

They call this year's student class the "007 Graduates." Like with James Bond, they swoop into our lives, get entangled in hopeless predicaments, only to pull some amazing stunt that allows them to land on their feet. And we are fortunate to have two 007s in the family this Christmas.

Cara Ganders, who stunned the world by proclaiming that she was going to go to the University of Washington over the jeers of her father – actually graduated in June with a baccalaureate degree in environmental biology. And she beat the odds by graduating in exactly four years at a rain-drenched Husky stadium, her mortar board warping from the downpour. She's moved into a full-time job at the Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Institute in Seattle.

But the story doesn't end there. Adam Ganders, who Cara always insisted was a little slow academically, graduated this month from Washington State University (clearly a better institution) with a baccalaureate degree. And get this, his business administration degree was achieved in just 3 ½ years! And now he's been accepted to WSU Graduate School in sports management. It's just as Adam's commencement speaker proclaimed, this is the "007" class because the now successful task of educating these students seemed at times like "Mission Impossible."

Meanwhile, South Puget Sound Student and Dental Assistant Tiffany Lundy graduated to a different movie. Always going for a little more action, Tiff took the "Terminator" theme and merged it with her own psyche to create a whole new superhero.....yes, you guessed it..... "Tiffinator." Upstanding college student by day, the Tiffinator is a roller derby jammer in fish net stockings by night. You first read about that in last year's Christmas letter, but what you haven't witnessed is the Tiffinator maturing into a bruising athlete who we witnessed obliterating four big women in a single illegal block! You had to be there. Robin was screaming "get them! Get them!" in the background while the dozens referees wrestled her little girl into the penalty box. If you get to Olympia, ya just can't miss any bouts with the "Oly Rollers."

While Tiff uses brute force, Aaron Lundy still prefers the smooth steel of a good rifle as his weapon of choice. An avid hunter in a no-limit state, Aaron bagged three Michigan deer in a single day. But the big news is that some woman got Aaron in her sights and has bagged him! Amy Clubb and Aaron Lundy plan to be married in Cancun, Mexico on May 10, 2008. Amy is so cool, she's a nursing student, working at the local Lansing hospital, and she doesn't even like hunting! However, if Aaron gives her any lip about that, we think she's quite capable of tanning his hide. Last November, we enjoyed spending time with Aaron and Amy in Las Vegas, where Larry won big money on the slots. Unfortunately, Robin lost big money on the slots. We all had a good time watching Amy's Mom, Carrie;

drink a record number of strawberry daiquiris. Her father, Henry, suggested Carrie was probably practicing for the Cancun wedding.

Fearing that one of these wild kids would move back home, Larry and Robin did the only sensible thing. They abandoned the Cougar Street home and moved! Yes, sly like a fox. In fact, in many ways 2007 was the year of the fox for the Ganders. After disposing of 23 years of Larry's attic mementos, Larry and Robin moved from the Cougar Street home to a new house in Olympia on, you guessed it, Fox Ridge Lane.

They brought with them a fifth wheel trailer, manufactured in Oregon by, of course, Arctic Fox."

And to complete the move, they brought them a dog-like creature with pointy ears and sharp teeth. What kind of a creature is this? No, it's not a fox.

Some might guess that it was Sheba, the aging Schipperke. But alas, Sheba left last Christmas for Schipperke heaven.

The new replacement is a hyperactive black miniature schnauzer named, "Tuney Anderson." There's a long story behind her unusual name. Here's the short version: Larry's 86-year old mother in Spokane thought that Robin would be fascinated to know that Larry had a make-believe friend while he was growing up in the remote hills of Bickleton. Doing her best Sean Connery imitation, Robin now notes that the name of this imaginary friend is Anderson... Tuney Anderson. This humiliating story now can be retold over and over as Tuney Anderson, the schnauzer, is introduced to Fox Ridge visitors.

Speaking of Fox Ridge visitors, we cordially invite you to come by and see the new house and schnauzer. The house is a 3,000-foot rambler nestled between a couple of environmental green belts south of Olympia. We did decorate the guest bathroom with WSU photos, just to continue important traditions. And yes, Santa Claus, there is a train room. Larry's model train collection did make the move and the trains are displayed in the bonus room over the garage. Construction of the next great train layout will commence after the 2008 Legislative Session adjourns.

If you're looking for us this Christmas, home is where we will be. Then it's off to Victoria, B.C. to celebrate two years of wedded bliss and a lifetime of blessings.

Here's hoping your Holiday Season and the year to come brings you much laughter and happiness.

Larry, Robin, and Tuney Anderson.

8625 Fox Ridge Lane SE; Olympia, Washington 98513-5680.

Same phone number: 360-459-2084; Same e-mail: lganders@theriver.com

* To view our family holiday album online, check the family web page out. <http://www.ganders.net>