



From the Executive Director

“Leadership is not about titles, positions or flowcharts. It is about one life influencing another.” John Maxwell, noted author, is describing precisely the intent and purpose of P4P’s Board. Influencing the lives of people in Kopanga, Kenya, is what these dedicated and unsung heroes strive to do every time they pick up the phone, write an email or come to a meeting. Meet Partnering for Progress’ Board of Directors: Annie Luu, Patti Krafft, Debbie Stimpson, Pat Lynass, Sandy Ivers, Jennifer Day, Dia Maurer, Stacey Mainer and Thomas Holman.

- Annie Luu and Thomas Holman are engineers at DCI Engineers and serve on P4P’s Water Committee. Annie also serves as the Vice President and Auction Co-Chair. New projects are coming up soon and we’ll tell you about them in future newsletters.
- Patti Krafft, Stacey Mainer and Debbie Stimpson are health care providers and serve on the Health Committee. Nutrition classes are underway again in Kenya. Nineteen infants suffering from malnutrition will be treated through this program, and their caregivers are receiving weekly education and cooking classes to further enhance infant care.
- Pat Lynass is our Board President and directs the Fund Raising and Executive Committees. She is a retired educator who has never stopped serving children. Through the Education Committee’s efforts, 11 children are now attending secondary school through P4P scholarships.
- Jennifer Day works at Spokane Community College and is an active member of the Health Committee.
- Sandy Ivers serves on the Communications, Finance and Executive Committees and brings her gift of teaching and coaching to the group.

Absent from our group picture due to travel demands for BP, is our departing Treasurer, Rick Matthews (pictured here). Rick has served P4P in many ways over the years and was most recently chair of the Finance Committee. He will be greatly missed at our monthly gatherings. We thank him for his dedication and service to P4P’s Board.

New Board members for 2014 (not pictured) include Traci Anderson, Optometrist; Nancy Chappell, Accountant; and Greg Connolly, IT Professional. We welcome these outstanding individuals as they step into their new leadership roles with P4P and know that they will provide valuable input to P4P’s development and future. All Board members participate in committees, serve as ambassadors for our programs and champion fund raising efforts. Deep thanks to our dedicated Board members, volunteers and donors. Each of you influences the lives of others in meaningful ways. Lastly, I hope you have the dates for Gypsy (June 4) and Into Africa Auction (October 3) on your calendar. Both are important fundraisers for P4P and promise to be fun evenings.

Dia Maurer
P4P Part Time Executive Director

P4P's Radio Debut

This month P4P will be the focus of KYRS-Thin Air Community Radio station's program Nonprofit Spokane. The volunteer-powered, non-commercial radio station dedicates an hour every Saturday morning to highlight community organizations and keep area residents informed of the volunteer outreach accomplishments of our citizens. Please tune in March 22, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., on 92.3 or 88.1 FM, to listen to Stacey Mainer, Beth Sheeran and Dia Maurer promote P4P's good work and future events.

Gypsy!

Support P4P by attending this fun, entertaining musical at the Civic Theater on June 4. Famous for putting the "tease" in to strip tease, Gypsy Rose Lee was also a Broadway actress, playwright and book author. Let her story entertain you, too. In partnership with Northwest Cellars, specially labeled wine will be available for tasting and purchase.

Adult Gypsy tickets are \$35. Student tickets and group discounts (ten tickets or more) are \$30 per ticket. For more information, click on the picture above.

Into Africa Auction

Save the date! Friday October 3 will be P4P's seventh annual Into Africa Auction. We're moving to a new location this year, the Mirabeau Park Hotel in the Spokane Valley. Additional details coming soon via email, Facebook, Twitter and our website. We always need volunteers and sponsors, so if you'd like to sign up to help, contact diamaurer@gmail.com. It is a guaranteed evening of fun, touching stories and great people.

And the Oscar Goes to...

We are straying a bit from the norm with this article, but think it's worth mentioning. When she won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role in 12 Years a Slave, Lupita Nyong'o became the first Kenyan to win an Oscar, the first African actress to win Best Supporting Actress and the first Mexican-born actress to win an Oscar.

Lupita comes from a privileged Luo family, but one of social consciousness. Her parents fled Kenya to escape political persecution at a time of heightened political turmoil.

"My father was a professor of political science and he was fighting for democracy in Kenya before I was born. We had an autocratic regime and they weren't very happy with him." Lupita says. "After a series of events that included the disappearance of his brother, who has never been found, my father went into self-exile and went to teach at Colegio de Mexico."

Today her father, Peter Anyang Nyong'o, is a member of the Kenyan senate and former minister for medical services. Her mother, Dorothy, runs a communications consultancy in Nairobi and her sister Zawadi is an activist and author.

Even though she was born into a wealthy and socially advantaged family, she won an Oscar on her own merit. As her star begins its inevitable rise, Lupita will bring pride to Kenya and motivate thousands. She is an inspiration to other young people in Kenya and with organizations such as P4P working to bring health, education and water to impoverished regions of Kenya, we can hope for a brighter future for the country and its citizens.

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