recognizes transfer students from Seattle Central Community College who demonstrate academic achievement and outstanding commitment to community involvement and social justice.



Photo courtesy of the Seattle Mariners

News & Notes



HE'S MADE A NAME MAKING THINGS

He's been called the Mr. Wizard of the digital age, but **Bre Pettis '95** doesn't only explain how things work. He shows you how to build them yourself.

His YouTube videos, ranging from how to silkscreen a t-shirt to how to create electricity, have garnered millions of views and press coverage from *Wired* to the *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. He's even created the S sammich—a robot that makes you a grilled cheese sandwich—and a video so you can make one yourself.

"I've always been obsessed with making things," Pettis explains. "I got started with robots by making robot kits. This is a great way to get into anything because the infrastructure, instructions, and materials are all done and you get to learn how it works by putting it together. Kits are like training wheels for learning."



Photos courtesy of Bre Pettis

"My sandwich making robot isn't set up to deal with the mustard...yet."

Now he's started MakerBot Industries, a company that produces a 3-D printer that produces objects in hard plastic, designed through a 3-D computer program. Following his lead, customers have created anything from pliers to an engagement ring and posted their own videos of the creative process. "About half of the people who get a MakerBot are tinkerers of some sort," he says. "But then there are others who are just people who get it."

Pettis also co-founded NYCResistor, a hacker collective in Brooklyn for people who enjoy taking things apart. Besides being a TV host and video podcast producer, he's created new media for Etsy.com, hosted *Make* magazine's Weekend Projects podcast, and has been a schoolteacher, artist, and puppeteer.

With friends Adam Mayer and Zach Smith, Pettis is making their vision of 3-D printers on everyone's desk come true. "Even though I spend my days packing boxes, blogging, and prototyping, it's not boring at all because I know that it's

giving anyone who can afford to make a MakerBot the opportunity to grasp the means of production and make artistic and practical objects," he says. "Also, it's really fun watching a machine you made from a kit make things for you!"

And what is the best cheese for a grilled cheese sandwich?

"I like sharp cheddar with some mustard between the bread and cheese," Pettis laughs. "My sandwich making robot isn't set up to deal with the mustard...yet."

www.brepettis.com

1976

Judith Golden, Ayutthaya, Thailand, teaches science and health to academically gifted children in a private school. She has performed charity work in Southeast Asia and worked as a tour guide in Thailand and Cambodia for more than 12 years. She made several trips to deliver school supplies to homeless children who survived the 2004 tsunami and to Cambodian villages, as well. Last spring and summer, she raised donations and took a group of volunteers to build wells in remote villages in Cambodia. Judith has also delivered donations to the only elephant hospital in the world, in Lampang, Thailand. PCMTV, a public access station in Portland, Ore., has shown videos of her work. See some of her charity projects and journeys at www.youtube.com/user/earthmagictours.

Joan Petit, Santa Barbara, Calif., has two sons, ages 20 and 24. Her eldest will be returning from Iraq this year. Joan has continued her

artistic interest in songwriting and is writing her first book.

Jeremy (Robertson) Pratt, Vashon, is vice president and technical director of ENTRIX, a national environmental and natural resources management consulting firm where he served as a senior consultant for the last seven years. In 1982, Jeremy cofounded the Institute for Human Ecology, which researches carrying capacity, sustainability, and watershed management. He serves as the institute's executive director. An environmental management consultant for more than 30 years, he earned his M.S. in environmental and energy sciences at Washington State University. Listed as a senior

facilitator on the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution National Roster, he has worked with BioSystems Analysis, was a director at Resource Management International, and led the Pacific Northwest water resources practice for Dames & Moore. He lives on Vashon Island with his wife and two children.



1979

Janet (Gould) Nolan, Oak Park, Ill., is the author of several children's picture books, including *A Father's Day Thank You* (Whitman, 2007) and *The St. Patrick's Day Shillelagh* (Whitman, 2002). Her newest book, *The Firehouse Light*, will be published by Tricycle Press in May 2010.

In 2002, when **Matt Triplett '91** was playing on and managing his recreational soccer team, he quickly found the fun overshadowed by the frustration. A self-taught computer tech, Triplett and his co-worker Andrew Berkowitz, a programmer and friend since high school, put together a prototype for online team management, and TeamSnap was born. "I called Andrew and said 'we've got a great opportunity here—we'll be rich!'" Triplett laughs.

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They're not there yet, but since TeamSnap's May 2007 launch, more than 16,000 teams have signed up in more than 30 countries, from rugby in Ireland and soccer in Germany, to ultimate Frisbee in Hong Kong. TeamSnap helps organize everything from game schedules and tracking attendance, to keeping stats and even coordinating the food and drinks brought to games.

A psychology expert and graphic artist, Triplett had already begun Sparkplug.com, a "psychology-based user experience" Web design firm, in 1997. After earning his teaching certificate from St. Mary's College of California, he had taught design and technology for the University of Oregon in Portland and did technical support for Wieden & Kennedy advertising agency.

He became frustrated with the fact that psychology was not taught along with Web design technology. "To design a Web site, you have to understand the people who are going to be using it," Triplett explains. "There's a difference between a ho hum Web site that people look at and say 'whatever' and one that makes them really excited." With Sparkplug, and now with TeamSnap, his goal is to use research, psychology, and a lot of humor to bring what the customer wants and what the company wants together.

While at Evergreen, Triplett became an intern at Microsoft even though he was not a computer science major. He convinced the hiring manager that understanding people was as important as understanding technology. So at TeamSnap, understanding recreation is as critical as programming the application. Once Triplett and Berkowitz had it running, they realized it had huge potential.

This spring, they spun TeamSnap off from Sparkplug into its own company, hired Dave DuPont as CEO, and predict more than \$1 million in revenue in 2010. They are in the process of closing the first investment run right now, working towards a full-time focus on TeamSnap.

Recreational and sports clubs are booming as increasingly mobile young adults look for new ways to meet people, which is good news for Triplett. "There's been an explosion of interest since the mid-90s in recreational leagues," he explains. "People can socialize and do something physical, so instead of running on a treadmill, they can have fun. It keeps growing. So TeamSnap is positioned to be very popular."

www.teamsnap.com (Be sure to check out the Cheese Rolling and the Yodeling Clowns!)



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

CLASS NOTES

1980

Capt. Richard Bever, Winchester, Va., serves as headquarters company commander of the 33rd Battalion, Virginia Defense Force. VDF members train with and support the Virginia National Guard, and assist local law enforcement and other governmental agencies in times of natural disaster or civil emergency. Richard left Evergreen in 1974 to accept full-time employment as a result of an internship, then returned and completed his degree six years later. He served as city councilman/deputy mayor of Lacey from 1980-87, and worked for state government, retiring as Washington Labor Relations Director in 2002. He has also served on the Evergreen Alumni Board.

1981

Timothy Blair, Sebastopol, Calif., hosted 30 Bay Area alumni aboard his 42-foot sailboat for the San Francisco Alumni Potluck on the Bay event in August at the Presidio Yacht

Club. Attendees enjoyed a potluck, networking and drinks with the harbor master in the yacht club. Tim plans to host a future event, which will include an actual sail in the harbor.

Adam Grosowsky, Eugene, Ore., had an exhibit of new paintings at Karin Clarke Gallery in Eugene this fall. He earned his master of arts (1984) and master of fine arts (1986) in printmaking from the University of Iowa, and teaches painting at Lane Community College. He has exhibited his work at Portland's Augen Gallery, San Francisco's Hackett Freedman Gallery and the Aspen Fine Art Gallery in Aspen, Colo. This is his fourth exhibit at Karin Clarke Gallery.

Sara Kvass, Goleta, Calif., senior veterinary technician at La Cumbre Animal Hospital in Santa Barbara, was named the 2009 Outstanding Registered Veterinary Technician in a Private Practice by the California Veterinary Medical Association. She has worked at the

hospital for ten years; before that, she worked at the Veterinary Emergency Center in Richmond, Va. She graduated from Michigan State University's veterinary technology program.

Barbara Yunker, Olympia, manages and owns vacation rental properties, and operates Puget View Cottage and Fernbrook Beach House on the Puget Sound waterfront.

1984

Marion Rice, Portland, Ore. established Reclaimed Finishes, helping homeowners find unique reclaimed architectural antiques, fixtures and finishes for existing homes and new construction projects. Her mission is to "connect great old house parts with a new home and support green building practices through re-use." www.reclaimedfinishes.com

Submit a Class Note for the spring issue at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform

Nick Moore '09 may not be Kobe Bryant—yet. But the NBA Developmental League thinks he's got what it takes. From 200 players invited to a summer tryout in Los Angeles, Moore was one of only 40 chosen to sign a one-year contract and participate in the League's November draft.

Moore's excellent fundamentals and professionalism made him stand out among the NBA hopefuls at the camp. "There was no time for culture shock," he explains. "You just had to adjust and adapt—if you didn't, you didn't succeed. I stuck to playing the game I'm used to playing, and tried to include what the scouts are looking for. From there, you just need to go all out."



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

The tryouts also included interviews and written personality tests to assess players' reliability and demeanor on and off the court. Evergreen coach Jeff Drinkwine was confident Moore would do well. "He is one of the most outstanding young men I've ever coached," says Drinkwine. "Not only is Nick an excellent player, but he always conducts himself with exceptional character during and after the game."

Moore, a 6-foot-7 forward who averaged 16 points and 5.3 rebounds as a senior, earned All-Cascade Conference honors last season while leading the Geoducks to an appearance in the NAIA National Championships. In 2006, he led the Lower Columbia College Red Devils to the NWAACC conference championship game.

He has friends playing overseas in Lebanon and Greece, and also attended a tryout in Orlando for some overseas scouts this fall. Although his sights are set on the NBA, Moore says he really just wants to play. "I'll play any place that wants me. If they tell me they'll have me, I'll be there," he says. "For me, right now it's chasing a dream. I just want to live it."

Chasing the NBA Dream



Photo by Douglas Photography

G. Bradley Bodine, West Lafayette, Ind., is the composer in residence at The Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Center at Purdue and a lecturer of music theory at Purdue University. He has received numerous commissions, most recently from a consortium of 12 university percussion ensembles, and awards from the Indiana Arts Commission, the Centrum Foundation, the University of Arizona faculty and ASCAP, among others. www.gbradleybodine.com

1987

Doris Brevoort, Mount Vernon, has worked as a counselor and special education teacher in Seattle schools for more than 20 years. She returned to school in 2007 to explore how research in neuroscience can be applied to

special education. She is a Ph.D. student in human science at Saybrook Graduate School, San Francisco. An active volunteer in downtown Mount Vernon's "Main Street" revitalization efforts, she ran for city council this fall. www.dorisbrevoort.com

Frank Gunderson, Tallahassee, Fla., is an associate professor of ethnomusicology at Florida State University. His book about musical labor in northwestern Tanzania is scheduled to be published in early 2010.

Brent McManigal, Riverside, Calif., studied law part-time at night while working full-time and completed his degree in December 2008, then took and passed the California Bar Exam. He is an associate attorney in the real estate and land use practice group with Gresham Savage Nolan & Tilden, a law firm in San Bernardino.

1988

Diane Gruver, Eugene, Ore., a licensed professional tattoo artist since 2001, works at Tattoo by Design, Eugene's oldest tattoo shop.

1989

Terrell Anne Erickson, College Park, Md., and her husband, Christopher Puttock, published *Hawai'i Wetland Field Guide* in 2006. The field guide won the 2007 Ka Palapala Po'okela book award in the natural science category, from the Hawai'i Book Publishers Association.

1990

Matt Haugh, Olympia, moved back to the South Sound in spring 2008 with his wife, Kaylene Smith, and their son Owen, age 7. Matt is director of sales and marketing at BigToys, a manufacturer of commercial playground equipment in Tumwater. Owen attends Lincoln Elementary, where Kaylene is a parent volunteer.

SOWING the seeds of understanding

by John McLain

The next time you visit Evergreen's Olympia campus, you might just go back in time. Enter the Seminar II courtyard, for instance, and you'll be transported to a forest from the end of the last ice age. Move north and you'll be in a thicket where dinosaurs might feel at home. Stop by the Longhouse and you'll see plants used by the region's Native people centuries before European explorers arrived.

Most colleges grow lawns and shrubs. Evergreen grows curriculum. The post-glacial forest, primitive plants garden, and Longhouse ethnobotanical garden are just three examples of a constellation of teaching gardens emerging in the campus core in recent years.

"A garden," says faculty member Frederica Bowcutt, "is a way to create an educational resource in a concentrated space." And it's about a lot more than plants.

If you're interested in sustainable building design you can check out the Library's prairie roof garden, which slows rainwater runoff and reduces pollution. But you'll also see how the prairies have been disappearing and what's being done to restore them.

A little time with Bowcutt in the basket garden will cure you of any derision for basket weaving as an academic subject. "The basket garden helps people realize that there are still indigenous people practicing traditional arts," Bowcutt says, "but, they have a much smaller land base, and the plants they need are often difficult to obtain. There are further issues around the preservation of cultural practices and the historical legacy of the way the West was settled."



2009-10 Teaching Gardens coordinator Heron Brae with facilities staff Ahoi Mench and Bob Worley, members faculty Frederica Bowcutt and Marja Eloheimo, and MES student Natalie Pyrooz '06.

For faculty member Marja Eloheimo, the ethnobotanical garden at the Longhouse "provides an opportunity to gain familiarity with native plants, but in a setting that makes it clear that there's a very special relationship that the first people had with these plants." Eloheimo is particularly interested in Native people's medicinal uses of plants. Before creating the "Sayuyay" plant project at the ethnobotanical garden, she and her students first sought permission and offered to create a similar project in the Skokomish Nation. "Sayuyay" means "medicine of the plant people" in the native language of the Skokomish.

Alumna and MES student Natalie Pyrooz '06 created the edible forest this year with a grant from the college's Foundation. She hopes the native and non-native species planted among the trees near the residence halls will expand students' ideas about what they can grow for food. "It's important to think about the place you are and understand what it will grow," she said, "to work with the ecosystem you have instead of trying to impose the ecosystem you want."

The gardens achieved a milestone recently with the installation of eight additional interpretive panels. "Show me your garden," said English poet Alfred Austin, "and I shall tell you what you are." Take a stroll through the college's teaching gardens, and you'll see Evergreen's unique approach to teaching and learning on luxuriant display. Student coordinator Heron Brae leads weekly plant walks showcasing the teaching gardens. Find out more about workshops and volunteer opportunities at <http://studies.evergreen.edu/projects/arboretum>.

Dennis M. "Denny" Wilkins, Ph.D. (MES), St. Bonaventure, N.Y., was promoted to full professor in the Russell J. Jandoli School of Journalism and Mass Communication at St. Bonaventure University. He has taught at SBU for 13 years, following a 20-year career as a journalist and editor. In 2006, he received the university's annual faculty Award for Professional Excellence in Teaching. Denny has worked as a writing and media consultant to a number of newspapers and corporations. He co-founded Scholars & Rogues, a community blog where he writes about journalism, journalism education, politics, campaign finance reform and the economic issues surrounding the newspaper industry (www.scholarsandrogues.com). He is a member of the Society of Environmental Journalists, which honored him for meritorious service in 2005. He holds a doctorate in media studies from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

1992

Heather (Koenig) Davis, Concrete, had her debut young adult novel, *Never Cry Werewolf*, published in hardcover by HarperCollins on September 1. Her second novel, *The Clearing*, will be released in April 2010 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. She'll be appearing at bookstores around the Sound this fall and winter.



www.heatherdavisbooks.com

1993

Bryan Baker, Bainbridge Island, was promoted to Western Region community program director for the Student Conservation Association (SCA). His first program was the 2009 Urban Forestry Corps, a work-skills training program which engaged 60 Seattle youths in hands-on environmental conservation projects critical to the restoration and stewardship of urban forests. He earned his M.A. from the Center for Creative Change at Antioch University, Seattle, with a focus on community conservation resources. He has 16 years of experience in conservation, youth and community service in the Puget Sound region and throughout the western states. www.thesca.org

George Bartholomew, Davis, Calif., belongs to the producers and engineers wing of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. He recently participated in a "microphone shootout" between several models of Neumann and Sennheiser microphones,

Alumni Win "In the Spirit" Awards



Alaina Capoeman '05 was awarded the museum's purchase prize for her button blanket wall hanging, "Sea Otter Family." Detail shown.

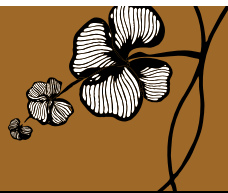
In August, the Longhouse Education and Cultural Center and the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma showcased the work of 20 contemporary Native American artists, all living and working in the Pacific Northwest, at the fourth annual In the Spirit Northwest Native Arts Market & Festival.

Two Evergreen alumni won awards for pieces they exhibited at the juried art show held in conjunction with the festival. The exhibition ran from July 9 to September 13 at the museum. View a gallery of all the winners and find out about In The Spirit 2010 at www.washingtonhistory.org/artsfestival.



Charles Bloomfield MPA Tribal '08 won the "Honoring Innovation" award for his piece, "Authentic Indian Bones: A Concession to Archeologists in the Era of NAGRPA."

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WORKING IN MEDICINE OR MEDICAL RESEARCH?

If you're an alumnus we'd like to hear your stories. If you are a doctor or nurse, veterinarian, research scientist or in another medicine-related career, please send us your information. Your story may be perfect for the *Evergreen Magazine*, *Express* or the Web site.

Email quaranda@evergreen.edu or alumni@evergreen.edu. Be sure to include a phone number where we can reach you.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES.

hosted at George Lucas's Skywalker Ranch and Skywalker Sound's scoring stage located near Nicasio, Calif. He found the ranch absolutely beautiful, and their recording gear, hospitality and expertise beyond compare. A word to the curious: "Just don't try to get in without an invitation."

Christina Hamm, Olympia, started a new business called Salsa De Cuba, a resource for salsa entertainment, dance instruction and performance in Olympia. www.salsadecuba.us

Melissa Ponder, Des Moines, is a freelance consultant and photographer. This fall, she ran for the Des Moines City Council. She currently serves as the Martin Luther King, Jr. County Civil Rights Commissioner for District 5, and served two years as Chair. Her work in the past has focused on diabetes and other health disparities for communities of color, as well as organizational development and educational equity. She has lived in Des

Moines for 18 years with her partner, Vance Bader, and has four children—two in college and two in elementary school.

Tammy Robacker released her first book of poetry, *The Vicissitudes*, published by Pearle Publications, in October. The book was made possible through the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program grant awarded to her this past year from the City of Tacoma and the Tacoma Arts Commission. Tammy is actively involved in the South Sound poetry community as a poet, a freelance writer and a volunteer. She serves as secretary of the board for both Puget Sound Poetry Connection and for Exquisite Disarray Publishing, a non-profit literary arts organization that publishes Northwest writers. In 2009, she

co-edited a Tacoma poetry anthology with former Urban Grace Poet Laureate of Tacoma, Bill Kupinse, called *In Tahoma's Shadow: Poems from the City of Destiny*. Her poetry has appeared in *Plazm*, *Floating Bridge Review: Pontoons*, *Word Salad*, *Pens on Fire*, and the *Allegheny Review*. www.tammyrobacker.com

1994

Douglas Peterson Carpenter, Saint Michaels, Ariz., teaches high school Spanish and Latin American/Hispanic culture at Saint Michael Indian School in the Navajo Nation, which serves Navajo and Hopi children, as well as others from the local community. His daughter Thalia is a ninth grader there and is actively involved in the soccer program.



Tammy Robacker '93

What do you do when you find out you don't want to be a cinematographer after all?

If you're chef **Lisa Owen '92**, you combine your love of fresh, organic foods, your experience with professional chefs in both the United States and Italy, and your knowledge and appreciation of fine art, and open The Mark, Washington's only state-certified organic restaurant.

Owen has turned this former tire shop in downtown Olympia into "a hip and happening venue celebrating food, music and art," says *Eat* magazine. She serves rustic Italian and Spanish cuisine featuring high quality, locally-produced ingredients in an atmosphere of simple elegance. The restaurant also serves as a non-commission gallery, featuring artists like renowned paper artist Nikki McClure '91, whose work appeared this fall.

Born in Berkeley, Calif., Owen grew up in its Gourmet Ghetto neighborhood. In her 20s, she moved to Italy, and in addition to learning to speak Italian, brought back a love of Italian cuisine. At Evergreen, she studied film and photography and interned with her grandfather, a sculptor and artist in Arizona. "My grandmother had a kitchen garden that I loved," she recalls. "Her fresh food cooking was a great influence on me."

After graduation, Owen moved to Los Angeles to break into the film business. While there, she worked in a number of Italian restaurants, and got in on the ground floor of the artisan restaurant movement, working with chef Nancy Silverton at L.A.'s famous La Brea Bakery. "I realized I was having more fun at my 'side' job than in my cinematography work," she recalls, so she decided to pursue a full-time career as a restaurateur.

Owen opened The Mark in 2001, and became certified by the Washington State Organic Program in 2009. "We wanted to assure our client base of the continued integrity and quality of our food," she explains of the decision to pursue certification. "This means that we're always open for inspections where we are expected to provide documentation proving that anything labeled as organic on the menu is in fact certified as such."

The restaurant is a family affair—Owen's mother, Elizabeth Stark '77, owns the building and helped remodel it. So is studying at Evergreen—her brother, Eli Chessen '99, and sister, Seana Owen-Katz '97, are also Evergreen alumni. "I am such an independent type that I don't think I could have graduated from any other school," Owen laughs. Learning how to be self-directed has helped considerably in the restaurant business. "At Evergreen, you can figure out what you want to do and find out how to do it. Being able to write contracts and study along a path that had some meaning for me made this possible."

Learn more about the simple elegance of The Mark – www.themarkolympia.com



MAKING HER MARK

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Lance Simons, Ketchikan, Alaska, recently became the environmental coordinator for the Ketchikan Indian Community. His program focuses on public awareness of environmental issues and assisting homeowners in reducing energy consumption, solid waste and toxic waste. It will also research potential brownfield sites and conduct recycling, electronic recycling and household hazardous waste removal.

1995

Ryan Boudinot, Seattle, had his first novel, *Misconception*, published by Grove Atlantic in September. His 2006 short story collection, *The Littlest Hitler*, was an Amazon.com and Publishers Weekly Book of the Year choice, and was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. He teaches creative writing at Goddard College's MFA program in Port Townsend and BFA program in Plainfield, Vt.

Wendy C. Ortiz, Los Angeles, Calif., is a student in the master of arts in psychology program at Antioch University Los Angeles, and a graduate of Antioch's M.F.A. in creative



writing program. She has taught creative writing to Los Angeles youth in juvenile detention facilities, and worked as a journalist, mud wrestler, longtime library worker, and editor and publisher of a hand-bound literary journal. Recent and forthcoming publications include *Spillway*, *Blood Orange Review*, *Sweet: A Literary Confection*, *Palabra: A Magazine of Chicano and Latino Literary Art*, *Eclipse*, *Cranky*, *KNOCK*, and *4th Street*. She was a writer-in-residence at Hedgebrook on Whidbey Island in 2007 and 2009. Wendy curates the Rhapsodomancy reading series at the Good Luck Bar in Hollywood. www.wendyortiz.com

Heather Struckman, Grenada, West Indies, founded The Childbirth Resource Center of Grenada, a program that offers free services for pregnant and breastfeeding women. Heather earned her master of social work degree at the University of Washington in 2002, completed doula training at the Seattle

Bringing the Community's Vision into Sharper Focus

What issues most concern Thurston County residents and what is needed to build a better community?

Thanks to the efforts of Evergreen faculty member Larry Geri and a team of MPA students, we now have the answers to these questions.

The team recently produced a detailed community assessment to identify the county's assets and challenges, gaps between its resources and needs, and barriers to making improvements. "We wanted to provide a snapshot of the county's social and economic conditions and start a conversation about how the community is doing to figure out what the needs are, where the money is coming from and where it needs to go to make the greatest impact," says Geri, the report's chief author.

Released in June, the 2009 assessment found high levels of social capital and civic engagement in the county, as well as satisfaction with its overall quality of life. Access to affordable medical care topped the list of pressing concerns, along with rising poverty and homelessness, a shortage of local jobs, and a lack of collaboration in addressing regional problems.

The project was sponsored by the United Way of Thurston County to measure the impact of the organization's investments in four priority areas: helping youth succeed, assisting residents in meeting basic needs, promoting self-sufficiency and supporting health and wellness. According to Geri, the assessment "went hand in hand with the United Way's need to evaluate its approach to philanthropy."

The report updated a 2003 assessment spearheaded by Geri, a United Way board member. For the latest one, he enlisted the help of students in his second-year MPA core program, Analytical Techniques for Public Service. Fourteen graduate researchers participated in the project, which involved collecting and analyzing data from two online surveys—one of 303 community members and one of 108 community leaders—a series of focus groups and interviews, and economic and social indicator data gleaned from a variety of government and nonprofit sources. "It was extremely helpful to have them collect the information and do the initial analysis," said Geri, "And it was also a wonderful opportunity for them to learn about the community, hone their research skills and contribute to this community effort."

To make the most of available resources, the study calls for more partnerships and creative collaborations between local nonprofits. Pam Toal, executive director of the United Way of Thurston County, expressed gratitude for the work of Geri and the Evergreen students. "They were critical to the success of the project," she says. "Many things are under consideration right now because of what the report has shown us. What it did was highlight some increased needs with real data."

In another upcoming community engagement project, faculty member Karen Gaul will lead Evergreen students in interviewing local residents to get public input for Olympia's 2011 comprehensive plan, the guiding document for shaping the community's future.

United Way logo is a registered trademark

Midwifery School in 2003, and was certified by PALS Douglas in Seattle. Heather and her husband, Darrin, moved to Grenada in May 2007. Heather's mother, **Dorothy Barr '03**, also lives in Grenada. They expect to return to the Northwest in the not-too-distant future to be reunited with their three grown children, including Evergreen grads **Ashen (Agente) Bel '99** and **Maia Sterling Bruce '06**. <http://crcgrenada.googlepages.com>

1996

Bree Reynolds (Oatman), Spokane, received a Partners in Science grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. The grant, which gives high school science teachers the opportunity to engage in cutting edge research, will allow her to conduct research on high performance biomaterials with Dr. Brook Swanson at Gonzaga University. Bree teaches science at Wellpinit High School on the Spokane Indian Reservation.

1997

Amy Kesting began her position as registrar at the Zanesville Museum of Art in June. She is responsible for tracking and caring for more than 4,000 art works in the Zanesville, Ohio-based museum's permanent collection and coordinating about 400 works of art on loan from artists and collectors each year. Amy worked at the Columbus Museum of Art, and was an art instructor at the "Master Teacher" level for the Young Rembrandts programs for children in Columbus, Ohio and in Elgin, Ill.

1998

Ahmad Ali Al-Sinan MPA, Kuwait, is manager of the Kuwait Municipality's planning and research department.

Marni Sweetland, San Francisco, Calif., returned to school in 2006 to earn a master's degree in somatic psychology. She is recovering from a brain injury she suffered when she was hit by a car while on her motorcycle last

year, which left her with the unusual symptom of an elevated mood. She is creating an online community for people in San Francisco with traumatic brain injuries.

Thomas Wilson, Los Angeles, Calif., is producing electronic/hip-hop beat music. He is also a member of the online radio station, Dublab.com.

1999

Jennifer Morales, Bellevue, is currently pursuing a master's degree in library and information science at the University of Washington.

Brad Reed, Anchorage, Alaska, was recently promoted from fire management officer at Carter Lake to wildland urban interface coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Regional Office. He is working with refuges and communities on wildland fire risk reduction and the maintenance of natural fire regimes. He lives with his partner Darcy and son, Bjorn.

Sheppard in Pursuit of a Green Planet

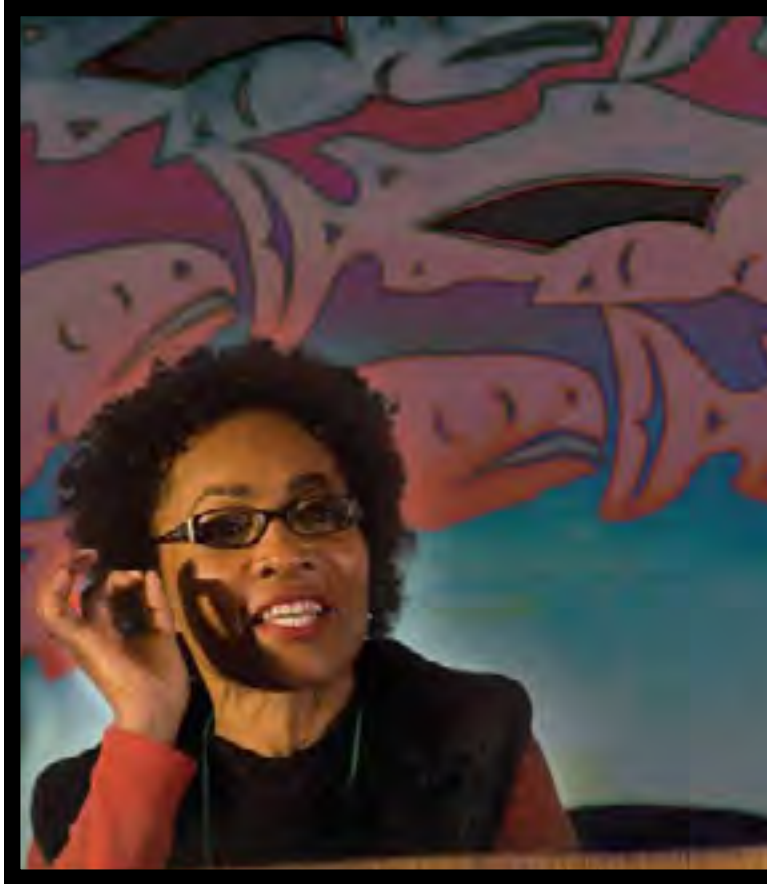


Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Evergreen-Tacoma faculty member and filmmaker Gilda Sheppard has signed on to produce a documentary merging hip-hop, health and the environmental movement. The project, which she says “brings life into interdisciplinary learning,” will use the power of media and grassroots activism to connect with young people and critically examine the connections between food, culture, nature, economics, and lifestyle-related diseases such as obesity and diabetes that are afflicting America’s youth.

“Pursuit of a Green Planet,” the working title of the film, follows Seattle radio host and hip-hop activist Keith Tucker as he shifts from an average American diet into organic veganism and travels the country in the “Greenhound,” a bus powered by recycled vegetable oil. He is accompanied on his journey by two adolescents with diet-related health problems, a nutritionist, a naturopathic doctor and a trainer. Along the way, they meet vegetarian hip-hop personalities like Saul Williams, Justin Bua, KRS One and stic.man of Dead Prez, as well as a host of notables from the fields of holistic health and environmentalism, who will all appear in the film.

The crew is visiting a number of cities, such as Seattle, Oakland, Atlanta and New York, where “Green Dinners” are being held to introduce young people to vegetarian meals and generate discussions about diet, culture, and environmentalism. These events will become part of the in-progress documentary, which is also utilizing social networking tools like YouTube, Facebook and Twitter to promote the project.

The documentary’s goal is to show how eating choices affect personal and planetary health, incorporating hip-hop as the unifying force for influencing positive change. According to Sheppard, the project “is about uncovering a problem and at the same time, being part of the solution. It’s about raising people’s consciousness and transformative behavior. Hip-hop is a transformative aesthetic, so it creates an excellent scaffold for that.”

David Simpson, Auburn, an independent cartoonist and illustrator, lives with his fiancé on the banks of the Green River.

Elizabeth Switaj, Bellevue, published her first book of poems, *Magdalene & the Mermaids*, with Paper Kite Press in March 2009. It is available through Small Press Distribution (www.spdbooks.org).

Sarah Velen, Oakland, Calif., is a floral designer and part owner of Bloomies on Main, a floral design shop in Pleasanton, Calif. www.bloomiesonmainca.com

2001

Tawm Perkowski, Friday Harbor, is an arborist and co-owner of Island Skyline Tree Care. He also does graphic design and tends bar at Steps Wine Bar & Café, co-owned by **Patti Wickham '92** and her son, Steps chef Madden Surbaugh. Tawm worked in audio production in Seattle for three years and still proudly uses his audio production degree to teach audio production part-time at the Spring Street International School, an alternative high school in Friday Harbor.



Patti Wickham '92, Tawm Perkowski '01 with Wickham's son Madden Surbaugh

2002

Lisa Swihart, Olympia, opened a private practice, Noetic Health LLC, in April 2009, providing integrative nutritional counseling and psychotherapy as a Washington state certified nutritionist and registered mental health counselor. She earned her M.S. in nutrition and clinical health psychology at Bastyr University in 2008, and was a forensic mental health clinician at Sound Mental Health, providing psychotherapy for adult offenders following their releases from jails and prisons. Although she loved working with that population, she decided to focus on teaching people how to integrate their nutrition and mental wellness with their overall health practices. www.noetic-health.com

Friedman Named "Mover and Shaker"

For her advocacy of "causes both artful and activist," **Lia Friedman '00** was named a 2009 Mover and Shaker by the *Library Journal*, the oldest and highest-circulation publication of the library field.

Friedman, the instruction and outreach librarian and head of public services for the Arts Library at the University of California, San Diego, was cited as one of 51 "emerging leaders in the library world." The award is given annually to individuals in Canada and the United States "who are innovative, creative, and making a difference"—"the new professionals who are moving our libraries ahead."

The Library Journal cited Friedman for being "an outstanding collaborator, promoter, and head of public services at the UCSD Arts Library." She was highlighted in the March 15 issue of the national trade magazine. "It's really an honor to be recognized for things that I feel passionate about, like promoting arts education, information literacy, and access to information for everyone," said Friedman.



Geisel Library. Photo courtesy of UCSD.



A former program director for KAOS Community Radio and one-time festival director for the Olympia Film Society, Friedman earned her Master of Science in Library & Information Science from Pratt Institute in 2005, then landed a job as a research and music librarian for MSNBC/Universal, where she conducted research for several shows, including "Today," "Nightly News" and "Saturday Night Live." She was also involved in a digitization project for the *New Yorker* magazine.

The Encinitas, Calif. resident joined the UCSD Arts Library in 2006. In her position, she teaches information literacy; coordinates popular events like the annual Toy Piano Festival and Home Movie Day; oversees daily operations of the library's public services; and serves as Web editor for the Library's blog and public Web pages. Outside of her job, she blogs at the *experiment.org*, acts as staff librarian for the feminist magazine *Make/shift*, and moderates the Web site of Radical Reference, a collective of volunteer library workers that provides "answers for those who question authority."

Friedman gives her undergraduate alma mater due credit for her accomplishments. "My education at Evergreen set me out on the path I am on today," she says. "I am deeply indebted."

2003

Justin O'Dea, Bozeman, Mont., is studying in the master's program in land resources and environmental sciences at Montana State University, Bozeman. He works in the agro-ecology field, investigating legume green manuring as an alternative to summer fallowing in wheat production systems in north-central Montana.

2004

Tyler Chen, Vancouver, works at Clark College and is a freelance media producer and Web designer—in between his busy tour schedule with two rock bands, The Slants and Silversafe. The Slants have toured the country five times, received press for turning down a million-dollar recording contract, and were awarded 2009 Album of the Year by both *Rockwired.com* and the Portland Music Awards. In the past year, Silversafe has shared the stage with bands such as Puddle of



The Slants

Mudd, Powerman 5000, Nonpoint, Hurt, The Exies and A Change of Pace. www.myspace.com/theslants www.myspace.com/silversafe

Cynthia Ross, Lebanon, N.H., works in health policy research at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice at Dartmouth College.

2005

Kathleen Gill, Daejeon, S. Korea, is teaching for a year in South Korea.

Courtney Parker, Seattle, works as the employment coordinator in the downtown Seattle regional office of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. She was previously employed by the State of Washington as a social services worker.

Min Schrader, Long Beach, Calif., is completing a master's degree in physics at California State University, Long Beach, with research in biophysics characterizing protein stability through drug-binding and calorimetry.

Kelsey Williams, Mossyrock, took a few years off to travel and work for the ski patrol, and is now pursuing a B.S. in nursing at the University of Portland.

community action lives on

View a slideshow of New Student Orientation Week at Photoland's Inside Evergreen blog (<http://photo.evergreen.edu/portal/slideshows/orientationweek09>), featuring Asa Israel shown here volunteering at Lincoln Elementary.



On this year's 20th anniversary of Community to Community Action Day (C2C), 158 students, faculty and staff members stepped up to volunteer with 16 local nonprofits and community organizations. Evergreen partnered with the United Way of Thurston County and the Volunteer Center of Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties for the September 25th event, multiplying the impact of people coming together to pitch in on a variety of community-service projects.

C2C occurs every fall during orientation week, engaging incoming students in meaningful, shared work and acquainting them with the community beyond Evergreen's campus—as well as its needs. “We started it because we were looking at supporting our new students with advising and orientation activities,” says director of student employment Kitty Parker, who came up with the idea for the event

when she was director of academic advising. “We had a lot of wonderful kids coming in who were interested in community service. And there’s always a lot of need.” Students who volunteered the first year planted native vegetation along the Deschutes River to restore salmon habitat, an activity that has continued in subsequent years.

Recent projects have included working at the Thurston County Food Bank, South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity and Left Foot Organics. The annual program is sponsored by the Evergreen Center for Community-Based Learning and Action, which connects students with local nonprofit organizations for volunteer and service-learning opportunities.

“Over the years, we’ve had many hundreds of enthusiastic students doing fabulous work that they really wanted to do in the community,” says Parker. “It makes me very proud that it lives on!”

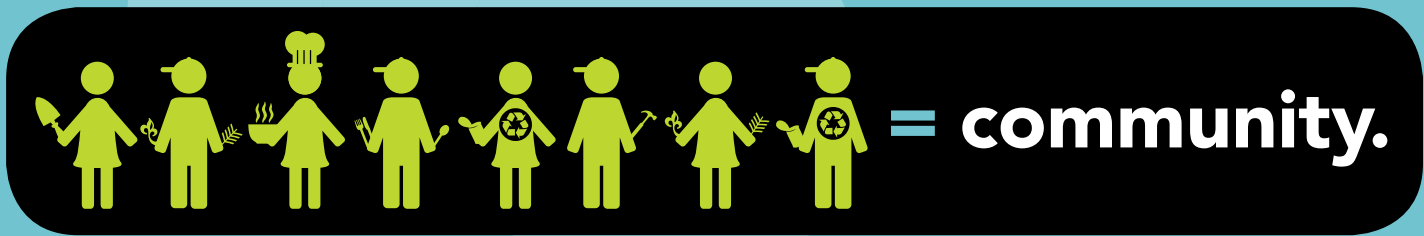


Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97. Community to Community artwork: Linda Sok, graphics intern.

2006

Mercy Kariuki-McGee, Olympia, is a climate change research analyst for the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Khara Whitney-Marsh, Boston, Mass., attends the Graduate School in Library and Information Science at Simmons College.



Mercy Kariuki-McGee '06

2007

Holly Decker, Seattle, works as the community engagement and volunteer coordinator for Northwest Folklife, which creates opportunities for individuals and communities to celebrate, share and sustain the vitality of folk, ethnic and traditional arts. Events include the annual Northwest Folklife Festival, the nation's largest free outdoor community arts festival. Holly's position enables her to network on behalf of the organization, seeking ways to engage the more than 800 volunteers who are crucial to the festival's production. She also coordinates services for city events, private productions, and large-scale productions such as Bumber-shoot.

2008

Lindsey Booth, Tumwater, is completing work to obtain her real estate license in Olympia.

2009

Jennifer J. Keeseey, Olympia, has been appointed director of member services and administration for the Washington Public Utility Districts Association.

Gabriel Torres, Fort Irwin, Calif., has been appointed as a human resource specialist with the Department of Defense Directorate of Human Resources at Fort Irwin.

Submit a Class Note for the spring issue at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform

In Memoriam

Renee Miller Klosterman Power MPA (Tribal Governance) '06, of Olympia, died August 26, after her second battle with breast cancer. A former television news photographer, she worked for KING-TV in Seattle after graduating summa cum laude from Washington State University. She became a youth probation officer in Walla Walla, then moved to Olympia, where she had a lengthy career with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, developing an innovative statewide leadership program for youth. She later worked in the multimedia production department of the Division of Information Services, where she produced many videos, including one on fetal alcohol syndrome in Native American children, which earned her an Emmy nomination. She is survived by her daughter, Kourtnei Nibler; her husband, Jared Power; her mother, Barbara Miller; sister, Tina Anderson; brother, Eric Klosterman; and many relatives and friends.

Sarah Langner Thorn '04, of Girdwood, Alaska, died June 18, while hiking the Devil's Creek Trail on Alaska's Kenai Peninsula. She was born and raised in the Bellingham area, and moved to Girdwood in 2006. At Evergreen, she focused on women's studies, and spent a summer

in Santo Tomas, Nicaragua, as a volunteer in a children's soup kitchen, adding to her passion to help children in need and people in poverty. A skier and hiker who also enjoyed biking, Sarah worked at the Aleyeska Resort as a banquet captain and at The Bake Shop restaurant and bakery. She is survived by her parents, Stephen and Diane Thorn, her sister, Marie, and her partner of four years, Gerrit J. Van Schaick.

David Weiss '90, of Portland, Oregon, died in Carson, Wash., on March 3. After graduating from Evergreen with degrees in biology and environmental education, he was hired as a park ranger at Bonneville Dam. Following interim positions at the Dalles Discovery Center and the Bay Project in San Francisco, he returned to Bonneville, where he expanded interpretive and outreach programs there. He received the 2007 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hiram M. Chittenden Award, recognizing "outstanding contributions in interpretation and environmental education" among all district and field offices nationwide. He is survived by his parents, Robert and Joanne Weiss; his sisters, Barbara Weiss and Carol Capurso; his niece and nephew; and countless friends and colleagues.

David Lee Powell 1934-2009



David Lee Powell, lately of Tucson, Arizona, Evergreen emeritus faculty member, died September 21.

A father, outdoorsman, poet, romantic, and teacher, he earned his Ph.D. in literature from the University of Pennsylvania. He served as an Evergreen faculty member from 1973-2002 and was known for his challenging, thought-provoking lectures and uncensored critique of the cultural status quo. His eclectic teaching and learning interests included cultural history, philosophy, psychology, art and music, architecture and all forms of expression.

As a Korean War veteran, David saw firsthand the horrors of war, and he spent the remainder of his life in pursuit of peace by exploring and exposing the roots of injustice and inequality. He was also a powerful poet, who wrote of deep, intense, and often unpleasant emotions.

David is survived by four sons: David, Andrew, Brian and Robin; four grandsons and two granddaughters. Photo courtesy of Powell family.

Hazel Jo "Josie" Reed 1938-2009



Hazel Jo "Josie" Reed, of Olympia, Evergreen emeritus faculty member, died July 9. Josie was a mathematician who earned her B.S. from Reed College in Portland, and a Ph.D. from Carnegie Technical Institute in Pittsburgh, Pa. She taught at the University of California, Long Beach and Oberlin College in Ohio before settling in Olympia and teaching for more than 25 years at Evergreen. In addition to her passion for mathematics, Josie was a skilled teacher and an avidly curious scholar of literature, creative writing and comparative theologies.

Josie was also a gifted photographer, working in black and white and printing in the Evergreen darkroom. She took pictures both locally and during train trips all over the United States. Throughout her life, she cared deeply for animals, and her farm on Olympia's West Side will remain a sanctuary for them. She is survived by her daughters, Anna and Logan. Photo by Anna Mumaw.

Bob Sluss 1928-2009



Bob Sluss, of Olympia, Evergreen emeritus faculty member, died on May 5 at his home.

One of Evergreen's founding faculty members, Bob taught at the college for twenty-one years. He was introduced to coordinated studies at San Jose State, working in the tutorial program from the department of biology. Prior to that, he worked for more than 10 years on entomological research for the U.S.D.A. and for the department of biological control at the University of California, Berkeley. He came to Evergreen from

teaching at Old Westbury, an experimental college on Long Island, N.Y.

An entomologist and natural historian, Bob was instrumental in creating and continuing the sailing and exploration components of the Evergreen curriculum. He also taught at Evergreen's Organic Farm from its very beginning. He had a passion for natural history, insects, birds, sailing, pool and his many close friends.

Bob was preceded in death by first wife Olga and second wife Ruth. He is survived by his three children: Patrick, Deborah, and Richard; Katz, his dog; seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Memorial donations may be made in memory of Bob Sluss to The Evergreen State College Foundation, 2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Olympia, Washington 98505.



Bob Sluss, Evergreen emeritus faculty member, spent untold hours ensuring that Evergreen's sailing vessels looked presentable and stayed afloat, including the Seawulf. Photos courtesy of The Evergreen State College Archives.

Greener grads, greener dads, greener moms, greener sons and greener daughters!

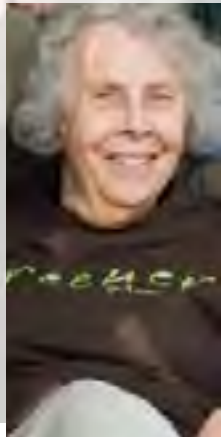


Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

**Steve Blakeslee '86
and Nancy Koppelman '88,**
with children Rosie and Leo and Nancy's mother, Ruby.

Occupation: Evergreen Faculty/Learners

Book: *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne (Nancy)
The one I'm reading now (Steve)

Accomplishment: Translating a portion of
St. Augustine's Confessions from Latin to English (Steve)

Word: Please (Steve) Integrity (Nancy)

Saying: "The greatest good you can do for
another is not just share your riches, but to
reveal to him his own." –Benjamin Disraeli (Nancy)

Song/singer: Crossroads, Eric Clapton (Steve)

When we're not teaching, we: take care of each
other, our house, and ourselves.

Favorite thing about Evergreen:
The students' abundant energy and imagination (Steve)
Inventing new programs with colleagues (Nancy)

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Evergreen Celebrates Longhouse Reopening

Saturday, October 17 marked the grand reopening of Evergreen's newly expanded House of Welcome. The open-house celebration featured musical and dance performances, a potlatch (giveaway) and a dedication of new art installations. Performers at the Longhouse event included the Hottowe Family Dancers (Makah), the drumming and singing Twana Seowin Society (Skokomish), the TaʔalunauW, Quinault Ocean Navigators, the Kuuteeyaa Alaska Native Dance Group, the Siyaʔyaʔ (Squaxin Island) dance group and flutist Rona Yellow Robe Walsh (Chippewa-Cree).

New art installations by John Goodwin "Nytom" (Makah) and the husband-and-wife team of Andrea Wilbur-Sigo (Squaxin Island) and Steve Sigo (Squaxin Island) were also unveiled during the festivities. Nytom created the glass-etched doors leading to the patio, which—like the building's front doors—symbolize the Makah wolf. They memorialize the contributions of the artist's uncle, John Hottowe, to the Longhouse. Hottowe was one of Evergreen's early Daniel J. Evans Chair Scholars, and supported the Longhouse from its very beginning.

The center, built in 1994 to provide opportunities for education and special exchanges, contains space for cultural ceremonies, classes, conferences, performances, and community events.

Wilbur-Sigo and her husband created a new cast-concrete spindle whorl for the Welcome Hall, where the fireplace once stood. The fireplace was relocated to a new covered outdoor patio to allow for more gathering space inside. This area was built as part of the 1,800-square-foot expansion, and serves as an additional gathering place, as well as a carving space. With the extra room, the Longhouse now has a larger gallery and new program offices, which incorporate a workspace, a conference room and an art storage room. The former Longhouse program office has been converted into a student lounge and new video projectors and screens have been installed in the classrooms.

Photos by Carlos Javier Sánchez '97. View a slideshow of the Longhouse re-opening celebration at www.evergreen.edu/magazine.