Truth to Power
Amplifying the voices of the Black Lives Matter movement
Ryan Payton ’03 normally has a team of 50 people in the Bellevue, Wash., workspace of his company, Camouflaj. The coronavirus forced most of them to work from home, just as they were finishing Marvel’s Iron Man VR, the new video game for PlayStation. See page 28.
Vol. 47 No. 2 Autumn 2020

TO THE HEIGHTS

FROM THE PRESIDENT
Isiaah Crawford on the coronavirus, Black Lives Matter, and more

DISPATCHES
Goings-on on campus and off, including a binge-worthy new Puget Sound podcast, Loggers in the news, and more

CONNECTIONS
Students of geology professor Jeff Tepper research toxic algae blooms in local lakes.

G & A
Theatre arts professor Wind Dell Woods on the intersection of theater and hip-hop

EXPLORATIONS
How far do you have to go to find another Logger? How ‘bout to Antarctica?

YOU ARE HERE
In June, three students led a peaceful Black Lives Matter march from campus to Wright Park.

FEATURES

BLACK LIVES, BLACK VOICES
Three members of our community reflect on a tumultuous summer.

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME
With varsity athletics on pause thanks to COVID-19, we needed a sports fix. The archives and the athletics department had just what we needed.

RYAN PAYTON HAS A GAME FOR YOU
With Marvel’s Iron Man VR, this Logger has transformed a comic book icon into the hero of a virtual reality game.

ALWAYS A LOGGER

PROFILES
Janell O’Leary Cain ’16 coordinates COVID-19 research for Madigan Army Medical Center; Jeffrey Haydon ’97 assumes the helm of the country’s oldest music festival; Karen Meyer Eisenbrey ’85 shares the winding road to her first—and, soon, fifth—novel.

CLASS NOTES
Updates, news, and achievements from Loggers around the world

IN MEMORIAM
Remembering members of our community who have passed

SCRAPBOOK
Loggers share photos of their reunions, weddings, serendipitous meetings, and more.

PS
Still life on campus: The coronavirus makes fall at Puget Sound quieter than usual.

Featured Contributors

Miranda Weiss (p. 6) has written for Alaska magazine, the Washington Post, and The American Scholar, and is a frequent Arches contributor. She lives in Homer, Alaska.

Ryan Jones (p. 8, p. 34) is editor of the Penn Stater magazine and a contributor to the sports publications Slam and Bleacher Report.

Michael Weinreb (p. 10, p. 28) is the author of four books and has written for ESPN, The New York Times, and Rolling Stone, among others. He lives in Portland, Ore.

Michael Weldon (p. 12) is a landscape and portrait photographer in Tacoma, where he was born and raised.

Ekua Holmes (p. 14) is a Boston-based mixed-media artist who has devoted her practice to sustaining contemporary Black art traditions as an artist and curator of exhibitions. She was invited to create the Google Doodle for Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2015.

Cover: Black Student Union member Naloni Haskins ’22 joined the voices at the student-led Black Lives Matter rally in Tacoma in June. Photo by Sy Bean.
We asked Isiaah Crawford about two topics that are on the minds of many Loggers: the coronavirus and the Black Lives Matter movement. *Interview by Tina Hay*

I’m curious what campus feels like to you these days. You do most of your work at home, but occasionally go into Jones Hall. What’s it like to walk across campus right now?

Well, as you know, we decided to remain virtual for the fall semester. We made that decision in July, and that was the right decision for us, and we feel good about that. But we have a few hundred students with us in our residence halls—it’s not as busy and as vibrant as we would have in a normal year, but people are at it. They are engaged in their work. The faculty are focused, and they’re prepared. In March we had to pivot quickly to virtual learning, business operations, student support services. Over the spring and the summer, our faculty and staff have had more time to prepare for this. So it’s a much richer experience for our students.

**What are you hearing from faculty about how they’re rising to the occasion during the pandemic?**

One thing the pandemic has done is allow us to embrace technology in a way that I don’t think we would have on our own accord, to promote student learning and student engagement. Faculty members have taken their computers into their labs, into the classroom; they’ve created multimedia presentations, chat rooms for students to be able to gnaw on concepts … you just name it. They’ve really stepped into this in a thoughtful way.

**What feedback are you getting from parents, students, alumni? Are they supportive, or are you hearing from a lot of grouchy people?**

I would say to a great extent, Loggers near and far have been supportive of our decision. Some were disappointed and wished we had gone in a different direction, but I think the idea that came across very clearly for them was that we place the health of our faculty, staff, and students as number one. I think people appreciated that. Some may have felt we’ve been overly conservative; some heralded it. It’s been mostly positive.

We are not paralyzed by COVID-19. We are leaning into it. We’re moving forward. We’re continuing to pursue our goals associated with our strategic plan. I believe in this whole construct of “to the heights,” that you’re constantly striving for that next thing, you’re undaunted by what may be around you. We’re not waver ing from that.

Let’s switch to the Black Lives Matter movement. You attended the rally that the three students organized in June. What were your impressions of that?

I was just so very proud of them. My heart was so full. They did a magnificent job with that—it was just wildly successful. It spoke to and demonstrated for me what we try to instill and support and nurture in our students, to be able to offer their voice and to mobilize and to express that in thoughtful ways. When you have the platform and you have something to say, say it. They were able to do that, and they galvanized this North Tacoma area and spoke with passion that was meaningful and moving.

Mimi Duncan ’22, one of the organizers, writes in this issue [see p. 16] that, as a Black person, she hasn’t always felt comfortable on campus. **Do you hear that from Black students, too?**

Yes. It’s something we need to continue to work on. I very much want this to be a community where everyone—everyone—feels they can be their full and unfettered selves. I think we’re better than we were in the past, but we have notable work left to do. We’re looking to continue diversifying our faculty and staff, and continue to work on ways for our faculty, staff, and students to have enhanced understanding about issues of race and bias, especially unconscious bias. We’re also thinking about how our community looks. It’s a beautiful campus. It’s stunning. But there are things we can do with art that are more representative of the diversity that is here, of our history as an institution, of the indigenous nature of this area. I’m also excited about the search for our new vice president to lead our institutional equity and diversity efforts. Our board of trustees in fall of 2019 approved the elevation of our chief diversity officer position to a vice president position, and we were preparing for the national search in early 2020. Then the pandemic hit and we had to put it on pause. So we’ve just relaunched it, and it’s one of the most important things we’re going to do this academic year.

For a longer version of this interview, go to pugetsound.edu/fromthepresident.
What We’re Talking About on Campus

Props to the Prof

Creating classroom spaces described by his colleagues as “dynamic places where learning is exciting, collaborative, and deeply humanitarian,” Professor of English John Wesley brings medieval and Renaissance literature to life for Loggers in his courses on Shakespeare, Milton, the Bible as literature, and more. Wesley was named the 2020 President’s Excellence in Teaching Award recipient as part of a weeklong celebration of faculty awards and recognition in August. See the complete list of awards at pugetsound.edu/facultyawards.

Seen and Heard

The Princeton Review confirmed something Loggers have long known, naming Puget Sound to two of its Best Colleges lists for 2020, and EDsmart.org ranked the college among the top 10 Best Liberal Arts Colleges for 2020–21.

Loggers watching Day Three of the virtual Democratic National Convention in August got a thrill seeing Carly Dryden ’19 appear onscreen to speak about her work raising awareness about and combating sexual assault on college campuses through It’s On Us.

NPR’s All Things Considered quoted Professor of Music Gwynne Kuhner Brown ’95 in a story about African American composer William Dawson and a new recording of his long-neglected Negro Folk Symphony.

Professor of History Nancy Bristow talked with Jeffrey Brown on PBS NewsHour about how pandemics have shaped societies in the past, and what those experiences can teach us about living with the coronavirus now.

Binge Worthy

When the pandemic forced academics and operations to move online, Associate Dean of Students Sarah Comstock decided to convert her new KUPS show into a podcast. Mrs. C’s Top 5 List features conversations with current students and faculty and staff members about their favorite things—ice cream flavors, books, artists, cities, and more. Listen in on Spotify, iTunes, or wherever you find your favorite podcasts. Running with the theme, here are our five favorite episodes:

- Professor Melvin Rouse, talking about Nina Simone, Kendrick Lamar, The Golden Girls, and research rats
- ASUPS leaders Nicole Carino ’22 and Kari Nolasco ’22, struggling to limit their favorite Hamilton songs to just five
- Director of Student Programs Semi Solarios, telling some of his wildest stories from decades in student programs and entertainment
- Professor Sara Freeman ’95, on the nostalgia of concert tours and teaching theater during a pandemic

continued on page 5

2020 has been a wild time. It’s been nonstop chaos, but some of the most beautiful things grow after the storm. I think some of the art is going to be amazing that comes from this.

—BLAKK SOUL (ERIC MERCER JR. ’10), IN A GRAMMY.COM Q&A, ON HOW THE EVENTS OF THIS YEAR CAN SPARK CREATIVITY
**McMaster’s Virtual Visit**

When Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster delivered the fall 2020 Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture—online, of course—he was asked about the foreign-policy stances of the presidential candidates. McMaster, former national security advisor under President Trump, didn’t offer an endorsement of either major-party candidate, instead lamenting what he sees as a drive in both parties to disengage from operations against terrorist organizations overseas. “The threat from jihadist terrorist organizations is greater now … than in the past,” he said, citing terrorists’ increased capabilities for mobility, communication, and destruction. “The 9/11 attacks and the many other attempted attacks on our country were foiled mainly because we had gathered the intelligence and worked with local law enforcement and militaries overseas. We need to remain engaged with like-minded partners and allies on a whole range of issues.” McMaster is now a fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

Meanwhile, the spring 2020 Pierce Lecture, by novelist Colson Whitehead, was postponed from April because of the coronavirus; it will take place on Oct. 26. Check pugetsound.edu/piercelecture for details. The Pierce Lecture series, established in 2002, brings to campus public intellectuals, writers, and artists of high recognition in public affairs and the arts.

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**Oh, Snap!**

**Just keep swimming** Victoria Friedrich ’21 got creative in the kiddie pool as she trained for the freestyle this summer. @logger_swimming

**Testing, testing** New item on the move-in checklist for the 170 or so students arriving on campus this fall? COVID-19 tests. @pugetsoundreslife

**#WeGotThisLoggers** Housemates make the first week of remote learning that much better. @ashleyanne22

**Welcome, Class of 2024!** Orientation leaders were all smiles (under their masks) while welcoming first-year Loggers. @ups.theta

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**Quoted**

Namaste is a greeting with religious undertones and thousands of years of history attached to it, and to think about that word being used as a pun is offensive. … Who approved this?

—NANI VISHWANATH ’09, ON THELILY.COM, DISCUSSING LULULEMON’S “NAMASTAY PUT” UNDERWEAR LINE. LULULEMON HAS SINCE STOPPED SELLING THAT LINE.

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**Namaste**

Namaste is a greeting with religious undertones and thousands of years of history attached to it, and to think about that word being used as a pun is offensive. … Who approved this? —NANI VISHWANATH ’09, ON THELILY.COM, DISCUSSING LULULEMON’S “NAMASTAY PUT” UNDERWEAR LINE. LULULEMON HAS SINCE STOPPED SELLING THAT LINE.
Welcome, Professor Doyle

Tracy Doyle joined the School of Music on July 1 as its new director. A flutist, Doyle had been chair of the music department at Adams State University in Colorado. In a letter to Puget Sound music students in July, Doyle sounded an upbeat note about the challenges presented by the coronavirus: "I have no doubt all of us as artists, having persevered through this time in history, will come together to be more creative, resilient, marketable, and adaptable moving into our collective future.”

Continuing the Conversation

On June 3, more than 500 members of the Puget Sound community participated in a virtual teach-in titled “We Can’t Breathe: 400 Years of Institutionalized Violence,” facilitated by the Race & Pedagogy Institute (RPI), with collaborators from across campus. Following the teach-in, RPI launched a series of online discussions to continue the conversation. Over the course of the summer, discussions covered topics such as coping with seeing trauma on film, Black feminism and liberation, politicizing the “apolitical,” and more. The series also included sessions designated as racial affinity spaces, allowing people of color to center and prioritize their needs, voices, and experiences. Many of the series discussions were recorded and are available to view at pugetsound.edu/racematters.

Presidental Politics

Nearly nine months into the pandemic. More Americans expected to vote by mail than ever before. Two political parties locked in one of the most contentious presidential elections in recent history. Presidential historian Mike Purdy ’76, M.B.A.’79 and Pacific Lutheran University political scientist Michael Artime continue their community lecture series, 2020: Battle for the Soul of America, on Oct. 21 and Nov. 5 (two days after the election) — and you don’t even have to be on campus to participate. Visit pugetsound.edu/2020election to get the details, watch (or rewatch) recent events in the series, and register for remaining virtual lectures. The lecture series is sponsored by the Alumni Council.

A Day in the Life

Leading student government is a complex job, and it’s even more challenging during a pandemic. Follow along as ASUPS President Nicole Cariño ’21 takes over our Instagram stories and shows us a day in her life during remote instruction. She introduces us to her exec team and answers questions about her priorities for this academic year. Watch her takeover on the Puget Sound Instagram page: instagram.com/univpugetsound.

FRESH FROM THE DINER

Hack Hack, Chop Chop Your Inbox

Want more Puget Sound in your life? The Hatchet Weekly delivers. Stay connected to campus updates and events with our weekly e-newsletter. Each issue includes the top three things that catch our eye, along with upcoming events, news, stories, and fun facts — all in a cool, easy-to-read format that hits your inbox every Monday. Sign up today at pugetsound.edu/thehatchet.

At a time when the majority of students are off campus and may be missing their favorite dishes from The Diner, we asked for a few of the most popular recipes that would give Loggers a taste of campus at home.

Mariana’s Vegetarian Flatbread

3 green onions
1 zucchini
½ eggplant
2–3 small tomatoes, diced
Olive oil
Paprika
Salt
Pepper
Garlic powder
Cumin
2 flatbreads
Regular or vegan pesto
Regular or vegan shredded mozzarella

1. Slice up the green onions, eggplant, and zucchini into even quantities.
2. Coat the sliced veggies with olive oil, and sprinkle with paprika, salt, pepper, garlic powder, and cumin. Mix together until olive oil and seasonings cover the veggies evenly.
3. Select your choice of flatbread, and spread your regular or vegan pesto as the base, covering with shredded mozzarella. Top with the oiled and seasoned veggies and diced tomatoes.
4. Bake in an oven at 450˚F for 10 to 12 minutes, or until the crust and cheese begin to turn golden. (Ovens will vary, so check your flatbread occasionally.) Enjoy!

Visit pugetsound.edu/wegotthisloggers to view more recipes from The Diner.
Mysteries in the Muck

For some of Jeff Tepper’s geology students, the lakes around Puget Sound offer fertile ground for summer research.

BY MIRANDA WEISS

On a Tuesday morning in mid-July, Nancy Hollis ’22 was sitting on the deck of a 20-foot pontoon boat on Spanaway Lake, a cashew-shaped body of water in the middle of a residential neighborhood south of downtown Tacoma. Some half a million people visit the lake each year to swim, fish, paddle, and motorboat. But Hollis wasn’t there to play.

Off the edge of the deck, she was lowering a cylindrical device—a bit longer than a rolling pin—via a long cable. The boat was owned by shoreside resident and lake advocate Sandy Williamson, who stood at the helm as Hollis captured water-quality information, such as temperature and pH, at different depths. The information provided a snapshot of the lake’s conditions on that July day. But the impact of those data could be much larger.

Spanaway Lake, like many bodies of water worldwide, is experiencing an explosion of toxic algae—what scientists call hazardous algal blooms, or HABs. A warming climate and an influx of nutrients from sewage, fertilizers, and other human-generated sources trigger the blooms, which kill fish, birds, dogs, and even people, and regularly close recreation spots like Spanaway. Williamson, a retired hydrologist and chair of Friends of Spanaway Lake, has lived on the lake for 16 years; in that time, he’s seen a dramatic increase in the number of HABs, “with no end in sight,” he says.

Hollis got interested in the research after taking an intro geology course with Tepper. Trained as an igneous petrologist—someone who studies volcanic rocks—Tepper previously worked at Valdosta State University in Georgia. But there were no rocks there, he says. “It was just mud, sand, and snakes.” So Tepper took analytical techniques he’d been using to study rocks and applied them to studying lakes instead. When he came to Puget Sound in 2001, he dove into research on lakes in the Pacific Northwest, and got his students involved, as well. Over the past two decades, more than 100 of Tepper’s students have studied 14 different lakes in the region, either for their theses or as part of Tepper’s environmental geochemistry class.

Through hands-on fieldwork, often in partnership with local landowners who lend boats and roll up their sleeves to help, Tepper and his students profile the lakes and examine human impacts. And, by taking core samples of lake sediments that include materials as much as 14,000 years old, they recreate the history of each body of water. A clay-rich section at the oldest part of the core marks a lake’s birth during glacial retreat. An inch-thick white line is ash from the eruption of Mount Mazama, the collapse of which created Oregon’s Crater Lake 7,600 years ago. And a layer of mud heavy in lead, copper, and zinc is the fingerprint of the 1895 opening of a copper smelter in Tacoma.

Those histories help shape the future of a body of water. Once Tepper and Lindauer ruled out sediments as the main source of algae-growing phosphorus at Spanaway Lake, that left groundwater as the likely culprit. Groundwater moves below the soil’s surface, picking up contaminants and carrying them downstream. Residential development around the lake over the years has left a legacy of phosphorus from thousands of septic systems, and the pollution streams into the lake through depressions, or “vents,” in the muck.

This summer, Hollis and Tepper cordoned off groundwater as it entered the lake using plastic curtains suspended over the vents. They treated some of the groundwater with iron to see whether it could bind to phosphorus in the water, starving the algae. Iron doesn’t produce the destructive side effects seen with alum, a more common algal treatment and the one proposed in Pierce County’s study. And it could prove to be the solution for Spanaway.

County officials, meanwhile, find the research Tepper and his students have carried out valuable, not only because it aids their own monitoring efforts, but because it provides new insights. “Like any good research,” says Tom Kantz, the county’s watershed services supervisor, “it raises important questions.”

Hollis plans to work in environmental geology after graduation, and she hopes to address chemical imbalances—like Spanaway’s phosphorous problem—to solve environmental problems. Hands-on research has not only solidified her interest in the field; it’s shown her how studying a neighborhood lake can help solve global challenges.
But there were no rocks there, he explains. “It was just mud, sand, and snakes.”

DIRTY WORK
Nancy Hollis ’22 spent part of her summer trying to understand the source of harmful algal blooms on Spanaway Lake in Tacoma.
Where Theater and Hip-Hop Meet

Wind Dell Woods, Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts

BY RYAN JONES

When we caught up with Wind Dell Woods over the summer, he was stuck at home with his wife and 5-month-old daughter—and he didn’t seem to mind one bit. “It’s kind of nice being locked down,” he said. Though Woods didn’t start on his Ph.D. until his mid-30s, his work fuses two lifelong interests: theater and hip-hop. We asked him about his artistic inspirations, teaching theater during the coronavirus pandemic, and what he loves (and doesn’t) about Hamilton.

What’s your background in hip-hop?
I’ve always been a fan. I grew up in Ashland, Ore., and I was influenced by Bay Area rappers: Tupac, Digital Underground, E-40. I had two older brothers who were listening to Ice-T and Tribe Called Quest, things that were rare for someone in rural Oregon to be exposed to. In high school, I formed a hip-hop group called Triphonix with a couple of friends. We got to open for acts who came through the region. I never considered myself a great emcee—I was more into poetry. I was kind of the hype man of the group.

Where does a love of theater come in?
Ashland is home to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and I did some acting there as a kid. One of my mentors and father figures, J.P. Phillips, was an actor at the festival; he was the one who first got me into acting. Going on fishing trips and helping him memorize his lines was a huge influence for me. When I was 12 or 13, I got to meet August Wilson after a show. J.P. pointed out that he was a playwright; I thought all playwrights were dead. I went up and said, “Did you write this?” He said, “Yeah.” I said, “It’s really good.” I had no idea who this guy was.

There’s a 10-year gap between your M.F.A. and your Ph.D. What happened there?
After I finished my M.F.A., I went to New York and started a small theater collective. I wrote plays, I struggled like you do as a young artist, and then I decided I would go get my Ph.D. I’d read an article on hip-hop theater, and read about some plays that were similar to the ones I wrote. They used samples [snippets of music from other sources], they used the same kind of language. I decided to write my dissertation on hip-hop theater—basically a blend of the two things I love the most.

I’d guess the average theatergoer and average hip-hop fan might not see much overlap between the two. Where’s the connection?
Hip-hop in itself is very theatrical: You have people who take on aliases and perform as narrative characters through a medium that uses figurative language. Hip-hop theater really started coming into broader view in the early 2000s. Part of my dissertation was thinking about hip-hop as an aesthetic. And then I’m starting my dissertation right when Hamilton goes on Broadway, so now we have a mainstream art form that blends hip-hop and theater together.

I have to ask about Hamilton. My impression is that the hip-hop aspect of it is a bit overblown.
The thing about Hamilton is that it feels like a play that’s hip-hop in aesthetic and content, but I wouldn’t say it’s the driving way of thinking. I have this term in my research of hip-hop being “sprinkled in.” But Hamilton employs it so well, it almost feels like hip-hop is central to it. It’s interesting to hear hyperbolic phrases like “Hamilton is the best thing to happen to hip-hop and theater.” Well, maybe theater, but not hip-hop. That’s where I would situate some of my criticism, and also my praise. It doesn’t really dismantle, or “dis,” the narrative of the Founding Fathers, but it does find ways to make connections between them—the braggadocio, the masculinity, the rags-to-riches story—and hip-hop themes.

Your own work borrows from classic inspiration: Aaliyah in Underland, which you tied into your teaching this spring, was billed as a “hip-hop-inspired remix of Alice in Wonderland.” I found this book called Black Alice, this really weird story from the ’60s, and I thought, What would a modern version of this look like? I went back and read Lewis Carroll, and I started writing the characters, recontextualizing it through hip-hop. As I was finishing it, I thought it would be interesting to have students work with a play that’s still being written and have conversations around that.

And you did a virtual performance at the end of the semester, right?
We did, and the students were amazing. They tackled a lot of really in-depth stuff. We were able to have it livestreamed. I wanted the students to see how playwrights are always working in conversation with other plays and ideas. I had them read texts that I was thinking about when I wrote it: Beloved, The America Play, Dreamscape, Joe Turner’s Come and Gone. Once we had all that in our back pocket, I introduced my play, which kind of puts them all into a remix, and they were excited—“Oh, this line comes from this play.”

As a Black artist, what’s your hope for how this art can address the current moment?
I think right now there’s a space where people can ramp up their politics, find those plays that are really politically charged and say, “OK, nobody’s making a lot of money right now; we can afford to make a political statement even if we don’t fill the seats.” I do have some faith in art, whether that’s theater or hip-hop, to push those boundaries, take us out of the real world, and imagine something better.
A NEW TAKE
Wind Dell Woods, who joined the faculty a year ago, recently finished a play called Aaliyah in Underland—a hip-hop version of Alice in Wonderland.
A Small World After All
Four Loggers bump into one another in an unlikely location.

BY MICHAEL WEINREB

Roughly 9,000 miles from Tacoma, while serving as a hazardous waste supervisor at Antarctica’s McMurdo Station, Lexie Carey ’11 saw someone carrying a water bottle with a Puget Sound sticker. It turned out to be Becca Ebert ’16, a waste management specialist. Carey would soon find out that she and Ebert weren’t the only Loggers in this small seasonal community of workers and scientists; there was also the couple of Robyn Thomas ’18, a senior lab assistant at the Crary Science and Engineering Center, and Patrick Johnson ’18, a fuels operator.

U.S. researchers have been traveling to McMurdo Station since 1956 to study the icy continent and its relationship to the rest of the planet. The four Loggers were among the support staff at McMurdo during the Antarctic summer that ended last March—and all but Ebert are back again this season. We spoke to the four about what drives their longing for adventure, and what it’s like to spend several months on a continent most of us will never have the opportunity to visit.

Becca Ebert ’16:
I was working as a paralegal and planning on going to law school—I’m in law school now at Georgetown. And I wanted this transition time to do something that’s not working in front of a computer. I thought, What would be the opposite of working in front of a computer? And it was Antarctica.

Lexie Carey ’11:
McMurdo is the largest of the United States’ Antarctic research stations. In the Antarctic summer, between roughly October and February, the population might get up to 1,100 people. I spend a lot of the rest of the year in the interior of Alaska, working at Denali National Park, so people joke that I’m the only one who thinks it’s crowded down there. I handle a lot of the hazardous waste, since the Antarctic Treaty states that any waste has to be shipped back to its country of origin. It’s a lot of fuel, batteries, even things like exit signs and smoke detectors. We label it and load it onto shipping containers to be sent back to California, and then delivered throughout the country.

Ebert:
I worked more with solid waste like recycling and landfill items. But you can be a janitor or a hairdresser, too, and of course there are the scientists. There’s a post office, and there’s a couple of bars and a coffee house. There were open-mic nights—you’d be like, “That’s my friend, the NASA scientist, playing bass right now.” And beers cost three dollars, which was nice coming from Seattle! Everything’s so normal, and yet so surreal—I’d wake up, go to work, hang out with friends, but then see penguins.

Carey:
The penguins are friendly, because they have no terrestrial predators. We saw a lot more wildlife this year. Tons of seals. And whale watching, of course.

Robyn Thomas ’18:
I’d be on my lunch break with binoculars, searching for critters. And the station looks out toward the 14,000-foot peaks that are a part of the Trans-Antarctic Mountains on the mainland. [McMurdo is located on Ross Island, just off the Antarctic mainland.] When conditions are clear, it’s hard to beat that view.

Patrick Johnson ’18:
This was my second year there, and I worked a lot on transferring fuel and refueling aircraft. I honestly didn’t know much about it when I applied, but I wanted to see what it was like to work outside in difficult conditions.

Ebert:
It’s such a small community that you literally see the people who are responsible for us being able to survive. My roommate was the power plant mechanic. You know exactly where the wastewater treatment plant is, which is something I wouldn’t ever see in Seattle. People would know to sort their trash because I was one of the people who were going to have to deal with it.

Thomas:
I assist with facility management and logistical support for 71 science teams and technical projects at McMurdo Station—everything from animal physiology to astrophysics. Most of the projects are related to climate change in some way, like investigating one of the most unstable glaciers in the world and long-term research on the Dry Valleys, near McMurdo.

Ebert:
They give you something called Big Red—basically a
huge red jacket—and insulated Carhartt overalls and these things called bunny boots, which you’re required to wear on the ice. And there are hand warmers and toe warmers everywhere. The temperature was mostly in the 30s, but by the end of the summer, in late February and early March, it got down to about minus 40 with the wind chill. I’d come in from working outside and have icicles on my eyebrows.

**Thomas:**
The internet at McMurdo is notoriously slow due to the station’s remoteness, and smartphones can’t be connected to the internet—which I find to be a perk. It makes for great conversations, lots of games, music-making, and crafting when folks aren’t working.

The creativity that people have on station blows me away every day. There’s always something social to do. And it’s a beautiful place.

**Johnson:**
I’ll probably do this a few more years. I work half the year, save as much as possible, and live frugally the other half. It opens up opportunities for travel, pursuing my interests, and other seasonal jobs in the northern summer. Seasonal work gives me freedom I’d be hesitant to give up.
SPONTANEOUS GESTURE
In an unplanned moment during June’s Black Lives Matter rally in Tacoma, protestors on 6th Avenue took a knee—and many lay down—in memory of George Floyd. The march was organized by three Puget Sound students.
Photo by Michael Weldon.
The killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd within a span of three months in 2020 set off thousands of protests in the United States and elsewhere, and sparked a new national conversation about race.

For people of color, what happened wasn’t new—it was merely a reminder of what they have seen and experienced all their lives.

To gain perspective, we asked three people to reflect on the issues the country has been grappling with.
I grew up in Tacoma, just a three-minute drive from the University of Puget Sound campus, in one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the Pacific Northwest. I expected that college would be a place where I would flourish, learn, and love. Instead, it became a place I wanted to escape from. It felt like an invisible “whites only” sign was hanging above our campus. I can recall walking to the SUB and seeing my white peers’ faces in frowns as they sidestepped to move away from me. Moments in class when I raised my hand and was met with eye rolls and glares. Professors who didn’t reassure me; questions I asked that went unanswered; comments I made in class that were met with a simple “That’s an interesting point.” No one cared about my opinion—it felt like no one wanted me there. By the end of my first year, I felt like a failure; I was heartbroken, confused, and angry. I spent most of my time overthinking, procrastinating, crying, and doing anything to take my mind away from the growing feeling of fear. I stopped attending classes and extracurriculars, gave up on my passions, and completely forgot who I wanted to be.

Puget Sound began to feel like a bubble of whiteness. I couldn’t find a place on campus where I didn’t have to leave a part of myself behind to fit in. I had to find a space where I could be me, wholeheartedly—a place where my opinion and voice were heard, where my life mattered. I found it in the Black Student Union.

The BSU has been my saving grace. I went into my sophomore year, a year ago, with the title “Black Student President”—and it’s one I use proudly. The Black Student Union was in a difficult position when we began the 2019–20 school year; our community was struggling and
Our country was turned upside down, our minds were terrified—on our campus. We want our campus to take a stand against "Contact the police." Calling the police so that we could protest police brutality against Black people felt contradictory—how can I trust them with my safety, when I've only seen them as a threat to it? When I got the call back from the police department, we talked for three minutes, and for three minutes it felt like my heart wasn't beating—that's how terrified I was. But we got the green light from the police and the university, and we started advertising. We were immediately met with support: All three of us were scared of, and that was Step Nine: "Contact the police." Calling the police so that we could protest police brutality against Black people felt contradictory—how can I trust them with my safety, when I've only seen them as a threat to it? When I got the call back from the police department, we talked for three minutes, and for three minutes it felt like my heart wasn't beating—that's how terrified I was. But we got the green light from the police and the university, and we started advertising. We were immediately met with support: All three of our phones were filled with messages, people offering to volunteer or to donate supplies and money, emails from our professors asking how they could help. On the Facebook page we set up, the attendance number kept growing. We had told the university we expected 75 people to show up, and when I saw the number surpass 800, I felt a little over my head.

On June 2, I was on the phone with Serena Sevasin ’22 and Jaylen Antoine ’22, who I have grown close to through the Black Student Union. They had souls, families, and futures. After the speeches ended, we began to march to Wright Park, and it was a moment I’ll never forget: To my left was my little cousin marching alongside me and my other family members, and to my right were students I went to class with. We were all marching as one. Halfway through our journey, we occupied one of Tacoma’s busiest intersections—6th and Division—and there we took a knee for eight minutes, in honor of George Floyd. When we arrived at Wright Park, people flooded into the park, raising their arms and chanting, “Hands up! Don’t shoot!” Once we were set up, our scheduled speakers spoke. We wanted the people speaking to be intersectional—we wanted every voice to be heard—because this isn’t only a Black issue; this affects everybody. That day, Wright Park was filled with many different backgrounds, experiences, voices, feelings, and faces, but there we stood, for one cause. I still look back on that day with chills—the day more than a thousand people in Tacoma showed up for me, for George Floyd, and Blackness.

Since the protest, many people have asked me, “What’s next?” and the only answer to that is, We keep working. We start our semester at the university ready to fight racial inequality in our institution, we check ourselves and others on racist behaviors and ideologies, and we grow. We use this moment as momentum to make real tangible change—so that no other freshman feels the despair I felt during my first year.

Mimi Duncan is a junior majoring in history and politics with an emphasis in African American studies, and co-president of the Black Student Union. She was one of three students who organized the June 7, 2020, Black Lives Matter protest and rally in Tacoma.
Dare to Struggle, Dare to Win

What’s taking place in America today is nothing I haven’t seen before—and yet, amid the challenges, I see signs of hope.

BY LYLE QUASIM ’70, HON.’06
As told to Tina Hay

I grew up in Chicago, and I was raised in a household where practicing civic engagement was expected. Whether it was cleaning up someone’s yard, volunteering at the church, or working on a political campaign, it was not an option not to be involved.

Most of my family members were active participants in the labor movement. My mother worked for the Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers Union, and my brother and my aunts and uncles were all part of the labor and civil rights movements—the struggle for equity, equality, justice, inclusion.

My mother talked about not being a victim. She said, “Things are difficult, and the power curve is against us. But I will not allow my family to think or act as victims.” She made us understand that every day you need to bring your “A” game and, no matter how many times you get knocked down, you have to get back up. She’d say, “There’s no place on the doormat for you.”

When I enrolled at the University of Illinois, I was not academically or functionally prepared to succeed. I didn’t know how to use a card catalog; I didn’t know about the Iliad and the Odyssey. But I had been taught to be resilient, so I said, “Well, here we go. I need to figure this out. I will stay in the hunt, and I will try to succeed.” Effort and success are not always traveling partners. No matter how hard you try, sometimes your efforts are not successful. And my attempt to gain a college degree was, at that point in my life, unsuccessful. I lost my student deferment from the military draft, and I went to work on an assembly line for the Zenith Television Corporation. I learned to speak some Spanish. I learned more about organizing in the labor movement.

While working at Zenith, I was drafted. My mother said, “If you get put in jail for organizing, organize in jail. Never let the external forces define your internal reality.” So when I went into the military, I organized in the military—I became the head of the Airman’s Advisory Council. And when I was sent to Vietnam, I said, “Well, we’ll start organizing here.”

I’m proud to tell people when I became a liberal, it was a move to the right. I was on the far left of liberal thought and practice. But, again, it’s a question of making adjustments. The social change, especially regarding race, that we struggled for in the 1960s was not the reality of the ’70s. White people were not about to give up the advantage they had in being white. Doesn’t make any difference if they were poor; they’d rather be white than be rich and a person of color. In today’s scene, why would millions of working-class people vote for a billionaire? Because that billionaire supports the psychic advantage that they believe they have in being white. And even though it works against them, that is more important to them—that perceived psychic advantage—than equal justice, equity, and progressive social change.

After I came back from Vietnam, I enrolled at the University of Puget Sound to finish my degree. I was not in tune with the social norms of the university. I had already had the on-campus experience at the University of Illinois; I had had the urban experience at Roosevelt University in Chicago; and I had just come back from being a medic in Vietnam. Most of the things that interested the students at Puget Sound did not interest me. And I was still in the military, so I drove from then McChord Air Force Base to campus for classes. (This was before we had the freeway system that we have now. I would arrive at the university just in time for class. I had so many parking tickets that I thought I might not be allowed to graduate.)

It’s quite ironic that most of my attachment to the University of Puget Sound came long after I graduated. I was, in some ways, agnostic about my university experience when I was a student. My relationship with Puget Sound was functional, transactional: I was taking the courses that I needed to finish my degree. I’ve grown to admire the university much more since then, and I now believe the university is in position to play a leading role for social change.

I’ve just begun as president of the university’s Black Alumni Union. Our number one goal is to support the university experience, both social and academic, for Black students. That is our reason to be: to do what we can do to mentor, advise, be an example of successful completion of our university experience, so that students will see us as one of the resources available to them. We say, “Whether it’s in the sciences, the humanities, education, health care, whatever it is—whoever you are—there’s somebody on our list who’s been through the portal that you are about to enter. We’re here to acknowledge your presence and assist you in your goal to graduate from Puget Sound.”

When I look more broadly at what is happening across our nation in 2020, at the challenges Black people today are facing, it would be easy to compare them to where we were 50 years ago and think, “Oh, my god, we’re not getting anywhere.” But today’s struggle against racism and the fight for social justice are not the same as they were in the ’60s. They are a continuation. It’s like a relay race, where one generation hands off the baton to the next. Equity, diversity, and inclusion are not destinations...
that you reach—it is a constant process of engagement. It requires a
daily commitment.

The slogan of Black Power has evolved to the vision of Black Lives
Matter. The movement has a different geographic footprint—the struggle
in the ’60s occurred in Selma, Atlanta, Jackson, Chicago, Detroit, Los
Angles, while today, the movement is all over America: in Nebraska, in
small towns in Idaho, in Arizona, in Mississippi. The current movement
also is much more intergenerational, and it has a broader expanse of
people: white, Black, people of color, LGBTQ, and indigenous people
all saying, “We want to change the American experience. We want to
take charge of our lives.”

Now, are we in a better place today? I think so. But there are a lot of
diversions that we have to deal with. I think the police are a diversion.
The police get to do the dirty work for institutional, structural, individ-
ual, and interpersonal racism. When we engage the racist institutional
hierarchy, that’s where the real practice standards will change.

I use an old analogy that informs me every day: There’s a rough side
of a mountain and there’s a smooth side. And I’ve been on the rough
side of the mountain for 77 years. Being Black in America, I don’t expect
to wake up on the smooth side of the mountain. It is on the rough side
of the mountain that I get to do what I’ve been doing most of my life:
work for change. The change is evolutionary as opposed to revolutionary.
That keeps me engaged in the struggle.

I am disappointed when I hear people from my generation say, “I’ve
paid my dues in the struggle; I’m exhausted, and now it’s time for me
to disengage, to take a rest.” We are obligated to struggle until our last
breath. And if we can’t find hope and joy and opportunity in this struggle,
then I suggest we’re looking at it the wrong way. I am not discouraged by
people who are racist, who say to us, “We will deny you your equitable
position in this society.” I am encouraged because they’re not as strong as
they were, their narrative doesn’t engage the way it used to, and we can
see that we’re making inroads into changing that system. I am encouraged
because we have the will to resist. I am encouraged because we have put
our bodies, lives, and careers on the line to fight racism.

Lyle Quasim has been a Cabinet member for two Washington state gov-
ernors, president of Bates Technical College, and co-chair of the Tacoma
Pierce County Black Collective, among other roles. He is an emeritus
trustee of Puget Sound and current president of the university’s Black
Alumni Union. He lives in Puyallup, Wash.

Black Curriculum Matters

I teach to correct history. And that is more important now than ever before.

BY LATOYA T. BRACKETT

A seventh grader from Wisconsin emailed me this
summer. She had seen an op-ed I wrote in June for the
Tacoma News Tribune, in which I placed some of the disturb-
ing racial events of 2020 in historical context. I described a lynching of
three Black circus workers that took place in 1920, and said, “A hundred
years later, we are seeing American lynching adjusted to our times. A
knee on a Black man’s neck is a noose.” We must understand our history
in order to not repeat it, but we also must call out our histories as they
reappear—and this young seventh grader wanted to know more. While
interviewing me for her history project, she asked me, “Why do you
think white people didn’t try to stop Lynchings back then?” And, as we
wrapped up our conversation, she said something else that has stayed
with me: She said that her middle school saw no need to celebrate Black
History Month, because there are no Black students in the school.

Why had she reached out to me? Because she knew that Black curric-
ulum matters to me the way she wishes it mattered to us all.

I am a Black woman. I immersed myself in the interdisciplinary field
of Black studies—the study of people of African descent—for both my
undergraduate and graduate degrees. I now teach Black studies. I embrace
the three tenets of Black studies: teaching, scholarship, and activism. And
I believe that Black studies matters more today than it ever has.

The summer of 2020 has been one filled with communal tragedy and
communal work. COVID-19 has altered the lives of us all. The fight for
Black lives, likewise, has altered the lives of us all. It has made us more
aware of the reality that America does not treat everyone the same, and
that the histories of America are not so long gone; the foundations laid
in the past are perpetuating the harms of today.

I teach to correct history; I teach to alter the outlook of youth. And
in a time like this, what I teach is required. In a time like this, Black
curriculum matters. Let me give you a reason why.

University of Puget Sound is a predominantly white institution, or
PWI, and teaching about race at a PWI matters. Because on the first
day of my African American studies introductory course, AFAM 101,
I ask students to fill out a survey, and one of the questions I ask is how
many of them had K-12 teachers who were Black. In my six semesters of teaching here, fewer than 40% ever had a Black teacher. And here they are, in front of me. I ask if they have had a Black professor in college before me. That number is a bit higher, but still, more than half have never had a Black professor. And here they are, in front of me. I am their very first experience with Blackness in authority, in teaching, and that’s a heavy lift. A really heavy lift.

I ask them to share with all of us in the poll if they are nervous, excited, or unsure about the class, and most of them fall into the category of nervous. Many state: “I don’t want to say the wrong thing.” They are worried, because never have they talked about race in a curricular way. Many of their parents live by a colorblind approach to race, in which they teach our students not to talk about race—because it’s not an issue. Even more disconcerting, they were taught that everyone is equal.

This 2020 summer we all were made highly aware that everyone is definitely not treated as equal, and that race is one of the most central variables to this understanding. We must teach all students that race does matter, and that racism is our American history. We may wish it were not, but it is still the reality.

In a time like this, Black curriculum matters. Let me give you another reason why.

It was at Cornell University, I believe in my junior year, that a visiting professor taught a course on the history of lynching in America. One of the texts was the book *Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America*, a collection of postcards—found in the basements and donations of white American families—of the public lynching of Black people. People used the images of hanging or burning Black men to write a note to their family members. One I always recall said, “This is the Barbecue we had last night.” Another had a piece of the Black man’s hair taped to it. This was in the height of lynching, in the early 1900s, and here we are in the early 2000s, and we no longer have white folks sending postcards—instead we have three white men in a pickup truck following and chasing down Ahmaud Arbery as he’s jogging. They went looking for a lynching. And with a cellphone to capture video, they created a new-age lynching postcard.

So what we are seeing in America today is not new. Let me repeat that. This is not new. And if we had Black curriculum, if we were teaching history correctly, folks wouldn’t be surprised to see history reconstituting itself, rejuvenating itself, repeating itself.

Black curriculum matters because, without it, Black students are not taught the fullness of our history—and neither are white students. How can we say we teach our youth their history, when they do not know of the lynching postcards? How can we say we teach, if they do not know of Black Wall Street and the 1921 Tulsa white riots that destroyed the economic power of Black Americans? How can we say we teach, if they do not know of the so-called father of gynecology who used the bodies of enslaved Black women to experiment—without anesthesia—to learn of the female anatomy in order to care for white women’s bodies? How can we say we teach, if they do not know how white men rioted in 1910 after Black boxer Jack Johnson defeated the “great white hope” Jim Jeffries? How can we say we teach, if they do not know how white doctors experimented on more than 200 Black men in Alabama for more than 70 years to see how syphilis would progress differently in a Black body—and then refuse to cure the participants when penicillin was proved as the remedy? How can we say we teach, if they do not know that Trayvon Martin was not the first Black person to be murdered by a white vigilante, but rather was one of many, because we do not teach them about Emmett Till, Medgar Evers, and James Chaney? How can we say we teach them, if they hear the term “abolitionist,” and they picture a white person, but forget that each and every Black person who was enslaved and chose to say no, chose to run away, chose to fight was the quintessential abolitionist?

In a time like this, Black curriculum matters. Let me give you yet another reason why.

Because Black curriculum teaches agency, reflects stamina, and provides the tools and techniques for being a change agent. On June 7 of this year, three Black students from the Black Student Union at Puget Sound led a most powerful, peaceful, and pertinent protest in Tacoma with more than 1,000 marchers. It was not in the marching that Black curriculum showed up—it was in the planning, the preparation, and the presentation. I went to the march. I watched the student leaders speak from a pickup truck bed, in front of the stadium with the university’s name in large lettering, reminding us all of where we stood. The student leaders used the megaphone as their microphone, and delivered into our Logger history the reasons why they brought us all there that day.

As one of the three organizers—Serena Sevasin—spoke, my ears were filled with the reminder of why what I do matters, and how teaching is especially needed in the times we are in. Serena was only a sophomore, but from her first-year introductory course with me to the Public Scholarship course this past spring, she had grown. Her voice had blossomed into one to be heard. That was my student.

That was what Black curriculum, from a Black studies scholar and Black female professor, did. In that moment, I knew that my classrooms had changed the landscape and propelled those after us into leading those after them. I stared in awe, and I wondered, *Was I, too, once the “that’s my student” for one of my Black studies professors?* I believed that I was, and I beamed at the thought that I made my own professors exhale and rest their mind, the way that I did when I knew this student did not need my help in that moment. I beamed at the thought of our ancestors. As a dark-skinned Black woman from the South, born to a mother who raised her four kids on less than $20,000 a year (and yet worried that she failed us in her last weeks of life as I cared for her), I am not allowed to show pride. I am not allowed to think that somehow what I do is different than others. But give me one moment in this one summer of Black minds mattering for me to brag a bit—not on myself, but on my ancestors, who survived capture, the middle passage, the auction block, and potentially 254 years of enslavement, to ensure that I exist.

Seeing Serena, my student, propped up on the shoulders of our ancestors filled me with pride, and I said out loud to my colleague beside me, through my Afrocentric-themed face mask, “That’s my student. Black studies did that. We did that.”

We both stood still, unyielding, and radiating with the resilient energy of our ancestors. Millions of our ancestors.

LaToya Brackett is assistant professor in African American studies and a member of the Race & Pedagogy Institute leadership team.
WITH VARSITY ATHLETICS ON PAUSE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, WE NEEDED A SPORTS FIX. SO WE ASKED OUR FRIENDS IN ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND IN ATHLETICS TO HELP US FIND SOME FUN MEMENTOS OF PUGET SOUND SPORTS HISTORY.
School spirit has taken many forms through the years, and so has the mascot. Before 1910, teams were known as the Grizzlies. Then the school adopted a lumberjack identity (after briefly considering, and we are not making this up, a salmon). The muscular yet leprechaun-like Logger that adorned keychains, mugs, and even checkbook covers in the 1960s disappeared in the ’70s. The grizzly bear/lumberjack mashup called Grizz debuted in 2006. At top: a pennant dating to about 1916.
A peak moment in Logger sports history came on March 19, 1976, when Puget Sound upset Tennessee–Chattanooga to win the NCAA Division II men’s basketball title. Curtis Peterson ’76 was named the tournament’s Most Outstanding Player.

Women were playing basketball on campus as early as 1909, fewer than 20 years after the game was invented. Teams had six players—including a “jumping center” and a “side center”—and dribbling was not permitted. Below, a team from 1912. (For their sake, we can only hope those weren’t their game-day uniforms and shoes.)
One of the earliest known relics of Logger football is the ticket below, from a 1901 game at the “Eleventh St. Grounds.” The playing field, on S. 11th between L and M streets, was also home to Tacoma’s baseball teams at the turn of the century.

Students voted in late 1967 to change the school’s athletic colors from maroon and white to green and gold, as a sign of renewed school spirit—and an intentional nod to the NFL’s Green Bay Packers, a dynasty at the time. The “Green and Gold Era” spanned 30 years, from 1968 to 1998, and included one of the best runs in school football history: a 144-70-2 record from 1966 to 1987.

Get a look behind the scenes as Arches photographer Sy Bean snaps the winning shots for “For the Love of the Game” at pugetsound.edu/btsgame.
Crew coach Aaron Benson lent us a few oars—the maroon-and-white one is a modern carbon-fiber oar designed in what’s called, coincidentally enough, a “hatchet” shape. Its green-and-gold counterpart, made of spruce, dates to the 1970s or earlier and most likely was handmade at Pocock Racing Shells, which has built boats and oars for teams all over the Northwest. Company founder George Pocock is one of the heroes of the bestselling book The Boys in the Boat.

Boxing’s heyday at Puget Sound was brief. The college established it as a varsity sport in September 1950, and three-time Golden Gloves winner “Irish” Pat McMurtry ’54 transferred from Gonzaga to Puget Sound to join the team. (That’s McMurtry at left in the photo above.) But fielding a full team—and finding schools to compete against—proved too tough. Within four months, boxing was downgraded to an intramural sport.

Volleyball is “not too strenuous,” assured the Women’s Athletic Association in its 1939–40 brochure, and the tennis courts are “a fine place to get a sun tan, make new friends, and perfect your game.” The WAA and its predecessor, the Women’s Athletic Club, promoted recreation for female students from about 1925 until Title IX paved the way for varsity women’s sports in the early 1970s.
Puget Sound had a marching band for only a few years in the 1960s. The photo is from the 1966 Tamanawas, and the hat—called a shako—was donated by former band member Jerry Hines ’69. The jacket’s origin is unknown; it hung in the office of Robert Musser, director of bands, from 1974 until his retirement in 2005.

At left: Sure, today’s swimmers can buy sleek, high-tech racing suits, but have you ever tried swimming in a thick, skirted bathing suit? This Jantzen number dates to the mid-1930s.

Above: Kaye Hall Greff ’73 was just 17 when she won two gold medals and a bronze at the 1968 Olympics. Later, as a Puget Sound student, she earned three golds at the World University Games.
In late June, a few days before the splashiest release of his career as a video game developer, Ryan Payton ’03 sits alone in his company’s sprawling loft-like space in downtown Bellevue, Wash., marveling at the silence. When I ask Payton to give me a virtual tour of the offices of Camouflaj, the company he founded nearly a decade ago, he confesses that there’s not much to show at the moment. The coronavirus pandemic forced nearly all of his 50-plus employees to start working remotely several months earlier, just as they were putting the final touches on Marvel’s Iron Man VR, a video game for Sony’s PlayStation VR device that has consumed his company’s energy for the past four years.

Normally, it’s not like this at all. Normally, the office is a hive of energy and noise, a frenetic atmosphere full of programmers and developers and designers shouting ideas back and forth. There is a “review room,” where Payton would stand in the middle and test the game on a PlayStation VR headset, calling out tweaks and encouraging his employees, sitting in couches and chairs, to shout suggestions, as well.

Payton had long frowned on his employees working remotely, because he viewed this energy as a crucial part of the creative process. But reality has changed his mind, both now and for the long term. On this day in June, there is one producer in the office, working on the end-credits music of Marvel’s Iron Man VR. But on many days it’s just been Payton, alone in the review room, talking via a Zoom-like service called Discord with employees working from home. Discord allows them to securely stream Payton’s playthrough of the game, so staffers can see the same things Payton’s seeing through his VR headset.

Payton, 39, has spent the past decade searching for new ways to adapt, new ways to challenge himself, and new ways to alter the future of video gaming. “Paramount to all of this,” he says, “is shipping high-quality, meaningful games that stand the test of time.” When he started Camouflaj, he wanted it to become an HBO of the gaming world, constantly breaking new ground. Now, as the world has changed over these past few months, Payton has found himself reexamining his priorities—thinking more and more about the people who brought all the energy to that office and the vision they all share.

It is a strange confluence of feelings: With the release of Marvel’s Iron Man VR on July 3, Payton’s career and the reputation of his company—not to mention his own reputation—is about to hit a new peak. But at the same time, in this quiet and surreal moment, Payton finds himself wondering, “What’s next?” And how does he balance that yearning to innovate and to build games for burgeoning new technology with the knowledge that his employees are counting on him for stability?

“[This is the third major crossroads we’ve been at with this company in the past nine years],” Payton says. “All of our past experiences have led to this point.”

All of this quiet also gives Payton time to contemplate his winding path to reach the upper echelon of the video game industry. He thinks back to how he struggled as a computer science major his first couple of years at Puget Sound; to how his father convinced him to switch his major to foreign languages and international affairs, and assured him that it was OK to let go of his dream of becoming a game developer; to how, after managing to claw into the video game business, after all, and working as the creative director on Halo 4 for Microsoft—and then getting removed from that position—he was so convinced that he was washed up at the age of 30 that he lay on his bed and cried.

There is, Payton admits, something about him that drives him to “take the difficult path with almost every opportunity I have in life.” This was true when he applied to college: After being accepted to both Puget Sound and the University of Washington, he heard that his first couple of years at Puget Sound would be far more challenging. Payton had dreamed of designing video games since he was a kid, and he decided to lean in to the challenge Puget Sound presented. When he heard that most video game developers major in computer science, he didn’t hesitate to dive into it.

During his freshman year in 2000, Payton took a class from a business professor, Jeff Matthews P’16, who had just begun teaching at Puget Sound. (Matthews is now George F. Jewett Distinguished Professor of Business and Leadership.) Payton was not a remarkable student in that class—or, for that matter, in many other classes those first couple of
Based on a suggestion from one of his employees, Ryan Payton '03 went to the head of Marvel Games and pitched the idea for the company’s first virtual reality game.
years—but they connected outside of the classroom, with Payton hanging around Matthews’ office, talking about politics and business and world affairs. “He was just a good conversationalist,” Matthews recalls, “and someone who was sincerely interested in things.”

By the end of his sophomore year, Payton says, his academic advisor informed him he was on the verge of flunking out. The advisor wound up speaking to Payton’s father about the seriousness of Payton’s situation. His father’s advice? “He said, ‘Ryan, you’re like all humans. Everyone’s good at some things and bad at some things. And you’re really bad at computer science. But your scores in Chinese and Japanese classes are really high. So why not pursue that instead?’” Payton heeded the advice and changed his major; by the time he graduated, he pulled up his GPA to a 2.8. In the meantime, he kept up his talks with Matthews, who learned about Payton’s passion for video games through a blog Payton kept, called The Gaming Chronicle, and through a column he wrote for The Trail. Even after Payton graduated and left to teach English in Japan, they kept in touch, with Payton keeping him updated on his work and Matthews offering advice on business and leadership.

Eventually, Payton used some of his clippings from The Trail to land freelance writing gigs, writing articles for Wired, Electronic Gaming Monthly, and others while teaching classes in rural Japan. For one article, he wound up interviewing an executive from Konami, the Japanese gaming company. Payton bonded with the executive’s translator after speaking Japanese with him. He interviewed for a job at Konami, went through several rounds of the process, and was told he didn’t get it. He moved back stateside to live with his parents in Vancouver, Wash., while he decided what to do next. And then he got an email: They actually did want him for the job. He took it, and paid his own way back to Tokyo.

While living in Japan and working for Konami, editing documents and translating them between Japanese and English, Payton volunteered to give the company feedback on its Metal Gear Solid: Portable Ops, which was then under development. He would stay up late playing, sending notes to the developers, and so impressed them that they promoted him to an influential role on the development team for the Metal Gear Solid 4 franchise. “That put my career on a rocket ship,” he says.

Payton spent three years at Konami; then, in 2008, his mother got cancer, and he yearned to get back stateside and be closer to his family. That’s when he landed one of the most high-profile jobs in the industry: working for Microsoft as creative director of Halo 4, the wildly popular Xbox video game franchise. “That made big news on the internet,” Matthews says now. “I should have been fired. I wasn’t as good as I thought I was.”

A short time later, Payton reached out to Matthews again. He’d spent time thinking and recalibrating. Against the advice of his father, he’d decided to start his own company. “Some of my mentors in the gaming industry tell me I’m always taking the most difficult path,” he says. “There’s something about my personality that I always want to take on big challenges—mainly because I know the rewards will be greater.”

Matthews had already told Payton he’d help him out any way he could; Payton presumed that meant with friendship and mentorship, but Matthews was also interested in finding his own toehold in the gaming business. “I didn’t realize what he meant,” Payton says, “until he spelled it out for me: ‘Ryan, I mean investing in the company.’”

Payton wanted to start a boutique company, small and independent, that would take chances and propel the gaming industry into new areas. “Some people say I’m crazy,” he told the gaming site Kotaku in 2012, “but I want to make a game that one billion people play at once, and it’s something that hits them harder than a great book or film.”

It was such an ambitious goal that even after Matthews invested in Payton’s new company, Camouflaj, and agreed to become a board member and offer ongoing advice to Payton, he was fully prepared to lose every penny he put in. But this was the Ryan Payton he’d come to know: willful enough to take the difficult path and hope that he would somehow find a way to make it work.

“You can have a slice of your investment portfolio that’s really high risk,” Matthews says. “My thinking was, I’ll probably lose all my money, but there’s a chance this could be successful. But I just really loved the guy, so I trusted him.”

When Payton landed a job at Microsoft as creative director for the Xbox game Halo 4, “That made big news on the internet,” recalls his former prof, Jeff Matthews. “I was like, Holy moly, he’s really achieved.”

Payton started Camouflaj in 2011, and within a year he’d grown the company to roughly 20 employees. He also had an idea for an ambitious new game for the iPhone called République, a thriller in which the game player needs to hack into the surveillance system of a totalitarian state in order to rescue a woman named Hope. In the fledgling years of smartphones, the games mostly lacked sophistication, but now that the iTunes Store was open to outside developers, Payton saw a way in. He set up a Kickstarter campaign to help crowdfunding, and raised $550,000, much of it at the last minute, after he decided to create a version of the game for desktop computers, as well.
Payton set up the first Camouflaj office in a former bank in Bellevue, a space so cramped that they left the windows open all the time because it felt like the office was constantly running out of oxygen. The journey was torturous, with long hours, little sleep, and nights of self-doubt about whether République could work. Yet the payoff was worth it: When the game was released in 2013, *The Guardian* called it "brilliant"; Google Play made it an Editor's Choice; and one online critic called it "the most ambitious iOS game I've ever played." It sold more than 100,000 copies. Says Payton: "It allowed us to build a legitimate studio, which enabled me to go around and pitch our next game."

As he’d already come to realize, though, there was no easy path to the next step. After finishing the fifth and final episode of République, Payton pitched a game to a Japanese company—code-named Orca, it was to be a game in the “battle royale” genre, with multiple players and a *Survivor*-style, last-man-standing finish. This was 2015, before the battle royale format became popular. Then, four months after the two sides struck a deal, the publisher canceled the project. Payton took the first flight to Japan, sat outside the CEO’s office, and begged him to change his mind. (The CEO didn’t budge.) Now that the battle royale format has taken off, thanks to games like *Fortnite*, that Japanese company “laughs about the mistake they made in canceling us,” Payton says. But at the time, Payton had 35 employees he was responsible for and just $30,000 in the bank. He assumed, once again, that he’d failed. “Ryan and I used to joke that we ran out of our nine lives about 12 lives ago,” Matthews says. “So many times we’ve told ourselves, 'Man, I think we’re going to have to shut this thing down.'”

Over time, however, Payton had learned to ride these emotional waves. He’d also emerged from his years at Microsoft understanding the need to listen to his employees, and one of them told him there was a ton of money floating around in virtual reality games. He recalled a conversation he’d had at a convention with Jay Ong, head of Marvel Games, about the emerging realm of virtual reality gaming, which involved players wearing specially designed headsets and immersing themselves completely. Payton went back to Ong and quickly brokered a deal. He figured it made sense to build Marvel’s first VR game around the Iron Man character—scientist and wealthy businessman Tony Stark. Marvel executives, impressed by a prototype and story proposal Camouflaj put together, agreed. While Marvel had experimented with small-scale VR gaming, including a game that worked with Facebook’s Oculus VR headset, they’d never done one that felt like “a real game” to Payton, rather than just a demo.

The project required more compromise from Payton as he maneuvered the politics of working with such an iconic property. Over time, he had learned to delegate to his staff and embrace collaboration. “Team members are encouraged not to strike down an idea or immediately say no to anything,” he says. “We’re constantly trying to encourage them to come up with creative ways to get people to rally behind your ideas.”

Sure, in those final months, he still found himself walking through the game constantly on the PlayStation VR headset, noticing small problems—like the timing of dialogue or an encounter with an enemy that’s too easy or too difficult—and calling them out to a note taker. But when the pandemic delayed the game’s release date by several months, he asked his team to rank the 20 major improvements they believed they could make during that time. Then, rather than immediately insisting they get to work, he told his team: *Here are the issues. Do you agree? And if so, how can we make this game better?* In those final weeks, Payton says, they managed to complete 18 of their 20 improvements. With many of the changes, the goal was to streamline the navigation of the game’s 10-hour story; for example, counting the number of enemies on screen and projectiles being shot at a player, to ensure that the experience felt not only challenging but as clean and clear as possible.

Marvel’s Iron Man VR—in which Tony Stark attempts to thwart a masked enemy named Ghost seeking revenge on him by resurrecting his old drone weapons and using them against him—was released to mostly positive reviews. UploadVR.com called it “an absolute triumph,” and ComicBook.com said, “Immediately, it is easy to be blown away by what Marvel Games and Camouflaj have accomplished.” Still, there have been technical issues and complaints about the mechanics that Payton knew would confound some gamers. “Playing the game can be very overwhelming for some,” he admits, “because many players have never experienced anything close to flying in Iron Man’s armor like this before. It takes time to master those controls.” All of it fits with Payton’s overarching objective of pushing the gaming industry forward. Ten days after its release, when Payton reached him on the phone, Payton admits he’s still processing the negative feedback, but that his conversations with Matthews have helped redirect him toward what matters: that this small company, built out of ambition and risk, now has an international reputation—that, as Matthews puts it, Camouflaj’s “brand equity has gone up by leaps and bounds.” That doesn’t make the future any easier to figure out, particularly at a time when Payton and at least some of his team will have to figure out how to work together for the foreseeable future from hundreds of miles away. Despite that, as Payton reaches the other side of 40, he’s started to figure out how to survive in the video game business for the long haul—to balance his penchant for taking big swings with his embrace of the collaborative process.

He has some potential new projects in the works, though he isn’t able to share details yet. As his company moves into its second decade, he finds himself at a larger crossroads: What does he want Camouflaj to be? How does he stay true to its mission of creating meaningful, innovative games while keeping the business healthy? “I think there are more doors open to us,” Matthews says. “If a big company came to us and asked us to take on a new project, we’re in a great position to do that. Do we keep operating as a contractor, or do we go back to creating our own intellectual property, as we did with République?”

Perhaps most important, as he spends so much time alone, Payton’s come to realize he’s no longer alone at all. He’s not the same independent spirit he was when he was younger, for better and for worse. All that collective energy may have momentarily departed from the office, but as his company has grown, the choices he now faces—and the risks he’s willing to take on—are no longer just his own.

“It took me a while to understand that just doing what I want to do is not necessarily the best path,” Payton says. “I’m not doing this by myself. I’m doing this with 50 other colleagues.”
Janell Cain ’16 always knew she wanted to be a scientist. It just took a few decades for that dream to come true.

Cain’s grandparents had instilled in her the importance of education, and she attended a reputable Iowa private school through eighth grade. But Cain says her stubborn independence and desire to be an “emancipated adult” by high school led her down a different path. She became a mother while still a teenager, and found a job tending bar at night so she could be with her child during the day. “Eventually, I was a bartender with three children and an expiring marriage,” she says. “I tried over and over again to return to school; it just wasn’t feasible.”

Tragedy struck when her 9-year-old daughter was killed in a car accident. Cain wanted to make a new start—to “chase my dreams”—and so she relocated from the Midwest to Washington state. She divorced and remarried, supported her new husband through his academic pursuits, and then, finally, went to college herself in 2011 as a returning-adult student. She started at Olympic College and finished at Puget Sound, majoring in biology with an emphasis in neuroscience, then earned an online master’s degree in microbiology and cell science from the University of Florida.

continued on next page
Today, Cain is a key player in efforts to treat COVID-19. She oversees human clinical trials of remdesivir—an antiviral drug showing promise in treating the disease—at Joint Base Lewis-McChord’s Madigan Army Medical Center. When she started in the role in August of last year, before the coronavirus pandemic hit, her work centered on the effectiveness of the three commercially available influenza vaccines. “I learned immediately how research really worked, how to recruit study participants, deal with the consent process, and keep track of everything,” she says.

Five months later, the coronavirus began its global spread, and Cain was recruited to lead a new study—one that would explore the safety and effectiveness of experimental medicines like remdesivir in treating COVID-19. She has organized and overseen it all, from getting the hospital approved for the study to ensuring correct protocols were followed and reporting deadlines were met.

For Cain, the job involves working with nearly every person in the medical setting. On an average day, she’ll gather consent from patients who qualify for remdesivir treatment, a lengthy and important process to ensure that patients fully understand the procedures and their possible outcomes. (Patients in the trial at Madigan include active-duty and retired military, as well as their dependents and beneficiaries.) She’ll also meet with researchers and physicians to check on patient progress, and ensure that adverse events are reported within the 24-hour window required by the relevant review boards. She tracks the patients, their treatments, and the results to report back to the relevant agencies.

**Those on remdesivir recovered, on average, four days sooner than those given a placebo.**

Her team finished the first phase of the trial in May, along with nearly 70 other participating sites worldwide. “To see this small part—what we’re doing at Madigan—multiplied by all these teams across the world and all the data, it’s amazing,” Cain says. In total, more than 1,000 patients worldwide were given either remdesivir or a placebo for 10 days, and their recovery times were recorded. Those on remdesivir recovered, on average, four days sooner than those given a placebo. The results of the study were published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* on May 22—an astonishingly fast turnaround time for medical research. That same month, the Food and Drug Administration issued an emergency-use authorization for remdesivir to treat COVID-19.

In June, Cain and her team began work on the second phase of the study. Remdesivir was given to all COVID-19 patients, then supplemented with either a cytokine inhibitor (a drug commonly used to treat inflammatory diseases) or a placebo. The new phase meant Cain started from the beginning with a new group of patients and new procedures, protocols, and timelines to be reviewed and tasks to be assigned. That second phase concluded in August, with results expected to be published soon (“It is extremely fast—and changing the way research has traditionally been done,” Cain says). At press time, new patients were being enrolled in a third phase, to test the effectiveness of remdesivir plus interferon beta-1a (a drug typically used to treat multiple sclerosis) against COVID-19.

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**ALUMNI COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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**1956** Eugene Johnson ’56 was recognized by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach, Calif. In an e-newsletter, the organization wished him a happy 90th birthday and thanked him for being “an amazing supporter and advocate for our clubs and [playing] a huge role in our Thanksgiving Dinners.”

**1961** Although retired for 15 years, Karen Kasselman Beverly ’61, M.Ed.’67 continues to substitute teach. She currently lives in Los Angeles County, Calif., and remains active in the California Retired Teachers Association.

**1968** Patricia Mason Deal ’68, M.Ed.’92 shares the following proof that it really is a small world: During the 1960s, two local young women were students at the University of Puget Sound. Deal was working toward a career as a math teacher, and Leona Puderbaugh Baker ’68, a career as an elementary school teacher. Deal graduated during the spring Commencement exercises; Baker in August. Deal started her teaching career in Puyallup, Wash., at Aylen Junior High School and ended it at Puyallup High School; Baker taught at Meeker Elementary, which was located three blocks away. The two never met. Fast forward to 2019. Both were retired, and both moved into the newly completed senior housing community Wesley Bradley Park, in Puyallup. One morning at breakfast, Deal appeared wearing a shirt on which was printed “Once a Logger, always a Logger” and her class year, 1968, immediately catching the eye of Baker, who exclaimed, “We are sisters!” The pair had already become friends, but that morning, they learned they were “Logger sisters.” Deal currently serves as co-editor of the Wesley Bradley Park monthly newsletter, and Baker is the community librarian. She donated funding for the library in memory of her husband, Virgil Baker ’50, M.Ed.’60, another fellow Logger.

Robert Delong ’68 started at Puget Sound in 1965. “What an eye opener,” he writes. “I made many friends that I still stay in touch with.” Ultimately, it wasn’t a great fit, but he notes that it was a wonderful year. Delong went on
to graduate from The University of the Americas in Mexico and earn a master’s degree in psychology, from Pacific Lutheran University. His career took him from picking apples to running treatment programs for mentally ill offenders in Washington state, to running children’s clinical programs for the Devereaux Foundation in Santa Barbara, Calif. He was selected to run the Klamath Child and Family Treatment Program in Klamath Falls, Ore., then became executive director of Seattle Children’s Home. When his wife contracted colon cancer and died, Delong left the U.S., and found himself in New Zealand, working as a teacher’s aide to qualify for residency. He became the director of the first chartered hospital in the country. Now happily retired, he’s enjoying life in a small seaside town, traveling, sailing the Pacific, and playing his guitars. “I always remember UPS as the steppingstone to a great future,” Delong writes.

1969 Gregory Curwen ’69 and his wife, Susan, retired in 2011 to the desert country of Tucson, Ariz. They are enjoying the 300+ days of sunshine every year and—before the pandemic—spent most of their spare time traveling. Susan’s brother, Paul Anderson ’67, now deceased, also was a Logger and later graduated from Willamette Law School. He and Curwen both were members of the Delta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at Puget Sound.

1970 After graduating from Puget Sound, Scott Elder ’70 studied at the American University in Paris, lived as a street musician in Paris and London, worked as a mime in France and Portugal, and spent 12 years in a Buddhist hermitage. He now lives in the Auvergne region with his three children. Since 2014, his poems have appeared in numerous publications and collections, including his first collection, Part of the Dark, published by Dempsey & Windle Publishing in 2017. You can read some of his work at scottelder.co.uk.

1971 This spring, Dan Clements ’71, P’07 launched a magazine for nature and wildlife photographers in the Pacific Northwest. NNWP Photographer showcases the work of local photographers and provides a venue to discuss various topics related to outdoor photography. Dan writes: “If you are feeling a bit homebound, check out some photos that will brighten your day!” Download the current issue at pugetsound.edu/nnwpphotographer. And read the Arches profile of Dan from our spring 2019 issue at pugetsound.edu/chasingmyths.

1975 Robert Mickle ’75 is still in Florida, where he has lived the last 10–20 years. Though currently separated, he’s been married since 2007, and has eight grandchildren from his two surviving daughters, his son having passed away in 2005. “I have heart disease and high blood pressure and, of course, the age-bracket thing, so am susceptible to this rotten COVID-19, as I imagine many in our class are,” he writes. “Otherwise, very healthy, and I know we will pull through this.” Mickle is now retired but still
Music Maker
Jeffrey Haydon ’97

BY ANDREW FAUGHT

As the new president and CEO of the Ravinia Festival, the country’s oldest music festival, Jeffrey Haydon ’97 is guided by a singular mission. “Music,” he says, “is a universal language that inspires each of us to come together, to listen more deeply, and to explore new ideas.”

Ravinia, 30 minutes north of Chicago, had to cancel this year’s summer slate of classical, jazz, and popular music performances because of COVID-19. But look for Haydon to forge novel pathways into an uncertain future. At the Caramoor Center for Music and Arts in New York, where he had been CEO since 2012, Haydon created livestream concerts this summer for an online audience, as well as socially distanced in-person performances (50 people recently were invited to a performance on Caramoor’s lawn, which normally hosts 2,000 concertgoers). “Rather than just shutting down and bemoaning what we couldn’t do, we kept looking for things that we could do,” Haydon says.

He expects to apply some of those ideas in his new job and create some new ones, as well. Haydon brings an impressive track record: At Caramoor, he raised more than $40 million, quadrupling the endowment. He also launched various programmatic initiatives, including a collaboration with Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Haydon grew up in the Bay Area with family who took him to symphonic and jazz performances. He enrolled at Puget Sound on a tuba and voice scholarship, majoring in the Business Leadership Program and minoring in music. On campus, he met student programs director Serni Solidarios, who hired Haydon to chair the student-run cultural events series. Haydon helped bring to campus such artists as Fred Hersch, Cleo Laine, Bela Fleck, and Ladysmith Black Mambazo. Making quality music performances accessible to the public became Haydon’s passion and, after graduating, he was selected for a yearlong competitive fellowship for executive training of orchestra managers. He later worked for the Aspen Music Festival, did fundraising for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Philharmonic, and was executive director of the Ojai (Calif.) Music Festival for nine years before taking the position at Caramoor.

1979 “With COVID-19, performing music live is over for the foreseeable future, but I am still busy recording and releasing songs each month on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon, etc.,” writes Steven Aliment ’79, P’10, P’12. “I’ve been working with Puget Sound to raise money for the Class of ’79. THANK YOU to all for your generous contributions!” He was named a 2020 finalist for U.S. Male Songwriter of the Year by the International Singer Songwriters Association, and in September, he released his latest album. Find his music at songwhip.com/stevealiment or wherever you stream music online.

1980 In June, the Hon. Richard Whitney ’80 was elected to his third term as a Superior Court Judge for the state of California. He has been on the bench since 2003, and currently serves in a civil assignment presiding over large civil litigation cases. “I have enjoyed every minute of my work,” Whitney writes. “I thank UPS for a great foundation of education that assists me every day on the bench.” In other news, Whitney’s first grandchild arrived in July.

1982 Karen Manchester Fuentes ’82 celebrated her 60th birthday earlier this spring—on the same day her son, Tony, and daughter-in-law, Amy, revealed the gender of their first child. The little girl joined Fuentes’ niece, Alexa, and 12-year-old granddaughter, Isabelle, as “beautiful, smart, capable examples of feminine ability,” she says. As a teacher in a small, rural school district, Fuentes has been working hard to keep her first-graders afloat amid remote learning. She put together packets to help her students, noting that “the trickiest part is to try to write clear instructions to monolingual, English-speaking parents on teaching Span-
ish to their students for most of the day." She sends her best to all her “UPS buds.”

Donald McDaniel ‘82, M.B.A.’82, P’81 writes in to share the update that he is in good health and staying home in University Place, Wash., during the pandemic, as is his daughter, Caroline McDaniel ‘81.

1985 In March, Marc Blackburn ‘85 transitioned from Mount Rainier National Park, where he served as west district interpreter, to Lava Beds and Tule Lake national monuments in Northern California, where he now manages visitor services for both sites. “For the first time in my career, I will actually be living in a National Park site,” he writes. Blackburn is looking forward to the new opportunities opening up with the move and encourages any classmates and fellow Loggers traveling through the area to drop by and say hello.

1986 After spending most of her career teaching science at Seattle Preparatory High School, Susan Nelson Coluccio ‘86 retired this year. At virtual graduation, she was recognized as teacher of the year with the Ignatian Educator Award. At Seattle Prep, Coluccio taught chemistry and introductory physics, started a robotics program, taught an introduction to computer science class, helped implement a chemistry stockroom cleanup, and participated in many student retreats. She notes that a surprise highlight of her 20-year teaching career was returning to the Puget Sound campus for a POGIL (Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning) workshop and touring the “much-updated” and “pretty impressive” science building.

1988 Ann Marie Trebon Henninger ‘88 serves as a hospital commissioner for Clallam County Public Hospital District No. 2 in northwestern Washington state. She serves with six other publicly elected commissioners to provide governance for the district, which includes Olympic Medical Center and its satellite clinics in Sequim and Port Angeles. In addition to her role as commissioner, Henninger works part time as a nurse sonographer and nurse consultant, and has recently opened her own small business, Pantry & Provisions, a personal shopping and delivery service. She has been married to Ray Henninger ’89, M.P.T.’91 for 29 years. Their family has lived in Sequim, Wash., since 1996.

1992 Amy Johnson ’92 was named vice chancellor for student affairs at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, supporting Carolina’s 30,000 students and overseeing more than 330 student affairs professionals and staff members.

1993 In May, Donald Hawkins ’93 accepted a staff attorney position with the Bringing Justice Home project at the Crossroads Safehouse domestic violence shelter in Fort Collins, Colo. As an attorney for BJH, he will provide free legal representation for low-income domestic violence and stalking survivors in protection order hearings and other family law cases.

1994 Lisa Kozleski ‘94, editor of Lethbridge College’s award-winning Wider Horizons alumni magazine, was named Editor of the Year by the Alberta Magazine Publishers Association. The publication also earned a silver Circle of Excellence Award for “Magazines on a Shoestring” from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). Kozleski, who serves as senior writer and editor at the Alberta, Canada, community college, has led the magazine since 2011.

1995 Through his company Social Construct Inc., John Lindquist II ‘95 published a three-volume set of Narratives for Justice with Portland-based Microcosm Publishing. The set, How I Got Locked Up, tells in-mates’ stories of their youth and the decisions and actions they made that put them on the road to incarceration. Blunt and honest—but not without humor—the stories are told in the inmates’ voices and are aimed at preventing other young people from making the same mistakes they did.

2002 In her newest book, Secret Albuquerque: A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful, and Obscure, longtime contributor Ashley Biggers ‘04 digs into 90 places that most tourists and even many residents have never seen, writes New Mexico Magazine in its August issue. Released by Reedy Press in April, the
Writing for the Love of It
Karen Meyer Eisenbrey ’85

BY RYAN JONES

With four novels, a shelf full of anthology contributions, and a handful of original songs to her credit in the past few years, Karen Meyer Eisenbrey ’85 has enjoyed a personal and creative peak. And she appreciates that success all the more for coming when it has. “If I had written a decent book in my 20s,” she says, “I’m not sure I would’ve had as much fun.”

Her most recent, the young adult/sci-fi novel Barbara and the Rage Brigade (Not A Pipe Publishing), came out in November 2019, when Eisenbrey was 56—just three years after she published her first. The modest creative burst was a long time coming. Eisenbrey loved to read and write stories as a kid, and she majored in English at Puget Sound, so it made sense that not long after finishing college, she took a shot at writing a novel—two, in fact. She remembers them as “really good practice, but not very good books.” Then, convinced she lacked a compelling story to tell, she decided that was that. “I just thought it meant I was not going to be a writer.”

It took a few more years—through day jobs, getting married, and starting a family—before she proved herself wrong. She had a first grader and a toddler at home when she got the itch again, in no small part because “I needed it for my mental health. I think it’s a pretty common feeling at that point in your life—to want something that’s just yours, that you don’t have to share.” Eventually, she narrowed her focus to the fantasy genre, churning out a half-dozen attempts and linking up with an online community of hopeful writers who offered each other feedback and support. Her debut novel, The Gospel According to St. Rage, came out in 2016.

She’s still got a part-time day job (she works as a secretary at a Seattle-area church), leaving her ample time to work up more stories, write music—she plays drums in a band with her brother, and has written songs inspired by the characters in her books—and blog about a favorite topic: interesting band names. And she stays active in online writing communities, sometimes offering help to writers who are just starting their own journeys. “I’m a very small fish, but I do have this experience of having put a few books out,” she says. “It’s very satisfying knowing that, maybe, I have something to share with other writers.” Her next novel, Death’s Midwife, is due in 2021.
IN MEMORIAM

Betty Jane Cappa ‘47 died June 29, at the age of 95. Born and raised in the Tacoma/Fife area, she was one of nine children. After graduating from Puget Sound, she attended nursing school and worked as a nurse for many years, even caring for her brothers and sisters in retirement, until their deaths.

Frank Hill ‘48 died July 10, at the age of 93. He attended Puget Sound before completing his education at Stanford University.

Carol Caldwell Thornburg ‘48 died May 14. She was 96. A lifelong student, Thornburg graduated from University of Washington before earning a second degree from Puget Sound; a master’s degree from Northwestern University; a certificate in education from George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tenn.; and, at age 60, a doctorate in education from Vanderbilt University. She taught multiple grades in numerous schools throughout Peoria, Ill., and Nashville before retiring at the age of 72. An avid gardener, she loved to sew, create with ceramics, and attend the symphony and theater.

Jane Hagen Knapp ‘49, P’78, P’85 died at the age of 93. After graduating from Stadium High School in Tacoma, she attended Puget Sound, where she met Jack Knapp ‘49, P’78, P’85. They were married after graduation. Knapp was a social worker for the Washington Department of Welfare and volunteered in the community. She was active in her sorority, Pi Beta Phi, and loved golfing, skiing, gardening, and traveling. Knapp is survived by her daughters, Carolyn Knapp Broberg ‘78 and Julie Knapp Richards ‘85, and her grandchildren.

Boyd Bolvin ’50 died April 5, at the age of 95. A graduate of Stadium High School in Tacoma, he fought in the Pacific Arena in World War II. After earning degrees at Puget Sound, University of Washington, and University of Southern California, he worked as an educator, then as the associate dean of instruction for library and media services at Bellevue Community College, retiring in 1982.

Leslie Erickson ’50 died Feb. 13, after breaking his hip in January. He attended Lincoln High School in Tacoma, and enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduation, serving as a seaman first class aboard the USS Wildcat. After graduating from Puget Sound, he entered dental school, eventually opening a private practice as an orthodontist and raising four children with his wife, Patricia. In 1977, Erickson took a position as chair and assistant professor in the orthodontic department at the University of Colorado and, in 1984, he moved on to the University of Nebraska, from which he retired in 1996. He enjoyed time with his kids and grandkids, collected books and antiques, and loved to travel.

Beverley MacDonald Ericson ’50 died May 9, after suffering a stroke. She was 92. She attended Puget Sound before marrying and completing her studies at Whitworth College.

Richard Lewis ’50, M.A.’67 died April 4. He was 93. A track star while attending Puget Sound, Lewis went on to earn his Ph.D. at University of Oregon and serve as a dedicated teacher, professor, and tennis instructor. He retired as the head of the English department at Tacoma Community College. He was preceded in death by sister Marjane Lewis Paulson ‘43.

Mary Moon Long ’50 died May 19, at the age of 92. A founder and the director of Pacific Care Center, which provides care and training for those who are developmentally disabled, Long spent her life in the service of others. She volunteered her time and expertise with numerous community groups, including the Greater Tacoma Foundation. Through her church, she operated the Phoenix Housing Network and Food Bank for many years, earning her Tacoma’s City of Destiny Award. Long enjoyed reading, gardening, traveling, and spending time with her family.

Sterling MacDonald ’50 died June 27. He was 93. In 1944, MacDonald joined the U.S. Navy and served as a helmsman on the USS Saratoga. After World War II, he attended Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. After earning his degree in business administration, he started his own company, Statewide Builders. MacDonald enjoyed hunting and fishing with his family, was an avid golfer, and was a member of several local organizations, including the Shriners, Masons, and Tacoma Elks Lodge.

Bansy Tuttle Johnson ’51 died April 6, following a short illness. She attended Puget Sound, where she met James Johnson ’49, her lifelong love and best friend.

Donald Mozel ’51 died April 27, after a brief struggle with cancer. Following graduation and a stint in the U.S. Army, Mozel began working for the Internal Revenue Service and settled with wife Dolly in Olympia, where they raised four kids and were active in the community. In 1967, he took a position for the state Office of Fiscal Management, where his specialty was improving complex accounting and auditing systems for large state agencies.

Gerald Petersen ’50 died April 10, at the age of 92. A World War II veteran and retired engineer, he attended Puget Sound.

Mel Gidley ’51, P’72, P’81 died April 12, at the age of 91. He graduated from Lincoln High School in Tacoma, and earned a degree in education from Puget Sound. During his first year teaching, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in counter-intelligence for two years. Upon his honorable discharge, Gidley began a 42-year career as a beloved elementary teacher and principal in Tacoma Public Schools. He loved playing cards, camping, fishing, bowling, and going to Tacoma Musical Playhouse. He is survived by many friends and family members, including daughter Cheryl Allen Henderson ’81 and stepson Douglas Carlson ’72.

Kenneth Jernstrom ’51 died May 5, at the age of 95. After serving in the Navy during World War II, he attended Puget Sound on the GI Bill.

EDITOR’S NOTE

In the spring issue, we erroneously—and regrettfully—including Marilyn Breidenbach Duvall ‘50, P’83, P’86 and Clark Duvall ‘55, P’83, P’86 in In Memoriam. We are happy to report that the Duvalls are alive and well, and sincerely apologize for the alarm and dismay caused by our mistake.

IN MEMORIAM | ALWAYS A LOGGER
H.C. “Joe” Harned ‘51 grew up in poverty in Pennsylvania during the Depression. Later, when he became a successful businessman in the Tacoma area, he shared his wealth with others. “It makes my spine tingle when I know I have helped someone,” he once told the Puyallup Herald. Born in 1917, Harned enlisted in the Navy during World War II and served on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific; he was discharged in Tacoma and decided to make his home in the region. He started as a real estate agent, then became a developer—his projects included the Lincoln Plaza shopping center in South Tacoma, the city’s first Costco, the area around Meridian Avenue in Puyallup, and low-income housing in Graham and Lakewood. He was a generous benefactor to his alma mater, establishing the H.C. “Joe” Harned Endowed Scholarship Fund and contributing substantially to the Class of 1951 Scholarship. He also made a major gift to help construct a science building, which was dedicated in 2006, and which the university named Harned Hall in his honor. At the time, it was the school’s largest single gift ever for a building project. Two other buildings in the region bear his name: the Harned Center for Health Careers at Tacoma Community College and Harned Hall at St. Martin’s University in Lacey. And, back in his hometown of Ursina, Pa. (population 250), he helped build a church—complete with a basketball court—for the town’s youth—as well as helping fund the restoration of the community center in nearby Confluence, Pa. Harned was known for his self-effacing humor, along with his gifts of home-grown tomatoes from the large garden at his Puyallup home. Harned died June 2 at the age of 102. He was preceded in death by wife Vida and son Lynn; he is survived by son Keith.

receiving a special commendation from Gov. Booth Gardner for his expertise and diligence. He retired in 1989, and enjoyed golfing, tending his garden, and visiting family and friends.

Gordon Voiles ’51 died July 15. He was 93. A choral director for 59 years, Voiles enlisted in the Army Air Corps and served in postwar Germany before studying chorale and instrumental music at Puget Sound. He was a popular crooner on campus and was voted the “King of Song” by fellow students.

David Gossard ’52 died June 7, at the age of 90. He attended Puget Sound before transferring to University of Washington.

Ruth Wallen Christensen ’53, ’54 died at the age of 88. She studied occupational therapy at Whitman College before attending Puget Sound and working as an occupational therapist for 40 years, most of that time with Villa Care Rehab Centers. A well-respected OT, Christensen was appointed to a task force to define Washington state’s standards for occupational therapy in nursing homes and rehab centers. She was active in her church and loved water-walking, knitting, crocheting, playing bridge, and doing crossword puzzles.

Harold Broman ’57 died Aug. 4, at home in Seattle. A teacher, he attended Puget Sound, University of Washington, and University of Mexico, and belonged to Phi Delta Theta.

Mary Louise Hansen Hager ’57 died June 17, at the age of 84. After earning her degree in occupational therapy, she worked at hospitals in New York before beginning a teaching job at Puget Sound. She was recruited to run the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program at Green River Community College, and later led the OT department at Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup, Wash. She retired in 1995, after running the anatomy lab at University of Washington for 25 years. Hager dedicated time to mission work for the Methodist Church, was an avid skier, and belonged to the “Piece Makers” quilting group.

Gail Attwood Wood ’57 died Dec. 27, at the age of 85. She graduated from Puget Sound with a degree in education. Helen Chapman Green ’58 died Aug. 7. She was 85. Born and raised in Tacoma, she was the youngest child of Coolidge Otis Chapman, a professor at Puget Sound from 1932 to 1959. After college, Green worked in New York City and traveled Europe before returning to Tacoma. She enjoyed collecting books, teaching art, and doting on her cats.

Elizabeth Patterson Austin ’59 died Jan. 18, at the age of 82. While she attended Puget Sound, from 1955 to 1957, she was active in the drama department, was a Loggers cheerleader, and was a member of Delta Delta Delta. She is survived by her partner, two daughters, and sister Jeanne Patterson Mazzoni ’66. She was preceded in death by her mother, Dorothy Patterson M.A.’57, a Puget Sound music professor.

Matthew N. Clapp Jr. ’60 died May 27, He was 87. While majoring in communications at Puget Sound, he met Marion Willett Ravlinson ’59, P’86, and they married in 1957. He served stateside in the U.S. Army and, upon returning to Tacoma, raised three children with Marion in Lakewood, Wash., while building a radio station business, eventually owning 13 stations throughout Western Washington and Alaska. A generous philanthropist, he served on the Medina Foundation Board for 50 years and was a great supporter of the Seattle Rep and Puget Sound. Later in life, he embraced his artistic side, creating a series of colorful collages, some of which he donated to Puget Sound.

Joe Devisch ’60 died May 18, at the age of 82. He started his career at Demick Electric, moving to Madsen Electric in 1959, working his way up and eventually becoming president and CEO of the company. A respected businessman, he was a member of the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce and Tacoma Urban League. He also was a master mason, a member of the Scottish Rite, and past potentiare of Alfi Shrine Temple. In junior high school, Devish met Sally, who would be the love of his life and wife for 40 years. Together they enjoyed international travel, boating, crabbing, and volunteering for many community service organizations.

Wayne Glaser ’60 died March 22, due to complications from a stroke. A teacher in the Puyallup School...
Charlotte Hunt Henke McGrath ’60 died May 15 at the age of 82. She attended Puget Sound, where she was active in the sorority Delta Delta Delta.

John Peter Whittall ‘60, P’79 died Sept. 2, at the age of 86. He worked for Weyerhaeuser for 17 years, but left in 1980 to start his own company, Whittall Management Group, retiring in 1998. He served for 12 years on the Auburn City Council, and was president of the Auburn Rotary Club and local homeowners’ association. He was active in numerous local charities throughout his career and endowed a scholarship at Puget Sound Legal Assistance Foundation, Tacoma Hope Community, Puget Sound and Allied Arts.

Joseph Baldassari ’68, M.Ed.’71 died April 5, at the age of 79. He served in the Army National Guard, achieving the rank of first lieutenant. He earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration and a master’s degree in teaching at Puget Sound, working as a teacher in Tacoma for 35 years. Baldassari loved boating, amateur radio operation, and playing golf, volunteering regularly for more than 15 years at American Lake Veterans Golf Course.

Sandra Mostoller ’68, J.D.’82 died May 20. She was 74. A longtime Tacoma attorney, Mostoller will be remembered for her endless curiosity, lively imagination, talent for photography, and not-to-be-missed Thanksgiving dinners. At Puget Sound, she studied English literature and political science before earning her M.A.T. from University of Washington. She taught English, journalism, and social studies until earning a law degree. She established a private practice and later joined the Pierce County Department of Assigned Counsel, serving on the boards of L’Arche Tahoma Hope Community, Puget Sound Legal Assistance Foundation, and Allied Arts.

George Jean Erickson ’64 died July 3. A lifelong resident of Washington, she loved to travel, visiting Europe, Asia, Africa, and locations throughout North America. Erickson spent her early career in the Boeing wind tunnel, then worked for NASA at Langley Air Force Base before returning to Boeing. After retiring in 1999, she volunteered for nearly 20 years at Bloodworks Northwest and the Nordic Heritage Museum. She also served as a math tutor and beach naturalist, and enjoyed working in her garden, reading, and spending time with her family. She is survived by many friends and family members, including sister Elizabeth Erickson Bailey ’64.

Elvera Lange Heritage ’63, P’66, P’75 died March 28, at the age of 95. After graduating from high school at age 16, Heritage attended Knapp Business College and worked as a bank teller in downtown Tacoma.0.45x0.65 inset image(137,669,272,823) She met Sam Heritage Jr. ’48, M.A.’49, P’66, P’69, P’75 when he was on leave from the Army, and the couple had two children: Kathleen Heritage Fisher ’66, ’69 and Len Heritage ’75, J.D.’84. She returned to school in the 1950s, earning a bachelor’s degree from Puget Sound and a master’s degree from Central Washington University before teaching elementary school for more than 20 years. Heritage was an avid reader, artist, and world traveler, as well as a published author.

James Creighton ’63 died Nov. 29, after a long battle with Parkinson’s disease. He was 80. A football player in both high school and college, he played for West Seattle High School, Everett Community College (All-Coast Conference and All-American Small College), and Puget Sound, where he also served as an assistant coach. Creighton was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity and graduated with a degree in history and education. He went on to teach history and coach, primarily at Seattle’s Garfield High, where he developed the Advanced Placement history program. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Diane, and children and grandchild.

Richard Lawrence ’63 died April 3, at the age of 80. At Puget Sound, Lawrence was a two-year starter on the football team and held many Logger records. After graduation, he became a teacher, then joined International Harvester as a field and branch manager before moving to Seattle and beginning a career as a financial advisor. He helped establish Columbia Pacific Securities and served on its board of directors. Lawrence was an avid golfer and will be remembered as a kind and generous man who loved to laugh.
Barbara Nichols ’68 died July 14, at the age of 93. A longtime resident of Rochester, Wash., Nichols began teaching at Rochester Elementary School in 1966, teaching third and fourth grades. She received her bachelor’s degree in education from Puget Sound, and continued teaching until her retirement in 1989. In 2015, she was named Distinguished Educator by Rochester Alumni Association.

Raoul Ancira ’69 died May 9. Affectionately known as “Rule” (Rulay), he was a devoted son, husband, father, and friend. At 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and served as a radio operator with the Air Section of the Fourth Marine Regiment in Japan. His second tour was in Honolulu, where he was recruited into the Corps’ professional football organization, known as the Hawai’i Marines. He finished his military career at the rank of chief master sergeant. While attending Puget Sound, Ancira earned varsity and All-Conference honors in football and wrestling, and across the U.S. to find the best trails, and was known to greet everyone with a smile.

Donald Mansfield ’70, J.D.’75 died July 21, at the age of 77. After graduating from Stadium High School in Tacoma, he entered the U.S. Navy and served aboard the USS Menhaden. When he returned to Tacoma, he attended Central Washington University before earning his business administration degree at Puget Sound. After completing law school, he went into practice specializing in personal injury and family law. Mansfield loved being on the water and spent much of his free time in the San Juan Islands and exploring the Puget Sound.

Whitney Ulvestad ’09 was a varsity swimmer for four years at Puget Sound, and team captain her senior year. Coach Chris Myrhe remembers the way she cared about her teammates: “A bad race or training session, she was right there to console you,” he says. “A great race or workout, she was there to hug and celebrate it with you.” Ulvestad majored in Spanish language and Latin American studies at Puget Sound, then went on to earn a master’s degree in holistic health studies at St. Catherine University in Minnesota. She worked as a language and culture ambassador for the regional government of Andalusia, Spain; a community outreach specialist in Ecuador; a vineyard manager in California; and a field guide for Minnesota-based Wilderness Inquiry. She also volunteered for many years with the Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute in Minneapolis. Ulvestad, who had swum competitively since age 4, was also an avid triathlete and certified scuba diver, and enjoyed fly fishing. While pursuing aggressive treatment for a rare brain tumor, she traveled extensively and was very intentional about spending time with family and with friends. Ulvestad died May 8 in Excelsior, Minn., at the age of 33. She is survived by parents Nancy and Rolf and sister Lauren. Two weeks before Ulvestad died, Coach Myrhe let her know that he had created the Whitney Ulvestad Teammate Award to honor annually a Puget Sound swim team member who exemplifies her selfless qualities.

David Cook ’69 died April 29, at his home in Bordentown, N.J. He was 73. After graduating from Puget Sound, he worked for a short time with the Daily Olympian before moving to the New Jersey/New York City area, where he worked in the metals industry and lead recycling, and cheered passionately for the New York Yankees.

Kenneth Fisher ’69 died March 19, after a long battle with cancer. He attended Puget Sound.

Robert Leeper ’69 died June 2. He was 73. Leeper graduated from Puget Sound with a degree in business administration. Concurrently, he was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force, serving two tours, including one in Saigon, Vietnam. He completed his service with the rank of captain. In 1989, Leeper married Jeannie in their home on Bainbridge Island, Wash. He built several custom homes on the island before moving to Portland, Ore., in 2005. An experienced hiker, he traveled to Patagonia, the Pyrenees, Nova Scotia, and across the U.S. to find the best trails, and was known to greet everyone with a smile.

Donald Mansfield ’70, J.D.’75 died July 21, at the age of 77. After graduating from Stadium High School in Tacoma, he entered the U.S. Navy and served aboard the USS Menhaden. When he returned to Tacoma, he attended Central Washington University before earning his business administration degree at Puget Sound. After completing law school, he went into practice specializing in personal injury and family law. Mansfield loved being on the water and spent much of his free time in the San Juan Islands and exploring the Puget Sound.

Darrell Matz ’70 died March 22, after a brief and courageous battle with cancer. Affectionately known as “Papa” to his children and grandchildren, Matz never missed an opportunity for a hug, a loving word of encouragement or gratitude for his family, a Notre Dame or Seahawks football game, or a good chicken-fried steak. After graduation, he began a lifelong career as an accountant, working for several government entities, including the Pierce County Library and the Office of the Washington State Auditor. In 1980, he started a tax-preparation business, serving more than 200 clients each year. He was 77.

Stephan Tarzan ’72 died March 12, at the age of 87. He earned bachelor’s degrees from Puget Sound (anthropology) and The Evergreen State College (psychology), and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Professionally, Tarzan was a draftsman/editor for the Washington State Department of Transportation and maintained a private hypnotherapy practice in Olympia. In addition to his family, he loved boat building, painting, music, movies, and cooking.

Mark Scott ’74 died April 27, at the age of 67. Upon enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1979, Scott served as an infantryman, but his true calling was serving in the U.S. Army Security Agency and the Army Intelligence and Security Command as an EW/SIGNIT analyst. Once discharged, he continued his career as a civilian analyst and led teams at the National Security Agency. In addition to his degree in political science from Puget Sound, Scott studied security policy at George Washington University and strategic intelligence at National Defense Intelligence College. He had a wide array of interests, but particularly enjoyed researching the Challenger disaster and historical military events.

Ronald Knaack ’75 died March 24. He was 69. Knaack served in the

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Louis’ Air Force in Vietnam before marrying his high school sweetheart and graduating from Puget Sound. Settling in Amanda Park, Wash., he operated Rubie’s Wines, Spirits, and Country Emporium, making friends with nearly everyone who came in the store. A community advocate, Knaack coached T-ball, gave to numerous charitable causes, and served as a water commissioner for Neilton, Wash. He enjoyed the outdoors, had a nickname for everyone he met, and never found a John Deer tractor he didn’t like.

Harold Rush ’76 died March 15, after a 10-month struggle with cancer. He graduated from Mount Tahoma High School in Tacoma before attending Puget Sound as a Leonard Howard Science Scholar, where he earned a degree in geology and physics. As a junior, he joined a group of geology students, led by Professor Al Eggers, on a field study of the active volcano Pacaya in Guatemala. After graduation, Rush worked in the insurance industry, first with PEMCO, and then 28 years with State Farm, where he led the legal claims department for the Woodinville/Snohomish office before retiring. He spent retirement traveling with Saundra, his wife of 40 years. He was a connoisseur of single malt scotch and took delight in always returning from long weekends in Las Vegas with enough house money to pay for the trip.

Allan Lima ’77 died March 21, at the age of 81. After graduating from Lincoln High School in Tacoma, he enlisted in the Navy, where he was assigned to naval communications in Guam. Once out of the service, he attended Western Washington University, then was hired by the Seattle Police Department. He took night classes at Puget Sound, and was proud that his wife and children were able to watch him graduate. Eventually, Lima became a homicide detective with SPD and earned a reputation as a “bulldog” for his work ethic and tenacity.

Judy Walker Clark ’79 died May 26, at the age of 67. A native of Denver, she graduated from Colorado Springs School before earning a degree in communications from Puget Sound, and enjoyed years working in television broadcasting production. She was devoted to her family, loved nature and wildlife, and dedicated herself to advocating for people struggling with kidney disease, serving on the patient affairs committee for the Northwest Renal Network and the United Network of Organ Sharing.

Eric Arthur Polzin M.B.A.’79 died March 27. He was 69. Polzin attended University of Washington and served in Army intelligence before completing his master’s degree at Puget Sound. A CPA for many years, he worked for King County as an accountant and financial systems analyst until his retirement in 2017. Devoted to his family, Polzin loved traveling with his wife, Trudy, and enjoyed outdoor activities, such as hiking and cross-country skiing.

Garner Thomas M.B.A.’79 died April 26, at the age of 91. Born in San Antonio, Texas, Thomas will be remembered for carrying “a mighty fine spirit” throughout his life. He is survived by four of his children, three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Gary Payne ’81 died Aug. 12. He was 70. Payne enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1972, and after achieving the rank of staff sergeant, was commissioned as an officer in 1977. He held a variety of command and staff positions, retiring in 2004 at the rank of colonel. In addition to completing his bachelor’s degree at Puget Sound, Payne earned a master’s degree from Babson College in Wellesley, Mass. He found great joy in his family and enjoyed football, hunting, fishing, golf, and his Harley.

Lenda Crawford ’82 died March 31, after a traumatic fall. She was 61. As a young mother in 1980, she moved from Mississippi to the Seattle area and put herself through school, studying business at Puget Sound, and eventually earning both her CPA and M.B.A. She spent 30 years in state and city government, most recently serving as deputy city manager for the city of Vancouver, Wash. She also served as a community leader through her work with the Seattle Thrive by Five program. Known for her grit and determination, she battled and beat cancer three times.

Mark Anderson ’85 died Jan. 23, at the age of 57. After earning a degree in art and religion from Puget Sound, he joined the family business in development and real estate on Harstine Island, Wash. At the age of 55, he was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. Anderson will be remembered for his good humor and passion for golf.

Lori Link ’89 died March 19, the victim of a hit-and-run accident. She attended Puget Sound.

Carlyn Matson ’02 died Aug. 10. She was 66. For 22 years, Matson battled cancer, refusing to let the disease keep her from living life, creating memories, traveling, and hosting “Nana Camp” with her five grandchildren. She graduated from Curtis High School in 1972 and dedicated her life to the Girl Scouts as a troop leader and trainer. In 2002, she earned her degree in occupational therapy from Puget Sound.

Melissa Quin McDougall ’11 died Aug. 23, at the age of 31. After graduating from Puget Sound, McDougall went on to earn her Ph.D. from Oregon State University in 2017, and complete her postdoc at Cornell University in 2019. Most recently, she was a nutritional scientist at Pharmavite in California. As a child, McDougall swam competitively and participated in synchronized swimming through high school. She loved her family, had a passion for learning, and enjoyed the outdoors.
On Sept. 21, 2019, Lisa Jacobson ’09 married Johnathan Lyman at Chateau Lill in Redmond, Wash. Logger friends in attendance to celebrate this special day were (from left): Zeb McCall ’08, Nicole Juliano ’08, bridesmaids Brianna Richardson Rossi ’09 and Elizabeth Hoffman ’09, the bride, maid of honor Heather Jacobson ’09, Nathan Sharpe ’09, and A. Griebeler ’09. The Lymans live in Kenmore, Wash., with their two cats.

Ellen Ferguson ’72 (left) and trustee emerita Jill Nishi ’89, co-chairs of the Wing Luke Museum board in Seattle, coincidentally wore their Logger gear while helping with a large-scale mural in front of the museum building this summer. Thanks for sharing!

Becca Adams ’12 married Jack Rosenberg ’15 on Dec. 7. In attendance were other Loggers (front, from left): Ricky Howard ’15, Riley Lawrence ’17, Cara Gillespie Van Sant ’12, the bride, Nika Evans ’12, Brooke Peaden ’12, Erin Larkin Taylor ’12. Back, from left: Dylan Reader ’15, Pete Van Sant ’08, the groom, Will Anderson ’12, Wiley Putnam ’12, Abe Noyes ’15, and Hewett Yip ’15.

Send Scrapbook photos to arches@pugetsound.edu.
Deborah White Fitzgerald ’74 enjoyed a day in Gig Harbor, Wash., with Bob Patterson ’74 (left), David Tison ’74, and Lori Bonvicini ’75. She writes: “After many years of being away, I was looking forward to a beautiful summer day, sitting on the deck of The Tides with wonderful friends. Oh well, it was still fun!”

The latter part of October 2019 proved to be an ideal time for some former Puget Sound students to hike 18-plus miles from the top of the Grand Canyon to the bottom, and back up. With all but three celebrating turning 65, the group is shown after successfully completing the trek, which included two nights at the famed Phantom Ranch, the only lodging below the canyon rim. Front row, from left: Jane Christensen Cramer ’76, Anne Freeman Lider ’76, Debbie Johnson Hittner ’75, Cammie Archer Ware ’76, Jeannie Winterrowd Sovince, Molly Bradshaw Klazura ’76, Barbara Murphy ’77, and Nancy Gregory McElheran ’76. Back row, from left: Joanne Palmer Strahan ’76, Becky Stensrud Pohlman ’77, and Nancy Popp Wilton ’76.

Happy 40th birthday to these Alpha Phis, who gathered in Bend, Ore., to celebrate. From left to right: Marin Anderson Barton ’01, Brooke Bowen Shea ’01, Alison Smith ’01, Erika Halt Tucci ’01, Samantha Benton ’01, Marion Peters Denard ’01, and Mandy Peterson ’01. Other Loggers in attendance include Douglas Shea ’01, Patrick Denard ’01, and Andrew Peterson ’01.
In March, Karen Pryor ‘10 visited fellow Logger Devon Wohl ‘10, who works for the U.S. Embassy in Gaborone, Botswana, and the pair went on safari in the Madikwe Game Reserve in South Africa. Karen writes: “Devon and I met our freshman year—we lived a few doors down from one another on Anderson/Langdon’s first floor. We both joined Kappa Alpha Theta, where we became really good friends, particularly through serving on the leadership team together.” Karen, Devon, and a few of their friends have routinely held Puget Sound/Theta reunions since graduation.

Ruth Marston ’08 and Skylar Bihl ’08 welcomed a new little Logger to their family on May 17: Rowan Micah Marston-Bihl. Pictured here are the happy, yet sleep-deprived, parents and 1-week-old Rowan.

Britta Strother ’05 and Soloman Chou ’04 celebrated their marriage on Nov. 3. The couple met in 2001 as members of the Puget Sound crew team, but lost touch following graduation. They reconnected in 2016, and ultimately settled in Denver, where they share their lives with Sophie and Sky, their loving border collies. They were joined in celebration by fellow Loggers, left to right: Susan Gershwin ’05, Jordan Hanssen ’04, Chris Nissler ’04, the groom and bride, Elizabeth Wilbur Donovan ’05, Andrew Marsters ’05, and Nick Edwards ’04.

Friends reunited at the wedding of Kat Deininger ’12 and Ian Finder on Whidbey Island in July 2019. Kat and Ian, who was a student at UW, began dating in her sophomore year of college. Left to right: Libby Quam ’11, Ariel Downs ’12, Danielle May ’12, Rhiannon Guevin ’12, the bride, Lindsay Fuson ’12, Joan Hua ’12, and Kelsey Eldridge ’12. Photo by Mary Kalhor.
Bruce Sadler ’83 shares this photo of about half of the more than 80 Sigma Chi members who were on campus in February, celebrating the fraternity’s 70th anniversary at Puget Sound. Those in attendance included three of the chapter’s founding members.

Surrounded by more than 100 of her close friends and family members, Audrey McKnight ’42, P’66, P’70 celebrated her 100th birthday on campus in February. Many Loggers spanning generations attended. Standing, left to right: Jeff Strong ’76, P’11, P’13; Robin Strong M.Ed.’19, P’11, P’13; Ed Raisl ’78, P’13; Marjorie Albertson Arvidson ’72, P’06; Ronald Albertson ’75; Michael Cruz ’97; Carl Riesenweber ’65; James Hicks ’73; Thomas Albright ’64; Terry Lynn Eicher Arousse ’70; Marcy Johnson Duenhoelter ’92; Lesley Tash McKnight ’66; Patricia Hicks Riesenweber ’66; Mary Pyper ’85; Nancy Dickerson Tharp ’86; Rebecca Harrison ’01; Lynn Johnson Raisl ’77, P’13; and John McKnight ’66. Seated, left to right: Elizabeth Hill Richmond ’67; Sue McKnight Ingman ’70; Carol Hicks Albright ’68; Audrey; Leith Moreland Hollowell; Mary Szentesi; and Cheryl Swab ’86. Not pictured: Elaine Kittinger Besett ’76, Sara Inveen, and Danny Besett ’78.

In 2019, Crystal Ignatowski ’13 married Scott Deffenbaugh in their hometown of Salem, Ore. Loggers in attendance include longtime housemates and fellow swimmers (left to right): Nick Burns ’13, Scott Anderson ’13, the bride and groom; Ava Williams ’13, Claire Rogers ’13, and Ann Barrington ’13.
Lindsey Denman ’10 and Darrell Stewart ’09 were married July 6, 2019, in a ceremony overlooking Cascade Bay in the San Juan Islands. The pair dated briefly and became great friends at Puget Sound, but both moved abroad after graduation. While Lindsey was teaching English in Buenos Aires and Santa Teresita, Argentina, Darrell was playing semi-pro American football and teaching and working for a startup in São Paulo and Curitiba, Brazil. They remained connected and eventually moved together to the Bay Area, where Lindsey is a sought-after lifestyle photographer, and Darrell recently completed a master’s program in sports management at the University of San Francisco. Fellow Loggers at the ceremony included, left to right: Brian Eggers ’09, Katie Stock ’10, Taylor Marsh ’08, Lauren Gehring ’08, Michelle Jones (professor), Kalli Kamphaus Mensonides ’10, David Mensonides ’08, Kavin Williams ’09, Kelsie Telge ’10, the bride and groom, Isaac Blum ’09, Demetri Hoffman ’09, Jordan Thurston ’09, Conner Gehring ’10, Melissa Mayer Murphy, and Miles Murphy ’10.

Kelly Heusinkveld ’10 and Colin Koach ’10 were married in Boise, Idaho, on Sept. 7, 2019. Kelly reports: “It was excellent.” Loggers at the ceremony included (left to right): Micah Fillinger ’10, Lilah Toled ’10, Bryce Levin ’10, Jessica Cafferty ’11, Austin Boyce ’10, the groom, Kevin Wright ’10, the bride, Conner Gehring ’10, Michelle Jones (professor), Jay Boekeloo ’09, Spencer Wu ’11, Kelsey Wenger ’10, Andrew Davis ’04, and Kelsey Scanlan ’09.
WHERE DID EVERYBODY GO? It's rare to see campus landmarks like Oppenheimer Café and Brown Family Courtyard with no people. It's a clean look, but we'll like it better when the pandemic is over and campus is bustling again.
Loggers lead with joy.

This year on Giving Tuesday, Puget Sound will join with nonprofit organizations across the nation to recognize, celebrate, and encourage the generosity of all those who support the causes they hold dear.

*Join us on Dec. 1 for a day of gratitude and giving.*

Watch your inbox and pugetsound.edu/giving for ways you can participate and lead with joy.