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Alumni notes

Linfield Magazine Staff

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1960-69

Arthur Walker '61 of Turlock, California, was inducted into the National Frozen Food Hall of Fame in 2011 after nearly 50 years in the industry.

1970-79

John Duckworth '74 of Colorado Springs, Colorado, wrote three novels in the Carolyn Neville Mystery series, released by Wolfpack Publishing. Three more are scheduled for release in 2021.

Donald Firesmith '75 of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, won the 2020 International Book Award in the fiction: fantasy category for his book, "The Secrets of Hawthorne House."

1980-89

Kirby Neumann-Rea '80 of McMinnville joined the News-Register in April as its managing editor.

Lee Krähenbühl '82 of Silver Spring, Maryland, is chair of communication and director of the Graduate Communication Program for Stevenson University's School of Design. His most recent article, "Thomas A. Lyne, the Latter-day Saints, and the American Theatre," appears in the spring/summer 2020 issue of "The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal."

Kimberlee Wagoner '82 of Clackamas completed her MBA in health-care management from Western Governors University in July 2020.

Randy Mueller '83 of Kirkland, Washington, is a featured speaker in a weekly podcast called "Ask the GM," sponsored by The Athletic.

Phyllis (Bloch) Shelton '85 of Portland is the owner of The Bookkeeping Collaborative and recently became a certified fraud examiner.

Carla (Lowrance) Axtman '86 of Sublimity is the communications director for the Oregon Secretary of State's office.

Shawn Deal '88 of Skamokawa, Washington, published a new play, "Loopy," in August 2020.

Timothy Dennis '88 of Lynnwood, Washington, is a senior digital business advisor at Thryv.

Carol Long '88 of Portland has been promoted to principal at Opsis Architecture.

Daniel McMillan '88 of Carlton was named president and chief executive officer of The Standard, effective July 1, 2021.

Dean Lewis '89 of Richland, Washington, is the director of mortgage for Industrial Credit Union in Bellingham, Washington.

1990-99

Brett Sims '90 of Tigard was promoted to vice president of strategy, regulation and energy supply at PGE on Oct. 30.

Martha Wilborn '90 of Corvallis is a nursing supervisor at the Samaritan

Making lemonade



They say when life gives you lemons, make lemonade. That's exactly what Linfield's alumni programs did this year. Even though we were unable to gather in large groups, we connected in new ways, with new people. From Stay-at-

Homecoming to "Pubs and Profs" and our new online book club, nearly 1,200 alumni from around the world attended Linfield's virtual programs. This included alumni from Spain, Malaysia, Japan and Belgium, who were able come back to campus by simply clicking "join a meeting." While we hope to see you in person soon, watch your inboxes for continued virtual and hybrid events coming this fall. From home or from campus – life is sweet when we gather as Wildcats.

– *Joni Claypool '06, director of constituent engagement*

Pastega Regional Cancer Center in Corvallis as of July 2020.

Katie Curry '91 of McMinnville became executive director of the McMinnville Habitat for Humanity on March 29.

Donald Hakala '91 of Eugene joined the Yoncalla School District as elementary school principal in 2019 and was named head boys' basketball coach at Yoncalla High School in 2020.

Gary Thorson '91 of Sisters is head football coach, wrestling coach and athletic director at Sisters High School.

Kevin Curry '92 of McMinnville is assistant professor of journalism and media studies at Linfield University as of August 2020.

Scott Nelson '94 of Sherwood was promoted to chief marketing officer and associate vice president for strategic communications at Linfield University in July 2020.

Christopher Liebson '95 of Santa Fe, New Mexico, retired from the New Mexico Environment Department after 25 years of service.

Michelle Jones '96 of Sherwood is an athletic trainer at Aloha High School in Beaverton. She was named the National Athletic Trainers' Association Clinical Preceptor of the Year for 2020.

Angela (Kendall) Kern '96 of Portland earned her Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Frontier Nursing University in June 2020. Kern provides care for families at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Gresham.

Nickolas Sheedy '96 of Columbia Falls, Montana, is a fellow of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University. He is also the lead genealogist for the PBS television show *Finding Your Roots*, with Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr.

Daniel Bonham '98 of The Dalles is a State Representative whose

podcast, "Mainstreet Politics with Daniel Bonham," was named one of the 20 best lobbying podcasts of 2021 by Welp Magazine.

Kari (Mehlhoff) Cunningham '98 of Hillsboro is the athletic trainer at Sunset High School in Beaverton. She was named the National Athletic Trainers' Association 2020 Secondary School Athletic Trainer of the Year for District 10.

2000-09

Brian Gustafson '00 of Concord, California, and his wife, Elizaveta Vakhroucheva, welcomed their second child, Maximilian Augustus, on Oct. 29.

Jessica Johnson '00 of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was appointed chief administrative law judge for the Philadelphia Hearing Office of the Social Security Administration.

Andrew Brawley '01 of Beaverton is the senior client experience manager at Moveable Ink.

Grant '01 and **Phoebe (Hostick) Ebright '02** of Portland, welcomed their third child, Dax Phillip, on May 1, 2020. Dax joins siblings Owen and Elliot Belle.

Lural (Dod) Ramirez '01 of Mount Angel began her new headship at UWC Thailand in Phuket this summer. She is joined in Thailand by her husband, Alejandro, and their three children, Joaquin, Santiago and Quetzal.

Juliette Sloan '03 of Monmouth graduated from Montessori Northwest in August 2020 with an Association Montessori Internationale diploma to teach Montessori to elementary children in grades 1-6.

Christopher Riddell '03 of Portland was promoted to lieutenant at Portland Fire and Rescue on Aug. 6, 2020.

Carleigh Hill '04 of Spokane, Washington, joined the library faculty as an assistant professor at Whitworth University.

Shannon Oda '04 of Lake Forest Park, Washington, started a cancer immunotherapy research lab at the University of Washington/Seattle Children's Research Institute.

Leanna Prax Williams '04 of Fairbanks, Alaska, earned her Master of Arts in Northern studies at University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Elise Booth '05 of Estes Park, Colorado, along with husband, Mike Supinski, and big sister Zoe, welcomed a baby girl, Cameron Bird, on Sept. 20.

Staci Hendricks '05 of Santa Barbara, California, received the Teacher Recognition Award for the 2021 spring quarter from the Santa Barbara County Education Office and the local rotary club. Hendricks is a resource teacher for fifth and sixth grade students at Peabody Charter School.

Amanda Palmer '05 of Moscow, Idaho, finished her master's degree in December and has begun her doctorate, both in movement studies at the University of Idaho.

Brant Shilliam '05 and **Jessica (Applegate) Shilliam '06** of Tigard welcomed their second child, a baby girl named Britta Mae, on June 6, 2020.

Janae (Marshall) Abbott '06 of Aurora, Colorado, married Homer Abbott on Oct. 3.

Brodie Phillips '06 of Beaverton and wife Kimberly welcomed a daughter, Ruby Noreen, on Jan. 22.

David Sho Ly '07 of Seattle, Washington, was promoted to corporate counsel of the legal department at a Seattle-based senior living referral service company.

Amber Nobe '07 of Portland was promoted to associate at Hennebery Eddy Architects.

Haley Sanders '07 of Halfway earned her associate degree in nursing from Treasure Valley Community College in June 2020. In July, she earned her RN license and now works at Baker County Health Department as a community health nurse.

Josh '08 and **Monique (Alvarez) Vierra '08** of Salem welcomed a baby girl, Selah Grace, on May 24, 2020. Selah joins siblings Hezekiah and Amaya.

Spencer Myers '09 and **Elizabeth (Waddell) Myers '10** of Concord, California, welcomed a baby boy, Porter James, on June 8, 2020.

Afton (Pilkington) Chaney '09 of Mission Viejo, California, and her husband Chris, welcomed their second son, Miles, on Feb. 14, 2020.

2010-19

Kyle Otineru '10 of Honolulu, Hawaii, and wife Valerie, welcomed a daughter, Tianna Kalapa'olunaakua.

Garrett Garceau '11 of Mountain Home, Idaho, was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

Sierra Stopper '11 of Vancouver, Washington, teaches English at C.S. Lewis Bilingual High School in Bratislava, Slovakia. She has been accepted into the University of Oxford to earn her degree in applied linguistics for language teaching.

Dayna Streufert '11 of Denver, Colorado, and husband, Karl, welcomed a baby boy, Owen Michael, on Oct. 10.

Claire (Velaski) '11 and **Travis Tocher '11** of Hillsboro welcomed their second daughter, Olivia Ryan, on Aug. 8, 2020. Olivia joins sister Joslyn.

Shelly Belknap '12 of Edwards, Colorado, is pursuing her Master of Science in Nursing at Maryville University in St. Louis.

Robert Lisac '12 of Happy Valley was selected in December to complete a pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship at Emory University.

Cassie Kwon '12 of Jersey City, New Jersey, married Anthony Lusardi in New York City on March 18.

Daniel Nicewonger '12 of SeaTac, Washington, and his wife, Jessica, welcomed their first child, Cooper, on Feb. 13, 2020.

Tess Rewick '12 of Grants Pass graduated in December with a master's degree in communications from Purdue University. She currently works at Menlo College as director of admissions operations and marketing.

Anders Van Sandt '12 of Laramie, Wyoming, accepted a position at the University of Wyoming as an assistant professor of regional economics.

Sarah (Ritacco) Hopkins '13 of Monmouth and her husband, Joe, welcomed their second child, Jack Samuel, on Nov. 11.

Lynette (Cole) Sullivan-Trainor '13 of Allston, Massachusetts, married Chris Sullivan-Trainor on June 27, 2020.

Zane Carey '14 of Portland and his former resident advisor in Campbell, **Don DeFrang '12** of Portland, are enrolled in the Physician Assistant Program at OHSU. The two exercise science majors were paired together in a peer mentorship program.

Towns earns top honors at Purdue



Marcy (Hamby) Towns '84 was named the recipient of Purdue University's Morrill Award for 2021. The award is the highest honor the university in West Lafayette, Indiana, confers on a member of its faculty – and comes with a \$30,000 prize.

Towns is currently the Bodner-Honig Professor of Chemistry at Purdue. Her research focuses on factors that affect how students learn chemistry. Towns joined Purdue in 2006 after earning her master's degree and doctorate from Purdue.

She is only the second scholar, and first woman, to be honored with three of the most prestigious national awards in chemistry education: the Royal Society of Chemistry's Nyholm Prize (2019); the James Flack Norris Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Teaching of Chemistry from the American Chemical Society (2017); and the American Chemical Society's Award in Research for the Teaching and Learning of Chemistry (2017).

Towns received Linfield's Distinguished Alumna Award in 2015 and joined the Linfield University Board of Trustees in 2020.

Julia Galan '14 of Hermiston started as the onsite manager for Martha's House, assisting homeless families in returning to a sustainable lifestyle, in October 2020.

Sonja Lenore Haaby '14 of Bend is an IRS enrolled agent and licensed tax consultant and owner of Haaby & Associates.

Briana (Bledsoe) Hupp '14 of Silverton and husband Ethan, welcomed their second daughter, Ellie Grace, on April 26, 2020.

Zach Gulaboff Davis '14 of Salem is a doctoral student in composition at Johns Hopkins University.

Andrew '14 and **Francesca (Wapole) Gladhill '14** of Tigard welcomed a baby boy, Roland Andrew, on March 20.

Zachary Manley '14 of Boring welcomed a child, Raleigh Alfred, on April 27, 2020.

Kayla Lisac '15 and **Spencer Rutz '15** of Portland were married on Sept. 1.

Abigail Heringer '17 of Salem was on Season 25 of "The Bachelor," becoming the first deaf contestant on the show.

Pablo Herrera Fuentes '17 of Beaverton earned his Master of Science in clinical exercise physiology from the University of Mary in June 2020.

Allison (Smith) Mason '17 of Tucson, Arizona, was recognized as the Hunter Johnston Memorial Endowment Scholar for the 2021-22 academic year by the Phoenix Chapter of the ARCS Foundation.

HOMECOMING 2021

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linfield.edu/homecoming

Determined for the degree



In the late 1990s, Nathan Mart '13 found himself in his final year at a state university but unable to complete his degree. With no professional goals after college, he left campus without earning a degree.

Decades later, Mart was ready to finish what he started, but found it difficult to balance his new family and a full-time job, alongside his education. Being a full-time student wasn't feasible.

Undeterred, Mart found a way to finish his degree – online – and in 2013, he earned his Bachelor of Science in human and social services from Linfield's Online and Continuing Education program. And this time, Mart knew how he wanted to use his degree – to help underrepresented populations.

"With this being my only experience with online education, I was hesitant at first," he said. "But, I quickly came to find out it was really manageable, really workable and I really valued it."

In December 2020, Mart was named executive director for Home Life, a non-profit organization in Corvallis that provides services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He says his personal experience with mental-health trauma and substance abuse allows him to provide living proof that life can get better.

"I am able to see someone and give them hope that there is light on the other side, even though it seems pretty dark," Mart said. "I love that I am a person that they can relate to."

Mart often finds others asking him whether he believes in the value of a college education. To him, the answer is obvious.

"I would encourage people to do it because it's going to do nothing but benefit them. Even if it doesn't help your career, it helps you as a person and as a human being," Mart said.

"My education from Linfield was really the foundation of my success. Because I chose to continue and pursue my degree with Linfield, I am now married with a child, house, cars and a beautiful life. It's crazy to think that it all started in a little apartment in Tigard while working, thanks to the flexibility of Linfield's online degree program."

– Kathryn Canfield '23

Read more of Mart's story at: linfield.edu/nathan-mart

Nathan Pellatz '17 of Hillsboro married Calli Pellatz on July 4, 2020.

Elle (Iverson) Caddel '18 of Tualatin married Joshua Caddel.

John Christensen '18 of Anchorage, Alaska, is a part of the ReOpen Every Venue Safely (REVS) Initiative, aimed at safely reopening music venues post-pandemic.

Jade Everage '18 of Gardena, California, graduated from Lasell University with a Master of Science in communications with dual concentration in public relations and digital media.

Nathan Saragoza '19 of Lodi, California, earned a Master of Business Administration at George Fox University.

Diana Vasquez '19 of Milwaukie was accepted into a highly competitive Ph.D. program at Oregon Health & Science University.

2020-21

Sandra Bui '20 of Portland has accepted an RN position in the neuro-critical intensive care unit of Oregon Health & Science University.

Friends & Family

Professor Emeritus **Barbara Limandri** (2004-2016, nursing) received the Award for Distinguished Service by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association in October.

Tony Uphoff, a member of the Linfield Board of Trustees since 2010 and president and CEO of Thomas, served as the 2020 McAllister Top Management Fellow at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.

In memoriam

Viola (Richter) Homolka '41 of Chandler, Arizona, Dec. 1.

Marjorie (Christensen) James '41 of Portland, Dec. 2.

Phyllis Amacher '44 of Portland, April 1.

Patricia (Kelly) Walker '45 of Seattle, Washington, April 9.

Frank Wichert '45 of McMinnville, March 11.

Helen (Berg) Baley '47 of McMinnville, Oct. 16.

Barbara (Berg) Foree '47 of Spring Creek, Nevada, April 30.

Warren Hutsell '47 of McMinnville, May 7, 2020.

Lois (Christensen) Mills '48 of McMinnville, Sept. 26. Survivors include children **Marianne Mills '72**, **Jean Morgan '78** and **Joyce Bottemiller '78**.

Thelma (McPike) Klaus '49 of San Francisco, California, Dec. 16.

Beverly (Fritz) McBride '49 of Billings, Montana, Oct. 24. Survivors include sibling **Patricia Johnson '54**, children **Douglas McBride '74**, **Kevin McBride '79** and **Michael McBride '72**, and grandchildren **Molly Nota '06** and **Christina Swanson '01**.

Gladys (Swift) Moorman '49 of Bend, Aug. 19, 2020.

Virginia (Beamer) Nielsen '49 of Seattle, Washington, June 17, 2020.

Wanda (Gossage) Phipps '49 of Portland, Sept. 2.

Leila (Gillmer) Allen '50 of San Marcos, California, Feb. 13.

Jeannette (Moen) Barnhart '50 of Delta, Colorado, April 16.

William Brock '50 of Centennial, Colorado, Feb. 6.

Joann (Kilen) Foster '50 of Keizer, Aug. 15, 2020. Survivors include spouse **Thomas '50**, child **Nancy McCollum '75** and grandchildren **Katelin Lomax '07**, **Matthew McCollum '09** and **Larissa Wohlwend '19**.

James Strout '50 of Stayton, Dec. 5. Survivors include wife **Marilyn '50**.

Rose Marie (Druse) Caughran '51 of McMinnville, Jan. 16. Survivors include **Holmes Archie Holeman '51** and grandchildren **Ashlee Henninger '09** and **Alyssa Curry '10**.

Alta (Willson) Schuster '51 of Timonium, Maryland, March 18.

Ross Floyd '51 of McMinnville, March 2.

Jim Ledbetter '51 of Happy Valley, Nov. 25. Survivors include spouse **Faith '51**, children **Timothy Ledbetter '78**, **Gregory Ledbetter '81** and **Karen Lee '77**, '03, and grandchild **Rebecca Reilly '05**.

Bob Pillsbury '51 of Hillsboro, June 1, 2020.

Leone (Van Hine) Wood '51 of Coronado, California, Sept. 14.

Mary (Lamb) Halsor '52 of Salem, Oct. 24.

James Lancaster '52 of Gresham, Oct. 26.

Gerri (Edwards) Lane '52 of Ephrata, Washington, Nov. 28.

John "Jack" Twenge '52 of Newberg, June 23, 2021.

Steve Bennett '53 of Eugene, Oct. 22. Survivors include siblings **Lora Stram '55**, **James Bennett '47** and **David Bennett '63**.

Jeanne (Effenberger) Heater '53 of Salem, June 7, 2020.

Joan (Zshach) Ramsey '54 of Vina, California, March 17.

Doris (Shelburne) White '54 of McMinnville, Aug. 1, 2020.

Helen (Garlett) Allen '55 of Steilacoom, Washington, Feb. 6.

Bernard Greenwalt '55 of Bremerton, Washington, Nov. 8. Survivors include spouse **Patricia '56**.

Milton Krueger '55 of Portland, Oct. 28. Survivors include child **Karen Winkler '81**.

Marcia (Seeber) Reeder '55 of Lake Oswego, June 24, 2020.

Arthur Ray '56 of Stockton, California, Nov. 7. Survivors include sibling **David Ray '65**.

Carl Reynolds '56 of Lincoln City, June 26, 2020. Survivors include spouse **Deirdre '55** and siblings **Edith Reynolds '51** and **Gayle Reynolds '58**.

Carl Wickham '56 of Vista, California, Nov. 9. Survivors include spouse **Sharlene '56**.

Robert Powell '57 of Longview, Washington, Nov. 21.

Donna (Ganoe) Reynolds '57 of Springfield, April 4.

Virgil Warren '57 of Santa Rosa, California, April 30.

Victor Fox '58, '59 of Molalla, Sept. 21. Survivors include children **Diane Close '84**, **Jill Fox '87** and **Todd Fox '86**.

Maurice Hillyer '58 of Beaverton, Nov. 26. Survivors include spouse **Margaret '60** and grandchild **Jake Hillyer '14**.

Leila (Beard) Heislein '59 of Roseburg, Dec. 9.

William LeMaster '59 of Newberg, May 8, 2020.

Dwane Miller '59 of Bend, Jan. 4.

Ronald Nelson '59 of Beaverton, April 23, 2020.

Keith Sutfin '59 of Clatskanie, April 10, 2020.

Carol (Gill) Burge '60 of Modesto, California, Jan. 1.

Kay (Holtz) Greene '60 of Sparks, Nevada, Aug. 3, 2020.

Judy (Newton) Hafner '61 of Corvallis, Oct. 18.

William Hulse '61 of Chehalis, Washington, June 2, 2020. Survivors include spouse **Joann '60**.

Mary (Jenkins) Leighty '61 of Camano Island, Washington, May 4, 2020.

Louise (Steele) Markum '61 of White Settlement, Texas, Sept. 17.

Gordon McKay '61 of Falls Church, Virginia, Jan. 14. Survivors include spouse **Linda '62**.

Marlyn Ritchie '61 of Chicago, Illinois, Nov. 11.

Frank Berkey '62 of White Salmon, Washington, Sept. 13.

Patty (Aichele) Phillips '62 of Hermiston, Dec. 9.

Marjory (Day) Sechler '62 of Litchfield, Minnesota, April 20.

Linda (Crawford) Feit '63 of Eugene, May 10.

Leeann (Curtis) Patterson '63 of San Jose, California, Dec. 21. Survivors include spouse **John '61**.

Marvin Thornley '63 of Oregon City, Nov. 4.

Thomas Gallagher '64 of Lacey, Washington, Dec. 12. Survivors include spouse **Carol**.

Cameron Sawyer '64 of Vancouver, Washington, July 4, 2020.

Survivors include siblings **Grant Sawyer '66** and **Alden P. Sawyer '70** and cousin **Louise Prather '64**.

Ruthann (Raml) Batty '65 of La Grande, Jan. 1.

John Hakanson '65 of Alamogordo, New Mexico, May 17, 2020.

Arnold Heimbach '65 of Snohomish, Washington, Sept. 7.

Jo Ann (Wilson) Little '65 of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sept. 20.

Survivors include spouse **Paul '53**.

Billie Matthews '66 of Yamhill, March 25.

Craig Powell '66 of Monterey, California, Oct. 22. Survivors include spouse **Ingrid '67**.

William Burton '69 of Mobile, Alabama, Sept. 23. Survivors include sibling **George '60**.

James Kimber '68 of Portland, Aug. 1, 2020.

Robert Laycoe '68 of Kaleden, British Columbia, Dec. 28.

Joyce (Bjornson) Anderson '70 of Alameda, California, Jan. 28.

Mary (Bates) Anderson '70 of Seaside, June 20, 2020. Survivors include children **AnnaKay Silver '68** and **Carl Anderson '67** and grandchild **Sarah Howard '03**.

Terry Miller '70 of Castle Rock, Washington, June 22, 2020.

Catherine Bickerdike '71 of Keizer, June 11, 2020.

William Jans '72 of Camas, Washington, Dec. 1. Survivors include spouse **Diane '71**.

Daniel Belderrain '73, '79 of McMinnville, June 6, 2020. Survivors include spouse **Liane '76**, '86.

Stephen Mangold '75 of Seaside, July 13, 2020.

Byron Brown '76 of Hillsboro, May 4.

Roberta (Bangs) White '76 of Portland, Aug. 6, 2020.

Jane Todd '77 of Portland, Feb. 2.

John Pfeffer '80 of Des Moines, Washington, Nov. 13.

Julie Ann Collis '81 of Bainbridge Island, Washington, April 5.

Nathan Helwig '84 of Woodburn, Aug. 10, 2020. Survivors include child **Kacy Helwig '15**.

Honoring Ken Evenstad

1943-2020



Grace and Ken Evenstad at Domaine Serene Winery, March 2018

Linfield, and the wine industry, lost a forceful advocate when Kenneth L. Evenstad, co-founder of Domaine Serene Vineyards and Winery, died Oct. 21, 2020.

The Grace and Ken Evenstad Center for Wine Education at Linfield University opened in 2018, following a \$6 million gift from the Evenstads. The center offers a unique interdisciplinary wine studies major and minor for undergraduate students and a number of wine education programs for adult learners.

The Evenstads' other generous contributions to Linfield have created a scholarship for underrepresented populations in the wine industry and improved wine education facilities in the university's new science complex.

"It is clear from his philanthropy that Ken wanted to leave his mark on the world, to help others and to leave the world better for his having been in it," Linfield President Miles K. Davis said. "That is exactly what he has done."

- Imogene Kleinschmit '85 of McMinnville, Aug. 24, 2020. Survivors include nephew Benjamin Dittman '01.
- Edward McCagg '87 of Portland, June 1, 2020.
- Frances (Northup) Rasmussen '87 of McMinnville, May 17, 2020. Survivors include child Mark Rasmussen '91.
- Marjorie (deBarathy) Lussier '88 of Bend, Feb. 19.
- Suzanne (Cobb) Penner '88 of Aumsville, Sept. 16. Survivors include sibling Marcie E. Cobb '95.
- Dale Stites '88 of Stayton, Oct. 28.
- Jeniece (Berger) Wynne '88 of Vancouver, Washington, April 19, 2020.
- Shawna Schipporeit Fleck '89 of Canby, Aug. 16, 2020.
- Marlene (Meier) Ankeny '90 of Beaverton, Jan. 27.
- Karen Callin '93 of Portland, Feb. 5.
- Joshua Sperry '94 of Spanaway, Washington, April 25, 2020.
- Lynn Miller '95 of Hillsboro, July 7, 2020.
- Jack Smith '97 of Kelso, Washington, Dec. 16.
- Lynn Gibson '99 of Portland, April 27.
- Ryan O'Donnell '05 of Bend, Oct. 26.
- "Bona" Su Jung Lee '11 of Shanghai, China, Jan. 28.
- Kelsey Harris '12 of Milwaukie, March 28.

Friends

- Greg Bradstreet of Salem, former adjunct faculty in education, June 2, 2021.
- Patti Compton of McMinnville, former assistant manager of Linfield bookstore, March 27. Survivors include husband Hunt Compton and children AnDee Compton '92 and Tami Compton-Spears.
- Traci Hoff of Amity, former student records specialist, May 1, 2020.
- Arthur G. Kimball of Yokohama, Japan, former professor of English, Oct. 8. Survivors include spouse Shirley '74 and children Arthur S. Kimball '73, Anton Kimball '74, Jess Kimball '78 and Angie Kimball '84.
- Densley "Denny" Palmer of Anacortes, Washington, director of counseling emeritus, July 7, 2021.
- Kari Sweeden of McMinnville, former administrative assistant for advancement services, May 21, 2021.

Got news?

Tell us about it! Have you changed jobs? Received a promotion? Returned to school? Get married or have a child? Submit a class note at linfield.edu/alumni. For more information, contact the Office of Constituent Engagement at 503-883-2547 or alumni@linfield.edu.

Fostering hope – one student at a time

By Lindsay (Gehres) Estep '12

While the buzz of activity created by move-in day can be welcoming to some, the experience can be daunting to those arriving from less traditional circumstances. Move-in day represents a big unknown for students who have aged out of the foster care system, are emancipated or are the first in their family to attend college.

Scholarships provide valuable resources for a student's education, but financial gaps remain. What if there is no money for a laptop, textbooks, bedding and all that is required for the residential college experience?

Joe '96 and Stephanie (Kratochvil) Welsh '95 recognized this inequity and decided to do something about it. Established in 2020, the Joseph and Stephanie Welsh Family Scholarship Fund assists foster and first-generation students in achieving their dream of a college education by funding non-tuition college expenses. This scholarship is the first of its kind at Linfield.

Stephanie said they wanted students to know that "people see you and understand that you're not starting from the same place that everyone else is, and here is the support to try to get you there."

The Welshes started talking about helping teenagers when they came across statistics about those that age out of the foster care system.

The National Foster Youth Initiative reports that, nationally, less than 3% of youth raised in foster care graduate from a four-year college. In Oregon, while roughly 25% of former foster youth pursue a college education, only one in 10 will complete a degree, according to the Oregon Foster Youth Connection.

Joe and Stephanie discussed becoming foster parents or adopting, but their careers brought two moves to Asia over the course of ten years. After having three children and determining they were not able to foster minors themselves, they brainstormed other ways to provide meaningful support to foster youth.

That search led them back to their alma mater.

"Linfield was a known entity for us, and we have this passion around trying to help foster kids," Stephanie said. "It was a lucky confluence of conversations that we were having, Linfield talking about the first-generation program and us putting those two things together."



Joe '96 and Stephanie (Kratochvil) Welsh '95

The Welshes felt like the time was now for giving.

"We're young enough in our careers that we have many years of earning potential left," Stephanie said. "We can make a bit of a sacrifice and start benefiting students now instead of when we're 70, retired and trying to figure out what we're going to do with our money."

The financial sacrifice was minimized thanks to some creativity. The Welshes leveraged a key asset available to them — matching gifts from their employer, Intel. The company doubled their donation, allowing the couple to create an endowment, meaning that this new fund will live in perpetuity and benefit students for generations to come.

"You don't have to be a millionaire to make a difference," Joe said. "We're hoping that other alumni will think about how they want to do giving, the experience they had at Linfield and how lucky a lot of us are. We encourage them to connect all of those dots and do something similar if they feel called to."

Because, the Welshes believe, it's not just the academic experience at Linfield that benefits students.

"Linfield is a very special place," Stephanie said. "You get an excellent education, but you also get a network of people that are supportive, positive and interested in helping other alumni be successful. And that might be an even bigger part of changing people's lives."