Joseph Medicine Crow ’38 receives Medal of Freedom
Fuel for inspiration

Whenever my schedule permits, I stroll over to Dillin Dining Hall for lunch. I order something that looks good, pay my bill, and take my tray to a table populated by students. I always ask the occupants if I may join them, and I’ve never been turned down, though a pair once warned that they were willing to talk but I had to understand that they were in a hurry to finish and depart!

If I’m talking to first-year students, there is usually some hesitation and nervousness. (“What does he want to know about us and why is he here?”) Sophomores, who have already learned that the eccentric president drops in on lunch, are a bit more forthcoming, often ready to make culinary suggestions. Upperclassmen are the least surprised or intimidated; they simply clear a space, finish their conversations with each other, and ask how I’m doing.

I eat lunch with several reasons. For one thing, it’s usually a pretty good meal! But the freshmen are partly right about my motives: I do want to learn about them. We usually talk about their reasons for coming to college, their experience so far, and the changes they’d like to propose. I also make sure to ask what they like about Linfield, and I’m pleased that they like much more than they dislike. In fact, there’s usually a very long pause when I ask what they would like to change at the college.

Over the last three and a half years, I’ve had lunch with more than 500 students. And while this isn’t a scientific survey, I’ve found some common themes. There are a few common suggestions for change: more accessible facilities in a few areas of the college; easier and faster access to Portland (hard to accomplish until a bypass is built around Dundee and Newberg).

But there are many things they like about Linfield College. First, our students feel at home here. They talk about the friendliness, the feeling of acceptance, even the remarkable politeness. “At Linfield, everyone opens doors for everyone else — is that typical of college life?” asked one student as I entered the building. If they’re studied abroad, they’re passionate about what they did and learned. Many are involved in athletics, the arts or campus organizations. Invariably students talk about the small, personalized classes, and they praise the faculty and staff.

This issue of Linfield Magazine describes some of those faculty and staff. Anne Kruchten is not only a fine young teacher, she is doing cutting edge research in collaboration with her students. Rob Gardner’s work on homelessness has inspired many of his students; not only are they conducting research, they are serving the greater community. And groundskeeper extraordinaire Carol Gallagher has not only turned Linfield into the city’s most beautiful garden, she has mentored and supervised a host of student assistants over the years. From her they have learned attention to detail, the discipline of hard work and a passion for excellence.

When I eat lunch with Linfield students, I invariably hear stories about Anne Kruchten, Rob Gardner, Carol Gallagher and many other Linfield faculty and staff. I learn what we do well, and I learn what we could do better. But my lunches in Dillin Hall do more than provide me with inside information, they also inspire me to do my work and to find more support for the college. I am not certain that we have the finest young people in the world at Linfield, but it is sure feels that way. Dillin’s food gives me physical sustenance; Dillin’s students fill me with inspiration and joy.

― Thomas L. Hellie
President

Inside Linfield Magazine
Photographs of Joseph Medicine Crow receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom dressed in his war bonnet ran in newspapers coast-to-coast in August. And while the recognition is long overdue, few heard the details of the rich life he has lived or the contributions he has made in preserving history and culture of the Crow and other Plains Indians. The Battle at the Little Bighorn comes to life after talking with Joseph Medicine Crow, one of the few living connections to the battle, fought more than 133 years ago. We share some of his memories in this issue. He is just one of many amazing Linfield alumni, students, faculty and staff, who are conducting research, performing community service and enhancing the Linfield experience. We hope you share our pride in their achievements. We look forward to telling more stories about members of the Linfield family.

On the cover: President Barack Obama places the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Joseph Medicine Crow ’38 (Madeline Marshall photo)

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Linfield Digest

Up in flames

Alumni and current members of the Delta Psi Delta fraternity gathered during Homecoming weekend to burn the recently retired mortgage for their chapter house. Alumni raised more than $35,000 to help their current brothers pay off the mortgage. Fraternity brothers also gathered last spring to paint and landscape the house. The two-story structure, built for the Deltas in 1966, features sleeping quarters for members, along with chapter offices and meeting and social rooms.

Initiative one of top for Hispanic success

Judy Ulibarri ’08 understands the challenges Hispanic students face at college. Her parents didn’t attend college so she had no idea what to expect when it came to a college environment.

That’s why she now volunteers with the Ayudando Podemos project, which mentors other aspiring Latino students at the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing.

As a result of its efforts, LGSSN was awarded one of five honorable mentions in the nation by the Excellence in Education program for its success in increasing the number of Hispanic nurses in the workforce.

Linfield’s Ayudando Podemos project, Spanish for “Helping Each Other,” addresses disparities, preparing Hispanic nurses to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse society. The program recruits culturally diverse nursing students and sponsors orientation sessions for families. Once enrolled, students are awarded scholarships, and participate in peer-support groups, intensive advising, bilingual mentoring and tutoring for courses and the registered nurse licensing exam.

“Nursing school is the most intense thing I’ve ever done,” Ulibarri said. “When you’re talking about students who don’t come from that background it’s a huge leap. I sometimes wondered if it was a bridge or a cliff, but the professors and staff were very encouraging and supportive.”

Grant boosts scholarships

Linfield’s efforts to continue to recruit men and minority students who are under-represented in the nursing profession received a boost this summer.

For a second year, the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing received $120,000 for scholarships from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) through the RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program.

This year, the LGSSN awarded $10,000 scholarships to 12 students enrolled in the college’s 18-month accelerated nursing program through the grant. The grant allowed the School of Nursing to increase its summer entrance cohort from 48 to 60, with 40 percent of those students coming from populations underrepresented in nursing.

President’s Report available online

The 2008-09 President’s Report, a look back over the past year at Linfield College, is again presented electronically and is available at www.support.linfield.edu/presidents_report09.

The report provides a snapshot view of the past year and includes information on academics, student life and athletics, enrollment, finances, philanthropy and volunteer leadership. It is provided to give alumni, friends and parents an overview of activities, honors and events during the past academic year.

Meet the class of 2013

Class: 422
Women: 60%
Men: 40%
Students of color: 19%
International: 5%
Legacy: 19%
First generation: 13%
Average GPA: 3.55
Average SAT: 1092
Average ACT: 24
Traveled abroad: 61%
National Honor Society: 108
Geographic
Oregon: 49%
Washington: 24%
California: 8%
Hawaii: 5%
Idaho: 4%
Other: 5%
International: 5%

Linfield Digest

“Share a car” program comes to college

Linfield is among the first colleges in the Pacific Northwest to partner with U Car Share, a program that allows members to use a car for an hour or a day.

Two U Car Share vehicles are available on campus for use by students, faculty and McMinnville community residents. Individuals interested in joining pay a one-time membership fee and are then eligible to use the cars anywhere a U Car Share program is available. Cars can be used on a daily or hourly basis that includes gas, insurance, and 24/7 customer service and roadside assistance. Members are charged only for what they use.

“The U Car Share Program fits into the college’s continuing efforts at becoming more sustainable,” said Dan Preston ’83, dean of enrollment management.

Approximately half our students bring cars to campus. Access to cars with all of the advantages of the U Car Share Program will really benefit our students who do not have cars. Our staff who carpool will benefit, and it’s a plus for the local community. Even the students who do bring vehicles to campus may reconsider doing so.”

Hispanic Heritage Day

Students, staff and community members gathered in the Oak Grove to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Day, a celebration featuring food, music and games. Sponsored by Linfield Latinos Unidos and the Office Multicultural Programs, the event is held to foster relationships between the college and the local Hispanic community. Those attending and helping organize activities included Hayley Martin ’12, Patricia Magallanes ’12, A.J. Burke, Payton Burke, Crystal Galazaras ’13, Jacqueline Rojas ’13, Alexandra Espin and Amanda Contreras ’12.
Joseph Medicine Crow

Honoring a cultural treasure

In the fall, the wind blows cold along the Little Bighorn, sweeping through the dry grass along the river where the Crow have lived for generations.

This area plays a crucial role in the story of the Plains Indians and in the mythology and folklore of the settlement of the West. It is here that Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer lost the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Here myth and legend become intertwined with fact and history. And here, in this small portion of what was once hundreds of thousands of miles of “Crow Country,” you can literally touch a link to the 19th century.

Joseph Medicine Crow '38 may be small in stature, but he is a giant in his knowledge of Native American traditions and culture. He is a walking encyclopedia of the Battle of the Little Bighorn and the Crow Nation. Now 96, his memory is as sharp as it is long. He is the author of numerous articles as well as two books, From the Heart of Crow Country: The Crow Indians’ Own Stories and Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond. In 2000 he performed the opening song for the United Nations summit conference for spiritual and religious leaders. And in 2008 he was awarded the French Legion of Honor Chevalier medal and the Bronze Star.

When he stood in August to accept the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama, he was honored for his contributions as historian, author, anthropologist, veteran and the last living Plains Indian war chief. The nation’s highest civilian award recognized a career that had its beginnings in Depression-era Linfield College.

The Indian Memorial at the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument on the Crow Reservation in southeastern Montana was designed around the theme “Peace through Unity.” From a circular earthwork carved gently into the prairie, visitors can view the Seventh Cavalry obelisk through a “spirit gate” window. The living memorial honors not only those who fought and died, but also present and the future generations of Indian people.
On receiving the Medal of Freedom

The Presidential Medal of Freedom ceremony wasn’t Joseph Medicine Crow’s first encounter with President Barack Obama. During the presidential campaign, Sen. Obama visited the Crow reservation and Medicine Crow told him then, “When you move into the White House, I’m going to come there and sing a power song.”

In August, Medicine Crow did just that. “He (Obama) put the medal on me, and I was quite pleased and quite honored,” he said.

Dressed in his war bonnet and carrying a traditional drum, Medicine Crow had a 10-minute private audience with the president. The halls of the White House reverberated with the sounds of the drum and his voice as he sang Obama a Crow honor song.

Medicine Crow is one of the few living connections to the Battle of the Little Bighorn, where Custer and 260 soldiers attacked an encampment of an estimated 5,000 people including about 1,500 warriors. Medicine Crow’s grandfather, White-Man-Runs-Him, was one of six Crow scouts who warned Custer to await reinforcements before attacking. Of those six scouts, Medicine Crow knew four and as a child listened to their memories of the battle and served as a translator for his grandfather when he was interviewed by reporters and others about the battle.

Medicine Crow began documenting the stories and has spent most of his life researching the battle and the history and traditions of the Crow and other Native American people. He is the first in his tribe to receive a master’s degree and was working on his doctoral dissertation at the University of Southern California when he was drafted into World War II. During his Army service in Europe, he accomplished all four tasks required to become a tribal war chief: hand-to-hand combat with an enemy, including taking away his weapon; being the first of his group of warriors to touch an enemy; leading a war party into enemy territory; and capturing horses belonging to the enemy. The last was a difficult task, considering that horses were rarely used in World War II.

Medicine Crow has been a tribal historian for the Crow Nation for more than 50 years and has written some of the most influential works about Indian history and culture. “I tell people he is a cultural treasure,” said Herman Viola, retired archivist with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. “When you shake hands with him, you are shaking hands with the 19th century. He has had direct contact with pre-reservation Indians and he seems to have a photographic memory. He has instant recall of events that happened many years ago.”

Viola, who has known Medicine Crow for more than 30 years, is his adopted brother. Medicine Crow named him One Star, after one of six Crow scouts who warned Custer to await reinforcements before attacking. Of those six scouts, Medicine Crow knew four and as a child listened to their memories of the battle and served as a translator for his grandfather when he was interviewed by reporters and others about the battle.

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Viola, who has known Medicine Crow for more than 30 years, is his adopted brother. Medicine Crow named him One Star, after one of his beloved grandfathers.

Joe realized early on he needed to preserve and pass on this information and we were able to record some of these stories for the Smithsonian,” Viola said. “This Presidential Medal of Freedom is long overdue because there is really no one like him who can speak about the indigenous cultures.”

Educational odyssey

Medicine Crow’s educational odyssey is closely tied to the Baptist Church of which he has been a lifelong member. He attended primary school on the Crow reservation but by the time he reached high school, racial tensions between the Crow and the white people were high. The Rev. W. A. Petzoldt, a Baptist missionary, sent a number of Crow students to Bacone Indian School in Oklahoma. There, Medicine Crow found a love for learning, completing high school and earning an associate’s degree at the junior college. After he returned home, the Rev. Petzoldt arranged to cover his tuition to Linfield College.

Although his tuition was paid, Medicine Crow worked for his room and board. He washed pots and pans for the dining room and worked as a janitor in Pioneer Hall. Times were tough in the Depression. During his second year, Medicine Crow lived off campus with several others, including his life-long friend, the late Jereld R. Nicholson ’39, for whom the Linfield library is named.

“We were so poor at the time, we rented a room and slept in one bed,” Medicine Crow said. “Five of us shared a little apartment house and we all chipped in and bought a big bunch of bananas. Jerry didn’t have any money, so I bought his share.”

Medicine Crow remained in touch with Nicholson. He saw him at Medicine Crow’s induction into the Army in 1942. Fifty years later, Nicholson drove to Missoula to watch his friend receive an honorary degree from the University of Montana.

“He came and visited me in Missoula and when he was leaving, he handed me some cash – probably $400 or $500 – and said, ‘Here, have it.’”

Yellowtail taught his grandson how to run, swim, ride, read tracks and listen – how to be a good warrior and a good soldier in the Crow tradition. All of those skills were put to use during World War II. Medicine Crow completed the four major battlefield deeds to become a Crow war chief, including capturing the enemy’s horses.

The last requirement was the most daunting. Horses were not typically used during World War II. However, Medicine Crow’s unit came upon German SS officers who were retreating on horseback. After they ramped, Medicine Crow took control of the barn and stampeded all 50 head. “I am probably the only war chief left, joining the ranks of Sitting Bull, Geronimo, Black Hawk and all the brave warriors of the past protecting their lands and their way of life,” he said.
something to eat.” We were so poor in school, then Jerry became a millionaire.”


Accounting and genetics proved especially vexing.

“Linfield has real high standards,” he said. “They take in only high school graduates who are really smart kids. They were high-class students and the competition was fierce. And here I was an Indian kid from the reservation.”

Accounting was particularly tough because he was placed in an advanced accounting course, despite the fact that he had never had accounting before. In spite of his protests, Medicine Crow was told he had to take it.

“He (the registrar) said it would come in handy,” he said with a laugh. “I also had trouble with genetics, but Professor Macnab was really patient and helped me get through. All my other courses, I made A’s.”

During Medicine Crow’s senior year, an essay-writing contest was announced with a first-place prize of $25. A keen competitor, Medicine Crow entered the contest.

“I won it,” he laughed. “And that set the stage for my writing career. I had a lot of interesting experiences at Linfield and I received a real well-balanced education there.”

At Bacone, Medicine Crow had enjoyed success as a star pitcher for the baseball team and hoped to play under Coach Henry Lever at Linfield. He also went out for wrestling, under the guidance of Coach Wayne Harn. While helping wrestlers work on various holds, Harn accidentally fell on Medicine Crow, crushing his elbow and ending his pitching and wrestling days. They doctor did his injured arm and despite the pain, he began working out with the track team.

He competed in javelin, but was never able again to throw the length he could before the injury. He also ran the mile, but said he could not compete with runners David Hooper ’38 and Walter Young ’38, ’52. However, Medicine Crow lettered both years at Linfield and still has his letter.

Learning guides life

Education has been a centerpiece of Medicine Crow’s life. Plenty Coups, one of the last Crow chiefs, said that with education, you can become a white man’s equal, without it you will be his victim.

“That to me was a personal challenge,” Medicine Crow said. “I wanted to prove to people, not only to Indian people but people in general, that an Indian is capable of becoming a good college student. People said that Indians are just too dumb, they are not capable of getting a college education. I wanted to dispel that. And the secret to that is study.”

And study he did. After graduating from Linfield with a degree in sociology, he took 26 credits a term at USC in order to complete his master’s degree in one year instead of two. He completed all the coursework for his Ph.D., and returned home to complete his dissertation but was drafted into the Army. Sixty-one years after he left school for the war, USC awarded him an honorary degree, one of three he has received.

Medicine Crow has maintained connections to the traditional Crow values and with the white man’s way of life.

“There is a middle line that joins two worlds together,” he said. “I walk that line and take the best from each and avoid the worst. I’ve lived a good, well-balanced way of life. I encourage my grandchildren and young Crow Indians to do the same and they will be happy.”

Medicine Crow maintains his deep faith in the Christian religion, while retaining his spiritual ties with the Crow.

“I was trained as a sort of Indian medicine man, but at the same time I am a Christian,” he said. He has served as a deacon and moderator and remains active in the Lodge Grass Baptist Church where his grandparents and his parents were members.

“I enjoy living in a bicultural way,” he said. “It is interesting and challenging. Education was miserable the first few years, then it became enjoyable, a challenge and a dedication. To me, education is a way of life. I want to help people get a good education and lead them out of the world of ignorance.”

Viola visits Medicine Crow regularly and often takes him on speaking engagements to tell the story of the Little Bighorn from the Plains Indian perspective and share Crow stories and legends, and reservation culture. He said Medicine Crow has been able to navigate between the white and Crow worlds because he has good instincts.

“Joe has had an impact on white people and Indians in so many ways,” he added. “He proved that you can be educated and succeed in both the white and Indian worlds. Many didn’t want their children to be educated because they feared that they would lose their values. They need role models like Joe.”

A personal encounter

Time has slowed Joseph Medicine Crow, taken some of his hearing and dimmed his eyesight, but he hasn’t lost his memory, his humor or his love of singing. When he isn’t talking, he often hums softly, a rhythm that is relaxing and soothing. During our conversation, he broke into “How Great Thou Art.” While sharing his experiences when he accepted the Medal of Freedom, he sang the honor song he sang for President Obama.

When we met at the Baptist Church in Lodge Grass, he brought along his Linfield letter and pennant. I presented copies of two photos of him as a student we found in the archives, along with a Linfield baseball hat and jacket.

He is a huge fan of Linfield and USC football. He is brimming with stories from every era of his life. He is friendly, charming, funny and smart. He is also awe-inspiring when you listen to him and realize the rich life he has led, his vast experience and the material he has preserved for the Crow Tribe.

We had lunch near the Little Big-horn Battlefield, at a restaurant where his grandson is a cook. He walked slowly with his walking stick and tucked his hand under my arm.

As we entered, people greeted him, “Hi Joe,” “Hi Mr. Crow.” He waved and then led me directly to the bookshelves and picked up White-Man Runs-Him, a book about his grandfather, one of Custer’s Crow scouts.

“You should read this,” he told me. So I bought a copy.

Soon, a gentle and unassuming man, asked if Medicine Crow would sign his book. There followed a series of people, both young and old, who drifted by the table to meet, talk and ask for his signature. He graciously signed their books, and they seemed genuinely in awe of him. So was I as he leaned over and continued telling stories.

I listened, I laughed and I felt privileged to sit next to a national treasure.

— Mardi Milham

For more information on Joseph Medicine Crow, go to:

www.custermuseum.org
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe_Medicine_Crow
www.worldwildad.com/public/authors/joe-medicine-crow.aspx

Counting Coup available from the National Geographic Society

— Mardi Milham
Finding the homeless at home

Maggie steps off the bus into the frigid Wednesday morning air in Willamina. Still early, the small-town sidewalks are quiet, most businesses closed. She looks up and down the foggy street considering her circumstances. A single mother of three, her car has broken down en route to family in San Francisco. She has no phone and only $20 to last the week.

What now?

She breathes deeply and pushes through the first open door to seek help. At age five, Maggie Crawford ’99 had a cape and a dream to save the world. She wanted to become a super heroine. “Saving the whole world is a big goal,” she concedes. “So I’ve been attempting to save one person at a time, to make a difference in someone’s life.”

Last spring, she found herself standing on the Willamina street, a Linfield College student taking part in a class exercise that changed her perspective on homelessness.

“We were supposed to see if we could get out of that situation or what the best recourse would be,” said Crawford, who graduated in May with a degree in sociology and anthropology. What she found in Willamina was typical of many small communities—the public phone didn’t work, the library, which contained one computer with Internet access, was open limited hours, there was no warm shelter to duck into with children, no marked stop for the bus and she had difficulty locating a schedule.

The hands-on class, Sociology of Community, along with other courses offered throughout the year by Rob Gardner, assistant professor of sociology, brought Crawford and her classmates face-to-face with homelessness.

“As Linfield students, we’re extremely privileged,” she said. “We knew we were going to come back to our cozy lifestyles, but for that time, it turned our perspective around 180 degrees. In our group, we were cold and hungry and wondering if we would miss the next bus. It was a long way back to campus.”

That’s just as Gardner intends. He designs his hands-on community courses to come alive for students, who face with homelessness.

“You realize that a significant portion of the community is a medical bill, rent payment, car payment or emergency away from falling into homelessness.”

— Rob Gardner

Rob Gardner and Carolyn Blood ’11

alpha Hartmann ’11, left, listens as a Yamhill County resident explains her struggle to find and keep affordable and permanent housing in the McMinnville area. Hartmann and other students in Rob Gardner’s classes learn about a variety of issues including rural homelessness, which affects more families, children and elderly, and receives fewer social services than are often found in an urban area.

Alex Hartmann ’11, left, listens as a Yamhill County resident explains her struggle to find and keep affordable and permanent housing in the McMinnville area. Hartmann and other students in Rob Gardner’s classes learn about a variety of issues including rural homelessness, which affects more families, children and elderly, and receives fewer social services than are often found in an urban area.

“An experience like that has staying power for students. For many of his students, Gardner said this was the first time and know we accomplished something. It was cold and hungry and wondering if we would miss the next bus. It was a long way back to campus.”

“There’s no way we could have pulled it off on our own.”

Students also volunteered at the Homeless Connect event in February, which featured Red Cross representatives, counselors, doctors, veterinarians and legal counselors, and offered services such as foot care, hair care, bike repair, child care, food and clothing.

Most importantly, they listened to stories. Tyler Stanley ’09 appreciated the tangible experiences he gained by going out into the community and talking with people.

“You realize that a significant portion of the community is a medical bill, rent payment, car payment or emergency away from falling into homelessness.”

— Rob Gardner

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Learn more: www.co.yamhill.or.us/ (click on Ending Homelessness)
Carol Gallagher trims a hedge like she’s frosting a cake. Artfully and effortlessly, she guides the gas trimmer back and forth at just the right angle to produce a smooth, manicured finish.

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After 13 years as a Linfield College groundskeeper, Gallagher makes gardening look easy. Slender and petite, she wields power tools that turn my shoulders to jelly and maneuvers heavy equipment on a regular basis. Gallagher covers the northwest corner of campus, about 17 acres that include the President’s House, Oak Grove, Pioneer, Walker and Riley Halls, and the academic quad. Her section, bordering Highway 99W, contains two campus entrances and is often referred to as the face of Linfield. And what a stunning face it is.

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In the fall, the leaves are all-consuming, all day every day. "Rain is not a reason to slow down," she says. "I have to work fast to get my lawns done in the weather."" I have to work fast to get my lawns done in the weather."

Laura Davis, left, assistant director of communications, helps Carol Gallagher weed the flower bed south of Northup Hall in the academic quad. To get a feel for what it takes to maintain Linfield's beautiful campus, Davis spent a day working side-by-side with Gallagher.

"That's just the way Gallagher likes it. She much prefers being outdoors to indoors, no matter the weather. "I love the work," says Gallagher, who began gardening at 10 with her dad, making 10 cents an hour. "It's creative and I get a lot of exercise. I like the satisfaction of doing a job and looking back at it. My favorite part of the job is working with and getting to know the students."

There is plenty of heavy work — bending, pushing, lifting, clipping, hauling. Today, we hoist hefty buckets of debris from under a fern frond into the back of her truck. Tomorrow, she will be lifting something else. Her advice for a quick pick-me-up?

"Take an Excedrin and eat a Snickers bar, and you can go far," she says with a laugh. "That's what's kept me going all these years."

As we edge, I learn the difference between hard edges (sidewalks) and soft edges (flower beds, trees). She also explains noise restrictions. During the academic year, she has a two-hour window each Wednesday afternoon to mow; edge and blow the academic quad, a task that can only be accomplished with the help of co-workers. Near residence halls, she limits her work to after 9 a.m.

"I have to work fast to get my lawns done in the allotted time," she explains, and I note the pride and ownership of her statement, typical of the Linfield ethos. Throughout the day, she refers to "my" flower beds, "my" baskets and "my" shrubs.

At the end of the afternoon, inspired and tired, my head swimming with gardening tips, I dig out the most important pearl of wisdom and head to the bookstore to pluck a well-hidden bud worm from a flower. "This little bugger will eat the blooms," she says.

While I admire the sweet violets, zinnias, vinca minor and other flowers lining the curved beds of the president's yard, Gallagher looks beyond the beauty and sighs: "I haven't been able to get to these beds yet," she says. "There is not enough time."

Near Pioneer Hall, we pass a young triangle-shaped bed with a fuchsia-colored crepe myrtle surrounded by sword ferns, creeping phlox, mini-rhododendrons, sweet violets and alium. Gallagher tells me she planned the bed with the help of her husband, Ken, a former landscape designer, to replace an overgrown spruce tree and Heather.

"The tree was too big and we took it out a few years ago and … her voice trails off mid-sentence as she leaps from the driver's seat and nab a tiny slug making its way up a fern leaf. She pulls two weeds on her way back to the cart, picking up the conversation. "I want ed the colors to go with the crepe myrtle, and chose ferns and rhodies to go with the old-fashioned feel of the building."

Gallagher constantly sees things I do not notice – slugs, bugs and garbage – and deftly scoops them up with a shovel or gloved hand. Her collection so far this morning includes a discarded napkin, a plastic drink lid with straw still attached, various weeds and a spilled basket with straw still attached, various weeds and a spilled basket.

"Put the voice of a colleague across campus. In the cart bed, I recognize Gallagher's standard equipment – a rake, scoop shovel and blue plastic garbage can. Garden clippers rest in a holster on her belt. "I feel lost without them," she admits.

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Laura Davis
Cancer is more than a disease to Anne Kruchten. She considers it from an analytical, clinical and scientific perspective, but at the end of the day, it is personal. What drives her is the need to understand why her brother died in his early 20s of a rare and deadly form of bone cancer and what can be done to stop it. Her research has become an integral part of her classroom as well as an important component in the lives of students who work by her side in Linfield laboratories.

At 18, Kruchten took a summer job washing dishes in a laboratory at Indiana University in her hometown of Indianapolis. Her future was planned. She would attend Transylvania University (home of the Pioneers, not the vampires, she notes with a laugh) in Lexington, Ky., and then head to medical school.

But that summer her focus slowly began to shift. The lab became more than just another summer job and she took her first tentative steps into research, which started as a challenge from the lab director. “He gave me two pieces of paper and said I needed to learn every piece of equipment listed,” she said. “I think it was a sink or swim test, but within a week I finished everything and I started to do research.”

It’s a lesson she has not forgotten and she follows the same philosophy with her Linfield students. “I start out with some hand holding to get them used to the process, but in the end, they are on their own,” she said.

After four summers in the lab at Indiana, medical school was set aside and she headed to graduate school. After four summers in the lab at Indiana, medical school was set aside and she headed to graduate school. After four summers in the lab at Indiana University for three years, is tall with a head of brown, curly hair that bounces around her face. She is quick to laugh, has a good arm in softball and a knack for explaining complicated research. She can be intense, demanding and funny, and students love her.

Jeneva Foster ’09 is pursuing a Ph.D. program in biochemistry, molecular and cell biology at the University of Oregon. Her work with Kruchten helped her learn how to think like a researcher and define her goals. She not only worked in Kruchten’s Linfield lab, she also learned about writing research papers and grants, which also helped prepare her for graduate school.

“Working in a research lab is different than the labs you do for class,” she said. “You don’t blindly follow the protocol the professor printed out; you have to really think about and understand what you are doing and why you are doing it.

Before I started working with Anne, I didn’t know what I wanted to do and I doubted myself all the time,” Foster added. “She is one of the biggest reasons I’m [at UO]. She always challenges you, but never discourages you. She helps you find the answers without telling you what they are.”

Understanding cortactin

A nanometer-sized protein called cortactin lies at the center of Kruchten’s work, research that began during her post-doctoral studies at the Mayo Clinic. She and her students are trying to determine the role cortactin plays in how cancer metastasizes, when malignant cells break off from a primary tumor and travel through blood vessels.

“People die from cancer because tumor cells migrate to other places in the body and disrupt organ function,” she said. Understanding this movement, or metastasis, is at the heart of her research.

Some cancers are far more metastatic than others. For example, skin cancer can be relatively metastatic. Some forms of breast cancer can be much more so and pancreatic and bone cancer are highly metastatic. Cortactin, highlighted in bright green masses along the edges of the cells, is suspected to play a role in how malignant cells move throughout the body.
On choosing a major

Anne Kruchten understands being uncertain about a major.

When she enrolled in Transylvania University, she was a premed major. Then she changed to biology and spent a week as a chemistry major, before giving up on the hard sciences. She was a psychology major for a semester, then a Spanish major before completing the circle and earning her bachelor’s in biology.

When it came time to apply to graduate schools, she was looking for a mentor who would allow her to be independent. She chose the University of Minnesota, where her research focused on obesity and diabetes.

When she was investigating postdoctoral programs, she wanted to conduct cancer research and needed skills that she hadn’t picked up in her graduate program. The Mayo Clinic offered the opportunity to work in an intensive cell biology and microscopy cancer lab – the best of both worlds.

“Minnesota is very much an academic institution, so you get to see the academic side of laboratory work,” she said. “Mayo is extremely medical, very clinical and the lab space is more focused on clinical studies.”

Looking for evidence

Sarah Click ‘11 hunches over a microscope with a built-in camera. She inserts slides of cells and takes photos that magnify the cells 100 times. Click is trying to determine whether cells that are highly metastatic show an elevated concentration of cortactin. If it plays a role in helping malignant cells move, there should be high levels of the protein along the edges of cells.

Once she has the photos of the new cells, she shifts to the computer, pulls up the shots and begins isolating the cells that best illustrate her project. She spent hours in a biology lab, shooting hundreds of photos, then sharpening the images.

Click’s research with Anne Kruchten will determine her future – either medical school or graduate school. She calls Kruchten patient and approachable.

“She took the time to make sure I understood all the science and the significance of what I was doing in the laboratory and answered my questions thoroughly,” Click said. “It was a really positive learning experience and a way for me to work toward some of my career goals.”

actin is involved in trafficking proteins in normal cells, making sure that cells get where they are supposed to be. Kruchten’s hypothesis is that a modified form of cortactin is also involved in moving malignant cells to different parts of the body.

Kruchten made some progress during her research at the Mayo Clinic, showing that one pool of modified cortactin might push the cell forward, and a second, different pool helps to retract it, much as an inchworm moves forward – when the front moves ahead, the rear has to retract. Now her students are following up on that work.

In her second day in the lab last summer, Katherine Arns ‘11 made the unexpected discovery that she could isolate pools of cortactin using a simple separation method. She spent the summer working to make sense of this finding.

“It was very exciting, and it changed my entire summer project for the better,” said Arns, who learned valuable laboratory techniques and became well versed in a protein she’d never heard of before.

Learning the structure of cortactin is essential in trying to understand how it might react. The structure of the protein cannot be photographed because, unlike some proteins which form a repeating pattern, cortactin doesn’t form the same shape every time.

“If I could get a picture of the structure, it would help me understand what it will do,” Kruchten said. “Without an understanding of the structure, it’s harder to predict how it will function.”

She and Brian Gilbert, associate professor of chemistry, are hoping to collaborate on a project that could help determine the structure of the protein.

“Ultimately, we don’t want the cell to metastasize,” Kruchten said. “If we can figure out the structure of cortactin, we might also figure out how to change that structure and prevent metastasis. That’s the long-term goal.”

Research complements teaching

As passionate as Kruchten is about her research, she’s also a committed teacher. She brings research into all of her classes, whether it’s an advanced biochemistry class with four students, or an introductory principles of biology class.

“I firmly believe that research should be part of teaching. I don’t see them as separate entities,” she said. “Biology is an experimental science, it’s not just observation. And, I like explaining scientific things to people who don’t do science.”

Kruchten, who also hopes to someday be a science writer on the side, is a voracious reader, who is constantly reading articles and researching subjects on the Internet. She uses textbooks, but augments her classes with articles and projects to keep students engaged, involved and asking questions. In January, she’s leading her first off-campus course, “Biogenesis in Italy and France: A Historical Perspective on Microbiology Discoveries.”

Kruchten’s brief window for focused research – 10 weeks in the summer – can be frustratingly short, but the fact that she and her students continue to make progress keeps her going.

“I don’t think the students really believe when they first come in that they are going to do anything worthwhile,” she said. “They might have grand ideas that they are going to cure cancer, but I don’t think they understand they really can have a part in that.”

Her students have consistently made headway, collected data and presented findings at national conferences each of the three years she’s been at Linfield.

“When they make these presentations they have an opportunity to talk to post-doctoral researchers and graduate students and they have to defend what they did and explain why it contributes to the field,” she added.

Combining teaching and research, mentoring students and keeping her work fun are all important.

“The nice thing about working with undergraduates is that they have a lot of enthusiasm,” she said. “It can be monotonous working in the lab, but for students, finding their first data is very exciting.

The mystery that drives investigative research continues to intrigue her.

“You have to figure out how all these different pieces fit together,” she said. “Because you are working in a test tube, you have to figure out what’s real and what happened because you took the protein out of the cell. And the hardest part is ‘does this really mean anything?’ How do you actually relate this to what happens to someone who has cancer? Can it be related? That’s the hard part.”

— Mardi Mileham

Sarah Click ‘11 examines a batch of slides she photographed to determine whether high levels of the protein cortactin indicate that it plays a role in how cancer cells metastasize. Sometimes the results are almost artistic – the bright green cortactin is highlighted on the black background. One slide, with hundreds of cells sprinkled across it, suggests city lights seen from a plane at night.
Erin Pitney’s earliest math memory involves beans, and a bit of irritation. “In the first grade we had to count beans up to 1,000 and then count back down,” said Pitney ‘03. “I remember thinking, ‘I get it already. Enough. I understand place value.’” Luckily, the initial boredom did not squelch her mathematical excitement. She progressed to fraction bars and repeating decimals, basic algebra and geometry, then conjectures and theorems. This summer, she returned to Linfield College to tackle research in graph theory.

Pitney, a middle school math teacher, joined a team of six undergraduate researchers working on summer math projects at Linfield. Led by Chuck Dunn and Jennifer Nordstrom, both associate professors of math at Linfield, they participated in the National Science Foundation’s Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) and Research Experiences for Teachers (RET). Linfield was one of four schools in the Willamette Valley Consortium for Mathematics Research hosting the eight-week program, in the third of a three-year NSF grant. They hope to renew the grant next year.

The high-level math is above the geometry and algebra II Pitney teaches at Meadow Park Middle School in Beaverton. But that’s okay. Pitney’s summer experience will benefit her students in other ways. She has a better understanding of math research and plans to translate that to her middle-schoolers.

“Now I have the resources to teach my students what a math science fair project at the middle school level looks like,” she said.

Dunn said the summer program trains participants to ask and answer their own questions, and Nordstrom agrees. “It’s important to give teachers a broad research experience and see what they can take back to their classroom,” added Nordstrom. “They’re not taking a specific mathematics back to the classroom, but they’re taking the process and mentoring young students to have a research experience.”

As a Linfield student, Pitney took a number of classes from Dunn and Nordstrom and regularly studied in Math Alley, the Graf hallway lined with desks on one side and faculty offices on the other. Then, as now, professors welcomed questions and discussion, Pitney said.

Pitney is a firm believer in continuing education. In 2003, she was selected to participate in the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics program. Then, after graduating from Linfield with a degree in mathematics, she went on to earn MAT degree from Willamette University. She has also spent three summers attending the Oregon Mathematics Leadership Institute.

Linfield will be accepting applications in the spring for k-12 teachers to participate in the program. For more information, go to www.willamette.edu/cla/math/REU-RET/.

– Laura Davis
Cole Bixenman ‘11
Sports: Football, baseball
Major: Finance, minoring in economics
Sports history: I started playing baseball when I was 4 and started playing football when I was in sixth grade. I enjoy the camaraderie and being part of a team.

Athletic achievements: Quarterback for football and catcher for baseball All-NWC academic honors for football and baseball in 2007 and 2008. Second team all-West Region Catcher and second team all-NWC for baseball. In 2009, he was honored as the baseball team’s MVP and was an ESPN The Magazine Academic District VIII Catcher honoree.

On Linfield football: There is so much tradition at Linfield. It’s rare to see 130 guys doing the same thing, at the same time. It’s so much fun to all have one goal and be part of a successful program. This year the motto is “Right now.” Don’t look ahead, look at the one practice, one game and one play.

On Linfield baseball: Coach (Scott) Brosius ’02 is a great coach. We had success when we went to the World Series my freshman year, and ever since I’ve been determined to get back there.

Balancing athletics and academics: During the season, professors are always interested in how the sports teams are doing and coaches always put academics first. Everyone understands it’s not just academics or sports; it’s the whole atmosphere of your entire career here.

Favorite class: I have a wide range of business classes, from accounting to business law to financial management. I’ve had a broad array of classes and a good time in all of them.

Inspired by: My dad. When I was 3 years old I would go to his softball games and I’d always have my bat and glove, and he’d throw balls for me. He started me out and coached a few of my teams when I was younger. I really appreciate everything he’s done and the opportunities he gave me.

Rutschman Stadium named in Hillsboro
The Hillsboro High School community paid tribute to Ad Rutschman ‘54, former Linfield College football and baseball coach and athletic director, by naming a stadium in his honor. The Ad Rutschman Baseball Stadium, part of the Hase Field Athletic Complex, was dedicated in July. Prior to the ceremony, Rutschman served as the grand marshal for the Hillsboro Rotary’s Fourth of July parade.

Rutschman graduated from HHS in 1950, and later coached football and baseball teams to state titles there before coming to Linfield in 1968. During a spectacular career, he coached Wildcat football teams for 24 years, baseball for 13 years and served as athletic director for 25 years. Rutschman was inducted into the halls of fame for NAIA, Oregon Sports, College Football and Linfield. He was also named Oregon’s Slim Gill man of the year five times.

Eight former Wildcats to be inducted into Hall of Fame
Eight former Linfield College athletes will be inducted into the Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame on Nov. 14 at the 12th annual AT&T Linfield Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet, following the Linfield-Pacific Lutheran football game. The Hall of Fame class of 2009 includes:

• Basketball great Roger Baker ’59 of Hood River, who led Linfield to the 1968 Northwest Conference title. Baker also competed internationally in the sport of handball in the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games. He won gold medals in the Pan Am Games;
• Football and track & field standout Doug Dean ’89 of Beaverton, a member of two NAIA championship teams and school record holder and sixth-place national finisher in track in the hammer;
• Four-year football starter Bob Ferguson ’65 of Vancouver, Wash., who earned NAIA All-America honors as a senior on the 1965 Champion Bowl team. His teams were 32-5-2 during his career. He went on to earn a Purple Heart during combat duty in the Vietnam War;
• Clackamas resident Brad Gilbertson ’83, a four-year football letterman and NAIA All-America center as a member of Linfield’s 1982 national championship team;
• The late Pat Martindale ’77, an All-American and school record holder in the javelin in track. He also competed one season in football;
• NAIA national high jump champion Kerrie O’Sullivan ’98 of Sequim, Wash., who earned NAIA All-America honors in track; and
• Cornelius resident Joe Salta ’78, a starter on four consecutive NWC championship teams who was voted an NAIA All-American and Linfield’s best defensive player as a senior. His teams went 30-8 over the course of his career; and
• Ken Weinberg ’92 of Portland, a school record holder and national runner-up in the decathlon. Weinberg set school records in the decathlon, javelin, pole vault and 4x100-meter relay. His shared school and conference record in the 4x100 still stands.
Add value to students with ‘career stimulus package’

In these interesting economic times, we are eager to add value to Linfield students and alumni. In an effort to do so, Career Services is offering a “career stimulus package.” In March, Linfield students can spend a week working at a participating company to get some real-world experience. They can also take part in one-day job shadows or benefit from the advice of panelists through a career exploration class.

If you are interested in providing work experience, advice of panelists through a career exploration class.

— Debbie (Hansen) Hamon ’90

Director of Alumni Relations

Pencil us in

Alumni Networking Event, Nov. 12, 6 p.m.

Willamette Valley Vineyards will host the November alumni networking event. The monthly evening is great opportunities for alumni wishing to expand their professional and personal networks. Check the website for upcoming locations and consider hosting a future networking event.

Costa Rica, Feb. 8-16

Enjoy the many pristine natural wonders of Costa Rica through exclusive excursions and special presentations, as well as an unscheduled time for personal discovery. Nature reserve tours include Braulio Carrillo National Park and Tortuguero National Park and Cano Negro Wildlife Refuge.

Oregon Shakespeare Festival, July 8-10

See five productions and gain insights during pre-show discussions by Ken Erickson, professor of English. Plays include Twelfth Night, Pride and Prejudice, Henry IV, Hamlet and The Merchant of Venice.

For more information on alumni events call 503-883-2547 or go to:

www.support.linfield.edu/alumni

Career builder toolkit

Beef up professional skills with two alumni-led workshops focusing on improving communication and clarifying direction. Both will be noon luncheons held at The Westin Hotel in Portland. Space is limited. Register now.

Nov. 11

Steve Marshall ’86 will discuss how to use social media to promote business and personal brands.

Jan. 12

Julie Anne Jones ’85 will explain how to take responsibility for your life and business and become an enlightened leader.

Linfield hits the big screen

Alumni and friends gathered during Homecoming for a screening of videos submitted for “Come Home to Linfield.” A video contest celebrating.

Linfield. Aaron Cody ’10 received the first place award of $500 for his video. To view videos:

www.support.linfield.edu/come_home

For more information on alumni events call 503-883-2547 or go to:

www.support.linfield.edu/alumni

Necessities now and then

We asked our student bloggers to name the three most important things they brought to college. Then we asked four alumni the same question. Send your list to the Linfield College alumni group page at www.facebook.com. To read some background on our student bloggers, see page 23.

Joe Parvankin ’85

Thesaurus set, raincoat

Alumni have recommended students to Linfield for years. We have a quality product and it’s important to continue to bring in top-notch students. Not only do students get a great education, but they can take part in athletics, an added bonus.”

Alyssa Nichols ’13:

“Linfield was always an option. I liked the atmosphere and the idea of being close to home.”

You can help Linfield recruit the class of 2014 by visiting or calling the Office of Admission to recommend a prospective student at 800-640-2287.

Recruit a Wildcat

Ad Rutschman ’54, former Linfield coach and athletic director:

“Alumni have recommended students to Linfield for years. We have a quality product and it’s important to continue to bring in top-notch students. Not only do students get a great education, but they can take part in athletics, an added bonus.”

www.support.linfield.edu/recruit_a_cat
Award-winning alumni and friends honored
The Linfield Alumni Association honors dedicated individuals for their hard work, innovation and generosity of spirit. For complete profiles of this year’s winners, go to www.support.linfield.edu/alumni_awards

Bernie Turner, Walker Award
The philosophy of giving back has been ingrained in Bernie Turner since childhood. A retired pastor and Linfield trustee, Turner has spent four decades investing his time and energy into helping abandoned youth and other people in need. Turner was director of business development for Willaby’s Catering.

Kristine Oller ’93, Alumni Service Award
At age 14, Kristine Oller’s idea of fun was to clean her sister’s room. Some things never change. Oller, ’93, an organizational expert and career strategist, now spends her professional life organizing others and volunteering for Linfield.

Michelle Johnston Holthaus ’95, Outstanding Young Alumna
Michelle Johnston Holthaus ’95 has had great success and responsibility at Intel Corp. She joined Intel as a project manager and has progressed to general manager of the Channel Platforms and Strategy Division.
A dozen Linfield College alumni were part of a group that climbed Mount St. Helens recently. Pictured here at the trailhead of the Winter Hiking Route in the Muddy Mountain Sno-Park area, back row from left: Aran Robertson ’04, Stephen Teater ’04, Ian Foster ’05, Dennis Pasquini ’05, Oliver Ogden ’06, Elizabeth Graton Teater, Nancy Alexander, Seth Prickett ’03, Josh Johnson ’04, Kalaya Iyle ’07 and Meghan Baker ’05. In front from left: Zach Elwood, Molly Johnson ’04, Jared Staber ’04 and Melissa Schmeier Baker ’04.

Gale Castillo ’73

When Gale Castillo ’73 entered Linfield, she saw few people who looked like her – only a handful of Latino students. Even fewer students had babies and husbands.

Married at 16 and a mother at 17, Castillo had been accepted at the University of California at Berkeley. But a family friend whose children attended Linfield suggested that she and her then-husband, Carlos Mejia, check out the college. “We toured the campus and liked the area, although it was kind of a culture shock coming from Oakland, Calif., so we decided we would move to Oregon and get off on our own.”

Despite its lack of diversity at the time – “The only diversity was the Hawaiian football players,” Cas- tilla says – the young couple found Linfield welcoming: “The staff, people in admissions, made an effort to help us settle in,” she says. “They helped us find housing and employment.”

Working at the News-Register newspaper, changing diapers, canning and sewing, in addition to studying, left little time to socialize or get involved in campus activities, she says. Son Roberto Mejia, now 38, was one of the first children enrolled at the Linfield Pre-Kindergarten. Castillo was a student representative on its Board of Directors.

She fondly remembers psychology professor Mar- celle Robinson, who became a strong role model for Castillo. “I’m the first in my family, like many others, to attend college, so having someone like her to look up to really made a difference,” she says.

Overall, Castillo found Linfield “a wonderful experience and a wonderful introduction to Oregon. My husband went back to California, and I stayed.”

Castilla remarried in 1975. She and husband Jerry Brown live in Portland and own Cascade Centers Inc., one of the largest private companies in the United States that provide employee assistance program (EAP) services, staff development and executive coaching.

Castilla is president and a founding member of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (HMC). Established in 1994, it now has 800 members. It provides technical assistance to small businesses, a Latino Leadership training program, an annual trade show and numerous networking events.

HMC also offers college scholarships for Latino students statewide. Participating colleges provide matching funds for students, and recipients are selected based on academic achievements, extracurricular activities in the community and a written essay. Six Linfield students

from both the McMinnville and Portland Campuses are among the current recipients, including Tomi Lesh ’10, a nursing major from North Bend who one day hopes to get her nurse practitioner license.

“As a first-generation college student, it was dif- ficult for me to guide my way to college,” Lesh says. “I hope to give back the way many Linfield alumni and the Metropolitan Chamber members have. It inspires me to do the same one day.”

Castilla has seen first hand the importance of part- nering with institutions to support Latino students.

“Education is the avenue for economic opportuni- ty for every citizen in the U.S.,” she says. “Our whole idea is to support the Latino community – students and small Latino businesses. The ethic here is to give back and be supportive for others coming behind us.”

Castilla’s leadership and drive have drawn reg- ional and national kudos. Her latest was in January, when she was selected as one of 22 Latinos in the U.S. to participate in the National Hispanic Leader- ship Institute.

– Beth Rogers Thompson

Got news? Have you changed jobs? Received a promotion? Returned to school? Received another degree? Started a business? Did you get married or have a child in the last 12 months? If you have news for your classmates and other Linfield friends, visit us online at www.linfield.edu/alumni.
Today: Music Theory II

Tomorrow: The Met

– Chelsea Janzen ’12

Your gifts to Linfield launch dreams. Learn more about the ways gifts make a difference for our students at www.linfield.edu/giving or make a secure gift today at www.linfield.edu/gift.