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Alumni Notes

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A platinum pair



Richard '52 and Ruth (Ferrell) Perry '54 of Roseburg celebrated their platinum 70th wedding anniversary on June 13, 2022. The couple met at Linfield. Ruth remembers a psychology professor nicknaming her "Fleetfoot Ferrell," after she caught her future husband in the Sadie Hawkins race. Richard retired in 1997 as professor emeritus at University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, after teaching physics for 36 years. Ruth worked in education and was a homemaker, wife and mother. The couple have four children and helped homeschool three grandchildren. They are active in the Open Bible Church and volunteer with Mobile Kingdom Builders.

1960-69

Bruce Montgomery '61 and his wife, Sandra, of Gresham celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 2021.

Dennis Schiermeyer '63 of Woodland, California, was honored at Woodland Community College's Founders Day celebration on April 8, 2022. Schiermeyer retired in December 2019 after teaching for 55 years at the Woodland Joint Unified School District and at the college.

Dick Withnell '64 of Keizer was surprised at his 80th birthday party in April 2022 when the YMCA of Salem announced the new facility would be named in his honor.

Nicklis Simpson '66 of Depoe Bay has retired from dentistry after 52 years of private practice in Lincoln County.

Jim Johnson '68 of Keaau, Hawaii, has spent the past five years sailing in the South Pacific on a steel ketch he designed and built in Oregon.

Key Stage '69 of Edenton, North Carolina, retired from the University of Texas Southwestern's Department of Urology and married Clara Mincey.

1970-79

Scott Lamb '74 of Green Valley, Arizona, has gone to Ukraine to assist refugees. He is working in a redistribution warehouse to get medical supplies across the entire country.

1980-89

Marc Reed '82 of Inlet Beach, Florida, retired Dec. 31, 2021, after a 39-year career in the fire service.

Danny Crowell '86 and Whitney Correa of Kahului, Hawaii, opened a third location of their family-operated gym, The Club Maui, in Kahului.

Andy Hunt '86 of Mount Airy, Maryland, was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal after retiring in September 2021 at the rank of captain after 30 years of active duty in the U.S. Public Health Service.

Kim (Brundridge) Kintz '87 of Silverton was promoted to full professor at the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing.

Bryan Marmion '89 of Roanoke, Texas, is athletic director and head football coach at Trinity Christian Academy in Addison, Texas.

Steve Seymour '89 of Rathdrum, Idaho, retired from high school coaching after more than 30 years. He plans to continue teaching English for a few more years before he retires as an educator.

1990-99

Tom Fast '90 of Mill Creek, Washington, received a doctorate in human sciences from Osaka University in March 2022.

Dennis Hawley '90 of Newport was promoted to assistant vice president/records manager for the Oregon Coast Bank.

James Hiu '90 of Gresham was named superintendent of Gresham-Barlow School District on March 3, 2022.

Michelle (Livesley) Johnson '92 of Portland married Jonathan Johnson on Jan. 22, 2022.

Tim '94 and **Claudia (Ramos) Tetz '99** of Boring are adopting 18-month old triplets from Mexico. Tim is in his 28th year of teaching middle school, and Claudia is an elementary school principal.

Michelle Johnson-Holthaus '95 of Spokane, Washington, is executive vice president and general manager of the Client Computing Group at Intel.

Danny Langsdorf '96 of Broomfield, Colorado, is offensive coordinator and quarterback coach for Temple University's football team.

Shelly Jones '96 of Sherwood has been inducted into the Oregon Athletic Trainers' Society's Hall of Fame.

Greg Hill '97 of McMinnville was awarded the Northwest Athletic Trainers' Association Director's Award.

Holly Duckworth '98 of Denver, Colorado, married Eric Szymanski on Dec. 3, 2021.

Matt Boyce '99 of Scottsdale, Arizona, was named senior vice president of corporate development at Lawson Products, Inc. in April 2022.

Mindi Welton-Mitchell '99 of Brookfield, Wisconsin, is executive minister of the American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin.

2000-09

Jeff Crapper '00 of Dayton received the Rookie of the Year Award as a volunteer firefighter for Dayton Fire District.

Ben Dorrington '00 of Kalispell, Montana, is the health, wellness and suicide prevention specialist for Kalispell Public Schools.

Amie Runyan '00 of Estes Park, Colorado, celebrated her book, "Daughters of the Night Sky," selling its 100,000th copy in February 2022.

Shannon Tait-Brester '01 and husband Mike of Redmond, Washington, welcomed a baby girl, Mikaela Marguerite Brester, on Oct. 30, 2021.

Justin LaForge '02 of Boise, Idaho, helped edit a film that debuted at this year's prestigious Sundance Film Festival.

Steve Curley '03 of Redmond became the Redmond Economic Development, Inc. director with Economic Development for Central Oregon on March 23, 2022.

Aurora Hoyle '03 joined the family medicine team at PeaceHealth Peace Island in Friday Harbor, Washington, as a nurse practitioner in April.

Amy (Hintz) Fairchild '04 of Beaverton was invited to perform one of her original compositions, "Cloud Shadows," for the International Composers Festival in May 2022 in the United Kingdom.

Carleigh Hill '04 of Spokane, Washington, along with husband Spencer Scott and big sister Rowan, welcomed baby Sawyer on Dec. 3, 2021.

Shannon Parker '05 of Stayton was elevated to an ownership role at Pence Construction in March 2022. She is among the first two women to achieve that rank in the company's 73-year history. Parker currently serves as director of employee and client experience.

Blake Barash '06 of Newport Beach, California, and his shoe company, B Street Shoes, was featured in New York Weekly in April 2022.

Susan O'Meara '08 of Fort Collins, Colorado, completed her master's degree in biology from University of Northern Colorado.

Ryan Smith '08 of Woodland, California, has been appointed hotel manager at The Seabird Resort, a Destination by Hyatt Hotel in Oceanside.

Araceli (Ortiz) Cruz '09 of Portland is the assistant vice president for student success and engagement at Warner Pacific University.

Remy Drabkin '09 of McMinnville was appointed interim mayor for the City of McMinnville in April. She was previously chair of the McMinnville City Council.

Amanda (Moore) Haglund '09 and her husband, Scott, of Beaverton welcomed their first child, Xander Boyd, on Jan. 29, 2022.

2010-19

Ashlee McKay '10 of Beaverton was honored with the Oregon Athletic Trainers' Society's Young Professional Award.

Sharon (Hagel) '11 and **Jordan Drake '16** of Beaverton welcomed their son Henry on Feb. 10, 2021.

Brenna (Patterson) Behnke '12 and her husband, Quinn, of Milwaukie welcomed their first child, a daughter, Ellis Hart, on April 3, 2022.

Karleigh (Prestiani) Potter '13 and her husband, Austin, of Beaverton welcomed their second baby girl, Walker Olive, on Jan 30. Walker joins big sister Wesleigh Rochelle.

Calvin '15 and **Ashley (Kimi) Howell '14** of Portland welcomed David, their first child, in January 2022.

A passion for public health

Sarah-Michael Gaston '16 has been committed to making a difference in the world since she graduated from Linfield with a degree in psychology. She has primarily worked in the nonprofit sector, even cofounding her own in 2017. This year, Gaston earned a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University and returned to Sacramento, California, to serve as deputy director of Youth Forward, a nonprofit focused on improving the health, education and well-being of young people in the region.



Gaston started working at Youth Forward in 2019 in a policy-advocacy role. She helped leverage more than \$100 million in grants tied to revenue from Proposition 64 – the 2016 bill that legalized marijuana in California – to support youth programs in communities of color impacted by the war on drugs.

She took a sabbatical from Youth Forward after being awarded a full-tuition fellowship for Johns Hopkins' 11-month master's program focusing on adolescent health. The Bloomberg Fellows Program provides public health training to people in organizations attempting to address critical challenges in the United States with the expectation that they return to implement what they've learned.

On June 15, Gaston returned to Youth Forward to focus on youth mental health policy. Her time at Johns Hopkins reinforced her desire to help and empower marginalized communities.

"A big thing in public health is making sure the people affected by a policy or program are involved in how it's carried out (as opposed to) telling them what they need," she said. "That is what I focus on at Youth Forward."

Wes Hanson '16 of Severn, Maryland, was the project lead on the USDA report that was recently published in the U.S. Agriculture and Forestry Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

Kaitie Baumann '19 of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, is the cardiac rehabilitation coordinator at Gunderson St. Joseph's Hospital and Clinics.

Softball alumna breaks U.S. swimming record

By Ben O'Loughlin '22



Even though she was an All-American on the Wildcat softball team, Lisa Yamamoto '15 recently made headlines in a different sport: ice swimming.

On Jan. 29, 2022, the DNA analyst from Vancouver, Washington, completed her first Ice Mile, a mile-long swim in waters 41 degrees Fahrenheit or less in a standard swim-suit. She swam 1.05 miles in 36-degree water, becoming one of only 52 American members of the International Ice Swimming Association and among 459 in the world to have completed the challenge.

But, she wasn't done yet.

Earlier in January, a Seattle woman set a new U.S. ice-swimming distance record with a 1.4-mile swim in 39.2-degree water.

"I was feeling pretty good at that point," Yamamoto said. "I felt that based on my time and tolerance, I could surpass that distance."

On Feb. 26 in Camas, Washington, Yamamoto did just that. She completed a 1.61-mile swim in 37.1-degree water and set the record for the longest U.S. ice swim. It is the eighth-longest in the world, and the second-longest ever by a female swimmer.

Her eyes are now set on the next challenge.

"Now that water temperatures are getting warmer, I'm focusing more on distance swimming," Yamamoto said. "I'm training for the 11-mile Portland Bridge Swim this summer."

Watch her full Ice Mile swim at magazine.linfield.edu.

2020-21

Cameron Perron '21 of Walla Walla, Washington, is working on his graduate degree at the Richmond International Academic and Soccer Academy in the United Kingdom. He is also continuing his soccer career as a goalkeeper for Steeton AFC.

In memoriam

Edna (Davis) Wilson '40 of Camas, Washington, April 28, 2020.

Pauline (Shepherd) Anderson '45 of Portland, Feb. 10, 2022. Survivors include grandchild **Anson Whiting '12**.

Flora Chan '45 of Portland, July 30, 2021.

Phyllis (Cochrane) Martin '46 of McMinnville, Dec. 20, 2021. Survivors include children **Janine Sleigh '74** and **Dean Martin '75** and grandchild **Adrianna Sleigh '22**.

Marjie Getzelman '47 of Clackamas, Jan. 20, 2022.

John Hays '48 of Newberg.

Bettie (Spring) Wood '48 of McMinnville, Jan. 4, 2022.

Mary Elaine (Erickson) Burgess '50 of Everett, Washington, March 3, 2022. Survivors include child **Mary (Burgess) Benner '84**.

Ivan Cleveland '50 of Lynnwood, Washington, Feb. 10, 2022.

Roland Mill '50 of Vancouver, Washington, Dec. 13, 2021.

Darla (Lang) Newton '50 of Dallas, Jan. 18, 2022.

Jean (Praetorius) Bursley '51 of East Wenatchee, Washington, March 7, 2022.

Harold Dickman '51 of Eugene, Feb. 2, 2022.

Bette (Zimbelman) Fread '51 of Walla Walla, Washington, March 5, 2022.

Faith (Oestreicher) Ledbetter '51 of Happy Valley, Jan. 19, 2022. Survivors include children **Karen (Ledbetter) Lee '77**, **Timothy Ledbetter '78** and **Gregory Ledbetter '81** and grandchild **Rebecca (Ledbetter) Reilly '05**.

Tom Meicho '51 of McMinnville, dean emeritus of admission, April 30, 2022. Survivors include his wife **Jean (Woest) '53** and children **Grant '82** and **Jacque (Meicho) Howard '83**.

Frances (Watson) Mickelsen '51 of Banks, Dec. 20, 2021.

Pauline (Morris) Richards '51 of Beaverton, Dec. 19, 2021. Survivors include spouse **Gene Richards '51**.

Alice (House) Moscato '52 of Campbell, California, Sept. 5, 2019.

Yosh Nakagawa '52 of Mercer Island, Washington, Jan. 29, 2022.

Dwight Shank '52 of Portland, Dec. 11, 2021. Survivors include grandchild **Diana Lehman '02**.

Bill McDonald '52 of Bend, Jan. 8, 2022. Survivors include child **Wendy McDonald '82**.

Joe Bakkensen '53 of Portland, Nov. 8, 2021. Survivors include grandchild **Alyssa Bakkensen '22**.

Jim Fryer '54 of McMinnville, Feb. 3, 2022.

Shirley (Fisher) Brandt '55 of Olympia, Washington, May 4, 2021.

Don Nicholson '55 of Tracy, California, Aug. 16, 2020.

Cliff Engel '57 of Canby, Oct. 29, 2021.

Clancy Hinrichs '57 of Terrebonne, Feb. 28, 2022. Survivors include spouse **Kay (Betts) Hinrichs '58**, sibling **Ron Hinrichs '74**, children

Craig Hinrichs '81, **Lisa (Hinrichs) Rojas '83** and **Mark Hinrichs '88** and grandchildren **Sarah Hinrichs '03** and **Josh Rojas '07**.

Dan Janzen '57 of Lewisville, Texas, Feb. 18, 2022.

Floyd McKay '57 of Bellingham, Washington, March 4, 2022.

Lorraine (Rayton) Garrison '58 of Corvallis, Jan. 26, 2022.

Jim Duke '58 of McMinnville, professor emeritus of psychology, March 10, 2022.

Marian (Butcher) Weaver '58 of Tamarac, Florida, Nov. 1, 2021.

Dennis Anderson '58 of McMinnville, Jan. 12, 2022. Survivors include child **Bryant Anderson '90**.

Roger Brown '58 of Redmond, Nov. 15, 2021.

Mary Martin '58 of McMinnville, Dec. 7, 2021. Survivors include grandchild **Kelli Martin '06**.

Les Pierce '59 of Milwaukie, Feb. 22, 2022.

Lauramary (Mahaffey) Powell '60 of Portland, Aug. 21, 2019.

George McAdams '60 of Sherwood, July 27, 2021.

Leo Leathers '62 of McMinnville, Feb. 3, 2022.

Ross Rieder '62 of Graham, Washington, Dec. 14, 2021.

Sam Burke '63 of Eugene, Feb. 2, 2022.

Edwina (Hinton) Stoll '63 of Napa, California, Jan. 1, 2022.

Bruce Crouser '64 of Fort Edward, New York, Feb. 23, 2022.

Madaline (McCauley) Lapp '65 of Roseburg, Jan. 3, 2022.

Sharon Lindgren '66 of Hillsboro, Jan. 26, 2021.

Barbara (Murdock) Olson '66 of Spokane, Washington, Nov. 11, 2021. Survivors include child **Hans Olson '96**.

Don Prather '66 of Portland.

Grant Sawyer '66 of Portland, Jan. 18, 2022.

Sandy Thompson '68 of Torrance, California, Aug. 1, 2018.

Curran Howard '69 of McMinnville, Jan. 25, 2022. Survivors include brothers **Steve Howard '72** and **Tim Howard '80** and nephew **Adam Howard '07**.

Robert Johnson '69 of Newberg, March 26, 2019.

Jerry Weissman '69 of Andover, Minnesota, Jan. 24, 2020.

Robert Wilson '70 of Fresno, California, Jan. 29, 2022.

Jim Kelly '72 of Green Valley, Arizona, July 10, 2018.

Tony Villanueva '76 of Meridian, Idaho, April 4, 2022.

Ronald Oakes '77 of Ilwaco, Washington, Dec. 29, 2021.

Tom McFadden '80 of McMinnville, March 14, 2022. Survivors include spouse **Rebecca (Adams) McFadden '80**.

Billie Conant '81 of Newberg.

William Staudenmayer '85 of Waldport, Oct. 31, 2021.

Tony Dutra '88 of Portland, Jan. 29, 2021.

Heather Michele Cunningham Bridgens '96 of Cottage Grove, April 8, 2022.

Michelle (Jones) Davis '98 of Corvallis, March 27, 2022.

Sarah Tramontana '98 of Great Falls, Montana, Nov. 3, 2021.

Billy Walker '00 of Canby, Aug. 29, 2021.

Carly (Van Aart) Noack '02 of Portland, June 5, 2021.

Carl Enockson '03 of Yuma, Arizona, May 1, 2018.

Taylor Anderson '05, '10 of Vancouver, Washington, Jan. 21, 2022.

Friends

Robert (Bob) Bosanac of McMinnville, former registrar, Nov. 19, 2021. **Virginia Bowden** of Beaverton, former registrar of School of Nursing, Aug. 7, 2021.

Chuck Charnquist of Beaverton, former director of information services and sports information director, Oct. 21, 2021.

Hermann Weissgärber of Vienna, Austria, director of Linfield's international partner the Austro-American Institute of Education, April 4, 2022.

Judy Wells of McMinnville, former accounting coordinator, Feb. 11, 2022.

Remembering alumnus and Professor Emeritus Jim Duke



A long-time fixture in the Linfield community – James "Jim" A. Duke '58 – died on March 10, 2022. The McMinnville resident retired in 1998 after a 30-year career in the Linfield Department of Psychology.

He is survived by two sons, Jeff and Dennis, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Duke earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Linfield and went on to receive his M.A. and Ph.D. from Texas Christian University, specializing in human factors psychology. He returned to Linfield as a faculty member in 1968. During his tenure, Duke

was an active researcher, eventually expanding his field of study to include cognitive psychology, served as department chair and championed undergraduate research.

Duke and wife **Lucita '71** were active members of First Baptist Church and the McMinnville community and volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and St. Barnabas Soup Kitchen, among other local institutions.

His name is permanently etched on different corners of the McMinnville campus – in the brick stones celebrating the school's sesquicentennial outside of Walker Hall and on the psychology lab named for him in Pioneer Hall. But more importantly, friends and former colleagues say, Professor Emeritus Duke has his name permanently imprinted on the minds and hearts of decades of Linfield students.

Paying it forward by giving back

By Laura J. Graham '07

Parents and prospective students often ask what Linfield students do with their degrees after graduation. The answer, scripted as it sounds, is “anything they want.” Ryan Jones '07 is a case in point.

Jones completed a Fulbright fellowship in Austria and then earned a master's degree from the Georgetown School of Foreign Service after leaving Linfield, and quickly moved into positions in the U.S. State Department. When he realized that being a diplomat, while exciting, was not the lifestyle he ultimately wanted, he said his years at Linfield gave him the confidence to pivot seamlessly to a very different career path.

“The liberal arts education at Linfield allowed me to see the connectivity between vastly different subjects,” said Jones, now a producer for the streaming series “The Problem with Jon Stewart” on Apple TV+. He has worked on some of the biggest shows on streaming and network television in recent years.

He knows his Linfield education wouldn't have been possible without the help of a lot of other people. So, he is determined to help offer the same generosity to another generation. Eight years ago, he began a recurring monthly gift to Linfield.

“Receiving scholarships was a deciding factor for me attending Linfield,” he said. “And I know that other people have much harder circumstances than me. I don't want money to be the reason they can't go.”

Jones knows his life trajectory could easily have landed him in a much different place. Originally from Twin Falls, Idaho, he grew up believing that state schools were his main option for higher education. Everything changed when a Linfield admission counselor visited his high school.

“After we met, she followed up with a hand-written postcard with her desk phone number saying to ‘call with any questions,’ and I did. And it was a truly breakthrough moment,” Jones said. “Between the one-on-one personal attention from an actual person on the other end and the financial aid package, mostly made up of scholarships, it became a clear decision.”



His four years at Linfield as a mass communication and music major were full of the opportunities a Linfield experience often provides: a semester studying abroad in Austria, a work-study position in the admission office, and ultimately, a Fulbright grant after graduation.

“Linfield was the most challenging academic thing I had done, and it set me up for success and allowed me to see what I could do,” he said.

These days, Jones said he stays close with his friends, professors and mentors from his undergraduate years. And he speaks with a passion about his time at Linfield, where it has led him and why he remains committed to current students.

“Ultimately, Linfield was life-changing for me,” he said. “I believe by giving back, it is a small way I can be part of paying it forward for current students to have the same positive experience.”

Behind great nurses are great educators

The National League for Nursing has named 2022 the Year of the Nurse Educator.

Tell us about the nursing educators that made an impact on your life. Send your stories, messages of gratitude and/or any pictures to linfieldmagazine@linfield.edu and they could appear in the next issue of Linfield Magazine.

