2018

Alumni Notes

Linfield Magazine Staff

Debbie Harmon Ferry ’90
Linfield College

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Linfield College

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In the coming months, the Linfield community will have the opportunity to participate in the transition. This is a time to reflect on the achievements of President Hellie (see page 6 for the full story), thank him for his service, celebrate his successes and wish him well as he takes on new challenges.

This is also a time to begin paving the way for President Davis. Plans are underway to acclimate him to Linfield and the Pacific Northwest, and introduce him to the people and traditions important to Linfield. We look forward to learning how his skills will enrich the Linfield experience for alumni, students, parents and community members.

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Change is constant

Leave your legacy

Choose from a range of charitable options to leave your mark on Linfield’s future. Popular alternatives include estate planning and donations of stock or property.

Learn more: Craig Haisch ’95, director of development, 503-883-2675 or chaisch@linfield.edu

linfield.edu/giftplanning

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Climbing for a cause

How far would you go to raise money for a good cause? For Paul O’Hollaren ’97, the answer is 19,000 feet – straight up.

In January, O’Hollaren climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa, to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Inspired by a friend’s daughter who battled leukemia (now in remission), O’Hollaren raised more than $4,000 through an eight-day Climb to Cure event.

O’Hollaren, a district sales manager for Medtronic, climbed with 14 others from around the United States. As their bodies adjusted to the altitude, they experienced nausea, dizziness, headaches and imbalance.

“To get the summit, you have to mentally overcome these obstacles and just keep moving forward, one foot in front of the other,” says O’Hollaren.

On summit day, the team began its six-hour climb at midnight to reach the Uhuru Peak, also known as the Roof of Africa.

“Setting lofty goals for yourself will stretch you in ways you didn’t think possible,” says O’Hollaren, who ultimately climbed 45 miles and 11,000 feet in elevation. “Having a plan, preparing appropriately and having mental fortitude all contributed to reaching the peak of Kilimanjaro.”

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1990-99

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Lissa (Stine) Berry ’91 of Boise, Idaho, received a Ph.D. in education- al technology at Boise State University in May 2017.

John Norton ’91 of Medford practices juvenile and family law, with offices in Klamath Falls and Medford.

Kevin Snyder ’91 is the planning director for Fairfield, Calif.

Steve Kilgore ’92 of Eugene was named chief executive of Timber Products Co., a nearly 100-year-old Springfield-based diversified wood products company.

Jennifer (Seeley) Boehmer ’95 of Portland is executive director of advancement at Linn-Benton Community College.

Claire (Roney) Hauga ’95 of Langley, Wash., retired as Cowichan County Director of the Office of Financial Management after 30 years.

Geoff Horning ’95 of Sherwood is owner and president of Update Management Inc. in Portland.

Joy (Johnson) Lease ’96 of Klamath Falls was named the North- west Sectional Coach of the Year by the National Federation of State High School Associations. She is in her eighth year as head girls basketball coach at Mazama High School in Klamath Falls.

Virginia (Zander) Joplin ’97 of Beaverton, Ore., received a federal appointment to the District Export Council.

Daniel Bonham ’98 of The Dalles is the state representative for District 59 (Jefferson, Deschutes, Wasco and Wheeler counties).

Tony Carpenter ’98 of Portland and his wife, Kristen Koors, had a son, Atticus Brinkman, March 2.

Jamie Wilson ’98 of Portland is marketing and communications manager for Providence Health and Services.

Kirstin Abel ’99 of Portland has been named managing partner of Bodyfelt Mount.

2000-09

Ryan Adams ’00 of Woodville, Wash., along with his wife, Kirsten, welcomed their first child, Samantha Irene, Oct. 25, 2016.

Jeff Crapper ’00 of Dayton was selected as a participant for the National Leadership Fellowship Program.

Eric Deffenbaugh ’00 of Denver, Colo., married Justin Ball ’00 on Dec. 16.

Jessica Johnson ’00 of Philadelphia, Pa., was appointed as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration.

Emily (Massey) Leach ’00 of Portland is the senior vice president and Commercial Banking team leader at Heritage Bank.

J.T. Linesullen ‘00 of Valla Walls, Wash., was promoted to vice president of Baker Boyer Bank.

Anna Gradek ’01 and Tremaine Payne ’98 of McMinnville had a son, Paxson Andris, Jan. 31, their second.

Nate Bay ’02 of Silverton is a physician at Silver Creek Family Medicine.

Rocky Dalum ’02 of Portland is a partner at Tonkin Top LLP.

Matt Loehrke ’02 of Missoula, Mont., married Anna Lewing on Sept. 30.

Shane McCrae ’02 of New York, N.Y., was the winner of the 83rd Annual Anisfield-Wolf Book Award in Poetry and a finalist for the National Book Award for his book In the Language of my Captor. He is an assistant professor of writing in the School of the Arts at Columbia University in New York City.

Sara Anderson ’03 of Portland had a daughter, Celia, Aug. 27.

Amy (Szumlanski) Klocko ’03 of Colorado Springs, Colo., is an instructor in the Biology Department at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

Sam (Schmidt) Hines ’95 of Port Angeles, Wash., was named one of 12 members of the inaugural Policy Corps for the American Library Association. As a member of Policy Corps, Hines develops strategies to advocate for community college and academic libraries and librarianship in Washington and across the nation.

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Pickleball gold medalist

Wesley Gabrielsen ’08 traded his tennis racket for a pickleball paddle and the result has been gold.

Gabrielsen, a history teacher and tennis coach at McMinnville High School, has amassed more than 100 gold medals and holds multiple national titles since taking up pickleball five years ago.

He had already made a name for himself as a four-year member of the Linfield varsity tennis team. Looking for a new challenge after college, he rediscovered a sport from his youth — pickleball.

Gabrielsen won gold medals at the United States of America Pickleball Association National Championship, the Canadian National Championship and the United States Open Pickleball Championships twice.

Even more important than the national titles are the relationships he’s built, Gabrielsen says.

“You train, eat, travel and spend so much time off the court with your pickleball peers that you foster great friendships as a result,” adds Gabrielsen. “Pickleball has improved my ability to be a successful educator, coach, friend and family member.”

— Natalie Kelley ’18

There’s an app for that

Linfield Connect is also a phone app. Now you can learn about Linfield news and events from your mobile device. Use the Find Alumni Near Me feature to see which other alumni are in your area. Visit the App Store or Google Play and add this helpful tool to your phone.

— Laura Davis

15 minutes of fame, and then some

It’s been six years since Amy Frankel ’13 became an internet sensation, simply by saying “yes.”

In 2012, Frankel was the focus of a lip-synced flash mob wedding proposal that has generated more than 32 million YouTube views so far, and led to worldwide media coverage and an appearance on NBC’s TODAY Show. Her now husband, Isaac Lamb, coordinated the performance with 60 family members and friends to the song “Marry Me” by Bruno Mars. When the song ended, Lamb bent down on one knee with a ring.

“Stay true to yourself,” she says. “If you get caught up in the hype of everyone trying to capitalize on that moment, then it’s suddenly not genuine anymore.”

— Lauren Davis
It combines elements of tennis, ping pong and badminton, and college, he rediscovered a sport from his youth – pickleball.

Gabrielsen, a history teacher and tennis coach at McMinnville High School, has amassed more than 100 gold medals and holds multiple national titles since taking up pickleball five years ago.

Even more important than the national titles are the relationships he’s built, Gabrielsen says.

“You train, eat, travel and spend so much time off the court with your pickleball peers that you foster great friendships as a result,” adds Gabrielsen. “Pickleball has improved my ability to be a successful educator, coach, friend and family member.”

_– Natalie Kelley ’18_

Pickleball gold medalist

Wesley Gabrielsen ’08 traded his tennis racket for a pickleball paddle and the result has been gold.

Gabrielsen, a history teacher and tennis coach at McMinnville High School, has amassed more than 100 gold medals and holds multiple national titles since taking up pickleball five years ago.

He had already made a name for himself as a four-year member of the Linfield varsity tennis team. Looking for a new challenge after college, he rediscovered a sport from his youth – pickleball.

It combines elements of tennis, ping pong and badminton, and features a wiffle ball the size of a tennis ball.

Gabrielsen won gold medals at the United States of America Pickleball Association National Championship, the Canadian National Championship and the United States Open Pickleball Championship (twice).

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“You train, eat, travel and spend so much time off the court with your pickleball peers that you foster great friendships as a result,” adds Gabrielsen. “Pickleball has improved my ability to be a successful educator, coach, friend and family member.”

_– Natalie Kelley ’18_

There’s an app for that

Linfield Connect is also a phone app. Now you can learn about Linfield news and events from your mobile device. Use the Find Alumni Near Me feature to see which other alumni are in your area. Visit the App Store or Google Play and add this helpful tool to your phone.

Linfield Connect

15 minutes of fame, and then some

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Today, Frankel is a post liver-transplant nurse coordinator at Oregon Health & Science University, and active in the Portland theater community as a choreographer and dance instructor.

Her advice to others in the spotlight?

“Stay true to yourself,” she says. “If you get caught up in the hype of everyone trying to capitalize on that moment, then it’s suddenly not genuine anymore.”

_– Laura Davis_
Andrew ‘09 and Emily (Erwine) Fitch ‘11 of Redmond welcomed a
daughter, Allison Taylor, Jan. 27, their first.

2010-17
Jeremy ‘10 and Tasha (Tolzmann) Lovell ‘10 of Hillsboro had a
daughter, Lily Joan, Jan. 29, their second.
Ben ‘08 and Alessia (Downing) Karlin ‘11 of Beaverton welcomed a
son, Lucas Rowland David, Oct. 9, their first.
Christina (Chuchua) Uemura ‘11 of Lanai, Hawaii, is a doctoral
clinical psychology intern for the Hawaii Department of Education.
She will receive her degree from Argosy University in June.
Kari (Rapic) Barton ‘12 of McMinnville and husband, Jeremy,
welcomed a son, Graham, Jan. 22, their first.
Sierra Broussard ‘12 of Fountain Valley, Calif., graduated from
the University of California, Irvine with a Ph.D. in psychology and a concen-
tration in cognitive neuroscience.
Amanda Contreras ‘12 of Marana, Ariz., and Sam Krekos ‘12 were
married Dec. 31, 2016 in Falcon, Calif.
Susanne Sayles ‘12 of McMinnville, a teacher at McMinnville High
School, was named Outstanding Educator, one of fi ve Distinguished
Education in cognitive neuroscience.

In memoriam
Survivors include nephew Bill Tomison ‘68.
Briana Sayles ‘17 of McMinnville and husband, Jeremy,
welcomed a son, Lucas Rowland David, Oct. 9, their first.
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Tell us your story
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at linfield.edu/alumniprofiles. And submit your own!

Ashley Wellington-Fahey ‘11
Founder and CEO
The Nest

Scott Pincke ‘11
Production analyst
Gusmano Sportswear

Kelly Carmody ‘14
Digital content and media specialist
Children’s Cancer Association

Paul Barnett ‘43 of Portland, Oct. 21. Survivors include wife
Ruth (Mayer) ‘48
Megko (Kittrred) Brixey ‘43 of Morro Bay, Calif., Sept. 22.
Clifford Wolfshe ‘43 of Thorn, Wash., Dec. 15.
Survivors include sons Steve ‘74 and Jeff ‘78
Clara (Johnson) Wendt ‘50 of Jacksonville, Jan. 3.
Colin Armstrong ‘51 of McMinnville, Nov. 15. Survivors
include daughter Gay (Armstrong) Welliver ‘77.
Donald Cone ‘51 of Des Moines, Wash., Nov. 17.
Viola (Evans) Nishy ‘51 of Newberg, Nov. 3. Survivors include
husband Lloyd ‘53.
Eric Strid ‘51 of Newberg, Nov. 5. Survivors include wife Janie
(Lester) ‘51.

From concerts to clinicals
Mika Sunago ’86 knows her way around a concert hall as well as she does a hospital. For excellence in her
second career, she has earned the Distinguished 2017-18 Nursing Alumna Award for Linfield College.
A classically-trained pianist, Sunago spent the fi rst part of her career performing for audiences around the
world. But when traveling became diffi cult after the birth of her daughter in 2001, she turned to the Linfield College
nursing program.
“I always was drawn to the medical fi eld,” recalls
Sunago, who was born and raised in Brazil to Japanese parents and speaks Japanese, Portuguese and English.
“Now, as a nurse manager at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland, Sunago oversees 110 nurses in the Cancer Services Department. She creates Linfield for skills in critical thinking, community and teamwork.

Got News?
Tell us about it. Have you changed jobs?
Received a promotion? Returned to school?
Did you get married or have a child in the past year?
Submit a class note at linfi eld.edu/alumni. For more information, contact the Offi ce of Alumni and Parent Relations at 503-883-2547 or alumni@linfi eld.edu.

Neal Knoop ‘54 of Pacific City, Oct. 15. Survivors include
granddaughter Celeste Knoop ‘15.
Joe Brock ‘56 of Stayton, Dec. 5. Survivors include wife
Marilyn (Andrewson) ‘56.
Dean Daly ‘56 of Eugene, Nov. 22. Survivors include son Dan ’82.
Al Shulte ‘55 of Waterford, Mich., May 9. Survivors include wife
Jean (Holtan) ‘59.
Joyce (Andrews) Christ ‘56 of Issaquah, Wash., Feb. 18. Survivors include
wife Jules ‘57.
B.J. Erickson ‘61 of Colchester, Conn., Dec. 28.
B.J. Erickson ‘61 of Colchester, Conn., Dec. 28.
Amy (Ryder) Remy ‘61 of Gold Beach, Oct. 27.
Fredrick Wilkie ‘61 of McMinnville, Feb. 7.
Karel (Gregg) Ling ‘63 of Kailua, Hawaii, Nov. 3.
Cindy (Cruver) Jones ‘64 of Coos Bay, Wash., June 18. Survivors include
wife Gail (Duerfeldt) ‘59.
Richard McQueen ‘59 of Easton, Conn., Feb. 23. Survivors include
wife Lisa (Flanker) ‘59.
B.J. Erickson ‘61 of Colchester, Conn., Dec. 28.
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In memoriam

Catherine (Tomison) Walker '38 of Boise, Idaho, Sept. 30. Survivors include nephew Bill Tomison '68.

Bill Stryer '40 of San Marcos, Calif., Dec. 25.

Brenda, selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America. He is director of communications for the athletic department at Montana State University at Billings.

Zachary Gulaboff Davis '14 of Salem will be a composition program teaching assistant at the 2018 Bread and Music Center Summer Festival. In February, his music was performed in Oregon Through Sight and Sound by the Willamette Master Chorus.

Joshua Hill '14 of Oregon City is seeking the Republican nomination for State House of Representatives District 4B.

Kim Ashley '14 of Portland married Calvin Howell '15 in May 2017 in Hawaii.

Gabriela Gonzalez ’15 of Independence is working with the Peace Corps in Georgia (the country) after doing social work in Portland for the past year.

Taryn Mattingly Oglesby ’15 of Hilo received The Daisy Award for excellence in nursing.

Evon Tracy '15 of Dunedin is in an MD/Ph.D. program in Louisville, Ky., and just published her first paper.

Cunner Flood '16 of Summarinshash, Wash., and wife, Mackenzie, welcomed a son, Andrew Michael Flood, their first, Nov. 28.

Brenna (Stinson) Gonsom '16 of Lebanon has been accepted to veterinary school at Oregon State University.

Madeline Nye '17 of Lebanon married Brandon Lemerande '14 on July 8.

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Melkiona (Kittrich) Briley '43 of Mormon Bay, Calif., Sept. 22.

Clifford Wolfshauser '43 of Thorp, Wash., Dec. 15.


Betz (Corn) Montgomery '49 of Meredith, Idaho, Nov. 24. Survivors include sons Steve ‘74 and Jeff ‘76.

Melvin Bates '50 of Pendleton, Oct. 20.

Clara (Johnson) Wendl '50 of Jacksonville, Jan. 3.

Colin Armstrong '51 of McMinnville, Nov. 15. Survivors include daughter Gay (Armstrong) Welliver '77.


Donald Cone '51 of Des Moines, Wash., Nov. 17.

Viola (Evers) Nishy '51 of Newberg, Nov. 3. Survivors include husband Lloyd '55.

Eric Strid '51 of Newberg, Nov. 5. Survivors include wife Janie (Lester) '51.
Learn to listen

Chipo Dendere ’08 may have honed her political instincts as Linfield College’s student-body president, but she took her initial steps toward becoming a noted expert on African politics far earlier.

Born and raised in Zimbabwe, Dendere moved to the United States in 2004 to attend Linfield. She majored in political science and psychology, and later went on to earn master’s and doctoral degrees from Georgia State University.

These days, she is an assistant professor of political science at Amherst College and a fellow on the consortium for faculty diversity.

As the political climate in Zimbabwe shifts after the recent resignation of President Robert Mugabe, who had ruled for 37 years, Dendere’s area of expertise is in demand.

“It feels like citizens are out of the trance,” says Dendere, who believes the nation is at a historic crossroads as it emerges from dictatorship.

Dendere attributes much of her career development to her Linfield experience. She said Linfield professors taught her to see the world differently, to think on her feet and to be analytical.

– Natalie Kelley ’18

Friends


Vince Jacobs, professor emeritus of history, Jan. 7. Survivors include wife Norma ’86.

Don Johnson, longtime mailroom volunteer, Dec. 2.

Ursula Le Guin, Linfield honorary degree recipient, Jan. 22.

Honoring our alumni

We are accepting nominations for the 2018 Alumni Awards. Deadline is May 1.

• Alumni Service Award
• Distinguished Alumna/Alumnus Award
• Walker Service Award
• Young Alumna/Alumnus Award

Awards will be presented at Homecoming, Oct. 5-6. Submit nominations online at linfield.edu/alumni
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