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Class Notes

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Pryor aids tsunami-ravaged region

The children touched Thomas Pryor ’96 the most. After all, he had left his own baby daughter in Arizona when he boarded the U.S.Navy’s Mercy hospital ship off the shores of tsunami-ravaged Indonesia.

Pryor, a registered nurse, is a lieutenant commander in the U.S.Public Health Service. He works for one of its agencies, the Indian Health Service, most recently in the intensive-care unit at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center.

He spent the month of February with a medical team working to relieve the suffering inflicted by the monster wave that slammed into southern Asia in December, killing an estimated 221,100 people.

It was an unprecedented international relief effort, Pryor said: one month, compared with the normal two-week deployment for such emergency aid, and the first joint operation of the U.S.Navy and Project HOPE volunteers.

And the chaos and destruction there were political sensibilities: Indonesia is the world’s largest Muslim nation, and the Americans did not want to force themselves on the government. Civil strife compounded their safety concerns.

Banda Aceh’s ruined University Hospital served as a kind of staging area. The first crisis for the Mercy staff arrived as a small boy with a burn appendix was flown out to the ship because the hospital could not treat him.

The next morning, a 12-year-old boy went into respiratory failure. He had a severe lung infection, aspiration pneumonia, caused by swallowing contaminated water. The boy had nearly drowned in the tsunami. He boarded the ship because the hospital could not treat him.

Despite the devastation and limited medical resources, there were signs of hope. “Those that got antibiotics, of whatever kind – it was amazing to see how rapidly they got better,” Pryor said, adding that their response was partly because the Indonesians, unlike most Americans, rarely get such drugs. “Some of our basic antibiotics that we hardly ever use anymore were very effective and powerful over there.”

On Feb. 23, Pryor flew by helicopter with Harapan from the Mercy back to shore to join the boy’s uncle, aunt and their 2-year-old son — his only surviving relatives.

Pryor wrote of the reunion in his online journal that day: “I guess what I was more struck with was that I felt Harapan and his family is the impermanence of life, and how the mystery of life provided me an opportunity like this: To serve as an officer in the USNavy and be a part of the Mercy crisis where I would find myself halfway around the world in a different culture and different language, and despite all of the differences I have rekindled a heartfelt reminder in Harapan and his uncle that we share so much in common — the strength of family.”

Pryor returned March 2 to his own family, wife Erin and daughter Audrey, who is now a year old. In September he entered the two-year Kaiser program in nursing anesthesia in Pasadena, Calif., and after completion will continue to work for Indian Health Services.

To read more about his experiences, visit www.surgeongeneral.gov/journal.

1940-49

Charles Rollow ’43 recently moved to Napa, Calif., where he is an artist.

Mark Gottlieb ’48 of Kirkland, Wash., volunteers at Stilding House Foundation,imson Hospital and Emergency Feeding Program.

1950-59

Charles Chick ’53 of Sunnyvale, Calif., and his wife, Barbara, received the American Baptist Churches’ Spurgeon President’s Award during the biannual meeting of the American Baptist Churches USA in July.

Achilla (Ilmoting) Erikcal ’57 and ’58 of Aroul Lane, Cal., published the Chang-English, English Chang Dictionary.

Clare and Sandra (Casper) Clark ’59 and ’62 of Vancouver, Wash., are both retired.

1960-69

Roger and Florence (Wood) Trout ’60 and ’63 of Aurora are retired and serve on the North Coast Land Conservancy in Clatsop County.

Dorothy (Chance) Worrall ’63 of King City was recently honored at the 25th anniversary of the Mercy Woodward School in Tigard.

She was the school’s first music teacher.

Janet (Petersson) Hoffman ’64 of Kent retired from the Judical Department.

Barbara (Petersen) Keit ’64 of Hood River retired from teaching in the Hood River School District.

Gerald Mayo ’65 of Mill Valley, Calif., accompanied high school students during a spring break trip to Mexico with Amor Ministries. They built three houses in four days without power tools.

Gail Adams ’66 of Milad, Calif., retired in 2001 and attended her sixth Martha Gras in New Orleans this year.

1970-79

Roy Cummings ’79 of Salem appointed Cia Rosenthal, Inc., specializing in immune systemic health.

Dave Lemire ’72 of Coos Bay is a behavioral specialist and psychologist for the Education Service Center to Coos Bay. He also teaches at Southwest Oregon Community College and Eastern Oregon University and serves on a number of editorial boards.

Jackie E. ’73 of Salem is the Linfield Division of Continuing Education. Salem advisor, she recently completed the graduate certificate in academic advising program from Kansas State University.

Brenda Adcock ’74 of Oregon Beach, Fl., is chaplain and coordination supervisor at Indian River Habitat for Humanity.

Rob Stephenson ’75 of McMinnville owns Rob Stephenson Landscape Design & Consultation. He previously owned Cascadia Landscaping.

Jim Beach ’78 of Bellevue, Wash., is chief financial officer and executive vice president of The Cobalt Group.

1980-89

Kelly (Knapp) McMillan ’82 of McMinnville is the small group minister at Church on the Hill in McMinnville.

Esther (Richardson) Applicant ’83 of Lake Oswego is executive director of the Lake Oswego Temporary Shelter Ministry, a coalition of seven churches providing housing for homeless families in transition.

Rick Crownover ’83 of Molalla, Or., is director of the Reading Assistance Program.

Randy Mueller ’83 is general manager for the Miami Dolphins. He most recently served as an NFL analyst for ESPN.com.

Joseph and Mona (Haldane) Kicen, both ’80, live in Willowdale, Md. Joseph attends the National Defense University, Industrial College of the Air Force, working toward a master’s in national resource management and Mona is a senior analyst at Telcon.

Lewis Black ’85 of Salt Lake City, Utah, is artistic director of Stage Right-Theater Company in1980.

Polly (Bartsch) Larson ’85 of Scio, Ore., owns Larson Gallery, a contemporary art gallery.

Howard Bell ’67 of Dandridge and his wife, Karin, had a son, Gary Bryan, April 17.

Marty Egg ’87 of Anchorage, Alaska, is owner of Solstice Solematics.

Chris and Dodiore (Miles) Girard ’88 and ’89 live in Citadell, Calif., where Chris is a principal and consulting-actuary with Milliman Consultants and Actuaries.

Sally Demwood ’89 of La Garita had a son, Avery John, April 24. She is a personal trainer for Masseuse Sports Club.

Steve Boettman ’89 of Vancouver, Wash., is co-owner of Wildcat Development, currently developing a 154-home subdivision in Carlton.

1990-99

Trent Davis ’90 of Lake Oswego is chief executive and president of Paulson Investment Co., and is president of Paulson Investment Co.

Dave Lemire ’90 of Vancouver, Wash., joined Senior Loan Solutions, a reverse mortgage brokerage.

Alan Boshman ’91 of...
New Directions for Oregon inmates

Evelyn (Andrus) Hanks ’37 is offering inmates at Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution a key to life beyond bars.

Hanks taught French and Spanish at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton from 1963 to 1999. She also taught English as a second language at the medium-security prison in Pendleton during those three years, full time at the prison from 1991 to 1999.

Today, Hanks chairs the board of the New Directions Education Project, a nonprofit organization that launched in 1999 after hearing about a similar prison program in Kentucky. Since spring 2000, about 130 inmates have participated.

Only 57 percent of the inmates have completed high school or the GED, making them eligible for New Directions classes. “Most of them were losers all the time in school,” Hanks said. With New Directions, they are discovering that they can be successful in academics.

New Directions offers courses leading to an Associate of Arts degree, including speech, U.S. history, biology, physics, psychology, cultural anthropology, Oregon geography, and fitness for life. “All except one prep math class are transferable to any Oregon university,” Hanks noted. “Many of them didn’t realize they were college material, and they are so thrilled. They are so motivated, and they do their homework.”

New Directions is the only program of its type in Oregon. Since 1994, when funding began to dry up, no college classes had been available at any prison in the state.

“This is the reason our program came into being,” Hanks said.

New Directions operates with an annual budget of about $24,000. The men each pay $25 per 10-week term to offset the program costs. Donations, grants and annual benefit texts have been donated by publishers. The balance of the $24,000 goes toward tuition, room and board.

“Some inmates don’t have any family and friends to help,” Hanks said. “Our goal is for community colleges to assume the major costs and eventually to take over the program.”

The men each receive $25 per term to offset the program costs, she added.

“An estimated $10,000 to $15,000 a year is needed to cover health care and other expenses,” Hanks said.

The men have received $25,000 in pledges from alumni and friends — including Hanks — to help Linfield receive another $25,000.

Ten alumni have pledged a $25,000 gift to Linfield if 25 percent or more alumni make a gift by June 30, 2006. Step up to the challenge and be one of 3,352 alumni needed to reach 25 percent.

Look for details in the mail or ask phonomation students about how your gift can help Linfield receive another $25,000.

www.linfield.edu/giving/linfield.php
McMurrin is head football coach at Vanguard-Carilion High School. Hanks married Corbin Garren June 30.

Catherine (Taylor) Walton ‘92 of Pendleton, Ore., is the mother of four children.

Katie (Mahen) Steckel ‘92 of Iowa City, Iowa, and her husband, Scott, had a daughter, Imani, Jan. 25.

Gary Thorson ‘91 of McMinnville is a head football coach at Dallas High School.

Michelle (Wintner) Cowan ‘92 of Newport is attending to graduate school at the University of Portland School of Nursing.

Katie (Mahen) Steckel ‘92 of Iowa City, Iowa, and her husband, Scott, had a daughter, Imani, Jan. 25.

Alex Woodward ‘92 of Tigard and his wife, Tracy, have a son, Ethan Jackson, Aug. 5.

Roland Armstrong ‘93 of Canton, S.C., was named the 2015 Honor Award from the Washington Nursing Home Healthcare Conference.

Sharon Borre ‘93 of Terre Haute, Ind., and her husband, Michael Bonnell, had a daughter, Keeva Elizabeth, June 16.


Janiece (Kern) Paulat ‘93 of Vancouver, Wash., and her husband, Ben, had a daughter, Sadie Josephine, Sept. 24.

Anna (Schmidt) Shaaat ‘93 of St. Paul, Minn., and her husband, Bradley, had a son, Levi Charles, March 24.

Botty (Thompson) Tindall ‘93 of Longview, Wash., is remarried and enjoys attending and participating in Corvallis car events. She recently retired as the Executive Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Shannon Valdivia ‘93 of Graham is instructor of speech communication at Texas Tech University. She is a member of the Southern Public Relations Conference regional championship for community college.

Angelique (Lengenbush) Whittom ‘93 of Tigard is a senior manager in accounting at Edgell, Korweck & Warren, LLP, a CPA and consulting firm.

Mitzi Kirkland-Ives ‘94 of Cooper Dr., Milwaukie, earned a Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she further pursued her interest in education at the University of British Columbia.

Tobi (Pfund) Haag ‘94 of Port Townsend, Wash., and her husband, Ron, had a daughter, Hayley, Jan. 24, their third child.

Sheryl Kellih ‘95 of Kasse was executive director of the Chohalem Valley Chamber of Commerce in Newberg.

Amy (Landis) Damron ‘95 of Louisville, Ky., and her husband, Allen, had a daughter, Madeline, Jan. 20.

Katina Rothbuehler ‘95 of Stillwater, Okla., and her husband, Stephen, had a daughter, Zoelle Elizabeth, July 9 in Chippewa Falls, Wisc.

Darius (Harp) Schuler, both 95, of Portland had a son, Joseph, January.

Stephanie Stewart ‘95 of Portland and her husband, Michael St. Clair, had a daughter, Eleanor Keyle. Feb. 9, a stepson, Jordan, is a stepfather.

Bernadette Stewart’s ‘95 of Portland and her husband, Michael, a stepfather, had a daughter, Stella, and a son, Kaine.

Judy (Boggs) VanDeVel ‘95 of Portland, Ore., and her husband, Joseph, had twins, Jaxon and Joseph, May 21.

Nancy (Solano) Carlsson ‘95 of Lincoln, Neb., and her husband, Brian, adopted a daughter, Lucan Grace Rosow, March 16. Alicia is a CASA volunteer and an in-home daycare provider. She and her husband have also foster parents.


Jessica (Gömez) Graham ‘98 of Portland teaches science at Regis High School in Stayton.

Scott and Cecilia (Hoodspeth) Robertson ‘97 and ‘98 of Portland had a son, Adam Taggart, June 6.

Anjali (Ahmad) Schlachter ‘97 of Houston, N.H., is pursuing a master’s in business administration at Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business.

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Jessica (Gömez) Graham ‘98 of Portland teaches science at Regis High School in Stayton.

Amanda (Wilson) Kapelka ‘98 of Portland, Ore., and her husband, Ben, had a son, Benjamin, Feb. 4.

Michael McGreath ‘98 of Portland is a partner in the law firm of Gentry, Rucker and Engell, LLP in Portland.

Ryan McWayne ‘98 of Portland and his wife, Leslie, had a daughter, Kiera Morgan, June 12.

Jeremy Menold ‘98 of Portland and his wife, Janna, had a son, Jason Paul, Aug. 4.

Tramaine Payne ‘98 of Portland teaches art at Portland Middle School and coaches track and field at Clackamas.

Taryn (Edmonds) Roberts ‘98 of Springfield married Adam Roberts May 19 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Ryan McWayne ‘98 of Portland and his wife, Leslie, had a daughter, Kiera Morgan, June 12.

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Taryn (Edmonds) Roberts ‘98 of Springfield married Adam Roberts May 19 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Marina (Rothbuehler) Daily ‘99 of Arcadia, Okla., is the director of health and physical education for the Texas Education Agency.

Karen (Churchill) Gaylor ‘99 of Salem married her husband, Joel, who had a daughter, Sophia Liya, May 1.

Jessica (Gömez) Graham ‘98 of Portland teaches science at Regis High School in Stayton.

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Look for details in the mail or ask phonomathon students how your gift can help.

Are you ready for a challenge?

These and other Linfield students will soon be calling you to join the ‘25 for 25 Challenge.’
McClary receives Grimes Award

Education and innovation have been career hallmarks for Carol McClary. Since her 1985 degree in mathematics at Portland State University, she has received several awards for excellence in nursing, including the Grimes Award for Excellence in Nursing. McClary entered the Air Force in 1962, ultimately creating and implementing numerous first-time clinical, staff development, and education programs for staff and nurses.

Over the years, McClary has served in a number of overseas posts including Turkey, Vietnam, and Germany. She retired after 26-year career as a command nurse for the School of Health Care Sciences and Air Force Recruiting. In 1988, McClary was responsible for over 2,800 personnel in three medical centers, seven hospitals, four clinics, the 1988, McClary was responsible for over 2,800 personnel in three medical centers, seven hospitals, four clinics, the School of Health Care Sciences and Air Force Recruiting.

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Since retirement, McClary has served as a board member and newsletter editor for the Society of Air Force Nurses. She also created and manages her retirement community and newsletter editor for the Society of Air Force Nurses. In 2018, McClary was responsible for over 2,800 personnel in three medical centers, seven hospitals, four clinics, the School of Health Care Sciences and Air Force Recruiting Service.

Since retirement, McClary has served as a board member and newsletter editor for the Society of Air Force Nurses. She also created and manages her retirement community library and volunteers at the San Antonio Main Library.

Mike Yonker ’80 is the first to admit he’s an over-achiever. Sitting in his top-floor Wilsonville office, surrounded by family photos and drinks he takes from a water bottle, hydrating himself for the coming weekend’s Hood to Coast relay. “I’m a play-hard, work-hard person,” he said. “Whatever it is, I go at it with 150 percent effort to be the best at it.”

So it came as no surprise when, as a Linfield College sophomore, Yonker discovered a passion for accounting and quickly bolted down to complete his college coursework early. The only thing left to do was begin his career, which he did with a vengeance during his senior year.

Now, Yonker is executive vice president and chief financial officer for InFocus Systems Inc., a multimedia projector maker with 700 employees and offices worldwide. He’s been with InFocus since 1993, save for a three-year stint as CFO for Wieden & Kennedy. He spent his first 14 years out of college rocketing to partner status with Arthur Andersen & Company.

The son of Thomas Yonker, Linfield education professor from 1970 to 1988, Mike grew up enveloped in Linfield’s collegiate atmosphere. He developed a love of education and an interest in communication, recognizing early that people take different action as a result of how they understand something.

“I’m a play-hard work-hard person,” he said. “I love being in front of people. I love teaching. I love interacting. And I think a lot of that came from my father and growing up around Linfield. Enrolling there was the natural next thing for me.”

Yonker’s interest in marine biology and forestry was short lived. Prompted by his sister, Kathy (Yonker) Bernards ’76, a business major, Yonker enrolled in an accounting class taught by Mike Jones, professor of accounting. For both Yonker and Jones, it was their first accounting class at Linfield. Bernards ’76, as a student and Jones as professor. Bernards: “He really took me under his wing,” Yonker said of Jones. “He saw in me what I didn’t realize I had. Had he not taken that level of interest in me, I doubt I would have taken the track I have.”

Under Jones’ guidance, Yonker interviewed and secured an internship with Arthur Andersen & Company, setting into motion the now successful Linfield accounting student recruiting program.

Mike Yonker ’80 combines his enthusiasm for finance and high technology as CFO for InFocus Systems Inc., a multimedia projector maker based in Wilsonville.

“InFocus is a fast-paced company, and it’s a great honor to be a part of the company, including mine.”

While Yonker is fascinated with the fast-paced work and advanced technologies central to InFocus products, his favorite part of the job is drawing the best in the people around him. As CFO he works with employees in all departments.

“I do everything I can to help them achieve awesome, which is exactly like being able to do something that’s challenging and fun,” Yonker said. “As the people I work with achieve greatness, it raises all the boats in the company, including mine.”

Yonker, who married Robin (Haun) ’83, is a strong proponent of a liberal arts education. He encourages students, including his own three children, to step outside their comfort zones by studying abroad.

“It broadens you as an individual,” he said. “The market today is a diverse one and you have to be chameleon-like in your ability to step into multiple cultures and environments, and be effective in your communications so that you can get business done.”

— Laura Davis