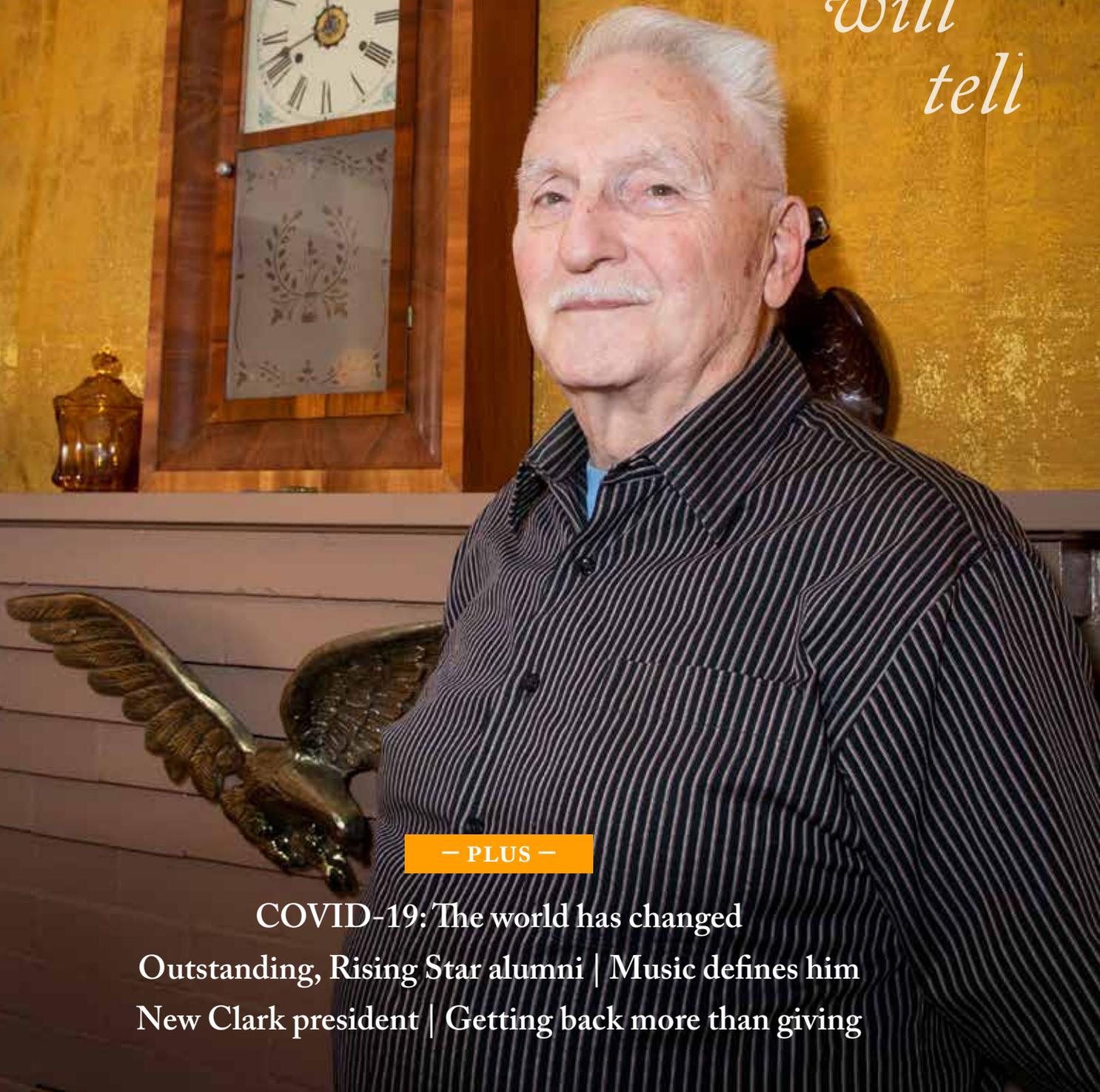


CLARK

Partners

SPRING 2020

*Time
will
tell*



— PLUS —

COVID-19: The world has changed
Outstanding, Rising Star alumni | Music defines him
New Clark president | Getting back more than giving

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COVER: George Oberg Jr. '58 in his Vancouver home. Oberg is a pioneer in the Northwest’s LGBTQIA+ movement.

Outstanding Alumni Awards

RISING STAR / ALUMNI AWARDS

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

We celebrate Clark College alumni who are making a difference on the local and world stage, and at Clark. They are leaders. They make substantial contributions to their communities. They produce outstanding achievements. They are truly inspiring people.



OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD

The Outstanding Alumni Award recognizes those who deliver exemplary service to the community and Clark College, and exhibit personal and professional achievements.



LUCY ESTRADA-GUZMAN '90

While she was a student at Clark College, Lucy Estrada-Guzman '90 got a job at Clark County's Head Start and Early Childhood Education and Assistance program. She realized then she wanted to teach and continued her college studies earning a master's in education. While serving as an associate principal at Sarah J. Anderson Elementary School, she piloted a dual-language program for kindergarten and first grade. When she became the principal at Harney Elementary School in 2011, she added her expertise to strengthen the region's first full-immersion dual-language initiative.



ALEXIS MADRIGAL '00

An author and scholar, Alexis Madrigal '00 attended Clark as a Running Start student, continuing to Harvard University for a degree, magna cum laude, in English. He was a visiting scholar at U.C. Berkeley, was a member of Harvard's Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, and is a writer for The Atlantic. Madrigal's first book, "Powering the Dream: The History and Promise of Green Technology" was published in 2011.



GINA MOSBRUCKER '88

The Honorable Gina Mosbrucker '88 owns and operates small family businesses in her hometown of Goldendale, Wash. In 2014, she ran and won a seat in the 14th District of Washington's House of Representatives as a Republican. She's the vice chair of the Republican caucus, the second-highest position in Republican leadership. Mosbrucker is also the ranking Republican on the House Labor and Workplace Standards committee, and serves on the Appropriations committee and the State Government and Tribal Relations committee.



OPHELIA NOBLE '98

Ophelia Noble '98 is a passionate community activist with a background in public health. She founded the Noble Foundation in 2011 to provide communities with outreach, advocacy, community organizing and organizational support. The group speaks out at city council and local town hall meetings, and before others that oppose advances for non-dominant communities. The foundation is continuing its Cross-cultural Narrative Project, capturing authentic community voices in Southwest Washington.



GEORGE OBERG JR. '58

George Oberg '58 attended Clark after serving in the U.S. Army. His career began at Food Machinery Corporation in 1959 where he worked his way up to become a chemist. In the 1970s, Oberg became active in the gay community, becoming the first president of a group called The Second Foundation. In June 1971, the group launched the first gay pride celebration in Oregon. For 50 years Oberg's activism helped to shape the LGBTQIA+ movement in the Pacific Northwest.



RISING STAR AWARD

The Rising Star Award recognizes alumni, aged 35 or younger, who deliver exemplary service to the community and Clark College, and exhibit personal and professional achievements.



GABRIEL FOSTER '12

Gabriel Foster '12, a deputy prosecutor for Clark County, gives career guidance and develops internships for current students through Clark College Foundation's Alumni Relations program. He teaches a course at Clark on landlord-tenant law. He also provides pro bono legal aid and training for younger lawyers and law students through the Clark County Volunteer Lawyers program.

Gibert appointed to prestigious U.S.-Canadian council



Lisa Gibert, Clark College Foundation CEO. Photo by EA Photography

Lisa Gibert, CEO of Clark College Foundation, was appointed to the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's (CASE) Regional Council for the United States and Canada. The council is a redesign of CASE's global volunteer leadership structure. The advisory councils will now oversee three regions: Asia-Pacific, Europe and U.S.-Canada. The duties for the prestigious U.S.-Canada post include setting strategy and budgets that align with CASE's global strategy for the region; advising CASE's Global Board on risk management; and recruiting, retaining and engaging members. Gibert's term started in March 2020 and ends in June 2023. Gibert is one of the top fundraising leaders in the country. She's the 2018 recipient of the National Commonfund Award for Leadership in Institutionally Related Foundations from CASE. It is one of the fundraising industry's most prestigious national honors.

Popular Dental Hygiene program celebrates a milestone

Clark's popular Dental Hygiene program is celebrating 50 years of graduates. Professor Kristi Taylor '99 regularly takes calls from dental offices in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and even Alaska inquiring about available graduates for hire. With hundreds of graduates in the last half century, Clark is fulfilling an industry need. They also give back regularly to the community by volunteering at the Free Clinic of Southwest Washington and hosting the Kid's Dental Day each February. This and a combination of technical and soft skills, like communication techniques, make Clark graduates attractive to employers. "From the minute students enter the program until they leave, we review case studies and other activities to build their communication skills with patients," said Taylor. What's the biggest change in the last 50 years? "Students are tech savvy," said Taylor. "We have to embrace where they are at." Faculty do that by using a mobile application to test knowledge and digital mannequins that beep when students inject anesthesia correctly. For decades, the program has been difficult to get into; each year there are about 100 applicants for 25 slots. The market for hygienists is strong, said Taylor. Many Clark students have job offers before they graduate. Soon, there will be more than two dozen available to hire. In February 2020, all 25 current Dental Hygiene students passed the first two of six board exams.



A student practices a procedure on a mannequin in 2014 in the Firstenberg Family Dental Hygiene Education and Care Center.

Newest Hall of Fame inductees



Michele (Westmoreland) Brown '12 is the first softball player to be inducted into Clark Athletics' Hall of Fame.

A softball player was inducted into Clark Athletics' Hall of Fame for the first time. Michele (Westmoreland) Brown '12 was joined by the 1968 men's golf and 1995 men's basketball teams, basketball stand-out Dan Johnson and the family of the late Marc Hadenfeld, a 1969-1970 track and field record-setting athlete, at the February 8, 2020, ceremony. More than 160 guests, previous Hall of Famers, coaches and Clark staff attended the event. Athletic Director Laura Lemasters held a moment of silence and then spoke about the late Gaydena Thompson, Clark's first female athletic director, long-time fitness instructor and 2012 Hall of Famer. Thompson passed away in December 2019. To see videos of the 2020 recipients and past honorees, visit www.clarkpenguins.com/hof.aspx.



CORRECTIONS

We incorrectly identified former Clark faculty member Homer P. Foster in the story "Washington's Education Senator" in the winter edition. Foster was a member of the faculty from 1934 to 1960. The 1938 Galapagon yearbook was dedicated to the beloved teacher who inspired many of his students.

We mistakenly listed Roberta Ferguson '56 in the In Memoriam section in the winter edition. The deceased Roberta Ferguson, of Oklahoma, was not a Clark graduate. Clark alumna Roberta (Ferguson) Emerick '56 assures us that she is "still around to enjoy two children (in their 60s), three grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and a husband, Frank," who is a Clark alumnus.

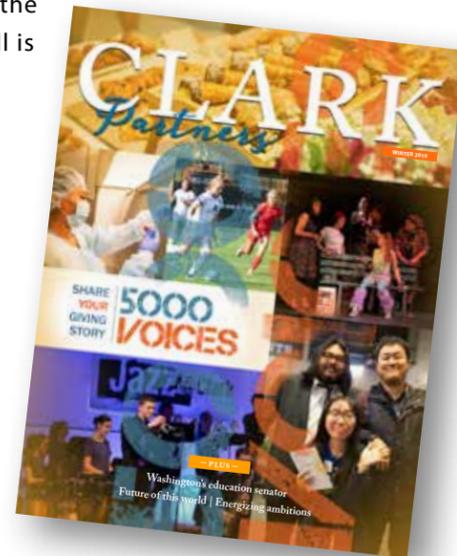
HOMER P. FOSTER

There's a plaintive little error in the Clark Partners winter 2019 article on Sen. Al Bauer. Herman Foster? No. No. No. Homer P. Foster (P for Plato I'm sure) was one of the remarkable instructors who, having spent the war years teaching us at Vancouver High School, moved back to college teaching just in time to help us on our way. Margaret Page Johnson, Eleanor Tipton and Mr. Foster led a faculty of memorable mentors. I remember him as very learned and somewhat fuddy-duddy. (Forgive the latter. I was very young.) I hope somewhere someone has memorialized this small group of educators who contributed to a little college that enabled it to grow into the present large community college. I attribute the name blip to author [Lily] McCaulou, who after all is "from away" if only as far as Bend.

Patricia L. Alvis '49

I thoroughly enjoyed the winter issue of Clark Partners, especially the tribute to Al Bauer. However, I take issue with the paragraph starting with "In a correspondence..." on page 16 that refers to Herman Foster, after whom Foster Hall is named. Foster Hall is named after Homer P. Foster! As a Clark freshman in the fall of 1953, I fell in love with Mr. Foster when he announced in his history class that, "You don't have to learn many dates in my class." Then he followed up with something similar to, "but you do have to know what led up to important events and what effects followed." I remember the significance of relationships in history and how the concept influenced my appreciation of history. I became active in the 1976 American Revolution Bicentennial, served on the Clark County Historical Society board of directors and with the assistance of General Federation of Women's Clubs, a women's service club, published "Battle Ground... In and Around," a 400-page hardbound volume including 1,000 historically significant photos. The book's third printing is currently available. I owe my devotion to history to Homer P. Foster. I hope a clarification of his name will appear in the next issue of Clark Partners.

Louise Tucker '54



by KELLY LOVE

Dr. Karin Edwards is the new Clark College president

Impressive history of leadership, closing achievement gaps, working in equity, building partnerships

ON February 21, 2020, Clark College marked a milestone when the board of trustees announced that Dr. Karin Edwards was the college's next president, the 15th leader in Clark's 87-year history.

Edwards comes to Clark with a long list of achievements during her 36-year career in higher education. She currently serves as the president at Portland Community College Cascade campus.

"I have a full heart and grateful heart—excited to begin a new chapter as president of Clark College and thankful for everyone at Portland Community College who have walked with me these past six years," said Edwards. "We have a great deal to be proud of; developing programs and support services that help our students succeed."

Clark Trustee Paul Speer, chair of the search advisory committee, said, "Dr. Edwards is an exceptional leader. Her ability to help close achievement gaps between student populations, her work in equity, her work in partnerships in

workforce development, and her previous experience in a presidential role were certainly very influential in the board's decision. When you look at her track record and the information we gained during the course of this process, what you'll find is an individual who is clearly aligned with our stated values and the needs of our college over the coming decade."

Edwards is looking forward to stepping into her new leadership role. "I have been received warmly and welcomed by members of the college community. As we develop these important relationships, I'm confident we'll form a collaborative trust that helps us lean into the work and make gains that benefit our students."

She starts her new role at Clark this summer.

COMMUNITY INTRODUCTION

Introducing Edwards to Clark's regional community will be a critical step. Eric Merrill, chair of Clark College Foundation's Board of Directors, explains how the foundation will help.

"Clark College Foundation has assisted Clark College with philanthropy for nearly five decades, helping the college align with the needs of Southwest Washington's businesses and organizations while making college possible for those who face barriers to higher education. We are committed to working with the new president and introducing her to vital community partners to sustain Clark College's future."

Edwards said, "I'm excited about the opportunities to partner with businesses. We are responsible to provide education that is relevant, affordable, and accessible and leads to good jobs. 😊"

Kelly Love is Clark College's chief communication officer.



Dr. Karin Edwards (above) is Clark College's 15th leader. She starts her new job this summer. Photo by Portland Community College

TIME WILL TELL

by JOEL B. MUNSON WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DEON GILLESPIE
 Photos by JENNY SHADLEY

▶▶ 50 YEARS OF ACTIVISM
 BY A CLARK ALUMNUS
 HELP SHAPE THE
 NORTHWEST LGBTQIA+
 MOVEMENT

Time.

It's the first thing a visitor notices when entering the home of George Oberg Jr. '58 in historic downtown Vancouver, Wash. Partly because of the house itself—an elegant, if somewhat dated, 20th century, two-story structure that Oberg and his late partner lovingly restored more than 30 years ago.

The other reminder of time's fleeting nature is the cacophonous ticking of dozens of clocks throughout the house—clocks of all shapes and sizes collected over the years. To Oberg, these varied and intricate works of art are more than simply timepieces. They each represent a segment of his 82 years of living. And if you believe Oberg, each one has a story to tell about his remarkable life and accomplishments. It's a life many people believe has altered the course of history for thousands of people in the Portland-Vancouver metro area.





George Oberg as a boy and today in his Vancouver home.



“I don’t consider myself a Joan of Arc type of person,” Oberg says with something of a mischievous and slightly sardonic smile. “I don’t look back to see what wonderful things I did. But I have to say, I was very pleased that (those things) happened.”

Oberg is a true pioneer, and to many a hero who has helped bring about significant social and cultural change to the region. He also knows that to an increasingly small, fringe group he is a detractor, an enemy of so-called traditional values. A sinner.

“I try not to think about those people anymore,” Oberg says. “A long time ago, a group of people and I decided we didn’t want to live in fear anymore. We wanted to be free, and that’s what we set about doing.”

COMING OUT ON RADIO

Oberg knew he was gay from the time he was a boy. A supportive mother and a distant, disappointed father showed Oberg early on that the world was made up of two kinds of people, and that it would be a difficult place for someone like him.

“My father had no encouragement for me whatsoever,” Oberg says. “He absolutely would not talk to me about it. Even to the day he died.”

Like many young men in the 1950s, Oberg entered the army and managed to get through that experience without too many struggles. Then it was on to Clark College where Oberg studied art, engaged in political discussions with his various instructors such as social science professor Homer P. Foster and started to form the friendships that would take on some weighty and transformative responsibilities in his future.

Throughout the 1960s, Oberg’s social life consisted mostly of hanging out at clandestine gay bars and drag shows. “It was a lot of fun,” recalls Oberg, “but we all wanted something more.” It was then that Oberg began thinking that it was only a matter of time before he would have to reconcile his true identity with the life he really wanted to lead. But in order to lead that life, his world would have to change.

In the wake of the 1969 New York City Stonewall riots, Oberg and his friends knew they needed to shake up the way people thought about people like them. By 1970, Oberg believed the time had come for him, and the close-knit

group of people he relied on for love and support in the Northwest, to take a stand.

“I hate to use the word radical, but I guess back then our thinking was pretty radical,” recalls Oberg. While there were not riots in the streets of Portland, Ore., for gay rights in the early 1970s as was happening in larger cities in United States, Oberg and his friends did things that were trendsetting at the time. The way he came out was one such action.

He did so on one of the popular radio programs in the Northwest: the Dick Klinger show on KPOJ AM.

“Thirteen steps to the gallows,” is how Oberg describes the flight of stairs leading up to Klinger’s cozy studio. He doesn’t remember too much of the conversation anymore; “a whirl of words and emotions” is the way Oberg describes it. By the time Oberg had finished the interview, his life had changed forever.

“When the show was over,” recalls Oberg, “those 13 steps that I dreaded going up, well, I floated back down them. All the fear I had ever had—the worries, the trepidation of what’s going to happen now—no longer existed. I just decided I was no longer afraid of anything.”

SHAPING A MOVEMENT

Suffice to say Oberg had a touch of anxiety the next morning when he walked into work at the now-defunct Food Machinery Corporation in Vancouver. The company’s vice president had been waiting for the young lab technician to arrive and immediately informed Oberg he wanted to see him in his office. Oberg knew other gay people had lost their jobs for

A trendsetter, George Oberg declared he was gay on the Dick Klinger show on KPOJ AM, a popular radio program in the Northwest in the 1960s and early 1970s.

much less public demonstration of their sexual orientation.

To Oberg’s surprise, his supervisor said he personally was proud of him and assured Oberg the company would stand behind him—a promise his employer kept for more than 25 years. “We all figured you were going to come out someday,” Oberg recalls his boss saying. “We just never expected it would be on the radio.”

Oberg managed to do many unexpected things over the next decade, including accomplishing a number of firsts when it came to what are referred to today as LGBTQIA+ rights. He served as the founding president of a nonprofit, The Second Foundation of Oregon, establishing Portland’s first official gay support organization and community center. A donated space at Portland State University’s student union hall served as a replacement to back-alley rooms and nondescript basements that were gathering places for people who felt harassed and marginalized, including hundreds of gay and lesbian teens.

Word soon spread about The Second Foundation, and in 1971 the Oregon Department of Education asked Oberg to talk to a group of teachers and counselors about gay and lesbian students—another first. With no educational or psychological credentials, Oberg prepared for weeks, relying heavily on information gathered from San Francisco and other cities on the forefront of such issues.

Nothing, however, could prepare Oberg for the reception he received speaking to more than 350 Oregon educators and counselors who came to listen to him and learn how to help teens deal with their sexual identities. For his efforts, Oberg recalls receiving what to him seemed like a sincere and supportive ovation following the presentation. It’s a memory that to this day makes Oberg emotional.

“People can really surprise you,” Oberg says quietly, his voice cracking a bit.

It would never be easy, but there would be more pleasant and significant surprises along the



Some of the clocks that appear in George Oberg’s home. He has a affinity for antiques.

GEORGE OBERG was the founding president of The Second Foundation, Oregon's first official gay support organization and nonprofit community center.



way. In the early 1970s, Portland staged its first public gay gathering in the South Park blocks, and soon Portland itself was becoming something of a vanguard of gay activism, garnering attention from larger communities—some as far away as the East Coast. Activists from the city of Baltimore reached out to Oberg and his group to learn about the Rose City's best practices, the evolving LGBTQIA+ movement there, and to honor Oberg for his contributions.

After several years of intense work, Oberg decided to retreat from the forefront, concentrating on his job—and particularly on a young man he met along the way by the name of Gary Horn. The two quickly became inseparable, traveling the world, entertaining their Vancouver area friends and restoring their large home.

In the 1980s, the Portland-Vancouver gay community found itself swept up in a worldwide pandemic that slowly and tragically stole away the lives of many of Oberg's closest and dearest friends—what he calls his “real family.” One by one, Oberg watched many of those who had helped him accomplish a great deal in earlier years be reduced to shadows of their former strong, vibrant and colorful selves, before slipping into an ultimate darkness of death.

In the early 1990s, the AIDS epidemic took its most personal toll when one day Oberg saw his partner writing a letter.

“Who are you writing to?” Oberg asked almost dismissively.

“My mother,” Horn responded. “I have to tell her I have AIDS.”

Once again, Oberg reached inside himself to rediscover the fearlessness that had served others so well in the past. This time he focused his bravery on the person he cared about more than anyone else in the world. Oberg quickly realized that local hospitals still lacked the knowledge and expertise to work effectively and compassionately with AIDS patients, despite nearly a decade of crisis.

Once again he turned to his networks in San Francisco and other cities with large, active gay communities. Oberg converted the parlor of their home into a fully equipped hospital room for his long-time partner. It was there that Oberg and his circle of friends lovingly cared for Horn—sometimes laughing, sometimes swept up in pain and tears—until the day Horn died.

Instead of retreating into despair, Oberg quickly found the next patient to care for in his makeshift hospital room. Then another, and another. Over several years, Oberg's home served as a safe and comforting space for sick and dying people, many abandoned by their families, until advancements in medical treatments, finally, turned AIDS into a manageable condition.

In fact, the care that Oberg offered Horn and others caught the attention of medical experts as they visited patients at the house. Impressed with what they experienced, the experts incorporated some of Oberg's practices into hospitals and medical facilities throughout Clark County. Once again, Oberg had made a transformative difference in the lives of others.

Oberg doesn't talk much about this time since, like many gay men who lived through the ravages of the AIDS era, it left its mark on him. Soon after the epidemic retreated, he retired for the last time from activism. Settling into a more routine and quiet existence, Oberg turned to tending to his garden and chatting with neighbors on his large, welcoming front porch.

ALL IN GOOD TIME

These days, the occasional award or recognition brings Oberg back into the spotlight, including receiving Clark College's most prestigious alumni honor in 2020, the Outstanding Alumni Award. Still, Oberg finds the need to reach out to others in his community for whom he has strived to move out of the shadows and away from persecution. Recently Oberg donated a backgammon game that his partner made to Clark's Diversity Center.

“I hope that the students who decide to play with it will think about the wonderful human being who made it and who fought so hard for the rights and acceptance they enjoy today,” says Oberg.

Like his clocks, Oberg sees the backgammon game as special moments in time. But don't expect Oberg to donate away his clocks any time soon. “I need them,” he says with that familiar wry smile. “I've still got a bit of time left.” 🕒

Joel B. Munson is the chief advancement officer at Clark College Foundation. Deon Gillespie is a freelance writer based in Denver, Colo.

by LISA GIBERT

COVID-19: *The world has changed*

As everyone works together to navigate the numerous and serious challenges resulting from the new coronavirus, Clark College and Clark College Foundation are working diligently to support our brave students as they continue to pursue their education goals. As we were going to press with this issue, Clark College announced a virtual commencement in June, with details still to come. On April 20, most students began the spring quarter exclusively online. Those who require hands-on training will have to wait until the state government's “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” emergency order ends. Federal stimulus money for short-term financial relief will help Clark and its students with immediate needs. However, the funds will not address long-term necessities for keeping students in class so that they complete their education.

This is where you are part of the solution. We need your help like never before to support and encourage our students.

THREE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Specifically, Clark College Foundation is asking our generous alumni, friends and donors to support three critically important areas:

FLEXIBLE SCHOLARSHIPS. These funds give Clark College the flexibility to provide tuition support to all kinds of students in numerous ways, including funds to make sure they complete their studies and not drop out due to financial challenges brought on by the pandemic.

CLARK COLLEGE STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND. When the unexpected—like the novel coronavirus—becomes the reality, even so-called incidental costs can make the difference between success and failure. Food insecurities, transportation, medical bills, child care, even a reliable computer and internet service can profoundly affect students

desperate to maintain themselves and their families while they study.

GREATEST NEEDS FUND. Few people could have forecast the tumult and economic impact of the novel coronavirus. It is almost impossible to anticipate what is coming around the corner right now. Clark College Foundation intends to respond as effectively and efficiently as possible as challenges and needs emerge in real-time. Support of the Greatest Needs Fund allows the foundation to address developing and future realities. The ability to be proactive in an unstable world can make all the difference to the foundation, the college and our students.

NOW IS THE TIME

Please consider making a gift to one or more of these funds. The easiest way is to give online, any time at www.clarkcollegefoundation.org/give.

Or mail a check to Clark College Foundation, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA. 98663-3598.

We'll continue to keep you posted about how your gift is making a difference. Watch our website, social media, Penguin Post newsletter and Penguin Chats, our popular podcast series.

Follow us on social media: Twitter @CCF_Foundation and @alumniClark and on Facebook @clarkcollegealumni.

Also, please take the time to chat with someone from Clark College Foundation if they reach out to you. We know we can rely on you to support Clark's students during this difficult time. Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do for the Penguin Nation. 🐧

Lisa Gibert, CEO of Clark College Foundation.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Give to these funds to help students today and in the future:

- ▶ FLEXIBLE SCHOLARSHIPS
- ▶ CLARK COLLEGE STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND
- ▶ GREATEST NEEDS FUND

Online, any time at clarkcollegefoundation.org/give

For assistance, email foundation@supportclark.org or call 360-992-2301.



QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?

Reach Lisa Gibert, CEO, at lgibert@supportclark.org

Reach Joel B. Munson, chief advancement officer, at jmunson@supportclark.org

Music

DEFINES

Him

Autism used to shape Ian Engelsman's interactions with others; now music is his guiding force

by CLAIRE SYKES

Photos by JENNY SHADLEY

First came the pots and pans. A 3-year-old Ian Engelsman would pull them out of the kitchen cupboard, bang and clang them for about half an hour several times a day. A couple years later, he turned to Ovaltine cans and paper plates that he wrapped in aluminum foil. He was also good at drumming on the back of the car seat to the rock music his father cranked up while driving.

"They were the only ways I could calm down," said Engelsman, who was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) when he was three. Finally, it all made sense to his parents, Claudia and David: their toddler's angry outbursts and running all around; the incessant rocking back and forth, one of many self-stimulating behaviors, called stimming, in people with autism. From age 1 to 5, Engelsman didn't make eye contact or speak, and once he got a little older, it was only about 20 words.

Now he's finishing up his associate degree in music at Clark College, with plans to apply to four-year universities around the country, majoring in music.

As a percussionist, a variety of drums—snare, bass, tom-tom and timpani—join cymbals, bells, marimba and xylophone in the hands of Engelsman, who now plays in Clark's orchestra, concert band and jazz band. Like other music majors at Clark, he is also in the Concert Choir and attends

classes in music theory, ear training and music appreciation and history.

Doug Harris, Clark's director of bands, said, "When I first met Ian, all I saw was a really eager student. He's very energetic, hungry and a pleasure to work with. He wants to be really good, and that gives him a leg up. He genuinely enjoys working hard and understands the grind it takes to get to certain levels. And he has a lot of innate musicality and understands a lot about music."

Professor Don Appert, director of the orchestra, sees Engelsman as "a musician who is a percussionist. There's a real distinction, a whole greater depth that goes with that than most people realize. He's got a musician's ear, intellect and heart."



As a child, Ian Engelsman's first homemade drum set ignited his passion for rhythm. Photo by the Engelsman family

Music also gives back to Engelsman: “Practicing or playing along to music, you can just really let yourself go and get all that negative energy out of you. You just want to let it out. You want to say something. And you don’t even need to be autistic,” he explained.

The first instrument he ever touched, at age 3, was the djembe, a drum from West Africa that a man played at a therapy center for children with special needs, which Engelsman went to regularly. Later, when he started drumming on Ovaltine cans, “we could see that he had rhythm and was musically inclined,” said his mother, who has always enjoyed playing guitar. She and her husband bought their 6-year-old a Fisher-Price drum set, to which he attached his homemade percussion instruments and performed before an audience of teddy bears. When he was 9 years old, Engelsman received a Ludwig drum set for Christmas.

His mother implored his elementary school to let him into its regular music classes, after which he joined the band. She searched for private drum lessons, only to be told no because of his autism. Not so with Musical Beginnings, now called Vancouver Music Academy, whose teachers were impressed that Engelsman could listen

to a beat and immediately play it. A new young man began to emerge, one with focus and greater confidence, and who talked more easily. A few months in, Engelsman gave his first solo recital there, having already won first place in his elementary school’s talent show.

Over time, he won awards from Musical Beginnings, and other musical and academic accolades while he was in middle and high school, adding up to about 50.

By age 13, he was strumming along on his mother’s electric and acoustic guitars to Pink Floyd, Judas Priest and other 70s bands that blasted from the family stereo.

“I only listened to the stuff my mom and dad listened to; I was never exposed to the music of the day, like Justin Bieber or Adele,” said Engelsman, who now owns eight guitars he uses to play different genres of music—everything from Bach to Megadeth.

As a teen, he studied percussion at Hammersmith Rock Institute in Vancouver, where he now sometimes helps direct house-band rehearsals and plays percussion during recording sessions of the owner’s compositions.

CHOOSING CLARK

When Engelsman started his senior year in high school, his mother began looking into universities, but quickly realized he wasn’t emotionally ready for them. “I felt that Clark would help Ian, not only with music, but also as a whole person. The campus environment is not too protected and it’s not too vulnerable. Clark was ready for him, and very welcoming,” she said. She’s also proud that he’s the recipient of the Jessie Ann Leonard Music Scholarship.

“I remember my first day here. I saw a couple of people from my high school and thought, ‘Gosh, I’m not going to be by myself, now. This is going to be amazing,’” said Ian Engelsman. For starters, the orchestra and concert band needed another percussionist.

“I was having the time of my life, at the same time getting even more focused with my music and building connections.” And his professors? “Many of them have a great sense of humor. They manage to focus on their craft and keep the professionalism here, and also provide enthusiasm.”

What stands out most for Engelsman at Clark is “the level of commitment, from myself and my friends. Regardless of what instrument you play or if you’re in the choir, we’re really focused on our set goals.”

Whether it’s playing jazz greats like Count Basie and Duke Ellington, or orchestra and concert-band composers from classical to modern, interacting with other students and having a good working relationship in an ensemble have “helped me grow as a musician and a person,” Engelsman said.

“Playing with other people keeps me ‘awake.’ You’re in the back or along the side and you’re hearing everybody, and you’re very alert to what’s going on around you and what’s going to happen at this moment or that moment. It’s not just about you; you’re not just supporting yourself, but also everyone else.”

Engelsman had the opportunity to support his peers when he participated in the annual Clark College Jazz Festival, one of the largest in Southwest Washington.

The three-day, January competitive event attracts jazz ensembles from more than 60 of the region’s middle and high schools. This was Engelsman’s second time taking part in this festival.

Clark has inspired Engelsman to always move forward and find new ways to challenge himself. The college has “opened up a lot of opportunities for Ian; a springboard to where he is today. This is his last year and he’s absorbing every facet of the music program. He’s doing everything he can to not only progress with himself, but also with others, his peers,” said his father.

MUSIC DEFINES HIM

As he looks back on his life so far, Engelsman sees how far he has come. “I don’t think I’d be anywhere without music, or my parents. I’ve shown them that music has really helped me with my autism, which I still have to this day. I’m happy that I’ve managed to conquer that challenge, and do what I can to improve it and understand it on the spectrum. My music defines me now, not my autism.”

After he graduates from Clark, Engelsman said he wants space to make a wise decision about the near future. And practice.

“I’ll have a good amount of time to do that, five to six hours a day. And I want to keep learning—anything that’s thrown at my direction—to build up my music vocabulary. It’s endless. You could write a song that lasts 15 minutes or a second or a year.” Someday he’d like to perform and record professionally.

Whatever he does, “as long as I’m happy with it, and it keeps me motivated, disciplined and confident, I know that through thick and thin, I can still make it. I just have to have faith in myself and know that I’m worth it.” 🧐

Claire Sykes, of Portland, Ore., writes for *Philanthropy*, *Ruralite*, *Communication Arts* and *Chamber Music Magazine*. www.sykeswrites.com.

Ian Engelsman (left) playing with his Clark band mates, Colin Hunt on bass and Riley Lyons on trombone, at Clark College Foundation’s Scholarship Reception in October 2019.



“Practicing or playing along to music, you can just really let yourself go and get all that negative energy out of you. You just want to let it out. You want to say something. And you don’t even need to be autistic.”

– Music student
Ian Engelsman



Getting back
more than you



LONG-TIME VOLUNTEERS EXUDE THE BENEFITS OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO CLARK

by LILY RAFF MCCAULOU
Photos by JENNY SHADLEY

John Allen, a native New Yorker, flew to Seattle for a job interview in 1972, hoping to land a West Coast job with his employer, General Electric (GE). The interview went poorly and Allen left feeling defeated.

To his surprise, he got a call offering him a job in Portland.

Someone from the company had learned that instead of taking a cab from the airport to the interview, Allen had walked.

“It was like six miles,” he said. “I don’t think it ever occurred to me to take a cab.”

The same do-it-yourself mindset that landed Allen that job helped carry him through a successful career including co-founding and running a business that manufactured steam turbines. First as a worker and then as a boss, Allen said he always believed that the most important trait was simply a willingness to work hard.

“Anybody who was sincere and trustworthy and dependable, you could find a place for them at work,” he said. “You don’t need a genius; you don’t need someone who’s done it all. You just need someone who shows up and does the work.”

Allen, who has lived in Battle Ground since 1972, retired in 2001 but keeps showing up and doing the work. Twice a week he spends his morning helping Clark College’s transitional studies department, which assists students in honing their skills and preparing for college-level courses. Allen said he recognizes and admires that same can-do attitude in many of the students.

Volunteer John Allen (top), helps a Clark student with a math problem. Ceci Ryan Smith '62 (center) served on Clark's Alumni Association and Clark College Foundation's Board of Directors. Jon Girod (bottom) first volunteered at Clark when his three sons were in school.

“

At the end of the day if you want to have quality jobs in your community, you need to have an educated workforce and education needs to be diverse, it can't be linear.

—Jon Girod,
parent of alumni,
Clark volunteer

”

Volunteering is one way for community members to give to Clark College. Just as a financial donation can fund a scholarship that enables someone to attend college and start a new life, volunteering is another way to help Clark College support the transformative goals of students. Volunteers sit on advisory boards, mentor students and help in the classroom.

ENDLESS REWARDS

Allen was invited to help tutor students in the classroom. He's been coming back week after week ever since—15 years and counting.

Transitional studies attracts students with a host of abilities. Some are still learning English as a second language, while others never completed high school and are working toward a GED. A typical class begins with a short math lesson followed by time to practice. Allen and the instructor walk around the room, offering individual help to students.

One benefit of volunteering is that Allen, 75, has sharpened his own math skills.

"I can do operations in my head a lot better," he said.

Like many Clark volunteers, Allen and his wife, Kathleen, also donate money to the college.

"We have no children," Allen said. "And we're comfortable. So I don't mind giving money (to) something that's worthwhile."

Because he spends so much time in Clark classrooms, he sees firsthand how hard the students work and how college courses elevate their lives. Although he never attended Clark, Allen has long understood the value of community college.

Allen enlisted in the Navy when he was 17 under a program that allowed him to be discharged at 21. He earned an associate degree at Suffolk County Community College in New York before landing a job at GE.

Allen still looks back fondly at those years. "I had the greatest instructors," he said. He is reminded of them when he volunteers at Clark.

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

Not all Clark volunteers are in a classroom. Jon Girod, a local real estate developer and owner of Quail Homes, first volunteered to help Clark College when his three sons were in middle and high school. Since all three boys played baseball at Fort Vancouver High School, Girod helped raise the funds to rebuild their baseball program. Clark was looking to revive its baseball program, so the college president and a coach reached out to Girod.

"They asked and I said, 'yeah, I can help,'" said Girod.

As his sons approached college age, Girod encouraged them to consider Clark.

"They had other choices but I said, 'let's take a look at this, your dollar will stretch farther.'" All three of Girod's sons went to Clark—and played baseball for the college—before transferring to a four-year college to earn bachelor degrees.

With his sons enrolled at Clark, Girod came to appreciate the college for the quality of education it provided. Two of his sons went into engineering—a topic they weren't exposed to at home. Girod said he appreciates that Clark gave the boys a chance to try different subjects and discover their true interests without racking up debt. He said Clark prepared all three of his children to transition smoothly to a four-year college.

"The more I learned about it, the more I thought that this is such an incredible resource for our community," Girod said.

Today, Girod volunteers to bridge community connections for Clark. He wants to strengthen ties between the college and local businesses, finding inspiration in a program launched by Chris Peterson, a recently retired college football coach at Washington State University and Boise State University.

"In the summers (Peterson) had an internship for every player," Girod said, which taught the student-athletes how to succeed in life after college, and helped get local businesses involved in the university.

"To me, that's where I'd like to see our efforts here in the community—bring the kids into all the local businesses," he said. "At the end



CALLING CLARK ALUMNI

When the campus returns to active operations, there's a need for volunteers. Could you help with a college event or program? Sign up today to help us identify exciting new college resources.



Contact Ed Boston, director of alumni relations, at eboston@supportclark.org or 360.992.2767.

of the day if you want to have quality jobs in your community, you need to have an educated workforce and education needs to be diverse, it can't be linear."

ALUMNA'S DEDICATION

Ceci Ryan Smith '62 grew up in Vancouver and studied liberal arts at Clark College before transferring to Oregon State University. She later went on to San Diego State University where she met her husband, Dave. They raised a family together while Dave flew commercial flights for Delta Airlines. Ceci Smith kept in touch with some of her Clark classmates, mostly through Christmas cards. Smith also monitored the college, thanks to its longtime director of public relations, Bob Moser, who worked at the college for 32 years. He died in 2012.

"All the places I lived, Bob Moser always seemed to find me," Smith said with a laugh. "Bob Moser never let go of me."

With her husband working for an airline based in Atlanta, Smith never expected to return to the West Coast. However, when Delta started flying to Asia, Dave Smith was assigned the new trans-Pacific routes. The family moved to Vancouver, Wash., Soon after, Moser reached out to Ceci Ryan Smith and invited her to lunch.

"He said, 'Everyone in Clark County and Skamania County has a Clark College story... let's start an alumni association,'" Smith recalled.

That's exactly what Smith did. She helped start Clark's Alumni Association, which ran for decades before ending in 2017. Today, Clark's alumni program has an advisory body that helps the alumni director with activities and services.

Smith went on to become a "super" volunteer, serving on Clark College Foundation's Board of Directors and helped to launch an alumni scholarship that today provides up to three full-tuition scholarships annually. She is a 1998 Woman of Achievement recipient, and in 2001, Clark College Foundation presented her with its most prestigious award, the Presidential Award for Excellence.

The Smith children went to Clark, and Ceci Smith said she expects several of her grandchildren will attend the college as well. She has come to appreciate how much of the economy and community rely on Clark College.

"Anytime you go to the dentist, ask where your dental hygienist went to school—probably to Clark," she said. "Clark supplies our community with all of our dental hygienists, our nurses, our legal assistants (and) our teachers."

The Smiths are longtime donors to Clark and although she is no longer an official volunteer, Ceci Ryan Smith is informally recruiting the next generation of community donors and volunteers.

"Everybody has a gift and there's some student out there who needs it," she said. "If you just... mentor them in math or sit down with them and tell them what it's like to work in your field, that's valuable." 🐧

Lily Raff McCaulou is a Bend journalist whose writing has appeared in The New York Times, The Atlantic, The Guardian and Rolling Stone. Visit her online at www.lilyrm.com.

Winning by a mile for Clark College

The late George Fullerton knew exactly what it took to get to the finish line. A 30-year track and field and wrestling coach at Clark College, he led the track team to three state championships. He had a personal brush with fame in 1946 when he ran the fastest 1-mile race by a high school athlete, beating Louis Zamperini's record. The unofficial race didn't count for the record books, but Fullerton was not defeated. He had a fulfilling career as a coach while raising four kids.



Left, the late George Fullerton in 2015, and running in second place in 1946 (inset) to Dick Petterson from Oregon State University when Fullerton ran the fastest mile as a high school athlete.

Fullerton was also a wise investor. Over time, he snapped up deals on rental buildings throughout the region on his modest coaching salary and managed the properties part-time. He amassed a healthy real estate portfolio. When he decided to retire from managing the properties, he thought of Clark College.

In November 2017, Fullerton announced the single largest gift ever given to support our student-athletes. The Fullerton Athletic Scholarship Team (FAST) provides 20 athletic scholarships annually in perpetuity.

Here's how George Fullerton won great tax savings and achieved another victory for Clark's student-athletes with the gift of education:

1

In 1966, George paid \$50,000 for a residential rental property.

2

When George grew tired of managing the property, it was worth \$350,000.

3

Instead of selling the property and paying capital gains tax on \$300,000 of appreciation, he gave the property to Clark College Foundation and received a \$350,000 income tax charitable deduction.



CONTACT CLARK COLLEGE FOUNDATION TODAY.

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Vivian Manning, CFRE
vmanning@supportclark.org
360.992.2104



THE 40S

Francis Chenette '49

THE 50S

John Bucholtz '58
David "Dave" Cannard '52
Ray Carter '58
Milton Cox '50
Marjorie Cook '52
Charles Gaylord '59
Dorothy Mitchell '52
Floyd "Keith" Neubauer '52
Betty Stufflebean '58
Shirley Morrow '54
Kathleen Molyneux '58

THE 60S

Jerome Bakshas '67
Kenneth Bays '61
Sheldon Berg '60
James Crowder '62
Dean Dossett '66

Dean Dossett '66, who served as Camas mayor from 1992 to 2002, and councilman in the late 80s, died at age 77 on January 18, 2020. Dossett worked at the Camas paper mill for 38 years, but he is largely remembered for presiding over the city's economic diversification. He founded the United Camas Association of Neighborhoods, a now-defunct organization that granted money to neighborhood associations.

Catherine Eagle '67
Steven Hinze '65
Rodney "Rod" Koch '66
Ila "Bonnie" McCourtney '65
Jerry Monahan '68
Shirley Talbott '67

THE 70S

Edward "Ed" Birch '72
Borendra "Boren" Biswas '74
Dollie Clark '74
David Clow '72
William Curdy '76
Jerrold Dick '73
Daniel Fanning '75
Chris Fletcher '71
Kenneth Galbreath '73
Conrad Geiger '74
Richard Grabner '76
Frank Grobli '72
Marc Hadenfeld '70
Glenn Harding '70
Betty Jirmasek '72
Danny Jones '70
Grace Krein '74
Peggy Martin '73
Jean Matthews '74
William Meridieth '76
Delona Moore '76
Christopher Musa '74
Willis "Bill" Slack '71
Fred Salwasser '76
Norman Seim '70
Ronnie Simmons '70
Nancy Smith '70
Sherry Suesens '73
Gaydena Thompson '74
Kay Thompson '75

THE 80S

Barbara Bossen '82
Barbara DeSeranno '80
Anthony "Tony" Harrington '89
Barry Hopkins '87
Nancy Mcleskey '81
James Shierman '87

THE 90S

Eugene "Gene" Anderson '98
Rocky Beardshear '95
Marlene Clark '92
Roger Durgin '90
Michael Fahey '99
James Fay '96
Carolyn Hanley '95
Jon Mcivor '94
Janice Mcnee '94

CLASS DATES UNKNOWN

Virginia Bay
Mary Billy
Robert Breaker
Melvin Buchholz
Paul Campbell
Barbara Carter
Julianne Carty
Thomas Eldred
Jalé Hansen
Paul Hiromura
Dona C. Holmes
Jerome Horne
John Jamieson
Brian Kaiser
Kristi Kaiser
Duane Koski
Laura Lee
John Mcrae
Joyce McNichols
William Messner
John Miller
Leah Morasch
Audrey Moses
Martin Nish
Helen "Maxine" Osborn
Freddy Pearce

Frances Phillips
John Remley
Robert Rodgers
Dale Scarbrough
Rosina Schaefer
Rose Showacy
Sandra Smith
Anna Snyder
Janice Stubbe
Barbara Sturdyvin
Caroll Thurston
Anita Tomlinson
Cheran Wilson

FRIENDS OF CLARK

Arthur Borter
Kathleen Crow
Danny "Dan" Euliss
Milton Fuhr
Mitch Keith
Pamela "Pam" MacKintosh
Marjorie Patton
Carol Ruge
Sarah Stookey
Doris Wedepohl
Marion "Don" Wooden

FACULTY

Priscila Martins-Read
Gaydena Thompson '74

SUBMIT AN IN MEMORIAM

Online: clarkcollegefoundation.org/alumni/in-memoriam
Phone: 360.992.2301
Email: alumni@supportclark.org
Facebook: facebook.com/ClarkCollegeAlumni
Twitter: @alumniclark



Clark's beloved former athletic director and faculty member **Gaydena Thompson '74** died on December 31, 2019. Thompson was a 1995 Woman of Achievement Honoree, recipient of Clark's Exceptional Faculty Award in 1996-1997, and a 2012 Hall of Fame inductee. In 1977, she made history when she was named athletic director at Clark College, the first female to take that post in Washington State's community college system. She held her position until opting to focus her attention on teaching in 1982. Thompson was a leader in promoting fitness for students and community members through her classes, college activities and public service. Clark's fitness center carries her name in her honor.



English professor, **Priscila Martins-Read**, died on March 10, 2020. A 30-year employee, she taught English as a non-native language, and later Transitional Studies. She was a 2008-09 Outstanding Faculty Award recipient, and spent a number of years as a department head. Before retiring, she worked with international students and refugees in reading, writing and speaking English in preparation for college classes. She helped students understand the transition between their native culture and the new culture. "It is heartwarming to know that I've been a part of their growth, and to see that they are embracing American culture deeply enough to participate in a process such as this," she said in 2009.

their native culture and the new culture. "It is heartwarming to know that I've been a part of their growth, and to see that they are embracing American culture deeply enough to participate in a process such as this," she said in 2009.



THE 60S

The Honorable **Don Bonker '62** released a new book, "A Higher Calling: Faith & Politics in the Public Square," about his journey to the U.S. House of Representatives. Bonker is a 1984 Clark College Outstanding Award alumnus. Visit www.ahighercallingbook.com.

Following a nomination by the Clark County Historical Museum, Ridgefield's Summit Grove Lodge is now recognized by the Washington Heritage Register. Summit Grove was a stop for travelers along the Pacific Highway in the 1920s and was purchased in 2009 by the late **Margaret Colf Hepola '61** and her sons, Bob Colf and Dick Colf. The Colfs maintain an event and restaurant business at the Lodge, while continuing to preserve the history of the site.

Phil Arnold Jr. '63 and his family business was featured in The Columbian. He inherited Arnold Map Service from his father, Phil Arnold Sr. who founded the business in the Hough neighborhood of Vancouver in 1950. Arnold keeps the business going, despite not being a cartographer himself; he describes it as a "labor of love."

THE 70S

Tracy Doriot '75 was elected as the first vice president of the board of directors for the Building Industry Association of Washington state. He is the first person to hold this role and will also serve on the board's executive committee. Doriot is

the owner of Doriot Construction, an award-winning custom home firm in Clark County that was established in 1978.

THE 80S

Clark County Sheriff Sgt. **Fred Neiman '80** retired after a 40-year career in law enforcement. He served his first eight years on the force as director of security for Clark College, followed by 32 years as a deputy/sergeant on different assignments, including rural patrol deputy, search and rescue coordinator, marine deputy, public information officer and sheriff recruiter. Neiman logged his final day in February 2020.

Clark College retired Economic and Community Development Program Manager **Tracy Reilly Kelly '84** presented stories of women who led the fight for women's rights in Southwest Washington as part of the Clark County Historical Museum's Speaker Series, "Women's Suffrage in Southwest Washington." The presentation was held at the Clark County Historical Museum in March.

THE 90S

The Honorable **Jennifer Lindsay '99** was among five newly-elected officials sworn into the Ridgefield City Council. Lindsay, who was appointed to the council in October 2018, won her November 2019 election for Position No. 6.

Kandi Lukowski '99 was featured in The Columbian's weekly "Working in Clark

County" column. Lukowski is a Braille program specialist and coordinator at the Ogden Resource Center, part of Washington State School for the Blind. She began working at the center in 1998 and now oversees 145 projects with businesses and governmental departments from across the country. Lukowski has served on Clark College's Business Technology Advisory Committee since December 2016.

Liz Pike '96, former Camas state representative, presented a one-woman art show of her paintings "Pike Pears" at the Three Creeks library in Vancouver in March. Pike has a studio art gallery at her farm, Shangri-La in Fern Prairie, where she channels her passion in art and hobby farming after retiring from politics in 2018.

Ophelia Noble '98, executive director of the Noble Foundation, is working with the Southwest Washington Complete Count Coalition to educate Clark County's non-dominant population on the importance of providing accurate information for the 2020 census.

Sherri Bennett '94 joined Washington State University Vancouver in March as chief of staff. Bennett comes to WSU Vancouver after serving YWCA Clark County in a variety of positions for more than 20 years, including executive director for 10 years.

THE OOS

Clark County Historical Museum opened an exhibit, "History A Brewin" to commemorate Clark County's history of beer production, liquor and prohibition. Clark County Historical Society and Museum Executive Director **Bradley Richardson '06** opened the exhibit exactly 100 years after prohibition began in America. The exhibit will remain open for a few years.

Bradley Richardson '06 is hosting the 10-year-old speaker series "Main Street" at Camas'

historic Liberty Theatre on July 2. The event connects historical facts and stories to downtown buildings and corridors.

Washington State Representative **Brandon Vick '04** had five occupational licensing bills he is sponsoring, or cosponsoring, pass through committee during the session that ended March 12. The five House Bills, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2477 and 2875, ease regulations for occupational licensing in the state. He also introduced a bill aimed at providing \$1 billion in tax relief for Washington residents. The measure would implement \$30 car tabs as approved by Initiative 976 during Washington's 2019 election. It would eliminate sales tax on prepared food and personal hygiene products.

Washougal Police Officer **Francis Reagan '06** was named Officer of the Year for a heroic water rescue on the Washougal River in May 2019. A member of the department since 2014, he is currently assigned to patrol. Prior to becoming a police officer, he served as a Navy SEAL.

Clark College Foundation alumni board member **Justin Curtiss '09** wrote an article for the Vancouver Business Journal explaining how the signing of President Donald Trump's SECURE Act could impact retirement planning strategies.

Melissa Boles '08, Andrea Smith '13 and Melissa Pedraza '15 were named to Vancouver Business Journal's "Accomplished and Under 40 Class of 2019" list. Boles has served as program manager at Workforce Southwest Washington since July 2018. Smith joined the Building Industry Association of Clark County in September 2019 as communications and education program manager and completed the Leadership Clark County course in 2019. Pedraza is the brand director for MyBite Vitamins, a Gresham-based multivitamin company, and general manager of Platinum Pets in Vancouver.

Melissa Williams '00, director of diversity, equity and inclusion at Clark College, was among a group of panelists who presented on local black history as part of The Historic Trust's educational Winter Chautauqua event, "Black Roots in the Lower Columbia River Basin." The event was held at the Artillery Barracks of Fort Vancouver in February.

Legacy 6 Inc. was named Vancouver Business Journal's 2019 Family Owned Philanthropic Business of the Year. Legacy 6 is a three-generation private civil construction company founded by the Wubben family, with **Michael Wubben '03** serving as the company's vice president. More than \$216,820 in contributions have been made to local organizations since 2017.



Clark College Foundation board member **Patrick Ginn '00** and his wife Jennifer welcomed in a new addition to their family. Cora Ginn was born on December 29, 2019, at Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center, weighing 7 lbs., 5 oz. and measuring 20 inches.

Tanisha Harris '97, a Democratic candidate for the 17th Legislative District, announced the start of her campaign for the seat currently held by Vicki Kraft, R-Vancouver. Harris is a child advocate for YWCA Clark County.

THE IOS



Former Clark College student newspaper photo editor **Andy Bao '18**, now a junior at UCLA,

took first place in the student photographer Sports Action category from the National Press Association. The winning shot was captured during the football game between University of Washington and University of Southern California at Husky Stadium in Seattle on September 28, 2019.

Northwest Association for Blind Athletes hosted an evening of skiing and snowboarding for those who are blind or visually impaired at Mt. Hood Meadows in late February. The nonprofit, which was founded in 2007 by **Billy Henry '14**, offers programs that build confidence, foster friendships and encourage independence.

Hadley Phillips '16 recently joined the staff of the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce as a member engagement and event coordinator. Phillips graduated from Washington State University Vancouver following Clark College.

Clark County Today staff reporter and filmmaker **Jacob Granneman '16** spent the last year creating a three-part documentary on the Yacolt Mountain Quarry in North Clark County. The documentary focuses on the issues surrounding the quarry as told by community members living around Yacolt mountain and quarry personnel. The episodes appear on the newspaper's YouTube and Facebook channels, and Clark County Today's website.

Sarah Hoechlin '17 began a new job as a promotions and game day operations coordinator in January 2020. Sarah began her career with the team as an operations and promotions intern in 2019. She's also the Corvallis Knights baseball team's 2019 Staff Member of the Year.

CLASS YEAR UNKNOWN

The Battle Ground City Council elected **Adrian Cortes** as mayor during its first meeting of the year on January 6, 2020. Cortes, a special education teacher in the Camas School District, was selected by the seven-member city council during the group's biennial appointment process. He'll serve as mayor until 2022. He is the first mayor of color in Battle Ground, and the first Latino in Clark County's history to serve in the role.

State Representative **Annette Cleveland** proposed legislation in March intended to improve Washington's hotline for reporting child abuse. The legislation calls for the creation of a web-based reporting portal where mandatory reporters could leave a call-back number if they were placed on hold. The current reporting system has wait times surpassing 30 minutes. Data shows thousands of calls are abandoned monthly.

A new art installation by husband-wife duo Dave Frei and Clark alumna **Jennifer Corio** was unveiled in February 2020 as part of Vancouver's monthly First Friday art walk event at Vancouver Waterfront Park. The piece was commissioned by the Kenneth and Eunice Teter Charitable Trust and donated to the city. Corio and Frei are the artists behind Cobalt Designworks, a Vancouver-based studio.

SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE

Online: clarkcollegefoundation.org/alumni/class-notes

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Calendar of EVENTS

OCTOBER



19

Outstanding Alumni & Rising Star Awards luncheon

Gaiser Student Center
Monday, October 19
12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Savoring Excellence

20

Savoring Excellence

NEW LOCATION!
Hilton Vancouver
Washington
Tuesday, October 20
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Marissa Madrigal was nominated by the Portland Metro Council's president as Metro's new chief operating officer. Madrigal went to high school in Ridgefield and attended Clark College before entering at the University of Washington as a junior at age 18. Madrigal was the chief operating officer at Multnomah County and has served in county government for almost 14 years.

Tami Nesburg, senior vice president and director of commercial banking for Pacific Premier Bank, was interviewed by the Portland Business Journal about her 38 years of banking experience in Clark County.



PROMISING PATHWAYS

THE CAMPAIGN for CLARK COLLEGE

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BEYOND THE TRAGEDY



www.clarkcollegefoundation.org/beyond-tragedy

Bones were discovered on the grounds of a Yakima Nation post office. They had been there for years. Find out how one Clark College alumna is changing how the state tracks missing and murdered Native American women and girls in this special podcast.

State Rep. Gina Mosbrucker (left) and Earth-Feather Sovereign



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