

EVERGREEN

The Evergreen State College Magazine

Spring 2009



BUSINESS UNUSUAL

Evergreen Entrepreneurs
Working for Change



ALSO INSIDE:

Prisons Turning Green
American Places
Alumni Connections

Greeners Mean Business

Entrepreneurs are a critical force helping to rebuild the global economy – one small enterprise at a time. George Washington Carver was an entrepreneur. So were Google founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin. But so are such social entrepreneurs as Clara Barton, who founded the American Red Cross, and 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus, whose Grameen Bank pioneered “micro credit” loans to help the poor.

Evergreen alumni continue to find new ways to make their communities better, stronger, and more vibrant. In a recent survey, 12 percent of alumni reported starting a business or being self-employed within a year of graduation. They’re starting all kinds of businesses—green construction firms, marketing software companies, organic restaurants, record labels, and clothing companies. And beyond business, you’ll also see in this issue that Greeners apply entrepreneurship in unexpected ways, from growing gardens in prisons and understanding regional responses to disaster to launching a community organization that boosts economic development in a small Vermont town.

Evergreen specializes in turning challenges into opportunities for learning and growth, which lends itself particularly well to entrepreneurship among students and alumni. For people who consider starting their own businesses or organizations, there is no shortage of possibilities to change the world. The college continues to prepare critical thinkers who will come up with practical new ways to create sustainable and just livelihoods for everyone.

Despite the economic challenges we face, our first priority is still making Evergreen’s unique academic programs accessible to the next generation of students. I am confident the hard work and innovation of the extraordinary people who make up our Evergreen community will ensure a brighter future both here at the college and around the world.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas L. Purce".

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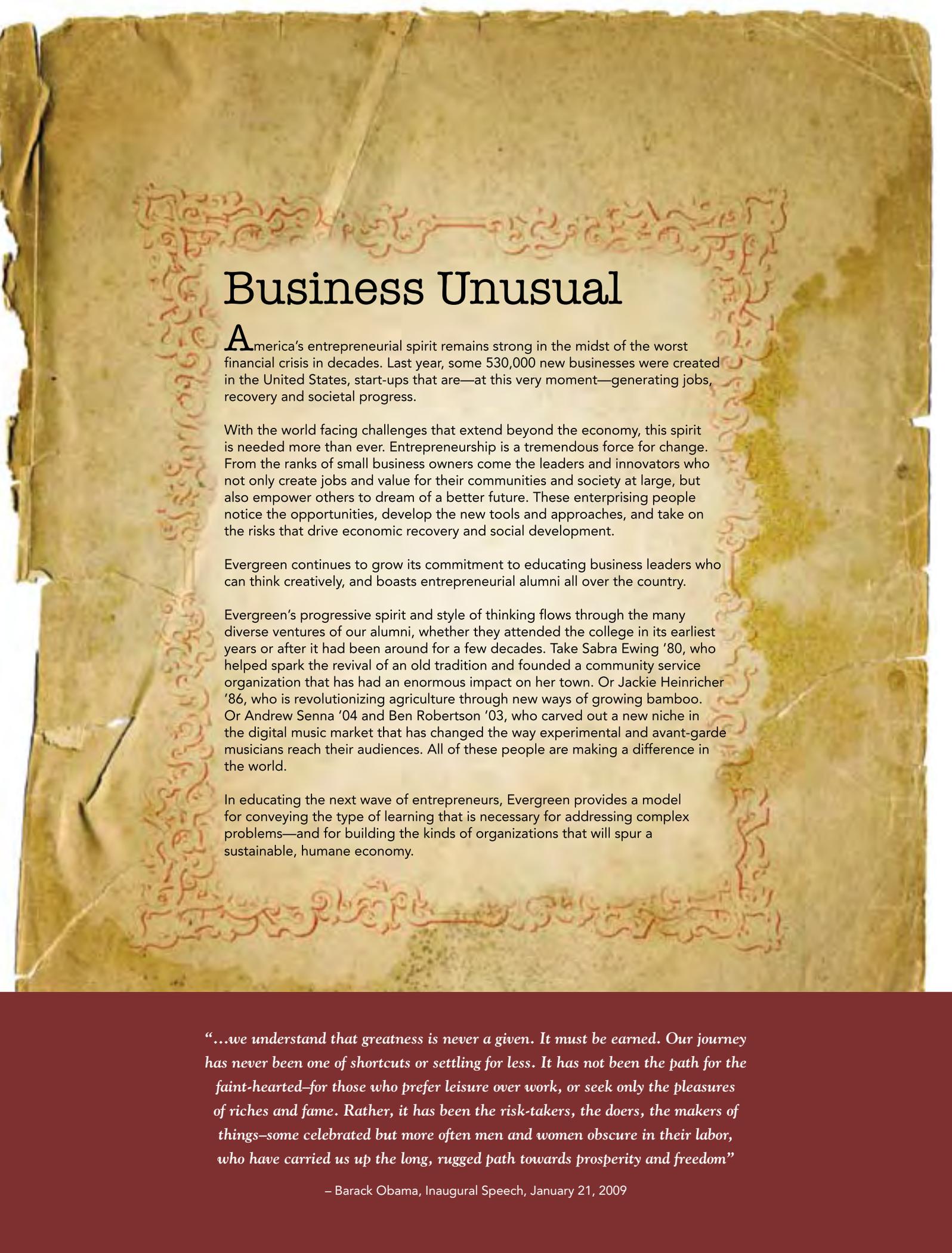


Cover photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

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Evergreen junior Scott Young created the illustration in "Pressing for Success," a profile of entrepreneurial alumna Sabra Ewing, the co-owner of Flag Hill Farm, an organic hard cidery in Vermont. Young, who produces his pop art pieces using pen and ink and acrylics, is familiar with the subject: he grew up in rural Ellensburg, where his parents own a cider press; his great grandparents have a 20-acre apple orchard in Methow, Wash.; and he's made the non-alcoholic version of the beverage himself. At Evergreen, Young is studying aesthetic theory and fine art. As an artist, he says, "I try to create things that are playful and fun." His approach is to "embody people and things though a simple emphasis on straight lines. These lines are something not visually present in photographs, which I paint from, but they remain an undeniable mediator in my relationship to modern life. The colors I use are flat and bright, suggesting the desire and lust surrounding the commodified aura, which I believe lays at the center of our relationship to seeing." Young took up art as a teenager. "Growing up in a rural community, it was something to keep myself centered and motivated," he says. After he graduates next winter, he plans to enroll in Evergreen's Master in Teaching program, teach in elementary school, and keep on making art.



Business Unusual

America's entrepreneurial spirit remains strong in the midst of the worst financial crisis in decades. Last year, some 530,000 new businesses were created in the United States, start-ups that are—at this very moment—generating jobs, recovery and societal progress.

With the world facing challenges that extend beyond the economy, this spirit is needed more than ever. Entrepreneurship is a tremendous force for change. From the ranks of small business owners come the leaders and innovators who not only create jobs and value for their communities and society at large, but also empower others to dream of a better future. These enterprising people notice the opportunities, develop the new tools and approaches, and take on the risks that drive economic recovery and social development.

Evergreen continues to grow its commitment to educating business leaders who can think creatively, and boasts entrepreneurial alumni all over the country.

Evergreen's progressive spirit and style of thinking flows through the many diverse ventures of our alumni, whether they attended the college in its earliest years or after it had been around for a few decades. Take Sabra Ewing '80, who helped spark the revival of an old tradition and founded a community service organization that has had an enormous impact on her town. Or Jackie Heinricher '86, who is revolutionizing agriculture through new ways of growing bamboo. Or Andrew Senna '04 and Ben Robertson '03, who carved out a new niche in the digital music market that has changed the way experimental and avant-garde musicians reach their audiences. All of these people are making a difference in the world.

In educating the next wave of entrepreneurs, Evergreen provides a model for conveying the type of learning that is necessary for addressing complex problems—and for building the kinds of organizations that will spur a sustainable, humane economy.

“...we understand that greatness is never a given. It must be earned. Our journey has never been one of shortcuts or settling for less. It has not been the path for the faint-hearted—for those who prefer leisure over work, or seek only the pleasures of riches and fame. Rather, it has been the risk-takers, the doers, the makers of things—some celebrated but more often men and women obscure in their labor, who have carried us up the long, rugged path towards prosperity and freedom”

– Barack Obama, Inaugural Speech, January 21, 2009

Faculty Perspectives

Can Anyone



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97



Be a Social Entrepreneur?

Point, by Nelson Pizarro

Entrepreneurs are made, not born. Entrepreneurship is a very broad term. However, there is an assumption that an entrepreneur is a person who only starts a business. Furthermore, it is associated with capitalism and individual success. But in reality, the term entrepreneur has a long history and richer meaning. In French, where the term was originated, entrepreneur means someone who undertakes a significant project or activity. French economists used the term to identify the venturesome individuals who stimulated economic progress by finding new and better ways of doing things. Other disciplines, such as management, define it differently; e.g., Peter Drucker defines an entrepreneur as someone that always searches for change, responds to it, and exploits it as an opportunity. This to me indicates that entrepreneurship is a mindset and that it is applicable in any context by anyone. Therefore, it is a behavior that can be learned—anyone can be an entrepreneur.

If we focus on the meaning of entrepreneurship in French, that someone could be anyone and be anywhere at any time. For example, social entrepreneurs direct their passion and skills toward social goals. And under social entrepreneurship, Muhammad Yunus asserts that there is a new concept emerging—“social businesses”—a new way to do business. There are entrepreneurs working through governmental organizations, such as John Muir, or in academia, like the founders of Evergreen, or in the health industry, like Paul Farmer. These entrepreneurs were inspired by other entrepreneurs—they learned to think and act as their predecessors. For me, my mother was my inspiration and as a result, I started my first business at the age of ten—selling ice cream.

— Nelson Pizarro is a faculty member in business and entrepreneurship.

Counter Point, by Toska Olson

I agree that everyone has the capacity to become a social entrepreneur, which I define as someone who works to address social and environmental problems using entrepreneurial principles, but who measures his/her success based on social impact rather than profit. However, not everyone will be a successful or persistent social entrepreneur. David Bornstein's case studies, for example, illustrate the years of preparation and the personal sacrifices that many social entrepreneurs accept as they work for the social good. The individuals who are willing to learn how to set solid boundaries and engage in effective self-care are the people who will be able to sustain their work over the long haul.

Of course, many people do make significant, positive changes in a short time span. I have seen several students contribute passionately to social justice efforts for a short time, but then burn out because they lack self-leadership and self-care skills. How many of us put self-care first in our daily lives? What consequences does this have for our own well-being, and how detrimental is it for the quality of our work? All of us should keep these questions in mind, but social entrepreneurs must keep these questions at the forefront when working for the betterment of humanity and the environment. Successful, persistent social entrepreneurs must be self-aware enough to acknowledge the personal impact of seeing others' suffering, and be willing and able to care for themselves while they are caring for others (see Laurah van Dernoot Lipsky's *Trauma Stewardship*, 2007). To do otherwise is to risk experiencing compassion fatigue and burnout.

— Toska Olson is a faculty member in sociology, anthropology and feminist studies.



RAISING some cane with BAMBOO

Jackie Heinricher Begins a Biological Revolution

by Ann Mary Quarandillo

Olympia, Washington. 1972. A young girl runs through her back yard, where her father has planted golden bamboo in a cool, rustling jungle. She grabs a few poles and imagines the next project she can create from their woody stems.

Close to 40 years later, Jackie Heinricher '86 runs Boo-Shoot Gardens in Mt. Vernon, Wash., a multimillion-dollar biotechnology company she started in her Anacortes barn in 1998. The company employs 55 scientists, horticulture specialists and growers at peak times, produces more than two million bamboo plants a year and has launched the "Plant-a-Boo" crusade to curb global warming.

Bamboo comes in more than 1200 varieties, and can grow almost anywhere. It can be used for timber, textiles, paper and food. It produces 35 percent more oxygen than trees, and sequesters four times more carbon from the air. In many ways, it's a miracle plant that will help seriously mitigate worldwide climate change.

So why hasn't the world jumped on this?

Because until Heinricher and senior scientist Randy Burr discovered how to clone bamboo through tissue culture, it was incredibly difficult to grow on a large scale. Contrary to popular belief, many strains of bamboo don't run amok across your and your neighbors' lawns. It is not only suitable for tropical climates. And it is a natural resource in deep peril—more than half of bamboo species worldwide are extinct or endangered.

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

That's because most strains only flower and produce seed once every 60 to 120 years, and then die. Without seeds, or a viable process to divide or graft plants, there was simply not enough bamboo to go around. After eight years of research and development, in 2007 Boo-Shoot produced breakthrough tissue-culture technology, now patent pending, enabling them to produce millions of plants—an unprecedented scale for bamboo. They are the worldwide leader in the field, attracting interest from Asia and Europe, as well as here in the U.S., which is the world's largest importer of bamboo products.

Their technology enables markets worldwide to meet the growing demand for bamboo for use in wood products, pulp for paper and textiles, soil stabilization, and reforestation, and to take advantage of bamboo's untapped potential for carbon sequestration.

When Heinricher started her company, bamboo had little market value. She was working on producing non-invasive bamboo strains for ornamental horticulture. But while she worked, market demand for bamboo grew, as did the technologies to use it.

"We've found a way to produce this natural resource," she explains. "Now my job is to help corporations and landowners come together to make it work commercially. This is a homegrown technology that can make a difference in this country."

At first, the woman *The Seattle Times* calls "the bamboo empress," doesn't seem like the person you'd think would be running a multimillion-dollar biotechnology company. She's been a ski instructor, an Army nurse, a scuba diver, and a marine biologist. But that's part of her success. "I've learned to get along with all kinds of people," she says. "Business isn't something you can do on your own."

Heinricher came to Evergreen because she knew it was progressive and committed to the environment. She earned her master's degree in fisheries science at Tennessee Tech, where she surprised her advisors by immediately crossing department lines, working with medical experts to figure out how a massive dam project affected mussel spawning. Her thesis findings convinced dam officials to change the way they released water from the dams. "I felt like I was head and shoulders above lots of students in my level of preparation (for grad school)," she says. "What I'm doing today is very in line with all things Evergreen."

Although Boo-Shoot offers transformational technology, it's challenging to get the information out there so that government and landowners understand and get on board. In 2004, bamboo markets worldwide were \$5-7 billion. They are predicted to reach \$25 billion by 2015, offering opportunities most people can't even imagine right now.

Heinricher is just the right person to help them see. "You're the scientist, but you have to be an expert in a lot of fields to be able to clarify the opportunities," she says of her unique role in the field. "You morph into another type of person. The biggest gift is the ability to get people to the table to ask the critical questions."

In fall 2009, Boo-Shoot is beginning their U.S. pilot program in the cotton fields of the Mississippi Delta, where bamboo used to grow wild along the Mississippi River before it was wiped out by agriculture and development. They're partnering with the Delta Economic Development Center and corporations that can use the raw material.

Right now, most farmers in the area are doing annual row-crop farming. Bamboo is a risk for them, because they will have to wait 3-5 years for the crop to mature. But after that, they can

sustainably harvest the bamboo without having to replant. Most plants can be harvested for 60-100 years. And unlike cotton, it doesn't require pesticides to grow. Heinricher believes it will help lots of high-poverty communities where crops like cotton are no longer competitive.

"Right now, we're still in the initial stages—just poking our eyes out of the water and seeing how this technology can be used," Heinricher explains. "When plants are in the ground and our initial partner projects with corporations are established, then we'll be able to get more support."

Although their first project is concentrating in the U.S. cotton belt, bamboo varieties for paper products and carbon offsets can be grown anywhere. Boo-Shoot's technology and approach meet many of President Obama's milestones for green jobs, so the environment is right for this emerging field. And corporations that have been importing their bamboo from Asia are beginning to partner with Boo-Shoot on domestic production.

Boo-Shoot began its "Plant a Boo" campaign to inform, educate and demonstrate how bamboo can address the environmental impacts of global climate change. Plant a Boo provides a platform for businesses, organizations, foundations and governments to promote the environmental benefits of growing bamboo. One of their first partners is Bridgedale, an international company based in Northern Ireland that is the market leader in producing technical outdoor socks. In 2009, Bridgedale introduced a new hybrid material featuring bamboo.

"The breakthrough we have come up with is staggering, especially for a small group. What it can do for the U.S. and for other countries is amazing," says Heinricher. "When people really start recognizing the opportunity, it will play a huge role in so many different markets."

This comes from someone who wasn't sure she was academically prepared for college, and hadn't planned to go into science. Her work is more qualitative than quantitative science, and she encourages students who may not think they're good at science or math to give it a try. "You can have a big impact without a calculator," she says. "Science mostly requires a keen sense of observation and curiosity."

As for business? Boo-Shoot started out small, and Heinricher relied on other businesspeople to show her how to move forward. "It's a long process, and you can't let go—you have to be doggedly determined to fight your way through it," she says. "You have to partner with other businesses, and find the right people to help you."

Anyone running a company faces tremendous challenges—it's not just about having a good idea. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, more than half of new businesses fail in five years, usually for financial reasons. "There's a light at the end of the tunnel, but it's a zigzag path to get there, and you can't always see it," explains Heinricher. "You just have to push forward and be confident it's there."

She worked with bankers, CPAs, and other business owners to get ideas on growing her business. Now she's creating her first board of directors, and working to raise capital investment. Being an entrepreneur is "scary as hell," she says. "But you just need to take the leap."

www.booshootgardens.com

The Making of a Socially Responsible INVESTOR

by Carolyn Shea



Richard Dunn '02 scans the waterfront, looking for signs of change since he last visited this spot. It's been a few years, but the work he did in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood still resonates as among his most memorable. Dunn is standing at the edge of Yosemite Slough, a small tidal inlet of the San Francisco Bay. Decades of abuse turned the area from an ecologically healthy salt marsh into a contaminated backwater hemmed in by blighted brownfields, concrete and chain link fences. What remains of the original wetland skirts a heavily industrialized section of the city near a 500-acre Superfund site at the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. The surrounding neighborhood, in southeastern San Francisco, is home to the city's poorest residents, who also suffer disproportionately high rates of cancer and asthma for the region.

As a community organizer for Clean Water Action, Dunn was involved in a coalition of environmental groups that rallied round the neighborhood in its need for environmental justice. With local volunteers, he walked the streets of Southeast San Francisco, talking to residents about the prospect of transforming Yosemite Slough into a public space. "We went into the community and did an oral history of the slough. We gathered people's memories about what it was like growing up there, the experiences they had there. We asked what community members wanted in a park. We invited them to look into the past and also to look forward."

Dunn's efforts helped lay a foundation for encouraging community involvement to address longstanding environmental problems. Now slated for cleanup and restoration, the 34-acre Yosemite Slough project promises to improve the quality of life in the surrounding urban district by creating a beautiful local park that integrates the information local residents revealed to Dunn and his fellow interviewers. When completed, the new park will reconnect residents to the shoreline by providing them with access to the bay and recreational and educational opportunities. It will also protect local water resources, increase plant biodiversity, and supply habitat for fish and wildlife, including two new bird-nesting islands. Dunn got a lot of practice making connections during his days at Evergreen. As a Phone-A-Thon employee, he conscientiously worked the phones to raise money from alumni and friends of the college for the Annual Fund, which makes possible a plethora of programs across the campus, from scholarships and library resources to student projects and faculty development.

Post-graduation, he moved to the San Francisco Bay Area and rapidly secured work with Clean Water Action, a national grassroots environmental group, where he remained for five years. "I got hired as a phone canvasser to call up members, ask them for donations, renew their memberships, give them campaign updates and ask them to write to their representatives." Eventually, the job morphed into a position that included community organizing, managing and acting as a political liaison for different campaigns, such as stopping mountaintop mining and offshore oil drilling. "I became the bridge between the fundraising end of the organization and the policy end of the organization."

Photos: Atom Colton '04



After a brief stint as a campaign manager for a candidate running for a seat on the board of directors of BART, the Bay Area's rapid-transit commuter rail system, Dunn had the opportunity to interview with a brokerage firm, which was interested in hiring someone who had experience in environmental affairs, the nonprofit world and politics. He fit the bill perfectly, so he was hired.

Like his jobs at Evergreen and Clean Water Action, the latest one, as a financial advisor, often involves calling prospects. "For whatever reason, I have this weird talent for raising money over the phone," says Dunn.

But the latest post has also given him the rare chance to nudge an old school investment house into the arena of socially-responsible investing (SRI), an area customarily avoided by businesses driven primarily by bottom-line profits. In essence, he has carved out an entrepreneurial niche for himself by helping investors channel their capital toward enterprises that reach beyond purely financial goals to address ethical concerns and contribute to a sustainable environment and a just world. "I was never into the Wall Street mentality, so once I came here," says Dunn, "my approach was to focus on green investments and SRI.

"I was encouraged to work with nonprofits and green stocks. I kind of broadened that into socially-responsible investing," he says. "There's a growing consensus around this aspect of investing. When you see a research publication talking about tobacco and defense stocks now, there's almost always a caveat that this might not be a responsible thing to do, even though they add that they think it's a good money thing."

"I'm all for looking at the ethical end of investments. Our biggest votes are with our dollars. What we are invested in is definitely a powerful way to have an impact."

In an attempt to foster growth in a green economy, Dunn has organized seminars and other events that bring together companies in the sector with investors and politicians. Although there has been a great deal of momentum in the last year towards building a more eco-friendly society, Dunn says, "The economic crisis has taken some of the wind away. Solar stocks had a terrible year last year, so one of the major areas I focus on was in one of the worst areas for investing."

Dunn, who was born in New York City's Greenwich Village and grew up first in New Jersey, then in Connecticut, landed

at Evergreen at the urging of a high school friend who had matriculated at the college the year before. "I knew I wanted to explore the West Coast. I had a real calling to go out there and had a couple of friends a grade above me who went to Evergreen during my senior year in high school."

He came out to visit a few schools and his friend, who picked him up at the airport, told him, "I guarantee you'll go to Evergreen." Dunn, whose nickname since middle school has been Cup'o, went ahead and visited the other schools, but his friend turned out to be right. "I could really see myself fitting into the community my friends had already established there," Dunn says.

In his first year, he took Science of the Mind, a freshman core program linking neurobiology, biochemistry, psychology and philosophy. His political awakening occurred the following year, during the World Trade Organization protests in Seattle, which prompted him to want to learn more about politics. He enrolled in Trees, Timber and Trade—a two-quarter program that focused on the interrelationships between forests, their ecology and the political and economic forces affecting their exploitation—and in Alternatives to Capitalistic Globalization, which explored a range of different visions and ideas for organizing society and meeting human needs.

Dunn, who graduated with a combined BA/BS in environmental science, says his experience at Evergreen was formative and brought out his passions for environmental and social justice. "They were always things I cared about but never realized until I went there," he says.

A member of the Alumni Association Board, Dunn enjoys organizing social events for Greeners living in the Bay Area. At a recent gathering, held at the popular San Francisco restaurant Citizen Cake, 85 percent of invited alumni showed up.

While Dunn enjoys the work he is doing, he concedes that it is a tumultuous time to be working in the financial field. And he's already formulating an even more entrepreneurial "Plan B" for his career—one in which he will launch a business to help nonprofit organizations raise money.

Dunn, who recently took up surfing in the Pacific Ocean, resides in the city's Outer Richmond district, "literally four blocks from the beach and two blocks from Golden Gate Park," he says. "I live in one of the most amazing corners of the world at the tip of the San Francisco Peninsula. I'm very inspired by the area I live in."

"I'm all for looking at the ethical end of investments. Our biggest votes are with our dollars. What we are invested in is definitely a powerful way to have an impact."

– Richard Dunn

Aphonia Recordings puts a new spin on the record label

by Ann Mary Quarandillo

Picture a group of sound artists setting up before one of Aphonia Records' monthly showcases at Gallery 1412 in Seattle's Capitol Hill. You'd expect to see guitar cases, keyboards, maybe even some drums. Instead, most of the musicians carry black boxes—large, small, some with wires, most with numerous knobs and dials. This is music unlike most you've heard.

Which requires a record label unlike most others. In 2006, Andrew Senna '04 and Ben L. Robertson '03 saw a vacancy in the Pacific Northwest for the kind of music they play and now release. So they founded Aphonia Recordings, an Internet-based label and production company dealing almost exclusively in digital downloads of contemporary experimental music.

Aphonia's first artists included friends and collaborators. "This is work that otherwise may not be available or even collected in one place," explains Senna. "We knew so many people who were doing experimental and noise music, we thought 'why don't we band together and make a label?'"

They decided to start online—"a good idea when you don't have a lot of start-up capital," says Robertson. "It also goes well with our do-it-yourself ethic."

In 2006, creating your own online label was no easy task. Setting up their own proprietary download site—think do-it-yourself iTunes—took more time (seven months) and programming know-how than they realized. "Of course, today digital releases are just a given," says Senna. "When we started, we were doing something new. But we figured, if the big guys are doing it, we're just going to do it ourselves." Today, the Aphonia site receives more than half a million hits per month and generates sufficient income to support and promote more than 20 artists on the label.

Running Aphonia also motivates them to release and perform their own work, which has grown out of their 14-year friendship. In addition to solo composing and performing, the two have created an interactive performance project entitled *The Precambrian*, an "environment/instrument" engineered by Robertson using the graphical programming language Max/MSP, combined with narratives Senna composes using transducers, microphones and field recordings.



Photos: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

As they have branched out, they find more and more listeners who are interested in alternative music that stretches beyond punk. "We're constantly moving upward, even in this economy," says Senna. "The great thing about the Internet is we can release infinite copies of work without waste—no shrink-wrap, plastic boxes, or discs. As we grow, we are beginning to do limited runs of compilation CDs, and we are working to make them as environmentally friendly as possible."

Senna and Robertson both grew up in Spokane. Senna's grandparents were old-time fiddlers, and he traveled all over the region with them to contests and festivals, even as he nurtured a burgeoning interest in post-punk New Wave. Robertson spent most of his childhood picking through his stepfather's eclectic and extensive record collection—listening to Bauhaus and John Cage when he was still a teenager.

Both studied electro-acoustical music with Evergreen faculty members Arun Chandra and Terry Setter, where they were exposed to experimental contemporary composers like Harry Partch and Ben Johnston, who work extensively with microtonal music, incorporating alternative tunings and different tone intervals than are found in most Western music. "I don't think I would have been exposed to this kind of music without Evergreen," says Senna, who went on to study sound design at Vancouver Film School in British Columbia, and teaches at Seattle Central Community College.

Many of Aponia's artists take experimental music past the point where most people recognize it. They are alchemists of a sort—much of their music and sound art comes from complex computer-generated mathematical formulas, using distortion, feedback, machine sounds, vocals and other kinds of acoustically or electronically generated noise.

It may not meet the musical expectations of many listeners. Senna and Robertson compare it to a science experiment—putting stuff together to see what happens. "Music is simply sound that's organized—either through improvisation or composition," Senna explains. "As the musician, you are the decision-maker, applying a process or concept."

The music can be anything that draws on uncommon elements—things outside the normal realm of music. "It incorporates all kinds of things, both tactile and computer-generated, that make sounds—non-instruments, noisemakers, algorithms, etc.," says Robertson. "It's content that's been used less commonly or hasn't ever been used before."

Both men have long been committed to sharing their unique "noise" with the world. In 2002, Robertson served on the organizing board for Evergreen's Student Works Festival, showcasing student-created art, music and performance. "I thought the lineup was missing experimental work," he recalls. "So in 2003, we did an independent contract to showcase art, music and performance art in the area."

That's when the two began organizing shows together—not just music, but puppetry, Butoh theater and other kinds of expression that needed a venue. Since 2007, they have promoted and produced Aponia's monthly artists showcase at Gallery 1412. The showcases feature artists both on and off the label, including well-known experimental musicians Amy Denio, L.A. Lungs and Desolation Wilderness.

"We feel like we're fostering a sense of community among artists," Robertson explains. "Lots of people who wouldn't have otherwise connected have met each other through showcases and being on the label. New collaborations are happening all the time, and that's one of the most rewarding parts."

The term "aphonia" describes a medical condition resulting in a loss of voice. Aponia Recordings' goal is providing a venue for both their artists and audiences—"exposing material that might not otherwise see the light of day."

Much of that audience is younger, college educated music experimenters, or engineers, who are really interested in how and where strange music comes from. Although they are often concentrated in urban areas, it's not an exclusive art form, and Aponia has expanded its audience, reaching out to the pockets of experimental music fans across the country.

"Our label is a great distribution system, because it's not limited to an educated, urban audience," says Robertson. "There's a great noise scene in Spokane, in Kansas, in rural areas. There is a small town audience out there that is looking for this. It's more inspiring to reach them than in 'preaching to the choir.'"

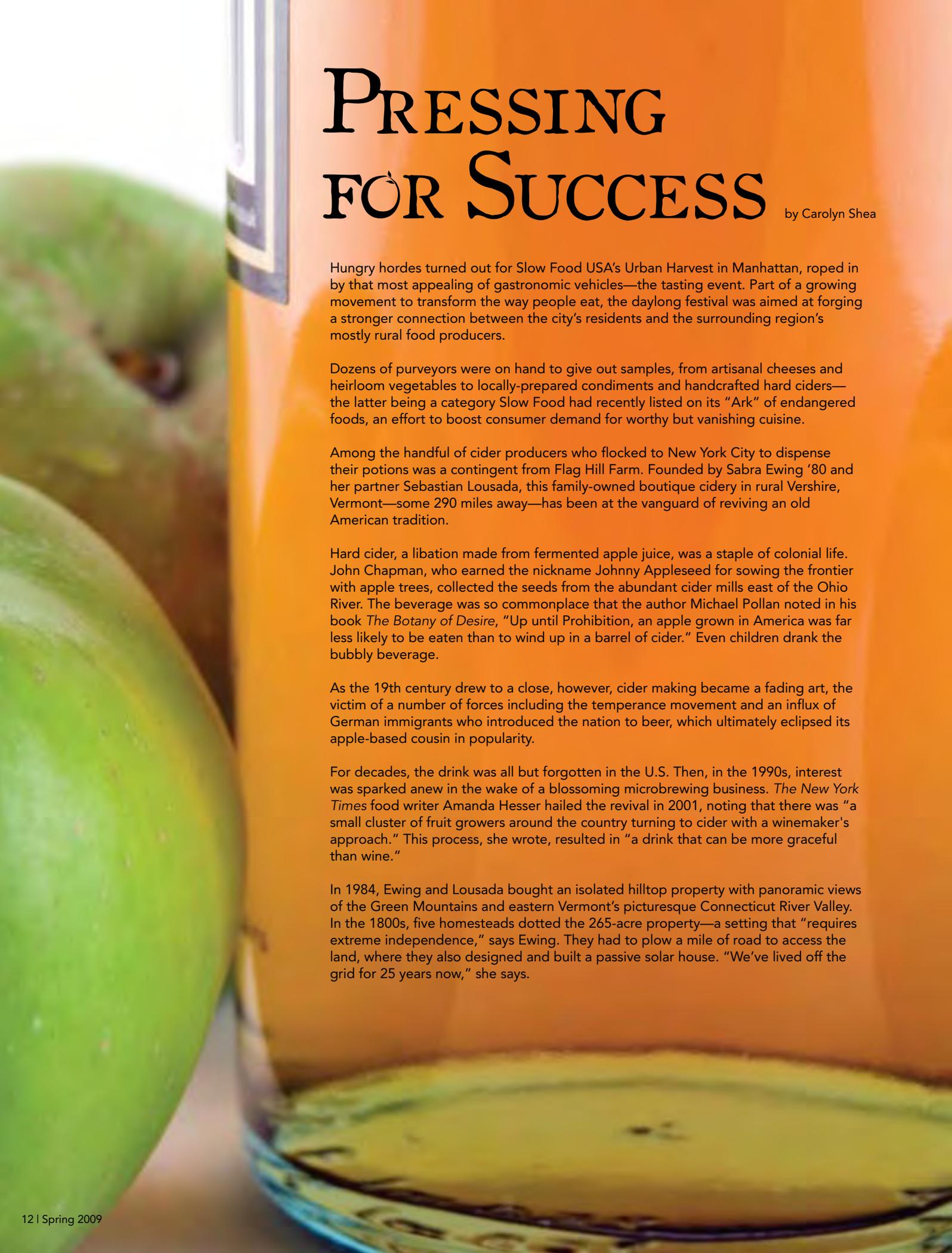
They're not looking to be the next Columbia or Arista, or even Sub Pop Records. "Not that we don't want to make money," laughs Senna, but they value their non-commercial aesthetic, which gives them and their artists the flexibility they require.

"Because we are an online label, geography is irrelevant," says Robertson, who plans to move back to Spokane for graduate school next fall. "We operate the label as part of our lifestyle—it's just a more formalized way of doing what we'd be doing anyway."

And if some of their bands move on? Desolation Wilderness, for example, has been picked up by Olympia's K Records, and is playing the famous SXSW festival in Austin, Texas this year. For the Aponia guys, that shows that they are reaching their goal to get this music out to the world. "We serve as a face—a collective umbrella for all those voices," Senna says. "If our role is to foster young talent, that's ok."



www.aphoniarecordings.com



PRESSING FOR SUCCESS

by Carolyn Shea

Hungry hordes turned out for Slow Food USA's Urban Harvest in Manhattan, roped in by that most appealing of gastronomic vehicles—the tasting event. Part of a growing movement to transform the way people eat, the daylong festival was aimed at forging a stronger connection between the city's residents and the surrounding region's mostly rural food producers.

Dozens of purveyors were on hand to give out samples, from artisanal cheeses and heirloom vegetables to locally-prepared condiments and handcrafted hard ciders—the latter being a category Slow Food had recently listed on its "Ark" of endangered foods, an effort to boost consumer demand for worthy but vanishing cuisine.

Among the handful of cider producers who flocked to New York City to dispense their potions was a contingent from Flag Hill Farm. Founded by Sabra Ewing '80 and her partner Sebastian Lousada, this family-owned boutique cidery in rural Vershire, Vermont—some 290 miles away—has been at the vanguard of reviving an old American tradition.

Hard cider, a libation made from fermented apple juice, was a staple of colonial life. John Chapman, who earned the nickname Johnny Appleseed for sowing the frontier with apple trees, collected the seeds from the abundant cider mills east of the Ohio River. The beverage was so commonplace that the author Michael Pollan noted in his book *The Botany of Desire*, "Up until Prohibition, an apple grown in America was far less likely to be eaten than to wind up in a barrel of cider." Even children drank the bubbly beverage.

As the 19th century drew to a close, however, cider making became a fading art, the victim of a number of forces including the temperance movement and an influx of German immigrants who introduced the nation to beer, which ultimately eclipsed its apple-based cousin in popularity.

For decades, the drink was all but forgotten in the U.S. Then, in the 1990s, interest was sparked anew in the wake of a blossoming microbrewing business. *The New York Times* food writer Amanda Hesser hailed the revival in 2001, noting that there was "a small cluster of fruit growers around the country turning to cider with a winemaker's approach." This process, she wrote, resulted in "a drink that can be more graceful than wine."

In 1984, Ewing and Lousada bought an isolated hilltop property with panoramic views of the Green Mountains and eastern Vermont's picturesque Connecticut River Valley. In the 1800s, five homesteads dotted the 265-acre property—a setting that "requires extreme independence," says Ewing. They had to plow a mile of road to access the land, where they also designed and built a passive solar house. "We've lived off the grid for 25 years now," she says.

Five years after acquiring the land, the couple planted a portion of the property with apple trees. Both had had earlier experience picking the fruit, which Ewing describes as a “wonderful communal experience.”

Today, the farm has an established orchard, where they tend 87 kinds of organic heirloom and contemporary cider apples. They also gather unsprayed apples from neighboring farms. “Conventional apples are sprayed as many as 17 times from blossom to harvest, with pesticides, herbicides and fungicides,” says Ewing. “We don’t spray at all.”

After the fall harvest, the fruits are pressed to extract their juice, which is then handcrafted into limited-release cider using a lengthy winemaking process. At Flag Hill Farm, the juice is fermented in small batches for two years, resulting in an alcoholic content of less than 10 percent.

The heady fruits of the couple’s labor have won kudos from Boston to New York and one of their blends is featured in the Williams-Sonoma New American cookbook on New England.

“Conventional apples are sprayed as many as 17 times from blossom to harvest, with pesticides, herbicides and fungicides,” says Ewing. “We don’t spray at all.”

To distinguish their boutique beverages from unfiltered, unfermented apple cider and mass-market carbonated apple wines, Flag Hill Farm employs an historic spelling of the word cider, using the marketing tagline of “Cyder with a ‘Y.’” Accordingly, their sparkling cider is named Flag Hill Farm Vermont Sparkling Hard Cyder and their still variety is Flag Hill Farm Vermont Hard Cyder. Their newest product, a Calvados-inspired apple brandy called Pomme de Vie, lays claim to being the first legal brandy produced in the state since alcohol was banned during Prohibition.

Lousada brought some early experience to the couple’s enterprise. “When he was 12, he began making traditional country drinks like elderflower champagne in England, where he grew up,” says Ewing. In Vermont—the epicenter of the hard cider resurgence—they had friends who concocted the stuff, so they decided to give it a try themselves. Largely self-taught, they also garnered valuable tips from a book on cider-making by one-time Vershire resident Annie Proulx, who wrote the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Shipping News* and the short story that was later adapted into the blockbuster movie *Brokeback Mountain*.

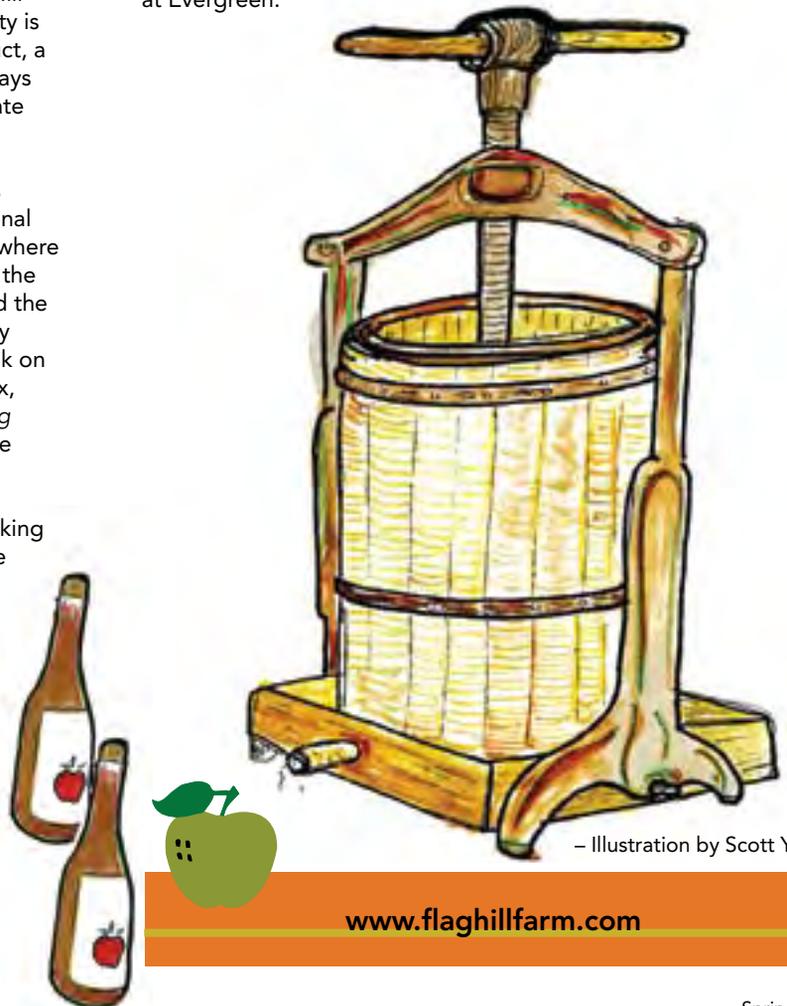
Today, Lousada oversees the orchards and the cider-making process. Ewing manages sales and marketing. A decade ago, when the farm first started selling their products, Ewing had a harder job getting them on menus and store shelves. In recent years, however, the thirst for alternative alcoholic beverages has made hard cider one of the liquor industry’s fastest-growing segments and Flag Hill Farm is reaping the benefits. “We’re having trouble keeping up with demand,” says Ewing. Their ciders can now be found statewide, in supermarkets, food co-ops and beverage stores, as well as restaurants and cafes. Until the operation is set up for interstate distribution, consumers must travel to Vermont to try Flag Hill Farm’s selection (unless they are lucky enough to sample the ciders at an out-of-state tasting event).

Ewing, who grew up in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, and has two children, Raphael, 20, and Lily, 17, has an abiding interest in education and community, as well as deep roots in sustainable agriculture and rural living. Before coming to Evergreen, she attended The Mountain School in Vershire, which provides students with the opportunity to live and work on an organic farm.

Besides establishing her own thriving farm—with its menagerie of Scotch Highland cattle, cats, dogs and parrots (Lousada is an experienced field ornithologist who breeds several parrot species)—and a successful business, Ewing also founded a vital community service organization named VerShare, which is devoted to improving the lives of her neighbors and promoting the town’s unique social capital and knowledge base.

Incorporated in 1998, this grassroots nonprofit has initiated a variety of programs and initiatives, including a free summer camp for local children. Eight years ago, VerShare reestablished a library in the town (after being without one for a century). The organization also operates a hostel and sponsors community get-togethers and potluck dinners. Every year, it holds a Snowshoe-a-thon, which raises money for a children’s activity fund. This year’s event raised nearly \$14,000. VerShare also opened the Made-in-Vershire Shop to sell locally made products like handcrafted toys and furniture, hand-woven garments and maple syrup candy. “It was started as a way to physically showcase our social capital...to bring money here rather than have people go elsewhere for work,” says Ewing, who served as VerShare’s president for three years.

It continues, along with VerShare and Flag Hill Farm, because of Ewing’s vision, hard work and values, reinforced by her education at Evergreen.



– Illustration by Scott Young

www.flaghillfarm.com

THE ENTREPRENEURIAL FORESTER

How Two Evergreen Alumni are Reshaping Northwest Forestry

Ian Hanna and Kirk Hanson want you to cut down your trees.

Well, some of them, anyway. Although it may sound contradictory, managing and selectively harvesting forests provides incentives for landowners to keep them healthy and growing instead of being lost to other uses. Development for real estate and conversion to agriculture, pasture or other uses all contribute to the Puget Lowlands having one of the highest rates of forest loss in the country.

Hanna and Hanson run Northwest Certified Forestry (NCF), the primary program of the Northwest Natural Resources Group, a nonprofit organization based in Port Townsend, Wash., which is working to create a new economic model for forestry. They identify new markets for FSC-certified wood products, find ways for companies to pay landowners for carbon offsets of greenhouse emissions, and educate small forest landowners on how to maximize both the ecological and economic value of their land.

"This is a new market, like organic food was 20 years ago," says Ian Hanna '93, NCF's Director. "We're working with landowners and businesses to develop markets and supply chains – building demand for sustainable forest products."

Hanna is a market development expert, with a broad background in ecosystem forestry. Through staff and partnerships, NCF has created a toolbox for small forest landowners, offering training in ecological management, marketing and management strategies.

"Landowners who are entrepreneurial want to do more with their land to enhance its long-term value," says Kirk Hanson '95, the NCF South Sound Regional Manager, and a small forest landowner himself. "They want to balance the health and quality of the forest and the economic opportunities. So we bring in a suite of services to connect them with resources and prospective customers."

Many small-scale landowners have had limited opportunities for selling forest products, because they only had one market – large sawmills. NCF works to diversify those market options and bring providers and end-users together. With FSC certification, considered the global gold standard for sustainable forestry, they have opened other markets, such as "green" construction firms, that value the extra points that FSC-certified wood adds to their Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification rating.

"We're creating a local wood products economy – connecting local small landowners with local manufacturers and local discerning buyers," Hanson explains. "This way, we can create a fairly stable and growing marketplace that values higher forest management standards."

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97
(L-R) Kirk Hanson, Ian Hanna

The ultimate “green” building material is local FSC wood, so they are working to enhance that market. Getting FSC certification historically has been an expensive proposition, and most small landowners don’t have the resources to pursue it alone. By banding together as a group through NCF, they can pool their resources to get their wood green-certified, plus get help in marketing their eco-friendly wood to buyers.

John and Robert Henrikson, co-owners of Wild Thyme Farm in Oakville, Wash., are founding members of the group certification program. Through the NCF network, the farm sells wood straight to local businesses like Windfall Lumber in Tumwater, which makes finished products, such as flooring, trim, molding and other lumber products. Selling directly to builders, as well as to individual end users, adds maximum value to their product.

“This way, family foresters can have different revenue streams, and a deeper relationship with their forest, creating the optimal scenario between preservation and loss,” Hanna explains.

Both Hanna and Hanson see their role as forest management innovators, something they honed at Evergreen. Hanna planned to be a chemist, but after joining the first temperate and tropical rainforests program led by faculty members Nalini Nadkarni and Jack Longino, he changed to ecological sciences.

He learned to run a business the old fashioned way—trial and error—when he founded Windfall Lumber, one of the first FSC-certified businesses in the Northwest. “Evergreen teaches you how to learn on your own,” he says. “So I started my own business and learned how to run it.”

Hanson knew he was interested in entrepreneurial resource management, and studied nonprofit/small business structures through an independent contract. In 1996, he founded Permaculture West, a nonprofit organization that provided educational and training programs on sustainable forest and farm management for private landowners. He’s also worked for the Washington Department of Natural Resources, where he helped found the Small Forest Landowner Office.

“The college emphasized getting students out and connected with the community, meeting people in their fields, apprenticing,” he says. “I knew what I wanted to do, and Evergreen enabled me to go do it.”

Both studied with Evergreen faculty member Paul Butler, who is now a member of NCF. They have had initial conversations with faculty members about introducing a working demonstration forest area to the college, similar to the Evergreen Organic Farm. “It’s important to put forestry in an educational context, and help students develop an understanding of how forests change over time,” says Hanna. “It’s not just about hiking through them and admiring their beauty, but building a whole new type of interaction which both provides for people and benefits the forest.”

Visionary forest management integrates the forest’s own wild patterns, maintaining its natural diversity and vigor, and includes fixing problems that humans have historically caused rather than simply hoping the forest will overcome them. It could also train students for new “green” jobs in the carbon economy.

“Evergreen could make a great contribution to the art and science of forest management,” says Hanson. He and Hanna envision teaching students ways to enhance forest resources and restore habitat, as well as optimizing the forest’s ability to produce a wide range of forest products while sequestering carbon and reducing the college’s carbon footprint.

Carbon offsets are another untapped market that NCF is working to grow. In March, they launched NW Neutral, a first of its kind program that connects small forestland owners like Wild Thyme Farm who wish to sequester additional carbon in their forest with businesses looking to offset emissions. The first buyer of these carbon offsets through the program is Seattle green building materials retailer ecohaus.

“Carbon offsets could create a new market for small forest landowners that would keep working forests working,” said Washington Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark, who attended the celebration of this pioneering effort. “In these challenging economic times, we must innovate ways we can simultaneously fight climate change and protect forestlands from conversion.”

More than 20 percent of net global carbon emissions come from forest degradation and loss—the second leading contributor to carbon emissions worldwide after fossil fuels, according to The Nature Conservancy. “In the Pacific Northwest, there’s been a significant change of forest land to houses,” explains Hanson. In addition to the carbon released by logging, manufacturing, etc., fewer forests prevent the land from continuing to absorb carbon.

“If we could put what nature does for us in monetary terms, people could see the real price of the forests, the water quality, the habitats and biodiversity they provide,” Hanna explains. “Forests are the best mechanical means to suck carbon out of the air. Carbon offsets are the kind of products the market wants. And if we can offer \$20 per metric ton of CO₂ sequestered, that’s incentive for small forest landowners to manage their forest for growth instead of simply selling the wood for fiber production.”

NCF helps landowners by inventorying and monitoring carbon dynamics in forests. It’s important to have hands-on verification showing the changes over time, so they can quantify the benefits the forest provides.

“It’s an opportunity for landowners to differentiate themselves in the marketplace,” says Hanson. “We’re using an established, international verification system to recognize people who are managing their forests in this way.”

Almost everything we buy is somehow related to forest products—it’s either made of wood or fiber, or it’s been packaged and shipped using forest products. Even most foods include gums and resins from forests. And 15 percent of timber in the world has been illegally harvested.

“The way we spend money transforms the world,” says Hanna. “You vote every time you pay.”

Now, markets exist where consumers can choose directly what they buy. Hanna and Hanson encourage a “farmers market” of the forest industry, directing people to local sources for the wood products they need. The Puget Sound FRESH program, a consortium of Seattle-area farmers markets, co-ops, and farms, is working to add forest products, both wood and non-timber products like berries and mushrooms, to their offerings.

“We couldn’t have done this five years ago,” says Hanna. “This is the perfect time. The current economic crisis is the opportunity to wake people up. What we do now about creating economic value and being honest about the costs of our natural systems can keep us from ending up here again.”



"We believe giving back to the community is important."

— Todd Harris

Spreading Beauty and Sustainability, by the Yard

by Carolyn Shea

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

TODD HARRIS '98 is an artist with a green thumb, a trowel and an overarching concern for the environment.

Educated as a plant ecologist and trained as a stonemason, he uses soil as his canvas, plants and water as his medium and rock as his frame. By skillfully melding these different elements, Harris produces horticultural masterpieces that are as pleasing to the senses as they are propitious to nature.

His company, Stone People, LLC, started in 2003, is in the business of enhancing landscapes all over the South Puget Sound area—for both humans and wild creatures. Employing the most up-to-date techniques—as well as traditional skills—Harris and his crew offer a range of eco-friendly landscaping services, from design to installation, that don't force customers to make a choice between beauty and sustainability.

Stone People brings together science, art, engineering and the desires of commercial and residential clients into holistic, aesthetically pleasing solutions. A member of Olympia Master Builders' "Built Green" program and the Northwest Eco-Building Guild, Stone People also fosters the planting of native trees, shrubs, and perennials, which are typically disease- and insect-resistant, not invasive and easier to maintain. Many of these plants also suit the needs of native fauna like songbirds, butterflies and bees.

Harris uses his botanical know-how to help clients effectively become refuge managers on their own properties. He practices this approach in his own life at home: The five acres in Tenino where he and his wife Kari live and base their business is certified as a backyard wildlife sanctuary by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Harris has been working hand in hand with Mother Nature since he was an undergraduate. He took landscaping jobs during his summers off, and in his senior year, he did an internship involving the sustainable harvesting of medicinal plants. "It was good experience for learning about identifying plants in the wild," says Harris.

He learned masonry and finished carpentry after graduation, when he moved up to Seattle for a year. "I realized I enjoyed the stonework aspect and the water features, so when I started my company, I wanted to focus on that more."

His passion for using stone led him to name his company after the concept of "stone people," which exists among some Native American tribes who consider rocks as beings imbued with the history of the world. "The name seemed appropriate for someone who works so much with the material," says Harris.

Three years ago, Stone People had nine employees. Now it has four. This was done by design. "I scaled back because it was more manageable and for quality control," says Harris. "There's an artistic element to our work that can easily get lost. We do a lot of specialized landscaping that requires engineering knowledge and an artistic sense. I wanted to be more artistic and didn't feel like sacrificing quality for money."

Cutting back also compelled him to run his operation more leanly and efficiently, which turned out to be a good thing when the economy slowed down.

Since he's been in business, Harris has donated his labor and services to several cash-strapped organizations in the area. He built a pond and a waterfall for the Tenino-based nonprofit sanctuary, Wolf Haven International, and he and his wife helped the Hawks Prairie Sound to Harbor Head Start Program with plantings to give its children a safe place to play. "We believe giving back to the community is important," he says, "and we're grateful for the opportunities we have to improve habitat, whether it's for humans or animals." Spoken like a true environmental artist.

www.stonepeopleLLC.com

Behind the Image

by Ann Mary Quarandillo

Zorah Miller '97 has been thrown out of more countries than most people have visited.

But that doesn't stop him from documenting disasters, wars, and humanitarian crises around the globe as an independent photojournalist. He covered the major 2005 earthquake in Pakistan and Kashmir, has spent time embedded with U.S. troops and shooting independently in Iraq and Afghanistan, living with families in Palestine and the Gaza Strip, and documenting famine in Kenya. His work has been featured worldwide in galleries, museums and publications, including *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, BBC News, The United Nations, CNN, NBC, CBS, ABC, PBS, NPR, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Fortune*, Democracy Now and many others.

His experience and worldwide publication of his photos, as well as his war zone experience, helped him become embedded with both the Marines and the Army in Iraq in 2005 and again in 2007. But in June 2008, he ran afoul of the Pentagon and was banned from all Marine-controlled areas after he posted photos of soldiers killed in a suicide attack on his Web site, challenging the restrictions that had been increasingly placed on photojournalists in the area.

Although he was not expressly banned from Iraq, no other military unit would accept him. *The New York Times* featured his story, which illustrates the continuing conflict between military officials' concerns for security with the journalist's goal to document history. Miller tries to show the sacrifices of war; although he's been called anti-American, many soldiers understand he is trying to show their struggles and the commitment they're making.

Miller didn't intend to become a photojournalist. In 1998, he was running a techno record store in the New York City's East Village, and looking for a meaningful way to help people in need. Changing careers didn't daunt him. "Evergreen taught me how to do things on my own," he says. He started working with the

American Red Cross as a disaster technology specialist. But during a Manhattan blackout in 2003, he became frustrated when layers of bureaucracy kept him from quickly handing out truckloads of food to people who needed it. He didn't feel he could make a difference through traditional disaster relief.

Around this time, he saw the Oliver Stone film *Salvador*, starring James Woods as photojournalist Richard Boyle, who chronicled El Salvador's civil war. "It showed a guy taking photos in a humanitarian crisis," Miller recalls. "He was on his own getting the word out." So Miller bought a used camera and a plane ticket to Asia, and started shooting.

He began working with an agency but found most of the projects they proposed were commercial or business shoots. He took an assignment in India but couldn't do the human interest stories he wanted to, so he decided to strike out on his own. "News has become an entertainment industry and it shouldn't be," he says. When he was assigned stories about Gaza, for example, he saw that the stories he was asked to photograph were not the stories he was seeing on the ground.

Miller is determined to document what he sees, and encourages other independent journalists to do the same. Sometimes that fits in with commercial media; most of the time, it doesn't. "What does news mean these days?" he asks. "I'm glad to be part of that debate." According to Miller, the mainstream media is not documenting how things are really happening. So he's working to create outlets for himself and other journalists, beginning with his own site, and his blog which features his work and that of other independent photojournalists worldwide. "What I see happening is that we need to create our own outlet for news," he says. "The Internet's potential is only beginning to be realized."



"Evergreen taught me
how to do things
on my own."

— Zorah Miller

www.zorah.com

Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern

Evergreen, Inc.

by Carolyn Shea

“Business as usual is indeed not sustainable.”

— Lord Nicholas Stern,
former World Bank chief economist, 2009

With the economy in tatters, it was only a matter of time before the media started pointing fingers at who was responsible for the mess. A big, institutional target was identified in March, as news of the exorbitant bonuses paid by bailed-out insurance giant AIG hit an outraged American public—on the heels of tax-funded rescues of other ailing companies. The culprit? America’s elite business schools.

The New York Times pointed out that many of the architects of the current crisis learned their trade at the top-ranked programs. A Bloomberg News columnist called for shutting down the “master of business administration factories that helped land the global economy in the current mess.” And *Forbes* published an op-ed by the dean of Villanova’s business school, who contended that “radical change—in the form of reinventing, reframing and rebuilding the education of our future business leaders—is now necessary.”

At Evergreen, Advanced Foundations of Successful and Sustainable Businesses offers a constructive model. Using a multi-disciplinary approach, this team-taught program examines how corporate practices, innovation and leadership influence the relationship between business and society. With such current events as the subprime mortgage failures, the government bailout of banks and automakers, and the growth in green business forming valuable lesson subjects, students in the program were given a holistic understanding of corporate social responsibility, ethics and sustainability.

According to management science professor Glenn Landram, the program emphasized the “triple bottom line” standard of accounting in its study of business. Also referred to as TBL, 3BL, or “people, planet, profits,” this expanded criteria takes into account an organization’s social and environmental performance—along with its financial returns—to measure its full impact on society and the environment.

Landram and finance professor Zoë Van Schyndel developed a curriculum designed to foster critical thinking about business leadership. Students learned how companies spot and respond to opportunities, deliver goods and services to markets, and develop internal processes and organizational structures. They scrutinized business practices from the perspectives of finance, marketing, management, economics, history and ethics. Comparative studies of different companies, like Dell vs. Apple and Nike vs. Adidas, exposed students to varying practices and situations, as well as the quandaries faced by managers.

Students all worked on group and individual projects. One student, **Antoinette Johnson**, a senior who owns a drive-through espresso stand in Puyallup, worked on a group project called “Is Green Black?” She and her partners conducted an in-depth analysis of “greenwashing” practices across four different industries—paper products, cleaning products, consumer electronics and oil—to see how advertising about products or policies falsely identified as being environmentally friendly affected companies’ balance sheets. “We developed a scale to determine the level of deceptive marketing that the companies were engaging in,” she says, “and analyzed company history, including financial performance, new products, media attention and much more.”



Senior Antoinette Johnson owns her own drive-through espresso stand in Puyallup. “It’s been extremely interesting to be in a business program during these economic times,” she says.

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Another student, **Thomas Kolb '04** (right), came back to Evergreen specifically to take the program because he wanted to start his own sustainable business. He created a self-defined project based on his idea and enlisted two other classmates to help. With the work they completed, his Bombus Bicycle Collective will soon start fabricating hand-built bicycles and refurbishing old ones. During the winter quarter, they produced the company's Web site and in the spring, Kolb made his first frame. "I feel like I need to get better with the numbers part of the game and refine the bike-making process, but I feel like it's already started," he says.

In the spring, students did a complex capstone project that challenged them to apply what they had learned. In teams, they managed simulated businesses making and selling athletic shoes to demonstrate their ability to synthesize the fundamentals of business in making strategic decisions. "This brings home all the things we studied," says Van Schyndel.

Johnson, who plans to pursue an MBA or enter a chartered financial analyst program after graduation, says she enrolled in the three-quarter program to "gain better understanding and a broader perspective on emerging issues in the relationship between business and society. I have definitely gotten this



Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern

and much more," she says. "It's been extremely interesting to be in a business program during these economic times, discussing and learning about how all the parts of the crisis are interrelated and affect one another."

After all, recognizing and respecting the world's interrelationships is what sustainability is all about.



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Helping Businesses from the Ground Up

Ben Anderson is studying sustainable business and economics at Evergreen, but he's not waiting until he graduates to jump into the world of commerce.

"I've always been passionate about entrepreneurship," says Ben, a one-time lemonade-stand operator, bicycle repairer, salesperson, and landscape-business owner. "My dad says I have a hundred business ideas every day."

Anderson, a junior who was enrolled in Advanced Foundations of Successful and Sustainable Entrepreneurship during the fall quarter, is the co-coordinator of the Center for Sustainable Entrepreneurship (CSE), a student-run organization he helped establish in 2007.

According to Anderson, the group was launched to give students the tools and guidance needed to start a business or organization. The CSE endorses a paradigm in which business people work not just toward gaining wealth, but also for the common good. In this model, businesses make a profit and maximize the positive impact of their day-to-day and long-term operations. Since becoming a registered student organization

in 2008, the CSE has been an active and visible force for connecting the college and the larger community and providing resources to students who dream about someday owning their own businesses.

The CSE provides numerous resources to students interested in starting a business (or nonprofit organization), including books, magazines, pamphlets, and opportunities to talk with business owners and nonprofit leaders. Its weekly meetings frequently feature speakers who share their experiences and expertise like Roma Bert, co-owner of Olympia's Gravity Beer Market, which carries specialty brews, and Sarah Reilly '01, a member of the Evergreen Alumni Entrepreneur Association who is part owner of Darby's Café in downtown Olympia. "They demystify what running a business is all about," says Anderson.

With the Thurston County Economic Business Council and the local Washington Small Business Development Center, the group also holds ongoing workshops on pertinent topics such as writing a business plan.

In February, they sponsored a free, one-day forum called "The New Economy: Green and Sustainable Solutions," which assembled regional leaders to talk about renewable energy, socially responsible investing, and green careers. The forum was coordinated with the Advanced Foundations of Successful and Sustainable Entrepreneurship program.

In May, the club participated in the Synergy conference by hosting several events, including a talk by Kevin Wilhelm, the CEO of Seattle-based Sustainable Business Consulting and the author of the new book, *Return on Sustainability*, a call to action for companies to address climate change.

All CSE events are open to the public, as well as the Evergreen community. "We try to be as inclusive as possible," says Anderson. "One in 10 Evergreen graduates go on to become entrepreneurs. We're here to help the ones who want to do that."



Uncovering an American Place

by Carolyn Shea

"My study is a community-based place study, but also a kind of personal exploration of my past in the place I'd like to call home again."

– Lee Hughes

"We started out fixing one kind of bridge, but we ended up finding a bridge into the past."

– Doug MacDonald, Washington State Secretary of Transportation, 2004

In the summer of 2003, workers on a state project to overhaul the aging Hood Canal Bridge unearthed a 2,700-year-old Klallam village buried beneath layers of industrial rubble on the Port Angeles waterfront. By the time the transportation project was halted 16 months later, more than 300 complete skeletons and 10,000 artifacts had been found, along with the ruins of six longhouses, making it one of the most significant archeological finds in a generation.

The discovery of the village of Tse-whit-zen (pronounced ch-WHEET-sen) rocked the state of Washington, the city of Port Angeles and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, whose ancestors were interred in the site. Yet, it also reconnected the community with its forgotten past and sparked a cultural reawakening for the tribe.

Lee Hughes is a third-generation native of Port Angeles, a town of 19,000 situated on the north shore of the Olympic Peninsula, between Tse-whit-zen in the west and another major Klallam village in the east. It faces the Strait of Juan de Fuca; at its back is the million-acre Olympic National Park. Hughes's grandparents immigrated there from Europe. "They followed the railroad West," he says.



Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern

As a junior in Evergreen's American Places program, Hughes put his birthplace—and the region itself—under an ethnographic microscope to examine how its inhabitants view their past, present and future; the forces that have shaped them; and the prospects ahead. "My study is a community-based place study, but also a kind of personal exploration of my past in the place I'd like to call home again."

According to the American Places syllabus, the three-quarter program considered "how American places are conceived, lived in, felt about, fought over, and transformed at intersections of geography and history, culture and politics." Co-taught by Kristina Ackley, Sam Schragger and Matt Smith, it gave students the opportunity to develop their skills as writers and researchers, as well as the option to deeply study either local places or those more distant. Each student conducted ethnographic fieldwork to document and understand social life in a chosen community. Some did this in conjunction with internships.

One student, did a case management internship with the Lewis County Long-Term Recovery Organization to help victims of the 2007 flooding and researched the role of spirituality and community in disaster recovery. Others studied communities further away like San Francisco and Mexico, Amsterdam and South Africa.

In the fall quarter, the class spent time reading a wide range of assigned texts, as well as learning how to conduct oral-history interviews, writing essays and a life-history paper, and going on a one-week field trip to observe different communities in the Yakima Valley as a trial run for the more extensive individual studies to come later in the program.

A big component of the program was the oral-history interview, conducted with people whose lives and stories students wished to record. The recordings and transcripts of their interviews are to be preserved in the Evergreen State College Library archives as part of a growing collection of historical and cultural records about local life. Students also wrote "life portraits" based on their interviews. In the end, their work had the potential to be of practical and documentary value to a wider community.

In Hughes's analysis of Port Angeles, he found a town struggling to orient itself. For much of the 20th century, its primary industry was logging. By the 1980s, when most of the biggest trees had been cut down and stricter environmental regulations curbed additional harvesting to protect endangered spotted owls, its economic foundation crumbled. Despite its abundant natural beauty and high quality of life, the town "still has a rear view approach to its economy," says Hughes. "Port Angeles is a complicated place. It's a town in transition, going from an extractive-based economy to a more environmentally-based economy."

Hughes is a nontraditional student who once worked as an engineering technician for the Washington State Department of Transportation. A father of two—and grandfather of two—he lives in Olympia with his wife, who teaches algebra in Lacey's Komachin Middle School. To conduct his independent fieldwork, he drove 2½ hours to reach Port Angeles. On one particular trip, he visited the graves of his paternal grandparents, who are buried at the Ocean View Cemetery on a bluff overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca. While there, he located the grave of the writer and poet Raymond Carver, who died in Port Angeles in 1988. Hughes had been reading Carver's short story collection, *Where I'm Calling From*, for his project.

He read other books, too, like William Dietrich's *Final Forest*, on the controversy of logging the Olympic Peninsula's old-growth forests, and historic documents. For his oral-history interviews, he spoke with nine different townspeople, "a wide strata of the population," to get a fuller picture of the region, including a local realtor, a woman in her 80s who grew up on the Elwha River "before the national park was a national park," a lumber mill manager, and someone from the Lower Elwha Clallam Tribe.

"I've really come to appreciate a lot of different viewpoints," he says. "What's been most illuminating for me is the Native American element. I was never aware of the history of what the people went through and what they are still going through."

Looking at the region from the perspective of a researcher, Hughes has come to understand the place where he grew up in a different light. His investigation of the discovery and handling of the ancient burial ground and native village in Port Angeles helped him better understand its history, heritage, and conflicts over land use. He got an education in the politics of the place and he did some comparative research, pitting Port Angeles against its smaller neighbor to the east, Port Townsend.

In March, he attended a meeting in the City Council Chambers about the findings of a sustainability assessment by the American Institute of Architects to address how Port Angeles can best move forward. He wrote about the meeting in depth on the blog he created in the spring quarter, which is called "Olympic Treasure: A search for meaning on the Olympic Peninsula." Among his observations: For Port Angeles to become "a place that people want to come to visit and even stay in, rather than pass through as they mainly do now, will require that the city be reconsidered, reconditioned, and revitalized. In a word: rebuilt."

Hughes almost abandoned the program last fall when the financial meltdown hit. "I really started getting interested in economics," he says. "I was going to jump ship, but Sam Schragger, my evaluation faculty, talked me into staying and I'm so glad I did. It was definitely worth it."

"My study has given me a greater appreciation for the Olympic Peninsula as a place, as well as growing concern over sprawl, the loss of the natural landscapes that exist there, and the very nature and character of the community there today," Hughes writes. "It appears there is a strong need for reconciliation."

And his plans regarding the place he calls a "cultural and ecological jewel"? "I'd like to move back sooner than later and affect some change there," he says.



Lee Hughes views his research as a personal as well as an academic journey. He brought his son, Kevin, along to Tongue Point near Port Angeles on one of his research trips.



PRISONS TURNING GREEN

Evergreen Graduates, Students, and Faculty put Their Stamp on Corrections Work

By John McLain



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Marin Fox Hight '08 does not seem surprised by her current station in life, but others are. "I'm not what people expect when they think of someone running a jail," she says.

It may be her relative youth—she's 34, runs marathons, and has a four-year-old daughter. It may be that she's a woman in a field that, despite some broken glass ceilings, remains top heavy with men. For some people, it's clearly a matter of educational pedigree, as they don't expect to see an Evergreen graduate filling her position as director of the Cowlitz County Corrections Department.

Hight takes it all in stride. She supervises two detention facilities, 90 staff represented by four unions, the county's probation and offender services programs, and an average daily inmate population of 321. She operates in a very public and political arena where she reports to three elected county commissioners and can easily find herself on the front-page of the local paper. "I have to behave myself," she volunteered, suppressing a grin.

She is also part of a growing number of Evergreen graduates, faculty and students who are using their talents and passions to change correctional institutions and help inmates rebuild their lives.

“I’m not what people expect
when they think of someone running a jail.”

– Marin Fox Hight



STRANGE BEDFELLOWS?

For some, Evergreen and the corrections industry make for an odd couple. On one side there’s the small, colorful, anti-establishment, heart on your sleeve, anything-goes liberal arts college, and on the other is the gargantuan, gray, monolithic, unforgiving government fortress of social control and punishment. At the level of stereotype, it’s like Maya Angelou going steady with Dick Cheney. What could the two possibly have to offer one another?

Quite a lot, as it turns out.

Career Development director Wendy Freeman reports at least 51 alumni working in corrections that responded to recent placement surveys, though the surveys were not representative and with more than 30,000 alumni the actual number is likely higher.

According to surveys conducted by the college’s Office of Institutional Research and Assessment over the past several years, Washington’s Department of Corrections (DOC) is tied with the Department of Ecology as the third largest employer of Evergreen graduates. Greeners hold leadership roles at

the highest levels of DOC, including secretary Eldon Vail ’73, deputy director Dan Pacholke ’08, and Cedar Creek Corrections Center superintendent Hisami Yoshida ’84. Last summer, Vail and Evergreen president Les Purce signed an agreement for the college to lead DOC-Evergreen sustainable prisons projects at four western Washington prisons.

Evening and Weekend Studies faculty and psychologist Mark Hurst and his students have been working with prisoners since 2004, studying the efficacy of treatment models emerging from a relatively new field in psychotherapy, Positive Psychology.

Before them all was Gateways, founded by faculty emerita Carol Minugh, which has turned college into a reality for incarcerated youth for the past 14 years. The full-time academic program brings Evergreen students and faculty to detention facilities as mentors, tutors and instructors to the young men held there.

“It seems like prisons and Evergreen are strange bedfellows, but actually we’re not,” says faculty member and forest ecologist Nalini Nadkarni. “If we’re heading students toward careers that involve service and helping improve the world, then corrections is an extremely logical place to be.”

GREEN IS THE NEW GRAY

Nadkarni would know. She's been working in prisons for five years, most of that time collaborating directly with DOC's Dan Pacholke.

Back in 2004, as then-superintendent of the 400-inmate Cedar Creek Corrections Center, Pacholke wanted to add 100 more beds to help meet DOC's need for more space. The rural facility near Olympia is a minimum-security prison, mostly for men at the end of their sentences, and it's close to I-5—both factors that make it less expensive to operate. It's in the Capitol Forest, which offers considerable work and training opportunities for inmates housed there. And expanding an existing facility was better than building a new one.

Then he ran into a big problem—water. Cedar Creek's 400 offenders were already tapping out the facility's available water rights, Pacholke says. "We had two choices: get more water rights—a ten-year prospect—or cut our consumption." Then, even if he could get more clean water into the facility, he had to deal with the wastewater going out. Growing to 500 beds would also require a \$1.5 million upgrade to the center's sewage treatment plant.

Enter Nadkarni, who met Pacholke at a DOC volunteer luncheon where she was recognized for a research project she conducted with help from Cedar Creek inmates. Pacholke told her about his interest in sustainable operations, and especially his need to cut water use. Nadkarni offered to organize some faculty lectures about the issues for inmates and staff to see if that could help crack the problem.

If you ask them individually why their partnership is so effective, they'll immediately point to the other. Pacholke credits Nadkarni's infectious optimism and her ardor for public science education. For Nadkarni it was Pacholke's ability to implement ideas quickly and without fanfare. "After each of the lectures he said, 'You know, we could do that here.' So I'd go back and I'd see this organic garden they put in, and the next time I'd find this worm composting operation going on. And it was all done at a completely low level. They built a recycling shed out of recycled wood. They didn't put in a fancy \$500,000 composter. They put in a low-tech worm operation that does the job a whole lot better."

Pacholke kept pushing forward, with sustainability improvements that included low-flow toilets and showers, leak detection and repair, a rainwater catchment system, a system for washing cars using only five gallons per vehicle, and the decision to stop watering lawns. "We decided if we couldn't eat it, we weren't going to water it."

The results were dramatic. They dropped per capita water uses from 132 to 100 gallons a day and saved 250,000 gallons in the hot season alone. And because they were pumping less water to the sewage plant, and had taken the seemingly trivial step of scraping dinner plates for the compost operation, the sewage treatment plant was running well below capacity and the need for an expensive fix disappeared.

"It was all done on a handshake and a shoestring," Pacholke says.

Now Evergreen and DOC have entered a formal agreement to bring staff and students together under Nadkarni's and Pacholke's leadership to keep the work progressing at Cedar

Creek and build out the sustainability capacities of three additional prisons: Stafford Creek, McNeil Island, and the Washington Corrections Center for Women in Gig Harbor.

The cost of the two-year project for DOC is \$300,000. For Vail, the benefits could not be clearer. "It reduces cost, reduces our damaging impact on the environment, [and] engages inmates as students," he told the Associated Press when announcing the project. "It's good security."

NURTURE AND NATURE

Saving money may be the thing that pleases lawmakers and taxpayers, but for corrections professionals, working in prisons is also very much a labor of the heart.

As a practicing psychologist for more than two decades, faculty member Mark Hurst and a number of his colleagues around the world have become convinced that the field puts too much emphasis on pathology and mental illness and not nearly enough on the factors that lead to mental health. Building from the work of Positive Psychology pioneer Martin Seligman, Hurst and some of his students are working with inmates at three Washington prisons.

Think of Positive Psychology as the psychotherapeutic equivalent of preventive medicine: instead of only fixing something when it's sick or broken, positive psychologists advocate identifying, taking care of and enhancing those assets that contribute to mental wellbeing. Among other things, Hurst encourages inmates to identify their supportive relationships and their own personal characteristics of goodness, such as personal integrity and the ability to express love, kindness, and gratitude.

About 50 percent of state and federal prison inmates have diagnosable mental disorders, Hurst says. "These are the new mental institutions in our society, and if you talk to prison administrators, judges, and prosecutors, they all know the system isn't working. We're trying a different approach. We can help someone address an anger problem, for example, while he is identifying his strengths and while he is serving his time. In the process we're giving him some tools for when he reenters society."

In many ways, the approach Gateways takes with incarcerated teenagers is similar. What makes the program successful is that the students come to value the knowledge they possess, and to trust their own curiosity. "We have a standard," Carol Minugh says of Gateways staff and Evergreen students in the program. "Respond. Don't bring something in. The things of value are going to be the things that come out of them, not the things we bring in." The incarcerated students decide what they want to learn about, and they collaborate with faculty, program staff and Evergreen students to figure how they want to pursue it.

For the DOC-Evergreen sustainable prisons projects, part of the goal is to bring inmates into the core of the various initiatives, to inspire their own emotional investment in the work. "They want to be engaged," says Jeff Muse, program manager of the project. "They want to feel like their time is worth something. They know they're being punished for a reason, but at least the ones I'm working with feel like they need to do something."

HISAMI YOSHIDA



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

**“A few years ago
we started growing flowers,
and it changed things.
Now you go around to the
prisons, and most of them
have flowers growing.”**

– Hisami Yoshida

Like her colleague Dan Pacholke, Hisami Yoshida, the current superintendent at Cedar Creek, makes things happen. As an undergraduate in the 1980s, she was instrumental in creating a peer counseling program at Evergreen for students of color that continues to this day. At DOC, where she’s worked for more than 20 years, she has initiated a number of offender programs, including a youth program at a time when the state was incarcerating minors in adult prisons and a residential parenting program to allow infants to stay with their mothers in prison.

Yoshida believes that allowing inmates to become nurturers and creating beauty and sustenance within prison environments can be the seeds of transformation. “Prisons are primarily dirt, and concrete, and gravel, and metal fencing,” she says. “A few years ago we started growing flowers, and it changed things. Now you go around to the prisons, and most of them have flowers growing. Whenever you start to do things like that, it changes the atmosphere of the place. As more and more prisons begin to grow food that will happen more as well.”

Food... and native plants... and frogs. For the sustainable prisons project, inmates will also be working with The Nature Conservancy to grow native plants for prairie restoration, and the state Department of Fish and Wildlife to raise endangered Oregon spotted frogs for release in the wild.

As Marin Fox Hight struggles with budget cuts at her county facility, she worries that the short-term savings from reducing services will come with a hefty long-term price tag. “We have people at their worst, and we have an opportunity to give them some tools to help them not come back. I think we have to provide those opportunities. That may sound liberal or hug-a-thug, but it’s a sound investment that can save the taxpayers in the long run.

“I take people’s lives seriously,” Hight says, “the people who work here and the people we house here.”

She’s not alone.

EVERGREEN

everywhere

A Super Evergreen Night with the Mariners and Jackie Robinson Scholars

Two Evergreen baseball events join forces for one big night at the ballpark. It's the 3rd Annual Evergreen State College Night at Safeco Field, with a pre-game ceremony at home plate honoring the 2009-10 Jackie Robinson Memorial Scholarship recipients.

It all takes place Friday, August 7, with the Mariners hosting the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Plus, it's Ken Griffey, Jr. Bobblehead night! There'll never be a more enjoyable way to support students—\$4.00 from every ticket purchased goes to the Alumni Association Scholarship/Fellowship Fund.

Established in 1988 by Evergreen faculty member Patrick Hill and his wife Maureen, the Jackie Robinson Memorial Scholarship is awarded to transfer students from Seattle Central Community College. Recipients demonstrate the athletic ideals of Jackie Robinson, have distinguished themselves academically, and have shown an outstanding commitment to community involvement and social justice.

Pre-Game Cookout!

Before the game, come hang out at the Evergreen Pre-Game Cookout in Safeco Field's Bullpen Market area directly behind Center Field from 5:30 p.m. until game time. Join your fellow Greeners for hot dogs, peanuts, popcorn, potato salad, baked beans, gourmet cookies and soft drinks.



Photo: Katie Frank.

The Evergreen State College Night at Safeco Field

Friday, August 7, 2009

Safeco Field, Seattle

Pre-Game Cookout: 5:30 p.m. to game time

Game Time: 7:10 p.m.

Game tickets: \$15.00, Cookout tickets: \$16.50

RESERVE YOUR SEATS in the Evergreen section right above the bullpen at mariners.com/evergreen
Purchase tickets for the cookout at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/safecofield.htm



Photo courtesy of the Seattle Mariners.

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT RENEWING YOUR TABS WAS THE LEAST EXCITING THING EVER...

Support scholarships!
Buy an alumni plate at any County Auditor or DOL subagent office. It costs \$40 for the original application, and \$30 for the annual renewal in addition to regular registration fees. For more information, visit www.evergreen.edu/alumni.



HONK IF YOU'RE A GREENER

Alumni Association Increases Student Support

You can help through the Alumni License Plate Program.

This spring, the Evergreen Alumni Association Board of Directors reinforced their commitment to increase student scholarship support, which is especially important in these troubled economic times. The Board has increased from one to four the number of Jackie Barry Scholarships awarded annually. They also increased the number of graduate fellowships awarded from one per year to one per year for each graduate program—Master in Teaching, Master of Environmental Studies, Master of Public Administration and the new Master of Education.

To fund this ambitious plan, the board is launching a major campaign to promote The Evergreen State College official Washington license plate. Purchasing a plate is easy, affordable, and a great way to support students. Each year, \$28.00 of your fee goes directly to the Alumni Association Scholarship/Fellowship Fund—providing an ongoing income stream.

After more than 10 years of Evergreen plates being on the road, the college will introduce a newly designed plate this summer, featuring the college's tree logo and "Omnia Extares" motto. It's a great way to display your Evergreen pride.

**Growing Fast:
The Evergreen Alumni
Entrepreneurs Association**

Everywhere they go, Greeners get involved and make their communities more dynamic. The Evergreen Alumni Entrepreneurs Association was created as a resource for alumni, students, faculty and communities to share ideas and resources.

With this growing directory of community builders, we can demonstrate the value of 40 years of Evergreen alumni to their communities. You can find classmates, add to your professional network, or even shop for gift ideas.

If you are a business starter, have founded a non-profit organization, or hold a patent or trademark, please join and let us add you to the Evergreen success story.

Check out the directory online at:
www.evergreen.edu/alumni/entrepreneurs

**Stay Green. Stay in Touch.
Send Us Your Email!**

Help us keep you informed while being good stewards of our resources. With challenges to both the environment and the economy, it's important for us to reduce our printing and mailing.

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

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

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

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

News & Notes



John Levi III



Angel Stewart



Aaron Schlund

Photos: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Geoducks Boast First Team All-American *Several players take conference honors*

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Division II's number two scorer, Nathan Menefee, was honored with a First Team All-American award.

Menefee, who was named to the Third Team last season, crushed a number of school records this season. His incredible 48-point total in game one of the national tournament broke the Evergreen single-game scoring record of 43 points set by Quincy Wilder during Evergreen's last nationals run. The junior totaled 69 points in two games at the tournament. Menefee was also named Cascade Collegiate Conference Player of the Year by the league's coaches and athletic directors.

Menefee, a 5'11" junior guard from Tacoma, averaged 24.4 points during the regular season, helping the Geoducks to a fourth-place CCC finish and a berth in the CCC Tournament. Menefee set a single-season school record with eight games of 30 points or more

during the regular season. He was joined on the all-league squad by teammate Nick Moore, last year's CCC Newcomer of the Year.

"Nate has been a vital part of our success this season," said Evergreen coach Jeff Drinkwine. "His competitive spirit has inspired all of us during the course of the season. Nate is a gifted and talented person, and it has been an honor to have the opportunity to coach him."

Geoduck basketball players John Levi III, Aaron Schlund and Angel Stewart earned All-Academic Cascade Collegiate Conference awards. Stewart, a sophomore guard from Yakima, Wash., finished with 112 points this season for the Evergreen women. Levi, a senior interning with the state legislature and a key player and starter for the Geoduck men, has contributed 353 career points to Evergreen, including 221 this season. Also a senior, Schlund is in his second season for the Geoducks after transferring in fall 2007.

Create a legacy
at The Evergreen State College
inside the Daniel J. Evans Library

The Evans Library Leaf Project — You can support the Evans Library by purchasing a colorful leaf tile etched with your student's or your family's name. The tiles are displayed on supporting iron vines in the library, creating a beautiful legacy that will be visible for years to come. Your gift will allow the library to expand in numerous areas, including: Study and Resource Facilities; New Information and Communications Technology; Service to South Sound Communities; Publications and other Information Resources. Find out more at <http://give.evergreen.edu/library>

Menefee Leads Geoducks to Sweet Sixteen

by Dave Weber

Legendary.

A handful of games played by any college basketball team are destined to echo down through the institution's history. As soon as it ended, The Evergreen State College's 101–86 victory over #11 Bluefield College in the first round of the NAIA Division II National Basketball Championships in Branson, Mo., became such a game.

Fueled by Nate Menefee's record-shattering 48-point effort (the second-highest in tournament history) and a furious 47–16 run by the Geoducks, Evergreen rallied from a listless first 25 minutes to overcome a talented Bluefield squad. The Geoducks moved into the tournament's round of 16, where an 83–61 loss to #6 Indiana Wesleyan University eliminated them from the tournament.

But the run there was impressive. After defeating #10 Eastern Oregon University, 84–74, in the semi-finals of the Cascade Collegiate Conference tournament to clinch a trip to nationals, the Geoducks refused to go one-and-done in their first national tournament appearance since 2002. Down 70–54 with 14:30 to go, Evergreen (20–12) kicked into high gear and erased the lead in a matter of just nine minutes.

Menefee showed why he was the nation's second leading scorer, as his 41st and 42nd points gave the Geoducks the lead for good, 82–80, with 4:11 to play. The Geoducks' attack was far more balanced than the outburst by Menefee. He was joined in double figures by four seniors: Michael Ward with 15, John Levi III with 12, and Nick Moore and Julio Feliciano with 11 each.

In the Geoducks' second round game, Indiana Wesleyan shot 62 percent from the field, including 50 percent from the three-point range. Although Evergreen made a charge and managed to cut the lead to seven behind 21 points from Menefee and 19 from Moore, they couldn't complete the comeback against a strong Wildcat team.

Students, faculty and staff back home in Olympia watched streaming video of both games in Seminar II, and even though the game was 2,000 miles away, they cheered as loudly as if they were right there in Keeter Gymnasium.

"We didn't play our best basketball, but we laid the groundwork for the future," coach Jeff Drinkwine told *The Olympian* after the second-round game. "We had kids who believed in the program, and we've come a long way."

Bacho is Publishing Pioneer

Northwest Asian Weekly named author and Evergreen-Tacoma faculty member Peter Bacho one of Seattle's Asian-American Pioneers in Publishing in October. An award-winning author, attorney, journalist and faculty member, Bacho has been called the foremost chronicler of the Filipino-American experience.

In May, Bacho released his latest screenplay "Dancer," based on a short story from *Dark Blue Suit and Other Stories*, with a staged reading at Bindlestiff Studio in San Francisco. His newest work, a young adult novel called *Leaving Yesler*, will be published in 2010 by New York's Pleasure Boat Studio.

He is the author of multiple novels and non-fiction books, including the 1992 American Book Award-winning *Cebu*, about a young Filipino-American priest, *Dark Blue Suit*, about the struggles of Filipino immigrants in the 1920s and 1930s, and *Entrys*, about a young Filipino-Native American veteran trying to rebuild his life after surviving the Vietnam War. In 2006, the University of Washington listed *Cebu* as one of the top 100 books written by a UW writer over the past century.

Bacho's experience growing up Filipino-American in Seattle's Central District fuels his passion for telling the stories of Filipinos in American history. One of the largest Asian minorities in the country, and the largest in the state of Washington, some 40,000 Filipinos live in the Puget Sound area alone. As a child, Bacho lived with his immigrant parents in migrant worker camps, traveling from harvest to harvest, before settling in Seattle. He was the first in his family to graduate from high school, then college and finally law school.

Bacho has taught at the University of Washington, UW-Tacoma, as well as in Evergreen's Tacoma program. He served as a staff attorney for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He was a regular editorial contributor for the *Christian Science Monitor*, and wrote for major foreign policy journals including *SAIS Review* and the *Journal of International Affairs*. He became a full-time editorial writer for the *Tacoma News Tribune* in 1999. In 2005, he returned to his first loves—writing fiction and teaching. He has since taught and been a guest lecturer at universities throughout the United States. Seattle University named him their Distinguished Northwest Writer in Residence for 2005.



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

1975

Kris Fulsaa, Seattle, received a Teaching Excellence Award in Arts and Humanities from University of Washington Educational Outreach on June 18, 2008, in recognition of exemplary teaching as an instructor in the UW Extension Certificate Program in editing. Fulsaa has taught in the program since 2002, helping it grow from 30 students each year to more than 150 students in 2008-09.

Ellen Ann Gordon, Oakland, Calif., heads her own San Francisco area graphic design company.

Paul Jeffrey, Eugene, Ore., is co-author of *Where Mercy Fails: Darfur's Struggle to Survive*, published in March 2009 by Seabury Press. He also is a photojournalist for the United Methodist Church in Eugene.



Edward L. Ketcham, Tacoma, teaches diversity in Tacoma-area communities.

Sarah (Jones) Krall, Lander, Wyo., has worked in science support logistics with the United States Antarctic Program for 24 years. She has gone as a grantee three times, as a camp manager or mountaineer/guide. She loves her work, and has held a variety of contract jobs, including helicopter crewman, hovercraft pilot, communications operator and guide for the Writers and Artists program. "Managing the geology camp on Mt. Erebus is probably the best job I've had," she says. "I have laughed out loud, working my way down the safety line to a tent I can't see, loving the extremes, the people, and the magnificence of the land itself. I'm getting older now, but I still can't give it up. Lucky me."

Geoffrey Scott Rothwell, Palo Alto, Calif., recently returned from a trip to Saudi Arabia, where he discussed the value of building the first nuclear power plant on the Persian Gulf by 2020.

Jonathan Stephens, Washington, D.C., is a board member of Conservation Volunteers International Program, which pairs volunteer conservation work with travel to exotic regions of the planet. Conservation VIP volunteers work in some of the world's greatest wild places, repairing and restoring cultural sites, working with fish and wildlife, and encouraging community support. The program offers work trips to places like Torres del Paine National Park in Chile, Machu Picchu in Peru, and Yosemite National Park. Anyone who would like to take part in their travel adventures is welcome. www.conservationvip.org

Martin's Memoir Brings Family History Home

S. Rudolph "Rudy" Martin has always been a pioneer. He helped start the first African American Studies program at Washington State University, and came to Olympia as one of the 17 faculty members that planned, launched, and implemented The Evergreen State College in 1970.

His new book, *On the Move: A Black Family's Western Saga* (Texas A&M University Press), shows where some of that pioneering spirit came from. The memoir tells the story of his family's movement westward, from his great grandparents' marriage and settlement in East Texas to his own family's movement to the Bay Area. In doing so, he also brings to light not only his own past, but a lesser-known area of African American history.

"Sometimes my clan and family members led the hordes marching westward, sometimes they followed the waves and at other times they simply joined in," he writes. "But they pressed ever onward to the beckoning coastline. In the process, and on those distant shores, they and we became western African Americans. Changed people. New creatures. We and other black folk who had similar experiences tended to end up more like the people we settled among than those from among whom we sprang. We're still Africans and we still bear the marks of our birth, but we're different from our kinfolk who stayed 'back home.'"

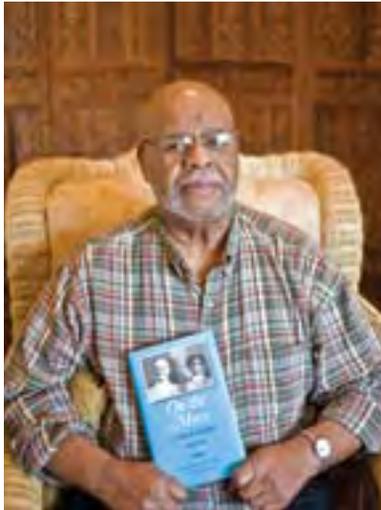


Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

The book started out as a way to preserve these stories for his children, but for Martin, spending the past decade examining his family history has allowed him to examine issues he had struggled with himself. What he learned was that "place" is as powerful a determinant of what happens to people as anything else.

The guiding question Martin started with is also the title of the second chapter—"How Did I End Up Here?" "The book aims to answer some of that," he says. "I don't have it all nailed down yet—and I hope I never do."

Martin, who retired from Evergreen in 1998, has published essays and stories in *The Seattle Review*, *The Journal of Western African American Culture*, *Obsidian* and elsewhere. His newest novel, *Natural-Born Proud*, is being published by the Utah State University Press. www.onthemovesmartin.com

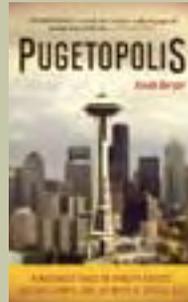
CLASS NOTES

Eric Laurence Stone, Los Angeles, Calif., published a new book, *Flight of the Hornbill*, his third Ray Sharp detective thriller. It is based on a real event Eric witnessed in Indonesia. His recent book tour brought him to Olympia in November 2008; he'll appear in Seattle and Portland on July 29. www.ericstone.com



nist for Crosscut.com, a Seattle-based Web site of news, politics and culture, and writes the "Grey Matters" column for *Seattle* magazine.

Richard A. Cohen, Lake Oswego, Ore., is a psychiatrist in private practice and has spent more than 20 years as a faculty member in the internal medicine residency program at Providence Portland Medical Center. He is also a clinical professor in psychiatry at Oregon Health and Sciences University. In 1986, after completing his residency in Chicago, he moved to Portland, where he has lived ever since, except for 1998-2000 when he, his wife and their three children lived in Christchurch, New Zealand.



Chuck Shelton, Sammamish, had *Leadership 101 for White Men: How to Work Successfully with Black Colleagues and Customers* published in December by Morgan James. It examines race relations in the corporate world. The publisher says: "Honed through more than 250 presentations, and tested in relationships with people of color and women for 40 years, this approach prepares white men to deliver better results, by building more effective relationships with black employees and customers. It speaks directly to the growing national appetite for straight talk that helps Americans communicate and achieve across race and gender lines."

1976

Knute "Skip" Berger, Seattle, is a former editor of both the *Cooper Point Journal* and *Seattle Weekly*. His first book, *Pugetopolis*, was published by Sasquatch Books in January 2009. He is currently the "Mossback" colum-

1977

Kathleen White, Olympia, is communications manager for the Port of Olympia. Previously, she worked as a senior communications manager for Weyerhaeuser, public relations director for the state DOP and communications director for the state Department of Information Services.

Dear in the Headlines

Joseph Dear '76, a veteran of Washington state politics, bade farewell to Olympia last March when he relocated to Sacramento to help mend the battered fortunes of the nation's once-largest public pension fund.

Dear, who ran Washington's state pension fund for six years, was named the chief investment officer of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), which manages the pensions of 1.6 million government workers.

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, Dear's new job makes him "one of the most powerful investors in the U.S." However, he assumes this role at an enormously precarious time. Economic turmoil has wiped out about a third of the value of CalPERS's portfolio since October 2007, when the fund held a record \$260 billion in assets. With Dear in charge of investments—and a staff three times bigger than the one he managed in Washington—CalPERS has already announced a number of measures to address current market conditions.

Shortly before joining CalPERS, Dear was named to the Investors Working Group, a new task force led by former Securities and Exchange chairman William Donaldson and Arthur Levitt Jr., that will recommend regulatory changes geared toward giving more clout to shareholders. He also chairs the Council of Institutional Investors, an advocacy association that addresses issues affecting public, union and corporate pension funds.

Dear has a 30-year track record in management, politics and economics. As executive director of the \$68-billion Washington State Investment Board (WSIB), he oversaw a staff of 73. From 1997 to 2001, he worked as chief of staff for former Governor Gary Locke. Prior to that, he served as assistant secretary for occupational safety and health for the U.S. Department of Labor during President Bill Clinton's administration. He served as director of the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries from 1987 to 1993.

While studying political economy at Evergreen, he did a group contract that produced a monograph on Washington state's tax structure. This led to his first job with the public interest tax reform group, People for Fair Taxes in Washington, where he was executive director from 1977 to 1981. "My career is living proof that Evergreen's focus on learning how to learn is a great foundation for success," he says. "My education gave me the ability to integrate different disciplines, which magnifies your impact on the job. It's results, not pedigree, that matter at work. I think that's really important."

Dear's philosophy is that "first and foremost, pension funds have a fiduciary duty to satisfy certain criteria, which must govern all investment decisions. When those criteria are satisfied, then it's appropriate to look for collateral benefits. We must always try to make the best investment decision; then ask, 'What else can we do?'" Clearly, in these times, he is being asked to do more.

Jamie Rector / Bloomberg News / Landov

1978

Bud P. Cook, Ph.D., Hilo, Hawaii, is education director of the Ka Maluhia Learning Center in Hilo and is currently serving with the DOD in Iraq. He has done significant research into the effects of assimilation on the culture and health of Native Hawaiians, and how reviving some pre-colonial lifestyle practices of indigenous men could positively affect their health. He also works extensively with Native



Tina ('94) and Bud Cook '78

Hawaiian veterans. Both he and his wife, **Tina Cook '94**, are trained Aikido instructors. They teach the Center's "HeartWarrior Aikido Program," which shows kids and their families how to best cultivate skills and competence toward healthy and "real life" based situations and the power and responsibilities that come with making sound choices. Tina is director of health and healing for the Center.

Westina Olivia Peckham, Ketchikan, Alaska, teaches third grade.

Neil Pritz joined BMO Capital Markets, part of the investment banking unit of the Bank of Montreal, in April. He was named a managing director in the Fixed Income Group, covering public sector and infrastructure. Previously a managing director with Banc of America Securities in Chicago, where he developed the firm's public finance practice in the upper Midwest, Neil has also held leadership positions at Mesirov Financial and Banc One Capital

Markets. He holds an M.A. and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago.

1979

Laurie D. Frankel and her spouse, **Raymond Hem Lee '80**, Seattle, are enjoying life with their kids, Karina and Fulan, and the family dog, Lilly.

1980

David C. Brenna, Olympia, was named legislative and policy coordinator for the Washington Professional Educator Standards Board in December, a position previously held by **Nasue Nishida '05**. David has more than 25 years of government experience, including extensive experience analyzing public policy, managing legislative processes for state agencies and providing testimony to legislative committees. He received his M.S. in psychology from Eastern Washington University.



Cooper Points His Camera

What does my cat do all day? Documentary filmmakers **Deirdre (Coulter) Cross '01** and Michael Cross wanted to give their cat, Cooper, the opportunity to document his wanderings through their neighborhood. His unique perspective, and the photos he produced, landed him on the Animal Planet television series "CATS 101" in December, and have struck a chord with artists, photographers and animal lovers all over the world.

His front-page article in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* garnered more than one million web hits. He has been featured on Good Morning America, in *People* magazine, the *Los Angeles Times*, as well as BBC Radio and the *Shanghai Morning Post*. His Flickr hits have surpassed 1.5 million, and in February, more than 400 people turned out for his gallery opening at Urban Light Studios in Seattle.

Deirdre studied documentary film at Evergreen, completing "Bison Winter," an award-winning feature about the last wild herd of American bison, and has done a great deal of nature filming and photography. "You're usually trying to get the animal to walk into the shot," she explains. "We started thinking—what would Cooper see? What would that look like? Being just four inches off the ground is not the way we tend to look at the world." It was a documentary that humans couldn't shoot, so she started looking for a way Cooper could make his own work.

She found it in Mr. Lee's CatCam, a miniature digital camera that fits on his collar, and designed a waterproof box around the camera to match his fur. It's lightweight, so it doesn't interfere with his activities, and is programmed to take one picture every two minutes—from 200 to 400 per day. In the year and a half he's been shooting, they've learned a lot about his activities—discovering how many hours he spent staring at their door waiting to be let inside led them to install a cat door—but they also found surprisingly beautiful photos that inspired them to share on his blog, Cooper-Cat Photographer (www.cooper-catphotographer.blogspot.com).

Cooper is now an official staff member at Cross Films, where Michael and Deirdre, along with fellow Greener and Academy Award-winning producer **Susan LaSalle '90**, produce videos, documentary films and commercials with major clients including Alaska Airlines and Microsoft. His "Cooper Original" photos are available through Urban Light Studios gallery store. www.crossfilms.com/cooper

Photos by Cooper, except Deirdre Cross and Cooper's portrait (details) by Michael Cross

Jenifer Silvernale '81



David Sokal, Seattle, owns Olive Branch Enterprises, an importer and distributor of fair trade Palestinian olive oil from three fair trade groups: Canaan Fair Trade, based in Jenin, Palestine; Sindyanna of Galilee, in the Galil region of Israel; and Green Action Israel, working with farmers in the West Bank. They are creating lasting relationships between Israeli Jews and Palestinians based on equality, mutuality and fairness. Olive Branch Enterprises currently imports the olive oil in bulk and bottles and distributes it throughout the U.S. and Canada. They can be contacted at www.peaceoil.net.

1981

Jenifer Silvernale, Olympia, and her husband and co-producer, Mark Rensel, have completed *Ice Bridge: Mackinac Island's Hidden Season*, a film they have worked on for more than ten years. The film focuses on winter, the "hidden season" of Mackinac Island, Michigan, a tiny island in the center of the Great Lakes. The film explores the transformation that takes place when the "ice bridge," a three-mile span of ice that allows islanders to cross to the mainland, forms each year. The film was an official selection of the Detroit Docs International Film Festival in 2008. More information can be found on the film's website at www.icebridgemovie.com.

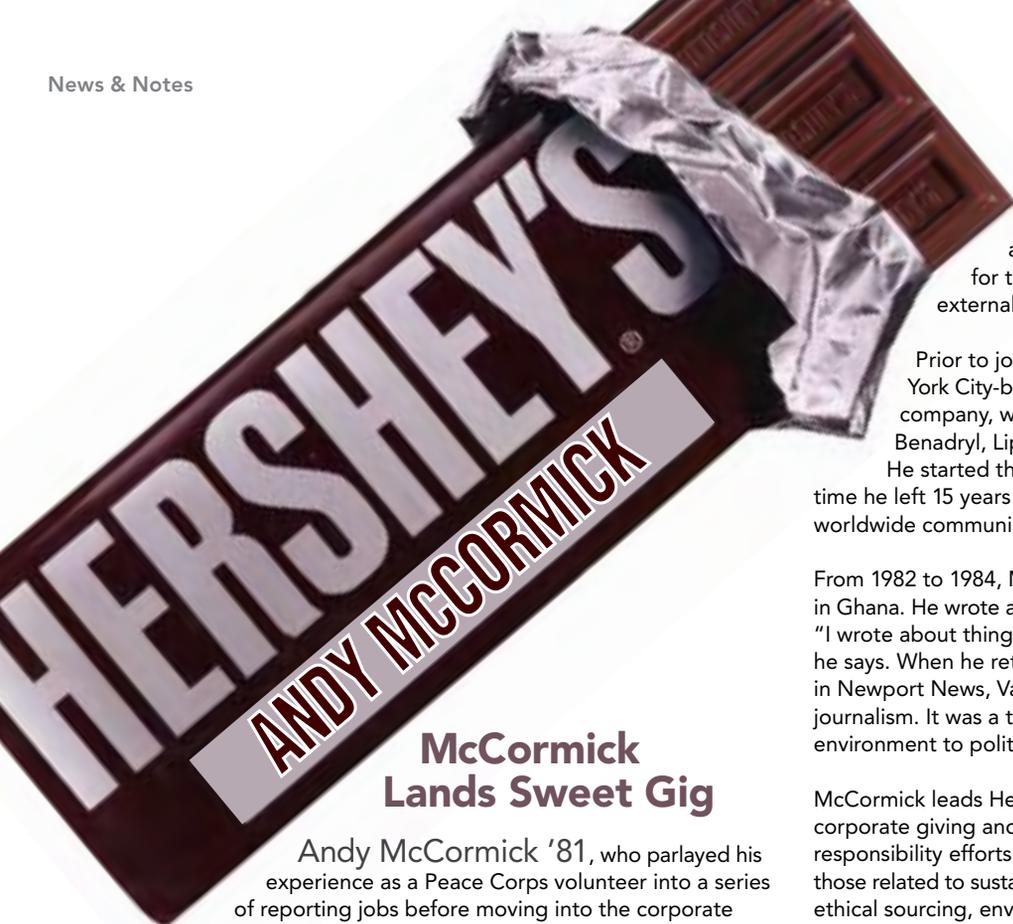
Margaret Welch, Seattle, a self-employed accountant, is earning an advanced business degree at the University of Washington.

1982

Gretchen Christopher, Olympia, owns her own record label, Gold Cup Music, and released her first album, *Gretchen's Sweet Sixteen*, in September 2007. The album was chosen as one of the 2007 Billboard Critics' 10 Best albums of the year. In November 2008, Gretchen performed at the Vocal Group Hall of Fame induction ceremony at a 6,000-seat venue in Youngstown, Ohio. She and her Fleetwoods bandmates were inducted in 2006.

1983

John Carl Erickson, Olympia, works for the Washington State Department of Ecology in Olympia. He attended the Sustainable Sweden tour and the International Eco-Municipalities conference in spring 2008.



McCormick Lands Sweet Gig

Andy McCormick '81, who parlayed his experience as a Peace Corps volunteer into a series of reporting jobs before moving into the corporate world, recently became vice president of public affairs for The Hershey Company, America's top chocolatier. He is in charge of Hershey's product publicity, community relations, corporate communications and global corporate social responsibility activities.

The 115-year-old Fortune 500 company is headquartered in Hershey, Pa., a town known variously as Chocolate Town, USA, and The Sweetest Place on Earth. For McCormick, who hails from nearby Lancaster, Pa., taking the newly created position was a homecoming after decades away.

Hershey makes dozens of familiar brands such as Hershey's Kisses, Reese's peanut butter cups, Swizzles licorice, Mounds, York Peppermint Patty, and Almond Joy. It also produces baking chocolate, ice cream toppings, chocolate syrup, cocoa mix, cookies, and various snacks. Its

products are sold, five billion dollars' worth last year, in over two million retail outlets around the world. McCormick oversees publicity for this stable, as well as the company's internal and external non-financial communications.

Prior to joining Hershey, McCormick worked for the New York City-based Pfizer Inc., the world's largest pharmaceutical company, which makes such well-known medications as Benadryl, Lipitor, Celebrex, Viagra and Xanax, among others. He started there in 1993, in product communications. By the time he left 15 years later, he had been promoted to vice president of worldwide communications.

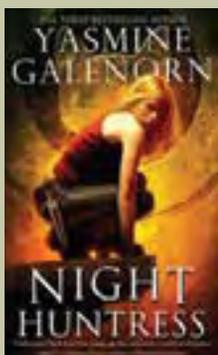
From 1982 to 1984, McCormick was a Peace Corps volunteer teaching in Ghana. He wrote about his experience for his hometown newspaper. "I wrote about things like African funerals, farming and my travels," he says. When he returned to the United States, he wrote for papers in Newport News, Va., and Wilmington, Del. "I spent six years in daily journalism. It was a terrific experience. I covered everything from the environment to politics to feature stories on the Chesapeake Bay."

McCormick leads Hershey's corporate giving and social responsibility efforts, including those related to sustainability and ethical sourcing, environmental stewardship and responsible cocoa growing. "We're focused on building a green culture in the company and doing everything in the most efficient way," he says. The company has a history of philanthropy, initiated by its founder Milton Hershey. It supports a wide range of activities aimed at improving humanity's plight, including the distribution of mosquito bed nets to combat malaria in West Africa, where many cacao farmers live.



Photos: Hershey Corporation

Yasmine Galenorn (nee Corbally), Bellevue, had her 21st book, *Night Huntress*, published and, for the third time in a row, she hit *The New York Times* extended bestseller's list. She's working on book eight of her Otherworld Series, book one of a new urban fantasy series—The Indigo Court Series (Berkley Publishing), and several short pieces for various anthologies. Her husband, **Samwise Galenorn '94**, works in Nokia's IT division. In the past six months, they sadly lost three of their senior kitties to various ailments. They've still got one 15-year old, and adopted two young kittens from shelters. Yasmine's website is www.galenorn.com.



1984

David Keith Delph, Centralia, recently retired after 30 years of public service. He attributes his successful drive in life to his participation in Evergreen programs.

Paul Prince, Eugene, Ore., is teaching, studying and recording music. Most recently he has been exploring African guitar techniques and working in collaboration with Zimbabwean musicians.

1985

Wesley J. Clare, Tehachapi, Calif., is an Anglican parish priest. For the past six years, he has served as a chaplain for the California Air National Guard, and is scheduled to deploy to Iraq.

1986

Gerardo Bolong, Tacoma, began his first year of teaching third and fourth grade at Rainier Christian Schools' Highlands Elementary in Renton after teaching for 11 years at SeaTac Christian Academy. On November 27, he celebrated four years since his heart transplant, and also 20 years of sports reporting and photography for Robinson Newspapers, including *The Federal Way News* and the *Highline Times* in Burien.

Janis Brown-Andrew, Kalaheo, Hawaii, moved to Kauai in October 1994. She is the volunteer coordinator for the Kauai Habitat for Humanity, which just celebrated the completion of its 100th home. She welcomes Greeners to visit when they're in Kauai, and perhaps spend a few hours building a house.

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

Greeners Help Decorate the White House

Kim Merriman '94 and Kimberley Dodd '97 were among the artists from across the nation who created ornaments to decorate the 2008 White House Christmas tree, a 20-foot Fraser fir displayed in the Blue Room during the holidays.

The two, both Washington state residents, were selected after the White House asked members of Congress to find artists representing all 435 congressional districts and 50 states. The ornaments, executed on nine-inch plastic globes supplied by the White House, had to be red, white and blue, but the theme of each piece was left up to the artist, depending on the unique community attributes they wanted to highlight.

Dodd, a Shoreline glass artist picked by Sen. Patty Murray, covered her piece with a collage of spiraling images showing the state's big industries: apples, microchips, grapes, salmon, logs and Boeing airplanes. Banners reading "Washington 2008" on one half and "Peace and Love" on the other also trim the ornament. Merriman (pictured at right), a glass and metal artist who lives in Olympia, U.S. Rep. Brian Baird's district, produced a piece in which red evoked the state's salmon runs and blazing sunsets, white symbolized the region's snow-capped mountains and blue represented the Pacific Ocean and the region's rivers.



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a Greener future

On behalf of more than 100 Evergreen students who receive scholarships and activity grants through the Annual Fund, we want to pass along a simple message: "Please consider a gift – it makes a big difference."

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Please give to the Annual Fund today!

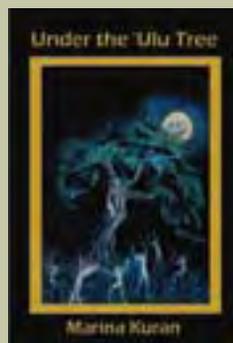
www.evergreen.edu/give

Allison Narver, Seattle, directed the Broadway musical "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" at Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre in December. The stage version of the 1954 movie musical set in the 1850s Oregon Territory was produced at the 5th Avenue for the first time in more than 25 years. Allison had special insight into the show, as some of her own relatives came to Oregon as pioneers in covered wagons. She studied at Yale Drama School, and led the Empty Space Theatre in Seattle. After Yale, she worked as "house director" for the Broadway hit "The Lion King." She has freelance directed shows at Seattle Repertory Theatre and Book-It Repertory Theatre, among others.

Ben Spees, Seattle, is a professional portrait painter and a writer. He is the only member from Washington state to be featured on the British Isles-based website www.tailcast.com, a social network for artists, writers and musicians.

1987

Marina Kuran, Kona, Hawaii, had her first novel, *Under the 'Ulu Tree*, published in November 2008. A work of historical fiction that takes place primarily in Washington state and Hawaii, it proposes the possible link between two very distinct races of people. In so doing, the novel explores and challenges the dynamics of race, culture, religion, gender and, most of all, the pervasive havoc entitlement thinking has left in its wake. A poet and visual artist, Marina is also the author of *Thirsty Moon*, a collection of poems. Learn more at www.marinakuran.com.



John D. McKinney, Lausanne, Switzerland, and his spouse, Kelly McClary '93, are now permanent residents of Switzerland. He recently joined the faculty of the Global Health Institute of the Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, in the School of Life Sciences as professor and head of the bacteriology laboratory. You can contact them on the web at <http://ghi.epfl.ch>

1988

Michele Griffin-Campione, Dallas, Ore., is the founder/executive director of the Dallas Inter-Community Activity Network (Dallas ICAN), founded after the City of Dallas eliminated all but aquatic recreation programs. Dallas ICAN offers an array of community enrichment programs including ICAN Create After School Art and ICAN Be Safe and Healthy. Michele also volunteers as the activities coordinator for the Dallas Senior Center. The ICAN and Senior programs have been supported in part by

Fier Blazes New Trails

Alyx Fier's first business card gave his title as "Ringleader." That was back when he was selling his nascent company's backpacks out of his garage/office/design studio/warehouse in South Seattle. His first product, a lumbar pack that he dreamed up while hiking at Yosemite National Park, earned him a patent for its unique suspension design.



At the time, **Fier '84** was focused on the early 1990s recreational market. On occasion, he would get nudges from wildland firefighters, who asked him to make packs for them.

"When I first started, the outdoor recreation business was made up of enthusiasts like myself for the most part designing products based on our experience and desire for performance," says Fier, who sold his first hand-sewn pack to a fellow Greener in 1992. But then "outdoor equipment became a lifestyle as opposed to gear for people using the outdoors." The industry became driven more by marketing and image than innovation and performance. He couldn't compete.

The next time he got a request from a firefighter, he jumped at the opportunity. His first foray into the industry was a pack created collaboratively with the Smokey Bear hotshot firefighters of New Mexico's Lincoln National Forest. Since then, his business has exploded.

Fier's company, True North—still based in South Seattle—now makes dozens of products ranging from backpacks to flame-resistant clothing to hydration systems. He creates anywhere from 10 to 20 new items a year, all of which he designs and prototypes in Seattle. From outdoor equipment, he has shifted into the fields of fire fighting, emergency medical response, search and rescue and industrial safety. True North has seven employees and revenues growing at about 15 percent a year.

Now that he's in "a more buttoned-down" arena, his business card says he's president. "It was a change I resisted," says Fier, who lives in Columbia City with his wife, Sally Ketcham, and their two 8½-year-old children, Spencer and Tessa.

A native of Berkeley, Calif., Fier studied theatre, film, audio engineering and music at Evergreen. He calls himself a "poster child" for the college's educational model.

"I have no training in what I do," he says. "What I do have is a knack for listening to people who are trying to solve a problem and translating that into a functional, cost-effective product that tends to be innovative."

grants from the Pacific Power Foundation, The Ford Family Foundation and Citizens Bank. Michele received the "Excellence in Arts" award at the Dallas Community Award Banquet in January. In 2000, she married fellow Greener, **Carmine Campione '94**, an agricultural/viticultural consultant. Their son Christopher is 7.

Daniel Stewart Kincaid-Kass, Olympia, is chair of the department of reading at Oakland Bay Junior High School in Shelton. He is the tier 3 reading coach, and is working on his Master in Curriculum and Instruction for Reading degree through Grand Canyon University.

1989

Thomas Alan Furgeson, Laramie, Wyo., was elected to the office of coroner in Albany County, where he has lived since 2001 with his wife and two children. He is president of the Wyoming Coroner Association. He has also worked for the State Historic Preservation Office and the

Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center (WYSAC) through the University of Wyoming, where he is a research scientist.

Mike Johnson, Santa Fe, N.M., was promoted to chief of the Hydrology Bureau at the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer in 2006. He directs 10 hydrologists in modeling of the state's aquifers and stream systems to support water resource planning and management.

Penelope J.L. Mabie, Seattle, has been appointed senior associate at EnviroIssues of Seattle, where she facilitates contentious and complex issues for a variety of public agencies around the state. She recently received licensure as a trainer for the International Association of Public Participation.

Audrey Mandelbaum, Los Angeles, Calif., is an assistant director of the graduate art department for the University of Southern California. She has a 3-year-old daughter.

1991

Cheryl Ann Bloxam, Northport, is a licensed massage therapist.

Andrea Lynn Bowers, Seattle, has been working with Adobe Systems on digital book technology, and is quite excited about the possibilities it presents for the industry and the future.

Theresa Sue Japhet, Olympia, has recently shifted careers. She would like to remind the Evergreen community that if you feel one path is over, don't be afraid to find satisfaction somewhere new.

Jane E. Pryor, Bothell, is vice president of development and public relations for Northwest Kidney Centers in Seattle. Her husband, **Dan L. Pryor '92**, is a marriage and family counselor in Edmonds, and runs a Web-based business, Tab-it Indexing Systems (www.tab-it.com).

Evergreen Soprano is Queen of The Met

STRATOSPHERIC

Cyndia Sieden '76 has been called "astonishing," "brilliant," "sensational" and "dazzling" by the *London Daily Telegraph*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, among others. In December, she starred as The Queen of the Night in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* at New York's Metropolitan Opera; *The New York Times* said she "...executed her crucial high notes with pyrotechnic skill." In May, she was off to Amsterdam to perform in Thomas Ades' *The Tempest* as Ariel, the role she sang in the opera's premiere in 2004.

But don't call her a diva. Sieden has been singing professionally for 25 years, and as much as she enjoys performing around the world, she relishes the time she spends at home in Olympia with her 13-year-old son. "Seeing the accolades is wonderful," she says. "But it's really about doing the work well. There's a lot of pressure to stay at a high level. I've gained a good repertoire and have great colleagues, and that makes a difference."

Her time at Evergreen was filled with performing, both staged pieces and concerts she and her fellow students produced in the library lobby. "It was a creative time," she remembers. "We just had a lot of fun doing music. I don't know that I would have gotten the same kind of experience if I'd gone to a traditional conservatory." On the advice of a faculty member, she began taking voice lessons in Seattle, where she moved after graduation to continue building her classical repertoire.

In 1981, she won the regional Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, which gave her the opportunity to go to New York the first time. She soon moved there, got the requisite waitressing job, and started working regularly in music in 1984.

Sieden's work as Ariel, widely agreed to be one of the most difficult and demanding roles in contemporary opera, is also one of her most gratifying. Described as "stratospheric" by the *Daily Telegraph*, "insane" by *The Times*, and "homicidal" by *The New Yorker*, Sieden admits that it is very hard, but she loves to perform it. "The role has been good to me as well," she says. "I have a knack for doing it and have done it a lot, and it has opened a lot of doors."

She has sung with many of the most prestigious symphony orchestras in the world, including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Atlanta Symphony, the London Symphony Orchestra and at New York's Mostly Mozart Festival. In April 2010, she will star in the title role of Handel's romantic comedy *Partenope* with the New York City Opera.

The secret to her success? She works to stay healthy—eating right, singing in a healthy way, and drinking plenty of water. "It's a hard life because of all the travel," she says. "But it's a great life."

Listen to Sieden's Ariel at www.schwalbeandpartners.com.



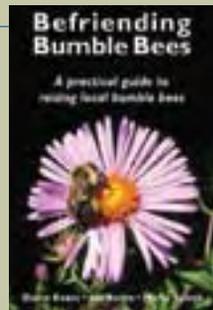
Photo: Hans Fahrmeyer

1992

Doug Smith, Redwood City, Calif., and his wife Hayley Green Smith, run a home-based health and wellness business representing Shaklee nutritional products. For over 50 years, Shaklee has produced skin-care products, nutritional supplements, and some of the first environmentally friendly, biodegradable home care products. Doug and Hayley also coach other entrepreneurs to represent Shaklee products. Find out more at www.geeksgoingglobal.com.

1993

Elaine Celeste Evans, Saint Paul, Minn., has been a conservation consultant for The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation since 2007. She completed her M.S. in entomology at the University of Minnesota. She has summarized her studies of bumble bee rearing in her new book *Befriending Bumble Bees: A Practical Guide to Raising Local Bumble Bees*. She also wrote a chapter on bumble bee pollination in a forthcoming book on non-*Apis* bees by fellow Xerces staff member Eric Mader. (www.befriendingbumblebees.com)



John V. Kershaw, Bremerton, had his novel, *Nine Dragons*, published in July 2008 (AuthorHouse). The novel, published under his *nom de plume* John Aquilla Kershaw, is based on his experiences as a wartime medic.

Michael Dana Lewis, Albuquerque, N.M., and his wife work with native peoples in New Mexico. They also have written books. Both have been overcoming health issues and hope to get back to being active in indigenous cultural activities very soon.

Michael McClun, Wenatchee, was named 2008 Secondary Art Teacher of the Year by the Washington Arts Education Association in October. He has been teaching art at Wenatchee High School since 1997. He began printmaking at Evergreen with faculty member Joe Feddersen and recently had a show of his latest collagraphics.

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



Celebrating the Darkest Time of the Year with Gardens of Light

From December 10 through February 5, students and faculty of the Evergreen core program Living in the Sacred Garden, with guest curator and artist Gene Walker, welcomed the community to Gardens of Light. This outdoor exhibit of illuminated 3-D sculptures celebrated the Solar and

Lunar New Years and traditional Festivals of Light. December's opening celebration of "community, culture and nature," included fire dancers, drummers and hot cider provided by The Flaming Eggplant, Evergreen's student-run café.

Students and local community artists lit up Red Square with words and pictures created entirely from lights. "Love Translated" (pictured here), was created by alumna Elizabeth Shé '99, who has installed her sculpture in her home garden. She hopes to build a love garden in every country by 2020. "Love is the universal language," she says. "War is so passé."



Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern

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Maridee BonaDea '94

1994

Maridee BonaDea, Koutiala, Mali, West Africa, was sworn in as a Peace Corps volunteer at the U.S. Embassy in Mali on September 12, 2008. She recently celebrated her 59th birthday. She previously worked as an executive assistant for Vashon Island Fire & Rescue. She is also a photographer and had several photos published in *The Wild Within: Wetlands of the Washington Park Arboretum* (2008), which documents the rich diversity of wildlife and flora in the Seattle arboretum. Read her blog from Mali at <http://marginsofthe.blogspot.com>.

1995

Sherry Clements, Little Rock, Ark., had her first novel, *The Holdouts*, published in December by Drinian Press. It tells the story of Martha, a young girl growing up in the working class Arkansas of the late 1960s and early '70s. Sherry earned her Master of Fine Arts

degree from Goddard College, and is working on her master's degree in social work.

Nicholas Coley, San Francisco, Calif., had an exhibit "Concrete Perspective" at San Francisco's ArtZone 461 Gallery in April and May. His plein air paintings include numerous scenes of the city and the Bay Area. He has studied in France at both l'École des Beaux Arts in Aix-en-Provence, and the Marchutz School in Le Tholonet, and has lived in the Bay Area since 2000. www.nickcoley.com

Esther Holmes, Harrison, Idaho, is building her business at South Lake Productions, where she serves as president. She is also doing freelance writing for publications, including *Indian Country Today*. Her daughter, **Isis Albert '98**, received her Master in Teaching degree from Evergreen in 2001.

Tor Clausen '95 operates to the beat a different drummer. *furniture set*

to music



For proof, one need only look at his handiwork. His one-of-a-kind pieces—coffee tables, storage and toy chests, porch swings and garden benches—are stylish and utilitarian, but they have an added dimension: built-in sound.

Clausen, who graduated from Evergreen with a degree in natural sciences and visual arts, essentially invented a new home furnishing category: furniture you can play.



Take Clausen's Musical Rumba Series, his latest innovation. It is a modular table design incorporating interchangeable inserts that fit into a flat grid, forming a mosaic of wooden squares. Each insert contains a different percussive component such as a tambourine, cymbal, snare drum or bongo. The tones are activated by a mechanism Clausen devised, which is set in motion when a person strikes a square.



Clausen's company, Musical Furnishings, is a one-man operation. Largely self-taught as a furniture-maker and a businessperson, the Kirkland, Wash. native handcrafts every piece that comes out of his woodshop, which occupies an old warehouse near the Fish Brewing Company in downtown Olympia. He also single-handedly does the sales and marketing, shipping and bookkeeping.

Clausen—who is also a commercial and wedding photographer—first came up with the idea of making melody-infused furniture during a road-trip encounter with a sonorous picnic table. When he returned home, he built a few prototypes: xylophone-laden toy chests and coffee tables. He took them to a juried crafts fair in Bellevue and sold everything. That was his green light.

In the business's first few years, Clausen spent a lot of time on the road, selling his creations at crafts fairs throughout the West. He eventually built up a database, and then contacted potential customers by email and mail. He also produced videos about his products, getting one on a TV station in Portland, Ore., and posting others on YouTube. His first YouTube production got 100,000 views overnight. Lately, he's been doing more Internet marketing, by targeting design blogs and via his Web site. "One of the things Evergreen really helped me with is that I'm pretty media savvy," says Clausen. "You can't get out of there without thinking about the media."

He's now pondering his next move, whether to sell to retailers. In the meantime, he's putting the finishing touches on a cedar xylophone bench that will take its place in the new children's garden being developed at the Memphis Botanical Garden. www.musicalfurnishings.com



Photos courtesy of Tor Clausen

Marianne Jewel, Lake Ainslie, Nova Scotia, teaches piano and Cape Breton-style fiddle in several communities in Inverness County, accompanying classical vocalists and enjoying being a part of the greater Cape Breton community. During the past 13-plus years, she has performed and taught Gaelic music for fiddle and piano, appearing on several CDs by Mary Jane Lamond as well as the CD "Mabou Coal Mines," part of Rounder Records' North American Traditions Series.

Margaret Philhower, ND, Cave Junction, Ore., is a state licensed Naturopathic Doctor with extensive training in complementary and alternative medicine. Her clinic in the heart of beautiful Takilma, Ore. provides natural family medicine services to Cave Junction and the greater Illinois Valley community.

Kirsten Marie Schaffer '95

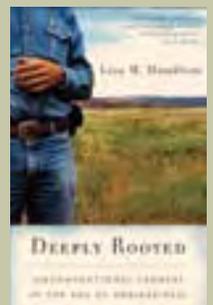
Kirsten Marie Schaffer, Los Angeles, Calif., was named executive director of Outfest, L.A.'s Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, in April. Now in its 27th year of production, Outfest is the oldest continuous film festival in Southern California. It has expanded to five programs, including Access LA, connecting emerging filmmakers with established industry professionals; Fusion, the L.A. LGBT People of Color Film Festival; and the Legacy Project, which saves and preserves LGBT films and moving images. Since 1982, Outfest has presented more than 4,500 films and videos for audiences of more than half a million people. Outfest 2009 will be held July 9-19 (www.outfest.org). Kirsten and her partner of ten years reside with their three dogs in L.A.'s Highland Park area.



1996

Carla Barrett, Queens, N.Y., earned her Ph.D. in sociology from the City University of New York Graduate Center in May 2007 and is now an assistant professor in sociology at the State University of New York College at Old Westbury on Long Island. Her main focus of research and teaching is criminology and the criminal justice system.

Lisa M. Hamilton, Mill Valley, Calif., is a writer and photographer. Her latest narrative nonfiction book, *Deeply Rooted: Unconventional Farmers in the Age of Agribusiness*, published in May, has earned praise from Wendell Berry, Alice Waters, and Kirkus Reviews. She tells



THIS GREEN HOUSE

Steve Thomas '74

is on a mission. He wants to show us how to lighten our carbon footprints, domicile by domicile.

As the host of "Renovation Nation," Thomas is handing viewers the keys to building greener homes. The TV series, which launched last June on Discovery Communications' Planet Green cable network, follows the home-improvement maven—best known for his Emmy-winning 14-year stint on the popular series, "This Old House"—as he travels the country checking out eco-friendly houses and innovative building technologies.

"My goal in life is to do whatever I can to encourage people to build houses that are comfortable to live in, easy on the eyes, and carbon neutral," he says. "We can do that right now."

Even the 10-member Gosselin clan of TLC's "Jon & Kate Plus Eight" is giving it a try. In April, the reality show aired a special segment featuring Thomas, who visited the family to retrofit their residence with sustainable, energy-efficient upgrades. He and his crew helped install photovoltaic panels, a solar-thermal system and solar-powered driveway lights. They also built a picnic table using reclaimed wood.

Thomas renovated his first house, a rundown 1920s Victorian on Olympia's Eastside, in 1974. He has since renovated a number of others, including his family's 1836 Colonial Revival in Salem, Mass., started in 1986,

shortly after his son Sam was born. At presstime, the place—done after 22 years of work—was on the market and Thomas was looking forward to his next project: the "zero-carbon renovation" of a traditional adobe home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he and his wife, Evy Blum, will spend winters.

Thomas originated the idea of producing a TV series about sustainable building and energy conservation technologies. "I pitched it to Discovery and they took it," he says. "Renovation Nation" was among the slate of programs first broadcasted in 2008 when Discovery kicked off Planet Green, its round-the-clock, eco-lifestyle network. Thomas and his crew are shooting episodes for the second season.

Thomas says his work "has its roots" in the "tremendously dynamic climate" he found at Evergreen, which challenged students to do the extraordinary. "The message was: Be passionate about the things you love in life," he says. "You'll make a difference and you'll also make a living.

"I'm doing what I love."

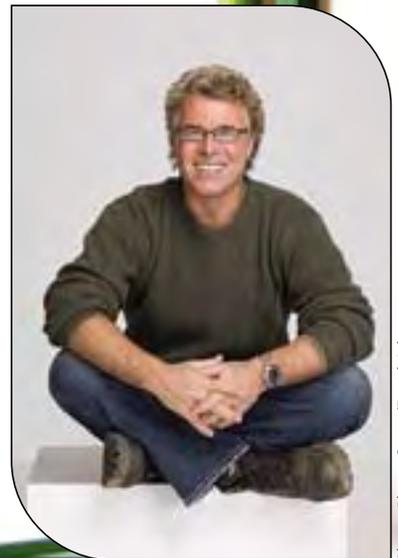


Photo: Planet Green/David Johnson



Lisa Hamilton '96

three stories: of an African-American dairyman in Texas who plays David to the Goliath of agribusiness corporations; a tenth-generation rancher in New Mexico struggling to restore agriculture as a pillar of his community; and a modern pioneer family in North Dakota breeding new varieties of plants to face the future's double threat: climate change and the patenting of life forms. Read more at www.lisamhamilton.com.

James Lee Johnson, Tacoma, grew up on his grandfather's farm in Mississippi. His love for farm animals, with their different characteristics and individual personalities, comes through in his first children's book, published in 2008. *Bucket Head & Friends Big Adventure* follows the adventures of the animals as they try to find their way back to Uncle John's farm. Read more at www.jjsfarmfriends.com.

1997

Naomi Ishisaka, Seattle, was named communications director for OneAmerica (formerly Hate Free Zone), a leading immigrant advocacy organization in the Pacific Northwest, in October 2008. For the past eight years, she was editor of Seattle-based *ColorsNW Magazine*, which focuses on communities of color in the Northwest. She continues to cover issues of race, diversity and multiculturalism through writing projects in other publications. In addition, she is expanding her work speaking to

and consulting with organizations interested in diversity, media and social justice issues. www.naomiishisaka.com

Kimberly Kammeraad, Fircrest, a licensed mental health counselor, owns San Francisco Peaks Counseling, a mental health therapy practice in downtown Bremerton, offering individual and marriage and family counseling, and parenting groups.

Jennifer Olson, Boulder, Colo., created, photographed and published *Colorado Organic: Cooking Seasonally, Eating Locally*. It brings together farm-to-table recipes from eight top chefs from some of Colorado's best restaurants who integrate locally grown, wholesome ingredients into their meals. It also includes stories of Colorado farmers from across the state, showing how the chefs and the farmers are interconnected in providing food that is good for the consumer and

Rainy Day Activities



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Saturday, April 18, marked the second annual "Record Store Day," a concerted effort to celebrate the unique cultural heritage of independent music retailers as they face off iPods, digital downloads and big box chains. The event, held at more than a thousand shops worldwide, was designed to encourage consumers to patronize the locals and buy more songs in a form they can actually put their hands on.

Since the early '90s, the number of neighborhood indies in America has dropped from an estimated 7,000 to below 2,000. An Olympia fixture since 1973, Rainy Day Records is among the survivors.

Tim Russell '89 bought Rainy Day from its original owners in 1995. As a teenager, he spent many a day thumbing through the 50-cent and 89-cent bins at Pooh-Bah, his local record store in Pasadena, Calif. "I remember asking for a job there and the guy rolling his eyes as if to say, 'Yeah, you and everyone else,'" says Russell. Now that he owns his own place, he can browse to his heart's delight.

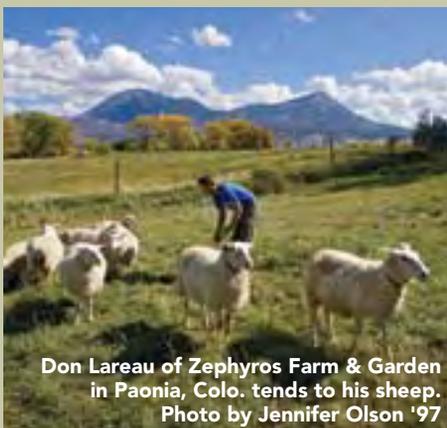
He credits his employees with helping him stay in business. "I had done some traveling before buying Rainy Day, so I was out of music for awhile," he says. "I swam my way through in part because I've always had really good, knowledgeable people working here. The name of the game is to get people with complementary tastes."

Russell, who spends about 30 hours a week in his shop, also teaches Sociology 101 at South Puget Sound Community College. His undergraduate focus was on nuclear weapons issues, and he remains involved in the nuclear disarmament movement. He earned a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies from the University of Washington-Tacoma.

Today, Russell favors electronic and world music; his favorite artists include Amon Tobin and the Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra. But Rainy Day carries a broad range of genres, from blues, country and rock to classical, hip hop and jazz. The store also rents DVDs and sells skateboards, T-shirts, posters, stickers, note cards and Converse sneakers. And with vinyl making a comeback, more and more LP record albums and turntables. "There's been a pendulum swing from convenience to sound quality," says Russell. "With digital downloading, quality took a big dive." Increasing numbers of people are giving records a spin again; U.S. sales rose 89 percent last year.

Russell extended "Record Store Day" into a week of bargains and activities for music lovers, ending with Olympia's popular spring Arts Walk. Rainy Day staged live performances by local bands Congratulations and Ben Kamen & The Hot New Ringtones and held a ticket drawing for the May 2 appearance of acoustic guitarist Leo Kottke concert at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts.

Nothing online can replace that.



Don Lareau of Zephyros Farm & Garden in Paonia, Colo. tends to his sheep.
Photo by Jennifer Olson '97

for the planet. The book has been featured in a number of media outlets, including a very positive review from the *Rocky Mountain News*. Jennifer is a professional photographer (www.jenniferolson.com); her book is available at www.seasonallandlocal.com.

Don Roff, Seattle, is a writer and filmmaker with an abiding interest in the creepy and supernatural. His newest book *Zombies*, a scientific account of the living dead, will be available in fall 2009 from Chronicle Books. In addition to his two short films, "A Night in the Life of a Vampire" and "The Weird World of Mushroom Madness," he has authored a number of young-adult books for Scholastic, Inc., including *Scary Stories* (2006), *Tales of Terror* (2007), and *True Scary Stories* (2007). In 2006, Roff received the Zola Award for screenwriting from the Pacific Northwest Writers Association. He frequently performs public readings in the Seattle area.

Robert Pogue Ziegler, Paonia, Colo., won a *Rocky Mountain News* fiction contest to create the 12th story rounding out their series "A

Dozen on Denver"—a celebration of the 150th birthday of the city of Denver and of the newspaper through locally commissioned fiction. Out of more than 200 stories submitted, his story, "Heirlooms," a science fiction tale of a woman attempting to care for her daughter in a barren and forbidding future landscape, best exemplified the contest's mission to find a story set in Denver's future, and was published in the paper's Nov. 14, 2008 issue. A freelance writer, journalist and copy editor, Robert has published a number of short stories, and is working on his third novel. He lives with his wife and stepson "in a funky little hippie cabin" bought in summer 2008. Read "Heirlooms" and an interview with Robert online at www.rockymountainnews.com/special-reports/dozen-on-denver

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



Grandmother Agnes Baker Pilgrim

Photos: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Ancestral Teachings for Times of Unprecedented Change

On May 2, more than 300 people gathered for a traditional Salish ceremony to welcome four North American members of The International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers for a weeklong community symposium.

Throughout the week, Council Chair Agnes Baker Pilgrim (Takelma Siletz) and founding members Rita Long Visitor Holy Dance (Oglala Lakota), Rita Pitka Blumenstein (Yup'ik) and Mona Polacca (Hopi/Havasupai/Tewa), along with some of their own children, visited and taught at Evergreen, in local schools, and in the wider South Sound communities. They shared their views on the environment, resiliency, peace and knowledge in a time of unprecedented global change, with examples from both their own experience and from a deep reservoir of cultural wisdom.

“What a privilege to be here to speak,” said Grandmother Agnes to her audience at Evergreen’s Tacoma campus. “Education is one of the greatest gifts you can give yourself. One of the greatest gifts the Creator

has given you is your brain. And education just doesn’t stop in a school-house. As old as I am, I am still a student and I am also a teacher.”

The council was formed almost five years ago out of a deep concern for “the unprecedented destruction of our Mother Earth and the destruction of indigenous ways of life.” It includes spiritual leaders from across the world, assembling to pray, share ancestral wisdom and counsel the world from multiple perspectives of distinctive cultures. They continue to travel around the globe, spreading their message of sustainability and justice for humans, animals and the earth. “As we travel in our work,” says Grandmother Agnes, “we feel that awesome vibration that we’re in the right place doing the right thing.”

The Grandmothers’ visit was presented by the Willi Unsoeld Seminar Series, The Evergreen State College Diversity Series, and the Longhouse Education and Cultural Center, in collaboration with First Peoples’ Advising Services and academic programs across the college.

1998

Janie Anderson, Jerome, Ariz., is a successful artist, and runs Janie Layers Studio near Sedona. She and her handformed clay animal sculptures were featured in the *Verde Independent* in November. She moved to Arizona specifically for her art, as it is too wet in Washington for her individual rolled coils of clay to dry. Her work is represented in numerous galleries throughout Arizona. www.janielayersart.com



"Porcupine" by Janie Anderson '98

Erin K. (Gault) Fitzgerald, Portland, Ore., graduated from Lewis & Clark Law School in May 2008 and passed the Oregon bar in September. She opened her own law firm, Fitzgerald Law, in December 2008. Her main practice areas are criminal defense, real estate law, landlord/tenant and property law.

John Brian Pitts, Shoreline, and his wife celebrated the birth of her daughter, Rosemary “Welly” Wellington Shellhammer in fall 2008.

1999

Aaron Kiviat, Seattle, co-chairs the Cardozo Society of Washington state, the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle’s group for Jewish attorneys around Puget Sound. Kiviat and his co-chair Aric Bomszyk have led the society’s revitalization efforts, with outreach to young legal professionals, and classes and workshops that offer Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits. Aaron, a graduate

of Mercer Island High School, moved to New York after college, and received his J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University in New York. He spent five years as an assistant district attorney in the Bronx District Attorney’s office, where he prosecuted narcotics and weapons cases, economic crimes and violent crimes. He is now with the law office of Geoffrey Burg, a criminal defense firm.

Sarah J. (Beach) Thirtyacre, Lacey, pursued a career in environmental science for several years. After working with state, local and non-profit organizations, in 2008 she became a grant manager with the Recreation and Conservation Office, a small state agency that creates and maintains opportunities for recreation, protects the best of the state’s wild lands, and contributes to the state’s efforts to recover salmon from the brink of extinction.

Rexford's Play Staged in L.A.

"The Namesake," a play by **Cathy Rexford '01**, was accepted into Native Voices at the Autry First Look Series in Los Angeles. Set in the Arctic, the drama is about a young Iñupiaq man who discovers that he's a direct descendent of a powerful shaman. As the series' featured play for the month of September, "The Namesake" was performed at the Wells Fargo Theater at the Museum of the American West in Griffith Park.

"This is really a dream come true for me," said Rexford (Iñupiaq) on the acceptance of her play into the series. "As a playwright, this is what it's all about, watching the piece come alive and live in the actors' performances."

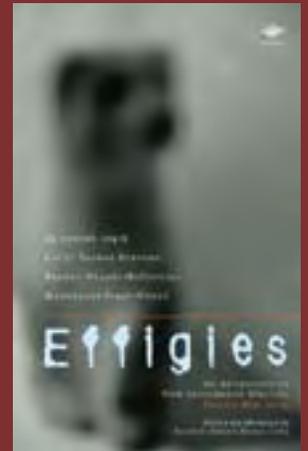
Native Voices at the Autry is an initiative devoted to developing and showcasing contemporary stage works by Native American writers, who face challenges in conveying their stories to the society at large. Established in 1999, it is a project of the Autry National Center of the American West, which explores the experiences and perceptions of the diverse peoples of the American West. Playwrights whose work is selected for the series collaborate with professional directors, dramaturges, and Native American actors in producing their plays.

Rexford, who co-organized the Native Revolution Film Festival during the 2007 Alaska Federation of Natives Convention, is a writer, an actor and an activist. In addition to her B.A. in Native American studies from Evergreen, she holds a B.F.A. in creative writing from the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She has worked extensively in Native education and language efforts, as well as in contemporary Indigenous theater and film projects, including a series of historical documentaries



about the Iñupiaq people. Her writing has been published in national and international literary journals.

Currently, Cathy is at work on a series of children's stories about Iñupiaq culture. Her poetry was included in an anthology of poetry entitled *Effigies*, published this year by Saltwater Press. A resident of Anchorage, Rexford is the Alaska Director of Native Movement, a nonprofit organization dedicated to motivating the world's peoples toward balanced relations with each other and Mother Earth.



2000

John Eastlake, Galway, Ireland, earned his Ph.D. in Irish studies from the Centre for Irish Studies, National University of Ireland, Galway in 2008. His dissertation compared the production and reception of Native American and Irish autobiographies. He got his start in Irish studies in the 1998 Perspectives On Ireland program taught by Rebecca Chamberlain, Patrick Hill, Sean Williams, and Charlie Teske. John teaches Irish Studies in Galway, and is the co-editor of *Anáil an Bhéil Bheo: Orality and Modern Irish Culture*, a collection of essays published in February by Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

2001

Aspen Madrone, San Pablo, Calif., has launched *Conscious Dancer* magazine, a free active lifestyle magazine focusing on the world of moving arts and dance. It is one of the first publications of its kind to celebrate mind-body fitness, energy movement arts, and transformative dance as a healthy lifestyle choice. *Conscious Dancer* has a highly targeted circulation strategy, reaching retreat centers, spas, yoga/dance studios, health food stores and other conscious hot spots nationwide. www.consciousdancer.com

2003

Stevie Bengé, Olympia, is a new media developer for the Washington Association of Realtors and for his own company, Superfancy Consulting.

Jason Knight, Monroe, co-founded Alderleaf Wilderness College, Center for Traditional Ecological Knowledge, which offers courses on wilderness survival, wildlife tracking, ethnobotany, outdoor leadership, and permaculture. He serves as the program director and webmaster for www.WildernessCollege.com, Alderleaf's website. Jason also continues to be active as a wildlife biologist and musician. He lives along the Skykomish River with his wife, Kerry.

Andrea (Drea) Lett, Portland, Ore., founded the Kaninga Center for Wellness Education in Portland, where she has resided for the last six years while pursuing a degree in East Asian medicine. The center's main focus is wellness education, yoga and dance. She hopes to begin a second location in Boulder, Colo., which will also offer acupuncture.

Gordon Beck, Evergreen emeritus faculty member, died April 14. Gordon taught theater history at the University of Kansas, and cinematic history at Cornell University before joining Evergreen's faculty in 1971, the first year the college opened for classes. He pioneered the "Travelling Seminar" at Evergreen in 1975, teaching art history in the ruins, museums and cathedrals of France, Italy and Greece. After retiring from Evergreen in 1994, he continued to teach as an emeritus faculty member until 2002.

According to his memorial in *The Olympian*, "Throughout his academic career, he emphasized diligent research and clear expression of thought in the written word. A favorite quote of his was, 'there's no good writing, only good rewriting.'"

Born in Goshen, Indiana, in 1929, Gordon served in the U.S. Army from 1952 to 1954. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowling Green State University in 1951, his Master of Arts degree in dramatic arts from Case-Western Reserve University in 1952, and his Ph.D. in speech and theatre from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1964. An accomplished carpenter, Gordon loved traveling and meeting new people, spending time with his family, and telling jokes and stories.

Gordon is survived by his wife, Libbie, former technical services specialist in Evergreen's library; sons Stephen, an Evergreen faculty member, and John; daughters Anne and Susan; grandson Benjamin; sisters Virginia Hildreth and Vivian Clark; and brother Willis.

*there's no good writing
only good rewriting*

Gordon Eugene Beck 1929-2009

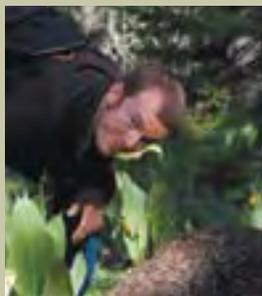


2004

Molly Mannion Soudant, San Francisco, Calif., married Joe Alterio on October 25 at San Francisco's Swedish American Hall. She is the administrative-services coordinator at the Institute for OneWorld Health, a nonprofit pharmaceutical company.

Talia Wilson, Olympia, will graduate from the University of Phoenix's online campus in 2009

with a Master of Information Systems degree. She is currently editing a friend's novel and working on a variety of fiction pieces.



Michael Branstetter '05

2005

Richard Anderson, Washington, D.C., was deployed in November for a yearlong detail in Baghdad as a program and management analyst for the U.S. government. He is working on the transition of security, and other things related to the transition that may come up. This is his second detail to Iraq; in 2006-07, he served with the State Department as Deputy for Project Reporting (Reconstruction).

Michael Branstetter, Davis, Calif., a doctoral candidate in entomology at the University of California, Davis, won a coveted President's Prize for his oral presentation on ants at the 56th annual Entomological Society of America (ESA) meeting, held Nov. 16-19 in Reno. A fourth-year graduate student, Branstetter specializes in the systematics of Neotropical ants.

Systematics deals with the diversity and evolution of life and its classification. He has collected ants in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and in Chiapas, Mexico. His collecting trips have been funded by the National Science Foundation's Biodiversity Surveys and Inventories program as well as National Geographic.

Nilaya Curran Palmer (Alicia N. Curran), Gorham, Maine, established a new boat building vacation business, inspired by being part of Evergreen's crew team. Participants spend a relaxed nine days at a traditional summer cottage on a peaceful lake in central Maine building a rowing shell, kayak, dory, or other small wooden boat, which they can take home with them. No previous boat building experience is necessary. She and her partner, James, also offer rowing, sailing, canoeing and kayak lessons, fishing, swimming, professional massage and gourmet meals featuring fresh local foods. www.boatbuildingvacation.com

William C. Winden 1931-2009

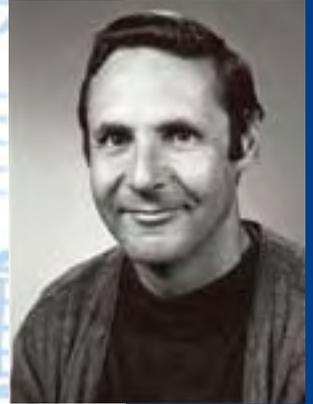
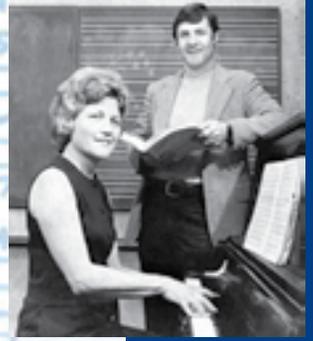
William C. "Bill" Winden, of Olympia, an Evergreen emeritus faculty member, died on February 12. A gifted musician and visual artist, Bill was a regular member of the faculty for 22 years until his retirement in 1994. Bill was born in Tacoma, on January 22, 1931. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in art from Stanford University before studying opera performance under famed German soprano Lotte Lehmann at the Music Academy of the West and completing a Master of Arts degree in music, with an emphasis on opera production, at the University of Washington. He earned his Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Illinois.

After an international opera career in Germany and Switzerland, followed by a position at the University of Maryland where he developed an opera program and performed as bass soloist at Saint John's Episcopal Church across from the White House, Bill returned to the Northwest to join the Evergreen faculty in 1972. According to *The Olympian*, "at Evergreen Bill found his true intellectual home—a place where he could teach and

practice both art and music, in the studio and the classroom, separately and together —Bill was always fascinated by the lessons learned from addressing multiple disciplines in an interdisciplinary manner." He continued to sing with the Seattle Opera and in community events around the region with his wife, Joan and their son, Andy. In his later years, Bill painted watercolor images incorporating the native trees and flowers of the Pacific Northwest in his studio on Puget Sound.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Joan; his son, Andrew William Winden, of Tokyo, his wife Masami, and their sons, Kennet and Eirik; sister, Eloise Grondahl and husband Jim; brother, John Winden and wife Sharon; several nieces and nephews; and many great friends.

Evergreen has established an award in Bill's memory for students demonstrating outstanding achievement in the arts. Donations may be made to The William Winden Achievement in The Arts Fund, The Evergreen State College Foundation, 2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW, Olympia, WA 98505.



2006

Andy Asmus, Walla Walla, co-owns and operates Welcome Table Farm, a 12-acre organic farm that began its third year of operation in 2009. He began his career in agriculture at the age of 18 as the sole ranch hand on 1400 acres of cattle land in northern Montana. He has since worked in construction, landscaping, and tree care. At Evergreen and The University of Washington, he studied horticulture, organic agriculture, and orchard management. He developed a passion for locally grown food, perennial crops, and the integration of meat and dairy animals into small farm operations. He especially enjoys selling good, clean food directly to folks at the farmer's market. As an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist, Andy also runs Home Orchard and Tree Care LLC, offering a full range of tree services from the smallest home-scale orchard to the tallest trees. The farm welcomes visitors. Find out more at www.welcometablefarm.com

2007

Lauren Kuehne was awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship in April. This extremely competitive national fellowship program provides three years of graduate funding to selected fellows in all of the major scientific disciplines. Lauren studied marine ecology at Evergreen, and is starting graduate study at the University of Washington this fall.

Tara Weaver, Austin, Texas, recently joined the Texas Legislative Council as a Bill Analyst.



Andy Asmus '06

2008

Lori A. Larson, Shelton, coordinates The Legacy Project, a free online oral history program. Part of the Washington State Heritage Center, the site features profiles and interviews with rocker Krist Novoselic, pioneering newswoman Adele Ferguson and the state's first African-American Supreme Court Justice, Charles Z. Smith, among others. The project is designed to produce profiles and oral histories of legislators and Washingtonians from all walks of life who have had an impact on the state. Previously, Lori worked for the Legislative Oral History Program. She has been with the Office of the Secretary of State since 2001. See more at www.secstate.wa.gov/legacyproject

John Manini, Jr., Olympia, is happy to be amongst our newest graduates and would like others to know that you can get an exciting and stable career with a degree from Evergreen. He works for RealNetworks as a mobile audio producer in the Seattle area.

In Memoriam

Paula (Talbot) Fischer '95, of Providence, R.I., died Dec. 28, 2008 after complications from ovarian cancer. An expert in GIS software and graphic design, she was a senior retail and field marketing analyst for GTECH. She lived in California, Alaska, Germany, Hawaii and Olympia, following her husband's Air Force career. She also enjoyed traveling and was a passionate baseball fan. Paula was active in promoting ovarian cancer awareness. She was married for 36 years to Michael, a retired USAF Master Sergeant meteorologist, and is survived by her parents, Guy and Carleen Talbot, her daughter Karen Marasco, brothers, Mark and Roger, twin sister Gail Adler (Talbot), and several nephews and nieces.

Cleveland Haynes III '87, of Portland, Ore., died January 18 of complications from multiple sclerosis. He was born Dec. 24, 1960, in Portland, and graduated from Adams High School. After completing his bachelor's degree at Evergreen, he earned his master's and doctorate degrees from Union Institute in Cleveland, Ohio. He was a science teacher for Middle College High School in Seattle. He is survived by his mother, Audrey H. Haynes, and sister, Toni.

Vi Hilbert (taq se blu), of La Conner, died December 19, 2008. She devoted her adult life to the preservation of Coast Salish culture and the Lushootseed language. She founded the Lushootseed Research Center in Seattle and taught at Evergreen and the University of Washington. She was named a Washington State Living Treasure in 1989. In 1994, she received an honorary doctor of humanities degree from Seattle University and received a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment of the Arts. She was the subject of a 1995 documentary, "Traditions of the Heart." She is survived by her daughter, Lois Schluter and her husband, Walter; grandson, Jay Samson and his wife, Bedelia; granddaughter, Jill La Pointe and her husband, John; seven great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren, as well as countless friends, colleagues and adopted relations.

Esther Jones '94, of Lacey, died June 22, 2008. A graduate of Evergreen's Tacoma program, she was very active in the Evergreen Tacoma Alumni Association and had served as its treasurer until May. Esther served in many capacities with the State of Washington for over 22 years, and was a long-term employee of the Washington State Employment Security department. She is survived by her daughters, Monisha Barnes and Alexis Jones-Singletary, and two grandsons, Donte and Damarcus.

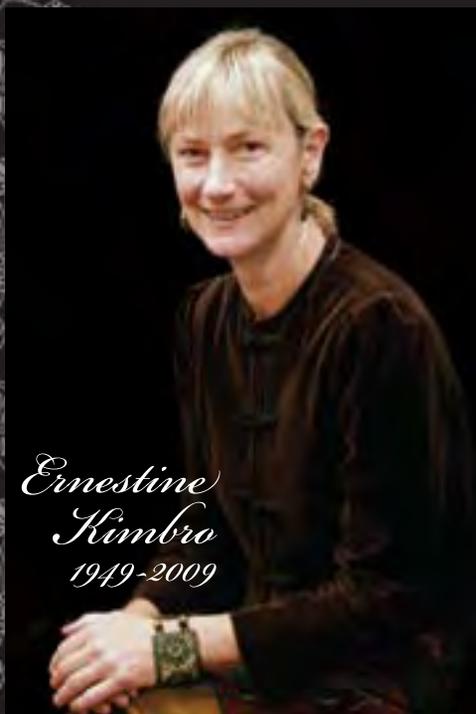
Delwin Redford, of Rochester, a student at Evergreen, died February 4. He was enrolled in Interdisciplinary Psychology: From Science to Society.

Mathew Slobodkin, of Chicago, a junior at Evergreen, died December 7, 2008. Mathew was in the program Beyond the News: Media, Theory and Global History with Jeanne Hahn and Paul McMillin, and planned to graduate from Evergreen in 2010.

John Austin Smith, of Centralia, an Evergreen student in public administration, died April 19. John had worked as director of the United Way in Lewis County and coordinated flood relief work following the disaster of 2007. He was the executive director for Growing Places Farm and Energy Park in Centralia, providing learning opportunities for at-risk youth in Lewis County. John, as part of a team of students, faculty and staff, received an Evergreen Fund for Innovation grant this spring. John leaves behind a loving family and many youth and friends who benefited from his caring spirit and hard work.

Loretta Jane "Tico" Trujillo Cx'78, of Port Angeles, died March 4. An Indian rights activist, she was affiliated with the Lower Elwha Klallam tribe for 34 years, working in health and social services and served on the Tribal Council. She volunteered for Elwha Summer Fest, United Way, Parents for Disabled Children and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. She is survived by son and daughter-in-law Joaquin and Rebecca Robideau; son Forrest Rosaire Jr.; stepchildren Elena J. Rosaire-Williams and Jansen Williams, Andrew Sunna and Wi-Hin-Na Robideau and Lorinda Robideau; mother Ramona Sampson; sister Rolena Benke Redner; and 11 grandchildren.

George Stanley Wood '76, of Seattle, died January 9 after a courageous nine-year battle with a brain tumor. Born in Walla Walla, he worked for the City of Seattle for 23 years until 2002 and was the manager of the Energy and Utility Assistance Program. George enjoyed spending time with family and friends, and outdoor activities, particularly fly fishing, in the Pacific Northwest, Alaska and his beloved Montana. He also volunteered at Woodland Park Zoo. He is survived by his wife Marilyn and daughter Allison; sister Cynthia Shelton and her husband, John; brother Douglas Wood and his wife, LaVonne, and numerous family members.



*Ernestine
Kimbro
1949-2009*

Ernestine Grace Kimbro, Evergreen faculty librarian and faculty member, died on April 26, three days prior to her 60th birthday. Ernestine was born on April 29, 1949 in Nampa, Idaho to Grace and James Kimbro, and was raised in Idaho Falls. She earned her bachelor's degree in English literature from Gonzaga University and her master's degree in library science from the University of Washington.

Ernestine moved to the Olympia area in 1972, living and working on a farm near Shelton. Drawn to books and knowledge, she began a library career that eventually took her to Seattle, where she worked for several years and completed her master's program. This opened up an opportunity to return to Olympia and join the staff of The Evergreen State College in 1990. As a faculty member, she taught philosophy, writing, library and information science, literature, cultural studies, and women's studies. Ernestine viewed teaching as a privilege and set high standards of professionalism for herself and high standards of achievement for her students.

Ernestine enriched her life with art, music, reading, writing, gardening, and conversation. She opened her home for celebrations and parties where her wonderful culinary skills were enjoyed by friends and family. She loved to travel, taking numerous trips with her son, family, and friends. Ernestine had a generous, loving spirit that touched many people's lives.

Ernestine is survived by her beloved son, Arjuna White (father Nigel White), brothers Jim, Art, Mike (Patti), and Joe (Valerie); aunts Carrie Narum and Mother Colleen Kimbro, FSE; nine nieces and nephews, and numerous cousins, friends, and colleagues.

Memorial donations may be made to the Ernestine Kimbro Fund, The Evergreen State College Foundation, 2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Olympia, Washington 98505.

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Amy Cook '90

Occupation: Evergreen faculty member, biological sciences

Mode of transportation: Bicycle mostly

Accomplishment: Various students who, over the years, have come up to me and said "I never understood/appreciated that concept/idea/field of study until I took your program."

Favorite saying: "...he is eaten up from nose to tail with curiosity. The motto of all the mongoose family is 'Run and find out'..." from *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi* by Rudyard Kipling because it perfectly describes me and most scientists I know.

Favorite book: *Mirabile* by Janet Kagan

Favorite song: Davvi Bavttiin
("On the Fells of the North")
by Mari Boine

When I'm not teaching, I: Read

Favorite thing about Evergreen:
Interdisciplinary teaching
(Oh, and having a large, rather obscene-looking mollusc as a mascot)

Available on campus at The Evergreen State College Bookstore,
and online at www.evergreen.edu/bookstore

Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Evergreen Gallery Opens



with Eco-Art Show



With the renovation of the Daniel J. Evans Library complete, the Evergreen Gallery reopened on April 2 with a dedication and a celebration of its inaugural exhibition, "Reading Rivers: Basia Irland's Books, Manuscripts, and Scrolls."

The opening featured a dedication of the gallery by Skokomish spiritual leader Delbert Miller and the melodies of the Shooting Stars, an ensemble of Native American musicians.

Basia Irland is a sculptor, poet, installation and book artist, and professor emerita of the University of Mexico. An international water activist, she was an Evergreen artist-in-residence last fall. The show presented her recent collaborative work on the Nisqually River and included a survey of other pieces from her ongoing series of interdisciplinary efforts around the world to creatively examine the interrelationships between water and the people, plants and animals that rely on this vital element.

Irland's residency and show were supported by the Tom Rye Harvill Award, which funds projects exploring the intersection of art and science.

The Evergreen Gallery displayed faculty and staff artworks from May 7 to May 18 and on May 28, a senior thesis exhibition opened featuring the work of six award-winning Expressive Arts students.



Photos: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern. View a slideshow of the gallery opening at www.evergreen.edu/magazine