CONNECTING I IMPACTING I GELEBRATING

How the Church Established a Political Presence

Taking the Political Path to Service

Plus: Meet 25 Civic Leaders

> Adventists and Politics

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Compiled by George Johnson Jr.

Across the Columbia Union Adventists hold elected political offices, appointed government positions, and influential community jobs. Meet 25 who are making a difference and having an impact on our world today.

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columbiaunion.org

To Vote or Not to Vote?

love history and enjoy reading, studying, and learning all I can about our roots. I've visited the sacred beaches of Normandy in eastern France, walked on the deck of the USS Nebraska in Pearl Harbor, and driven through miles and miles of Civil War battlefields in places like Gettysburg, Pa.; Chancellorsville, Va.; and New Market, Va. And last year I stood at the grave of my eldest brother, who is resting in Arlington National Cemetery. Through all of these experiences, I've realized an age-old truth: "Freedom isn't free!"

I know for many of us there comes a sense of connection and pride when we see people in places like Iraq, Zimbabwe, South Africa, or India exercise their right and privilege to go to the nation's polls and vote their conscience. The reverse is equally true when we hear of a country that oppresses its people and denies them this right.

Voting our conscience is an opportunity we get and sometimes take for granted. Soldiers, former slaves, women, and others have sacrificed so that you and I can experience this privilege and right. It's a sacred exercise that gives you and me the opportunity to make a difference. Without question we have our own personal ideas of how this country should be governed. And that is the beauty of it all. Guided by our convictions (and the leading of the Holy Spirit), we choose the persons whom we believe will best lead our country. Maybe this was what the apostle Paul was speaking to when he penned the following words: Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God (Rom. 13:1).

3 KEY QUESTIONS

Should Seventh-day Adventists vote? As you'll read in this issue, early Adventist pioneers encouraged members of the movement to exercise this God-given right (see article on p. 8). Because of this we've made a difference in religious liberty and other vital areas.

Does my vote count? Never think that your vote doesn't count. Too many elections have been decided by just a few votes. Just ask the folks from Florida and Ohio.

If God is in control, why should I bother to get involved? It's true that we live in one of the most exciting and crucial times of Earth's history, with grave issues facing the nations of the world. But despite these troublous times, we have fantastic opportunities to share the good news of Christ's love and herald His soon return. Now is the time for the church to exercise her influence on issues facing our world, and voting is one way you can play a part.

As I consider this issue, I'm reminded of a poem that may hit the proverbial nail on the head (inset). See you at the polls next month!

Dave Weigley (dweigley@columbiaunion.net) is president of the Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, which democratically elects its leadership every five years.





For Want of a Nail

For want of a nail the shoe was lost.

For want of a shoe the horse was lost.

For want of a horse the rider was lost.

For want of a rider the battle was lost.

For want of a battle the kingdom was lost.

And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

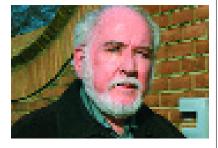
Newsline

BETH MICHAELS

Adventist Church **Promotes Pedestrian** Safety

The Seventh-day Adventist Church recently hosted the Multijurisdictional Pedestrian Safety Committee (MPSC) Conference. More than 40 representatives from various local, county, and state governmental agencies expressed concern about the increasing rate of pedestrian injuries and deaths within the Latino immigrant population in the Langley Park/Takoma Park (Md.) area. Attendees discussed ways to raise awareness and prevent further pedestrian fatalities. In addition, various presenters suggested ways to improve safety, including a proposal to build a new bus terminal on the northwest corner at New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard.

In addition to church and community leaders, representatives from Allegheny East, Potomac, and Chesapeake con-



ferences were invited to participate. MPSC founder and director Erwin Mack. a Potomac Conference member, received an award of commendation from the Adventist Church for his contributions to his community. Through Mack's leadership in the area, a number of groups, including Takoma Academy students in nearby Takoma Park, have helped the cause by

passing out literature to Langley Park pedestrians.

"It's important that Seventhday Adventists be involved in local community activities because we are interested in the whole life of an individual, not just the spiritual," said Ted



Wilson, a vice president of the worldwide Adventist Church. "This is a good opportunity to show that we are actively involved in the betterment of people within our community."

Another Potomac member, John Wagner, pastor of administration for Potomac Conference's Sligo church in Takoma Park, helped plan the event.—Andrew Campbell

ASI Collects Record **\$8 Million Offering at** Convention

More than 2,500 people including 500 youth and young adults—recently gathered in Tampa, Fla., to attend the 61st annual Adventist-lavmen's Services and Industries (ASI) Convention themed "By Knowing Him."

A highlight at the convention each year is the ASI Special Projects Offering. This year the offering supported 41 projects chosen from approximately 100 submissions, including construction, evangelism, archaeology, lay outreach, and media projects. Attendee response was



overwhelming, pledging above \$8 million—more than quadruple the 2007 offering.

ASI member organizations from the Columbia Union Conference that were represented included Miracle Meadows School, MissionServ International, Reaching Hearts International, and TEACH International.

A number of Columbia Union members also attended and were presenters at the convention. Repeat attendee Robert Wallace (above), president and **CEO of Bithgroup Technologies** in Baltimore, presented a business seminar at this year's convention. He smiled when he added, "Every year my kids ask me. 'When is the convention?'"

Business owner Denise Hayden of Allegheny East Conference's Liberty church in Baltimore, and ASI president for the Columbia Union added. "The convention exceeded all my expectations. The seminars addressed a multilevel



approach to evangelism in the marketplace: children, nonprofits, ethics, for-profits, education, and health industries." Other union participants included Rafael Scarfullery (below with guitar), who teaches music at three colleges in Virginia. He played a hymn



on the classical guitar, while Michelle Pauliah, from Ashton, Md., shared about an exciting evangelistic project.

The 2009 ASI Convention will be in Phoenix, Ariz., August 5-8. For more information, visit asiministries.org.—Steve Hamstra

"One of the greatest tools Satan uses on churches is to get them off track. He gets us to look inward, to become selfcentered. We become consumed with each other instead of focusing on Christ and the gospel story. Instead of performing ministry to our community and to seekers, we get consumed with bylaws and rules. Instead of proclaiming the good news,





From the Pulpit

we become riveted to the meanderings that take place within our own doors. As a church, our only goal must be to bring people to Jesus, period."-Kumar Dixit, administrative pastor. Chesapeake Conference's New Hope church in Fulton, Md., in a sermon titled Fairy Tales, Wives Tales, and Bible Tales.

Potluck

BETH MICHAELS

What's New?

Books > Issues of Faith & Freedom John Graz

According to John Graz, director for Public Affairs and

Religious Liberty

Seventh-day

for the worldwide

Adventist Church,

his new book is for

its public ministry.

anyone with an inter-

est in our church and

"It is one of the

best ways to under-

church is involved

in religious freedom

and about what we

are doing," explains

Spencerville church

Graz, a member

of Chesapeake

Conference's

stand why the

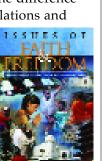


"Forty years ago religion did not play as important a role in world affairs. Today religion greatly affects politics and international relations."-John Graz, Issues of Faith & Freedom

in Silver Spring, Md. "It shows and explains how we deal with governments, officials, and other churches. It also gives a clear understanding about the difference

between good relations and ecumenism." This collec-

tion of Graz's published articles and sermons will answer such questions as: Should



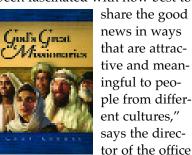
Christians become involved in politics in order to promote their values? and What was Jesus' position regarding religious liberty? Your local Adventist Book Center will have a copy.

God's Great Missionaries Gary Krause

If the third-quarter Adult Bible *Study Guide* inspired you, pick up this com-



than words, but we need both," says Krause, referring to just one of the many points he hopes readers will gain from its pages. "I've always



of Adventist Mission and member of Chesapeake Conference's New Hope church in Fulton, Md. "It was fun to revisit the biblical 'experts' who faced the same challenge."

In the book Krause connects biblical mission stories to contemporary examples. He hopes to remind readers that we need to knock down church walls and tell our communities about Jesus' love.

WholeHeatlh

A New View on **Screen Time**

For decades research studies have shown that heavy TV viewing is associated with greater obesity and other serious health consequences.

Interestingly, a recent study published in the American College of Sports Medicine journal has identified these risks *independent* of physical activity. The researchers looked at healthy individuals who consistently exercised 30 or more minutes, five times a week. Significant metabolic risk factors (waist

circumference, blood pressure, blood sugar) were observed in women who watched more than an hour of TV daily, and in men who watched twoplus hours each day.

With more than 639

skeletal muscles. our bodies were created to move! Prolonged sitting is counter to that design and

Keeping Score

2007 Hospital Volunteers

2.380 Number of Volunteers

232,427 Number of Hours Contributed

269 Number of Departments Served

> \$4.357.157 Estimated Value of

Pro-bono Contributions

Note: Figures from four Adventist hospitals in the Columbia Union.

Only an Adventist ...

wonders during the presidential election if the candidate has signed a pledge not to raise taxes, a temperance pledge, or any agreements with the pope.—Kim Peckham

sets the stage for poor health. However, reality is that many of us spend considerable hours every day in front of a computer and/or television screen. What can we do?

Set a goal to balance screen time with movement. Create cues to take a "moving" break every 30 minutes. Drink more water for a "built-in" reminder. Use commercial breaks as opportunities to move. Wear a

In the Spotlight > Fertility Specialist, Educator, and Businesswoman Diana Broomfield

🕞 usy is an enormous understatement Dwhen describing the life of Diana Broomfield, MD, of Allegheny East Conference's Miracle Temple in Baltimore. This reproductive endocrinologist/ fertility specialist with her own practice in Columbia, Md., has also found time to create and run *Fertility Today Magazine*; serve as director of the OB/GYN residency program at Howard University Hospital in Washington, D.C.; co-host the new *Keeping* the Faith TV series produced by the Adventist Media Center based in Simi Valley, Calif.; complete an MBA at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore; start a new consulting firm with her husband,



Darius Lecointe, PhD, JD; and establish a nonprofit organization, among other talents. This is all on top of raising three children—aged 8, 10, and 16.

Broomfield knew at age 7 that she wanted to be an OB/GYN physician. "I really understood reproductive endocrinology and I liked microsurgery, so in college I decided to sub-specialize," she recalls. "The bottom line was the babies. I figured the greatest gift you can give somebody who wants to have a child, and can't, is to help them have one," she adds.

Although she helps people through her practice, the Maryland IVF Fertility Health and Wellness Center, Dr. Broomfield felt she should educate a much larger audience. That's why she created Fertility Today Magazine (fertilitytoday.org). Launched in 2005, this quarterly publication is distributed—in print and digital form-to readers in 17 countries, and is still growing. Dr. Broomfield and her brother Ramon Broomfield, who helped start the magazine and now acts as vice president of marketing and sales, hope the magazine will empower consumers "so that when they make a decision about fertility, it is one they won't regret," she states. As a result, each article is written and edited by a minimum of two internationally renowned specialists.

To learn more about Dr. Broomfield, listen to the October 1 AudioVisitor podcast at columbiaunion.org or on iTunes.

6 | VISITOR



been fascinated with how best to

What You Bring to the Table

pedometer for daily feedback on your activity amount. And don't forget to explore nonscreen activities for leisure time.—*Lilly* Tryon, MSN, RN, Adventist WholeHealth Wellness Center



Adventists and Politics

A Look at How the Seventh-day **Adventist Church Established** a Political Presence

hile the Seventh-day Adventist Church provides sanctuary to its members, it must also speak truth to those in power. In fact, engagement with civil authorities provides church members with unique opportunities to witness for their faith, and, at the same time, effect dramatic changes in the lives of fellow citizens. Is the political thicket a safe place for Christians? Has the Adventist Church effectively entered this realm? Should members remain silent or pursue political solutions for problems facing American society today?

Perhaps history can provide some guidance in response to such questions. In 1888, at a camp meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, Ellen White had retired from the day's activities when persons seek-



ing counsel interrupted her preparation for an evening of rest. Apparently, in her absence, meeting attendees had introduced a resolution to support temperance legislation "at the ballot box." Delegates had expressed reservations on whether or not they should become involved in the political process. Mrs. White dressed, returned to the auditorium, and spoke for 20 minutes on the issue, stating,

"Yes," church members should vote at the ballot box in support of prohibition. Other early Adventist leaders engaged in the political process to protect the interests of the church and its members. In the late 1800s, Sen. Henry W. Blair of New Hampshire introduced a Sunday Day of Rest bill in Congress. The Adventist Church—relying on the leadership of Alonzo T. Jones (left), editor of The American Sentinel, who testified before congressional committees effectively led the opposition to this law proposal.

Early Church Politicians

Throughout the past century, a number of other Adventists have influenced the political world. George A. Williams served on the Nebraska state House of Representatives (1919-21). Robert Lee Stump served on the Arizona House (1959-67), the Arizona Senate (1967-76)—including the final year as president—and as an Arizona congressman (1977-2003). According to wikipedia.com, "In his 26 years in the House, [Stump] became a noted member of the House Armed Services Committee, serving as chairman from 2001 to 2003. He was also well known for taking good care of his constituents, frequently answering the phone himself at his Washington office." Jerry L. Pettis (pictured right with Rep. Gerald Ford) served as a U.S. representative from California (1967-75). When he died suddenly in a plane crash, President Gerald Ford published a statement that read in part, "It was my great privilege

by Walter E. Carson



Former government officials Rep. "Bob" Stump (far right) and Rep. Ike Skelton (far left) pose with Paul D. Wolfowitz, deputy defense secretary, in front of a series of posters that make up a "Thank You" card to America's men and women in uniform.

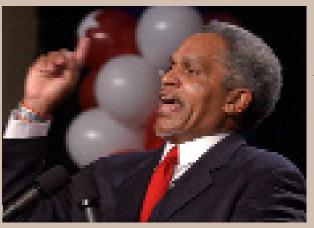
and pleasure to work closely with Jerry for eight years—first as a colleague in the House, and then as president. I will miss his loyal support and wise counsel." Rep. Randall Sauder of Georgia (1995-2000), Philadelphia Mayor John Street (2000-08), and Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas (1995-present) are a few others. Read about more Adventist politicians at http://politicalgraveyard.com.

The Church's 3 Political Arms

The Adventist Church continues to speak effectively concerning issues of importance to the wellbeing of both its members and society at large. More recently it has used the leadership of James Standish—former director of Legislative Affairs



Through America's court system, church and individual Adventist lawyers have brought cases seeking to expand rights guaranteed by the



Adventist attorneys such as Lee Boothby, a former Michigan congressman (1962, 1976), also used the courts to create legal rights and remedies for church members. Many believe that Boothby's advocacy single-handedly brought about favorable regulations by the Equal Employment

for the worldwide Adventist Church—to speak to political power and authority on the church's behalf. Standish monitored a variety of legislative proposals before Congress, and, each year, invited Adventist members from across the country to speak to congressional members in Washington, D.C. Recently Standish's efforts proved successful as the House passed legislation imposing a duty on the tobacco industry to reveal the contents of its products. The church also maintains a United Nations liaison permitting it to influence world thought leaders, as well.

During eight years in office Philadelphia Mayor John Street, the first Adventist to lead a large city, employed a number of Adventists.

religion clauses of the First Amendment. In the early 1960s, the church retained legal counsel to represent the interests of an Adventist—Adell Sherbert—from South Carolina before the Supreme Court in the matter of Sherbert v. Verner. She had lost her job for refusing to work on Sabbath. Not only did the court decide the case in her favor, but it also established an important legal principle that continues to afford Adventists and other Americans important protections. (Find more at wikipedia.org.)

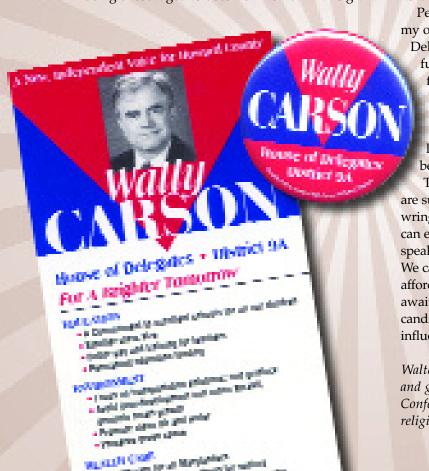
Opportunity Office, and, eventually, resulted in modifications to Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act. These changes required employers to reasonably accommodate a person's religious beliefs in the workplace.

In addition, the church routinely issues statements addressing moral concerns of our time (adventist.org/beliefs/statements/index.html). It has spoken on issues such as family violence, environmental stewardship, human cloning, temperance, and the sanctity of marriage. What is to be done with such church statements? Are they merely decorative pieces to adorn a website, or might they become reality as church members and leaders encourage politicians to enact such statements into law?

Certainly, there is an important role for the church and its members to play in the political process. How else is the church to engage public officials on matters it believes to be important?

Missed Opportunity?

A regret of this writer was his missed opportunity to join Martin Luther King Jr.'s march on Washington, D.C., in 1963. Having attended a local Adventist church and college, I have no recall of being encouraged to become involved in this grand





James Standish is the newly elected executive director for the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

effort to bring down the evils of slavery and discrimination in this country. Perhaps I was not listening, or maybe my church was not speaking as effectively as it could have, calling its members to unite with citizens to persuade the government to change its laws. Did we miss an important opportunity?

Perhaps it was this regret, in part, that inspired my own pursuit of a seat in a state House of Delegates. Although the effort proved unsuccessful, the opportunity allowed me to be a witness for my faith and to meet political leaders in my community, people of integrity that shared my

own concerns for a quality government and the common good. The experience was painless, and provided a sense that a person could be both an Adventist and a politician.

Today the Adventist Church and its members are surrounded with the results of sin. We can wring our hands and lament these conditions, or we can embrace the teachings of Christ and continue to speak for truth and Christian principles in society. We can join with others in the political processes afforded to citizens to effect change. And, as we await the soon return of Christ, we can also become candidates for elective office using our positions of influence to create better lives for our communities.

Walter "Wally" Carson, Esq., serves as vice president and general counsel for the Columbia Union Conference. In that role, he also directs public affairs, religious liberty, and trust services.

Two new books from Joe L. Wheeler, "America's Keeper of the Story"

Christmas in My Heart #17

The Christmus in My Heart seneraties become a regular particiincusends of Adventusia' and other's Christmas Indidays, Novi you can share with triands and family the uplitting and inspiprincel stories of the seventeenth valuette.

You can keep Chrolim Chrolines and Chrolines in your heart by examining the values Jesus exemption this life on earth. 105 area. Ingerharis, companya. Niki ce wata mata sana a Miki menanga ana a

These books just keep getting better and better.



INTERPORT Appendix and pages.

DER LOW HER DE CAREN NUMBER OF TAXABLE PARTY.

Spot, the Dog That Broke the Rules And Other Heroic Animal Stories

Joe L. Wheeler's latest addition In the Coord Lord Mode Them All series.

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Some of the most heart-tupping animal stories ever bound. between two covers. This newest book in the series will appeal to an intal lowers of all types.

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Other books in the series:



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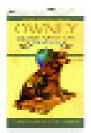
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NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.

Owners, the Post-Officer Daily and Officer Greet Dog Storles INCOME Manufactory SON D. WORKSHOLD CONTRACTOR DE LA ANTRA D





Adventists Take the Political Path to Service

Robert E. Jepson

ard by Interstate 70, a highway that slices through Maryland's 6th Congressional District, sits Harry Grove Stadium, home to the Frederick Keys, a minor league affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles. It is a quintessential American locale, a place where baseball dreams are nourished, kids jostle for foul balls, and post-game fireworks color the summer sky.

On a muggy July evening, minutes before the start of another game, a gentleman with a professorial bearing walks to the pitcher's mound. He is introduced as the local congressman and gently lofts a ball to home plate for the ceremonial first pitch. It's a scene no doubt repeated countless times across America during this, an election year for members of Congress.

Yet this scene and this man hold a special distinction. Roscoe Bartlett (below), an eight-term congressman, is a personification of Seventh-day Adventists engaged in the political process. Indeed, his congressional service is leavened by his distinct faith.

"I live my faith as a member of Congress in the same manner that I have lived my faith in my previous jobs and experiences," says Rep. Bartlett, a member of Chesapeake Conference's Frederick (Md.) church. "It influences my decisions every day."



Commenting recently, Beach, a member of Chesapeake's Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., cautions against allowing political involvement to become a "demanding taskmaster" where one focuses solely on "self-promotion" or "selfglorification," rather than on helping others. He does, however, advocate for individual engagement in the political process as an extension of one's faith. "Thus, Christianity is not a religion of isolated individualism or insulated introversion; it is a religion of community. ... Commitment to Jesus Christ means commitment



A Religion of Community

Politics and Adventists. For some, both now and throughout our church's history, the pairing of these words is an uncomfortable mix, an awkward dance best avoided. For others, politics is a path to service, a way to live faith by serving others or advocating for community well-being.



Bert Beach (above, far left, with Eleanor Roosevelt), former director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for the worldwide Adventist Church, wrote an essay in 1997 on the intersection between faith and politics for *Dialogue*, a church journal. "From the birth of the Christian church, this question has been raised again and again: What is the role of the Christian in politics?" he asked.



Penny Johnson of Richmond's Ephesus church gets sworn into Virginia's Fair Housing Board by Secretary of the Commonwealth Katherine K. Hanley (far right). Also present are Deputy Secretary of Commerce Trade David Smith (far left) and Penny's mother, Doris Johnson.

to all God's children, and commitment begets responsibility for the welfare of others," he wrote in the *Dialogue* essay. To abdicate this responsibility, he continued, "is in itself a political action, which opens the way for political control by those supporting less than Christian values."

A Practical Education

Concern about political apathy among Adventist youth spurred Jonathan Scriven, who taught history and economics at Potomac Conference's Takoma

Academy (Takoma Park, Md.) from 2001 to VOTE! 2003, to provide practical opportunities for his students to see the benefits of political engagement up close. He volunteered for the 2002 campaign of Rep. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland, who was running his first race for Congress. Scriven offered

students the opportunity to learn firsthand how an individual can make their voice heard. "As a teacher of 15- to 18-year-olds," Scriven says, "my goal was to put students in situations where they would be interested in the political process, with the fairly modest goal of hoping that, down the road, it would at least convince them to vote later in life."

More than 150 students volunteered for the campaign. Shortly after the election, Rep. Van Hollen spoke at a school assembly, answering questions about politics and policy to the rapt attention of students.

"For an Adventist government teacher, that's about as good as it gets," recalls Scriven, who currently lives in France with his wife and children and teaches at an international school outside Nice. "Instead of shying away from politics and the political process, our students were listening to a newly elected congressman telling them how important they were to his victory."



Orlan Johnson (third from left, with colleagues), a member of Washington, D.C.'s Capitol Hill church, serves on several state boards and committees, including Sen. Barack Obama's National Finance Committee.

Trust God to Lead Out

One Adventist who has been critical to the victory of a number of high-profile elected officials is Orlan Johnson. A partner in the law firm Saul Ewing, LLP, and an associate adjunct professor at Howard University Law School in Washington, D.C., Johnson supported and served on the transition teams of Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley; Washington, D.C., Mayor Adrian Fenty; and Maryland Attorney General Doug Gansler. The Maryland governor recently reappointed him to the Board of Regents for the University System of Maryland, where he serves as vice chairman.

Most notable, though, is his high-profile involvement in the campaign of Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama. Johnson, who met the Illinois senator two years ago, is a member of Obama's National Finance Committee and the candidate's Energy and Environmental Policy Committee. His effective, energetic support for Obama was highlighted in a January 8 *Washington Post* article.

Despite rubbing shoulders with such elite company, Johnson remains focused and grounded by his strong faith; something he believes adds value to political discourse.

"I believe politics needs more Christians to help bring a different perspective," says Johnson, a member of Allegheny East Conference's Capitol Hill church in the nation's capital. He believes that once others know one's faith, consistency and genuineness are critical to being an effective witness.

"You always have to remember that once you let people know that you are an Adventist, your actions will be scrutinized even more," adds Johnson. "Usually, people want to know how strong your religious convictions are. It is not always easy, but it has been my experience that if I can trust God to lead out in all my political endeavors, and make sure that He gets the glory, things will work out for good."

Easier to Witness

Likewise, for Peter Gagliardi, a member of the Luzerne County (Pennsylvania) Republican Committee, political activity is a straight path to community service and witnessing for his faith. "I ran for this position to help develop a better community," he says.

A member of Pennsylvania Conference's Kingston church, Gagliardi is serving his second, four-year term and understands the opportunities it affords. "When people see Adventists who truly care about the community, it improves our standing in the community and makes it a lot easier to witness."

Robert E. Jepson is associate vice president for Government Relations and Public Policy for Adventist HealthCare, based in Rockville, Md. He's a member of Chesapeake Conference's Frederick (Md.) church.

Pennsylvania Adventist Supports Smoke-Free Legislation

ennsylvania Faith United Against Tobacco, a diverse coalition of faith leaders, won a victory recently as lawmakers approved smoke-free legislation that covers all workplaces and protects Pennsylvanians from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

David Clevenger, PhD (center), pastor of Pennsylvania Conference's Carlisle, Shermansdale, Hershey, Capital Area, Pleasant View, and Lebanon churches, reports that it wasn't a total victory. "It was not exactly what we asked for in total, but there is now a ban on smoking in public places such as restaurants, etc.," he reports. "The legislature decided to allow some places to have smoking, such as some bars and casinos. We felt this was not fair, nor did it cover the needs of the workers in those establishments, however, we were successful!"

Clevenger, representing the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Adventist Regeneration Ministries, joined professionals across the state to hold a press conference at the state capitol earlier this year, urging the legislature to enact a comprehensive smoke-free legislation. His cohorts included the likes of Deborah Brown, vice president of the American Lung Association of the Mid-Atlantic; Diane Berlin, vice chair of the National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling and coordinator of Smoke-Free PA; Vincent DeMarco, national coordinator of Faith United Against Tobacco; Kevin O'Flaherty representing the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; and Susan Roberts of the American Cancer Society.

"Adventists have historically been supportive of better health practices and for people to stop smoking," adds Clevenger. "As faith leaders, we cannot stand idly by, but must act to ensure that all Pennsylvania workers have equal protection from the more than 4,000 chemicals found in secondhand smoke."—*Tamyra Horst*



25 Columbia Union Civic Leaders

Compiled by George Johnson Jr.



Neil Albert

Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development, **District of Columbia** *Coordinates, supervises, and* executes all programs, policies, and

proposals related to economic development in the district. First Church, Washington, D.C.



Debra Anderson

Deputy Chief of Staff Communications Director, Office of Rep. Chaka Fattah Acts as the congressman's official spokesperson, oversees all outgoing

communication, and supervises the congressional staff. Emmanuel-Brinklow Church, Ashton, Md.



Richard T. Baldwin Corrections Chaplain, Richland Correctional Institution Protects inmates' religious rights

under the First Amendment and pastors, mentors, and teaches

the inmate Protestant community. Blooming Grove Church, Galion, Ohio



Rep. Roscoe G. Bartlett Congressman, 6th District, Maryland Represents the people of the 6th

district of Maryland in Congress. Frederick (Md.) Church

To show the diverse nature in which Seventh-day Adventist Christians can make a difference and a positive influence among the most influential leaders of our country, the Visitor proudly introduces 25 members who work in politics and government:



Renee Battle-Brooks

Chief of the Child Abuse. Sexual Assault, and Vulnerable Adult Unit, Office of the State's Attorney for Prince George's County, Maryland Prosecutes crimes against children,

all sexual crimes against adults, and physical abuse against vulnerable adults.

Sligo Church, Takoma Park, Md.



Shirley Benton Branch Chief, Contract Management Branch Department of Defense Ensures the accurate input and payment

of government contracts, authorizes daily disbursements, and conducts training with govern-

ment contractors in relation to the global war on terror. Ephesus Church, Columbus



Barry C. Black



62nd Chaplain, U.S. Senate Provides spiritual leadership to senators and their families. Berea Temple, Baltimore



Col. William B. Broome Chaplain, Pentagon Provides religious support for the Pentagon's nearly 25,000 personnel. Vienna (Va.) Church

Mark A. Brown **Deputy Chief Information Security** Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) *Supports the chief information security* officer in managing the HHS enterprise-

wide information security and privacy program. New Life Church, Gaithersburg, Md.

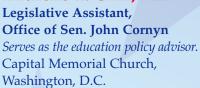


Rodney Cartwright **Chief of Procurement**,

National Gallery of Art Oversees corporate procurement and contracts function, staffing, and the entire gallery.

Capitol Hill Church, Washington, D.C.

Michelle L. Chin, PhD



Peter Gagliardi



Committeeman, **6th District Republican** Committee, Pennsylvania Helps Republican candidates get elected.

Kingston (Pa.) Church



Richard W. Guldin, PhD **Director, Quantitative Sciences** Research, U.S. Department of **Agriculture, Forest Service** Leads the Forest Inventory and Analysis program (the nation's

tree census) and serves in several international networks related to forest sustainability. Spencerville Church, Silver Spring, Md.

John Hall



Correctional Program Coordinator, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections *Provides alcohol and other drug* education, therapy, and counseling

for incarcerated males. Findlay (Ohio) Church

Debra A. Hill



Councilwoman, City of Warrensville Heights, Ohio *Chairs the safety committee* that deals with crime and police issues.





Wes Holden

Director of Constituent Services, Office of Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV Organizes the senator's briefings and schedule and works with

constituents to solve problems. Ripley (W.Va.) Church



Alvin D. Jackson, MD Director of Health, **Ohio Department of Health**

Implements Gov. Ted Strickland's Turnaround Ohio plan—making affordable, quality healthcare

accessible to all Ohioans. Central Church, Columbus



Penny Johnson Fair Housing Board Member Commonwealth of Virginia Finds resolutions for housing discrimination complaints. Ephesus Church, Richmond, Va.



Leon A. King II, Esq. **Director of Legislation, Office** of The Honorable Frank Rizzo, **City of Philadelphia** *Executes and assists in shaping* the legislative agenda of an

at-large councilmanic office. Ebenezer Church, Philadelphia



Victor Marshall **Correctional Chaplain** Hocking Correctional Facility, Nelsonville, Ohio Conducts religious services and upholds

the religious rights of prisoners. Marietta (Ohio) Church



The Honorable Lisette Shirdan-Harris Judge, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Family **Court Division**

Presides over cases involving child custody, child support, divorce, and domestic violence. North Philadelphia Church

ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE + PROFILES IN CARING



Christina Anderson Smith Official Court Reporter, **U.S. House of Representatives** *Transcribes House proceedings*

Congressional Record. Emmanuel-Brinklow Church, Ashton, Md.



Paul Smith

for publication in the

Senior Legal Assistant, Civil Rights Unit, Law Department, **City of Philadelphia** Negotiates, settles, and investigates civil rights claims against Philadelphia. Ebenezer Church, Philadelphia



Iames Standish **Executive Director. U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)**, **Federal Government** Advances the work of the USCIRF,

giving it an increasingly effective voice in promoting religious freedom around the world.

Capital Memorial Church, Washington, D.C.



Allen Stockberger Commissioner, Knox County, Ohio *Helps increase the quality of life* and maintain the general welfare

of Knox County citizens. Mount Vernon Hill Church, Mount Vernon, Ohio

any other church members across the Columbia Union Conference territory are serving their church and country through positions on political and governmental boards, departments, as assistants to top leaders, and in other forms of service:

Rick Blondo (pictured), of the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., is a management and program analyst at the National Archives and Records Administration.

Don Bonchack (pictured), a member of the Atholton church in Columbia, Md., works at the FEMA headquarters office as a Volunteer and Donations Specialist.

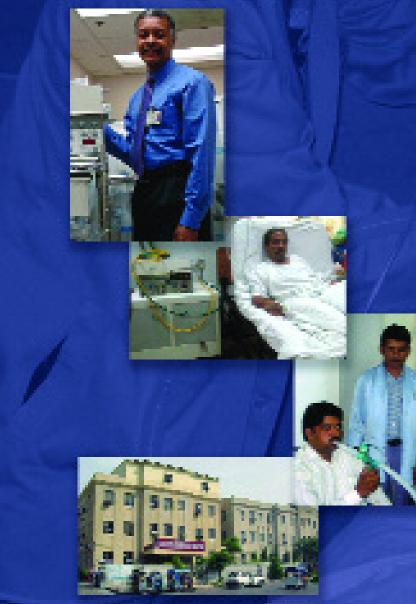
Jude Boyer-Patrick, MD, MPH (pictured), of the Capitol Hill church in Washington, D.C., is serving her second term on the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission, where she assists community clinics that often serve as safety nets for uninsured and underinsured Marylanders in need of healthcare services.

Jennifer Geyer, of the Pleasant View church in Elizabethville, Pa., is a clerical supervisor at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Seabrook (Md.) church member **Derrick Green** is serving on the Public Relations Subcommitte for the Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee. Greene has also created and is holding "Liberty in Jeopardy" workshops to inform Adventists and others about our freedoms. The next one will be November 1 at the Ephesus church in Richmond, Va. Contact Green at (301) 345-7700 for more details.

George Johnson Jr. is associate director of Communication for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.





The "Back to Basies" Psalm

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ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE - PROFILES IN CARING - ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE - PROFILES IN CARING



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Town Recognizes Pastor for Community Service

The town of Bladensburg, Md., recently recognized Pastor Brenda Billingy for community service done during her nearly four years as pastor of the Bladensburg church. Billingy, now senior pastor at the Metropolitan church in Hyattsville, Md., received the award on the day she was installed at her new church.

Bladensburg Councilman Walter Ficklin presented the award on behalf of the mayor. The plaque specifically recognized the Bladensburg church for: serving hot lunches and having monthly birthday parties at the nearby senior citizens' residence every month; establishing English as a Second Language courses for the Hispanic residents in the community; and partnering with the city in their annual coat drive for the homeless.

"The tribute humbles me because it says what God can do with willing hands," Billingy said, adding that the award was unexpected.

She believes the English as a Second Language course was the program she felt had the biggest impact in the community. The program was instituted for one semester during the fall of 2007 with teachers Carol and Ray Cantu, Winnie Hylton, Rosa Daniels, and Monica Lindo. Some 30 families attended the twice weekly classes. Nita Minifield, the first elder at Bladensburg, said the church will continue offering the classes.

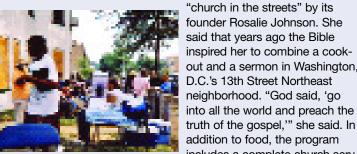
"This wasn't done just to bring people into the church," Minifield said, "but to provide a service that the community needed."

Billingy said that mindset reflects the core of Bladensburg. "We were not focused just on baptisms and giving Bible studies, but on being kind and loving and letting people know we care about them," she said.

NEWS

Capitol Hill Celebrates 10th Appreciation Day

In the past 10 years, good food and the "good news" have become an annual tradition in the nation's capital. The Capitol Hill church recently celebrated its 10th annual Community Appreciation Day, which is also termed



out and a sermon in Washington. D.C.'s 13th Street Northeast neighborhood. "God said, 'go into all the world and preach the truth of the gospel," she said. In addition to food, the program includes a complete church serv-

ice. Over the years the event has drawn up to 400 people, including neighbors who sit out on their lawn chairs, city officials, Capitol Hill members, and participants from the community.

ALLEGHENY EAST CONSIGNATION OCTOBER 2008



Bladensburg Councilman Walter Ficklin presents Pastor Brenda Billingv with a plaque honoring the Bladensburg church for its community service.

GE Peters School Housed in Church

After sustaining tornado damage last spring, the George E. Peters school in Hyattsville, Md., was left without adequate shelter. The school's 83 students and seven teachers started the 2008-09 school year in the nearby Metropolitan church. "We want to extend our deepest appreciation to Metro church for opening its doors to us," said principal Evelyn

Savory. "We are committed to putting trust in God and seeing Him work miracles at our school." Savory said construction on the school should be completed early next spring. She said even though students are not in a traditional school building, the high level of learning remains the same. They acquired 25 laptops and several SMART Boards and visualizers.

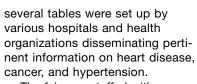


ALLEGHENY EAST STORE

Brinklow's Health Fair Blends Food and Play

Any members of the Emmanuel-Brinklow (Ashton, Md.) church family recently worked together to provide the community with information on health, fun, and healthy foods. According to Darnell Thomas, community services leader, the fair attracted about 250 people, half of whom were visitors from the community.

The fellowship hall was set up as the heart of the health fair with a variety of informational booths and screening services (below). Emmanuel-Brinklow members manned many of the booths while



The fair was staffed with area health experts including student nurses from Columbia Union College. Members like Kim McRae, a physical therapist, spoke about the hazards of overloaded backpacks. Reginald D. Barnes, an ophthalmologist, provided free glaucoma screenings. Fahed Araj, a caseworker from the Montgomery Department of Health & Human Services, informed attendees of services the county provides. Nutritionist Janet Jones, and parish nurse Betsy Johnson created a colorful exhibit of "super foods," which included raspberries, oats, broccoli, cinnamon, and edamame.

While enjoying the valuable information, attendees also enjoyed



Reginald D. Barnes, ophthalmologist, administered free glaucoma screenings.

a variety of foods such as snowcones, vegetarian franks, burgers, and pizza. They were also able to enjoy Caribbean drinks such as homemade ginger beer, tamarind punch, sorrel, and Maubi. And there were plenty of activities for the children. Some had their faces painted, many flipped and jumped in the Moon Bounce, and guite a few pretended to be cowboys and cowgirls as they mounted and rode a pony. Leslie Nettleford even aot some of the "big kids" (adults) to revisit their days at play with a Hula Hoop contest.—Beverly Howard

West Philadelphia Women Donate to Local Shelter

idden in the heart of West Philadelphia is the Peoples Emergency Center (PEC), dedicated to providing shelter to single mothers and their children. On a recent Sabbath, several members of the West Philadelphia church's Women's Ministries team visited the shelter carrying children's clothing, toys, and cash for the residents.

Theresa Victorin, Women's Ministries leader, coordinated the donation. "We want to spread the word regarding Jesus and His love for us." Victorin said. "And working with the community is another avenue for



witnessing to people and giving them hope and encouragement." PEC donations coordinator Grace Hightower said she was delighted with the interest shown by West Philadelphia and promised to visit the church to give a public "thank you." Victorin said Women's Ministries will continue working with the shelter throughout the year.—Peter Jackson

Grace Hightower (left), donations coordinator at PEC. talks with Maxine Mighty-Jackson, Theresa Victorin, and Dorothv Saunders, members of the Women's Ministries team at the West Philadelphia church.

Alleghenv East Exposé is published in the Visitor by the Allegheny East Conference PO Box 266. Pine Forge PA 19548 Phone: (610) 326-4610 myalleghenyeast.com President, Charles L. Cheatham - Communication Director, Robert Booker

Editor. Taashi Rowe



It's Beginning To Rain!

There is clearly a mighty move of God that is descending over our world. Everything, and I mean everything, is being aligned in heaven to usher in the last, great warning to this world that it's almost over. Any casual observer of the times can detect that something is about to happen. God is moving-and it cannot be denied and it cannot be ignored.

And what is this movement? Two things: Even as God's Spirit is being slowly removed from the Earth, at the same time, He is baptizing His people—who are passionate to see Him—with the Holy Spirit. This should come as no surprise, as God clearly said that we will receive power after we have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit (John 3 and Acts 2).

We at the Alleghenv West Conference (AWC) are praving that the soft "rain" of the Holy Spirit that is beginning to fall, will turn into a "soaking" over all our lives. Our service for Christ cannot happen with any significance unless we have this great power that Christ promised to every one of His disciples. To all believers in AWC, it's beginning to rain! Ask God to turn it into a downpour over your life.

Men Detox at Annual Retreat

When most people think of the word "detox," they picture a health diet designed to cleanse all unhealthy foods from the body. However, for the approximately 70 men who recently gathered at the annual Frank Loris Peterson Society (FLPS) of Adventist Men Retreat, detoxification meant reconnecting with the Lord and recharging their spiritual batteries.

The retreat is held each year on the campus of Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. With the theme "The Toxic Man," this year's retreat covered such



Around 70 members of the Frank Loris Peterson Society came from the Allegheny West, Ohio, and Lake Region conferences for an annual men's retreat. This year's theme focused on "The Toxic Man."

The society was founded in December 1987 during a meeting of about seven male members of the Ephesus church in Columbus. The organization was named in honor of Frank Loris Peterson, the first African-American vice president of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church and a former president of Oakwood University (Ala.). Peterson also pastored major churches in Los Angeles and Boston. Frank W. Hale Jr., PhD, former Oakwood University president and former vice provost for minority affairs at Ohio State University, assembled the group and became its sponsor. The group was concerned primarily with providing an opportunity for the men of the church to achieve a more balanced role and take a more active part in church and community affairs. This year's keynote speaker was Kwame R. Vanderhorst, outreach director and personal growth consultant for Prepare Our Youth, a ministry based in Washington, D.C. Other presenters included Perry Jennings, Corey Rowe, Frank Hale Jr., Tony Thomas, Donald Vanderpool, and former AWC president James Lewis.



Fredrick Russell President

topics as "The Toxic Man in a Toxic World," "Detoxing the Toxic Man," and "Christ is not the Best Answer to the Toxicity of Man-He's the Only Answer."

At one seminar FLPS president Donald Cantrell Sr. explained, "Sometimes God does put difficult people in our lives so that we can minister to their needs and serve as godly role models-whether they appreciate it or not."

CATCH THE SION

City of Hamilton Honors Shiloh Member

At a recent Prison Ministries celebration hosted by the Mount Olive church in Hamilton, Ohio, members, former prisoners, and even Hamilton's vice mayor celebrated Fred Coleman Day. The day was named for former inmate, Fred Coleman, a member of the Cincinnati-based Shiloh church. He made a dramatic change in his life after becoming an



Hamilton, Ohio's vice mayor, Patrick Moeller (left) presents Fred Coleman with a proclamation while his wife. Linda, proudly looks on.

Adventist while in prison. Coleman, who spent approximately 18 years in prison, started his work for Christ while incarcerated, leading to the baptism of several inmates. After leaving prison, Coleman made it his goal to improve his community by helping others.

When he was released from prison, Coleman's family set up a small apartment for him, paid three months rent, and bought him a bicycle for transportation. He soon found a job and his hard work and dedication caused him to excel in that position. He continued to give Bible studies and he even rewrote some of the lessons to adjust to the level of each student's ability and personality. Several have accepted Christ and now hold offices in the church.

Everywhere he went Coleman shared his testimony of his incarceration and how he learned to play the guitar-which he has since used for God's service. After hearing Coleman's testimony, a Shiloh member was impressed to give him a car. He then gave the bicycle to someone else who needed transportation.

Coleman uses the car to visit sick and shut-in members, and to drive senior citizens to the store once a week. He has been married to Linda for three years and also assists in her nursing home ministry.

Asked how he feels about the work he does. Coleman says, "God has given each of us a gift and we are not to waste it. He has given me so much; all I can do is share with others."

His newest venture is working with a friend on a project called Addiction Recovery, which reaches out to anyone with any kind of addiction. Coleman, a home remodeler and maintenance man, also lends his lawn tools to newly released inmates who use them to do landscaping as a way to support themselves. In the four years that Coleman has been out of prison, he has never missed church, prayer meeting, or work, and the car has never broken down.

With all that he does, it is no wonder the city of Hamilton created Fred Coleman Day. Patrick Moeller, the city's vice mayor, presented the proclamation to Coleman to the sounds of a standing ovation. Coleman says the honor was a "wonderful surprise."--Sarah Jamison

Calendar

October

- 4 Central/Southern Ohio Youth Federation Cincinnati
- 5 Virginia/West Virginia Community Service Federation
- 11 Virginia/West Virginia Youth Federation Lvnchburgh, Va.
- 17-19 Hispanic Revival, Cleveland
- 19 Southern Ohio Community Service Federation
- 24-25 Care Ministries Retreat

November

9 Southern Ohio District Leadership Training

December

19-21 Hispanic Revival. *Columbus*

Catch the Vision is published in the Visitor by the Allegheny West Conference I 339 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205 Phone: (614) 252-5271 awcsda.com President, Fredrick Russell - Editor, Bryant Taylor



What Would Jesus Do?

We are urged repeatedly in the Gospels and elsewhere to pray in the name of Jesus. And wonderful results are promised as a result of doing so. Of course, any thoughtful person knows this means far more than just tacking on a rote formula to the end of our prayers. But what exactly does it mean? It means that we are to pray in full assurance of the great work Christ accomplished-in His life, by His death, through His resurrection, and by means of His intercessory ministry in heaven on our behalf. And we are to pray in accord with the way and nature of Christ. It means we are making the kinds of intercessions He would make if He were among us in the flesh.

But how do we pray in conformity to His nature? We do this through acquaintanceship. If prayer is talking with God as to a friend (Steps to Christ, p. 93), then we are describing conversations that flow out of an ongoing relationship. We spend time with Him. We become accustomed to His face. We distinguish His voice. When we have been around Him long enough, we can smell the gospel. So we ask and do as we know He would ask and do. How do we "know" what Jesus would ask and do? Well, how does a couple who has been married many years know what each other thinks, wants, and feels? We know even as we are known.

Thy Kingdom Come! Mission Conference Planned



Ian to attend the one-day Thy Kingdom Come! Mission Conference, October 11. The featured speakers are Anthony Kent (left), associate secretary for the Ministerial Association of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and George Rice, educator, scholar, and pastor. The event, to be held at Eastern Shore Junior Academy on 407 Dudley Corners Road in Sudlersville, Md., includes inspiring music, practical seminars, and children's programs, as well as a potluck lunch. For more information, check your church bulletin or call the Chesapeake Conference at (410) 995-1910.

Chesapeake Bids Farewell to Treasurer

A fter nine years of service as treasurer, A. Ramon AChow leaves Chesapeake Conference to join Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) as executive secretary and treasurer. "I look forward to my new responsibilities with high expectations since I know that, along with a great multitude of motivated, energetic, and Christ-led people, ASI, with the Lord's help, will continue to be in the forefront of soul winning," says Chow. Committed to supporting the global mission of the church, ASI is comprised of approximately 1,000 Adventist church members who work in the private sector as business owners and in other professional vocations.

"Elder Chow has served Chesapeake with distinction," says president Rob Vandeman. "His broad background in denominational service, his accumulate wisdom, and his very capable management skills have helped us navigate through some difficult waters over the years. He has been a joy to work with and will be areatly missed."



chesapeake conference newsletter **OCTOBER 2008**



Rob Vandeman President

Chow's wife. Elizabeth, a registered nurse by training. will remain as an administrative assistant in the Adult Ministries department.

A. Ramon Chow (pictured with his wife, Elizabeth) has accepted the position of executive secretary and treasurer at Adventistlaymen's Services and Industries (ASI).

THECHALLENGE

Praver Emphasis Weekend Slated for November

Themed "Our God is Alive," the conference's upcoming prayer weekend features Jerry Page, president of the Central California Conference, and his wife, Janet. The event takes place November 7 and 8 at the Columbia Union Conference office in Columbia, Md. The Pages will share their experiences and give strategies for jump-starting a spiritual journey and making the Scriptures come alive. Registration is required, and space is limited. The \$15 registration fee covers seminar materials and lunch on Sabbath. For more information, contact Samantha Young at (410) 995-1910 or svouna@ccosda.org.



Members Visit Mission Sites in Africa and Korea

International mission was on the minds of Chesapeake members this year as three separate groups recently left the conference to visit three African countries and South Korea. Traveling recently to South Africa as part of a larger group with North American Division's Hope for Humanity, Chesapeake members visited sites at Nhlengelo. The facility, managed by Paul and Martha Mawela, provides a hot meal five days a week to nearly 800 orphans whose parents have died from AIDS. The group also traveled to the Maluti Adventist Hospital in the country of Lesotho, where hundreds of people each month receive treatment ranging from broken bones to eye surgery, maternity to HIV and AIDS, and tuberculosis. Spencerville church members have raised more than \$34,000 to provide the hospital with a heating system



Left to right: Dick McClure and his wife, Pastor Charlotte McClure of the Spencerville church; Linda McEowen, guidance counselor and teacher at Spencerville Adventist Academy; and Mark Walker, principal and teacher at Rocky Knoll Adventist School, visit with Nhlengelo caregivers. Photo by Matthew Hamel.

in their pediatric and maternity wards. "The need is very great," says Spencerville member Dick McClure. "We visited 'child-headed households.' homes where the parents have died from AIDS and children as young as 11 or 12 are taking responsibility for their younger siblings.'

Schools throughout North America are planning to raise funds for a new school building for Maluti Hospital staff and the Lesotho community in the next 12 months. "Right now the seventh-grade class uses the back of a box truck as their classroom," explains Mark Walker, principal of Rocky Knoll Adventist School in Martinsburg, W.Va. Walker plans to organize a pen pal program to connect his students and the children in Lesotho as part of the fundraising effort.

A group of 39 members from the New Hope (Fulton, Md.) and Williamsport (Md.) churches spent two weeks in Mozambigue working at a Maranatha Volunteers International mission site. The crew helped construct a 400-student-capacity school in the area of Mahotas, assisted with the drilling of four water wells, and conducted a Vacation Bible School program. The medical professionals on their team went to remote villages where they treated more than 900 people in eight working days.

Pastor Doo Pyo Hong of the Washington-Spencerville Korean church accompanied 11 young adults to Korea to teach classes in English conversation to locals as part of the evangelism efforts of the Adventist Han Kook Sahm Yook Middle School. "Through this event we gave them a good impression about the Adventist academy, as well as Christian education," says Hong. "Also, through this experience, missionaries gained confidence about the international mission trips."

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THE GATEWAY OCTOBER 2008 Columbia Union College strend Franking See war. Training Bass, MD angus (1994) - Sim Bas, parts - warsen an

Students Welcomed With Opening Convocation

olumbia Union College (CUC) welcomed students Jback to campus with a special chapel service at the nearby Sligo church. CUC president Weymouth Spence gave the opening address titled "Gateway to Service." He reminded students of the importance of living a life dedicated to the Lord, serving others, and volunteering their efforts to build community.

Gina Brown, dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies, shared the Scripture reading with those in the audience about God's abounding grace described in 2 Corinthians 9:8, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work" (NKJV).







Nursing Department Offers "Faith in Community" Program

UC's Edyth T. James Department of Nursing is partnering with Adventist HealthCare to offer nurses an opportunity to create an effective parish nurse practice through an 11-day program. The program began in September and continues through November. Participants in the program will earn continued education credits and receive preparation for their practice. The program is targeted to nurses who want to use principles of faith to grow the wholistic health of a community.

and maintenance, and the functions of a faith community nurse. For more information on the program, contact Barbara Walker at (301) 891-4546 or email bwalker@cuc.edu.



Provost Susan C. Scharffenberg (left, at podium) formally introduced herself to the students and encouraged them to strive for academic excellence during the new school year. Student Association president Berny Jacques, a senior majoring in both history and political studies, unveiled his plans for the new year.

"I want to see a more active student body who will take pride in their college and participate in activities on campus." said Jacques.

Columbia Union Conference executive secretary Neville Harcombe gave the prayer of dedication. Audrey Moise (above), a senior music and English major, followed with a rendition of "The Lord's Prayer."

Students will learn about spiritual care, wholistic health promotions

GÉLERICA ENTÉS SÉLET ÉL THE GATEWAY

Freshmen Class Prepares for Success

Ctudents in the First Year **O***Experience* (FYE) program were introduced to what CUC had to offer through a five-day event called Gateway '08.

"From the ceremonial walk through the campus' gateway, to the uplifting worship service at Sligo church, followed by their bonding experience while exploring Washington, D.C., and their participation in a ropes course, the freshman had a great introduction



Activist Mike Tidwell is also the author of the FYE summer reading book Bayou Farewell. He challenged the students to see the environment as a moral issue.

to CUC life," said FYE director Tami Shipowick Hoyt.

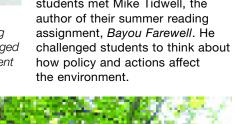
For many first-year students, the highlight of the program was the opportunity to build relationships with people they wouldn't ordinarily meet.

"It was interesting coming to the campus as a freshman in the program. It gave me a chance to meet new people, get familiar with campus, and transfer from high school to college life," said Martha Harris.

Another highlight of FYE is the ropes course. Students are challenged to face their fears and place their trust in group members. They participated in a team obstacle course, climbed a 20foot pole, and shot down a giant zip line across a river.

"It was an amazing experience coming into college through this program and getting to know people this way," said Jonathon Bautista.

Gateway '08 culminated when students met Mike Tidwell, the





English professor Richard Grant greeted FYE students as they walked under CUC's Gateway to Service during the Gateway '08 ceremony.

FYE instructors say they hope that these experiences will shape the Class of 2012 and guide them in determining their purpose. Duane Reid, an FYE instructor said. "We are definitely engaging their minds."

CALENDAR

Octob	er
5-6	College Days
6-10	Missions Week
11	Student Association Prayer Breakfast
13-15	Midterm Exams
16-19	Midterm Break
Noven	nber
3-9	Health and Wellness We
9	College Open House
26-30	Thanksgiving Break

way is published in the Visitor by the Columbia Union College 7600 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 Phone: (800) 835-4212 - cuc.edu President, Weymouth Spence Executive Director of Marketing and Communication, Saschane Stephenson Editor. Tanisha Greenidge



God is up to it Even When We are Not

regive me for indulging in a grandparent moment. I recently attended my grandson, Nate's first birthday party. Nate is very healthy and up, to his birthday, hadn't been sick at all. However, this day he woke up with a bad cold. Normally he is delightfully expressive and happy about everything, but the cold had zapped his interest in just about everything, including his cake. So his parents and three sets of grandparents waited with cameras poised hoping he would begin feeling better so we could snap those oh-so-memorable first cake pictures. Eventually his determination won out over the cold, he perked up and began exploring the cake tentatively. Within a few minutes he had discovered a new taste, new ways of getting food into his mouth, new ways to make people laugh and clap, and was covered in icing from head to toe.

God is so awesome. Even when we don't always feel quite up to it (or maybe quite receptive to it), He is always waiting to make our day (our week, our year ... our life!) a positive experience. He has so many things in store for us to explore, experience, and get excited about if we grab the opportunities He gives us. At the beginning of the new school year, we spent some time together as a faculty to dream and pray about all the good things we expect this year. We know there will be some not-so-great moments scattered throughout, but we are determined to grab all the opportunities that God gives us to impact our students in great and wonderful ways!

Dormitory Projects Completed

s reported in the August issue of the *Highlander*, Athe school undertook several renovation projects over the summer. All of the "phase one" projects have been completed and the students are enjoying them



Students (above and right) demonstrate their appreciation for some of the upgrades to the girls' dormitory.

immensely. Rooms are well cooled and heated with new systems, everything has been freshly painted inside and out, new energy-efficient windows have been installed, and bathrooms have been upgraded, both structurally and aesthetically.

Students who lived in the dormitory last year were especially excited to see the changes and upgrades.

"While a large portion of the school's capital fund were used for the projects, the renovations would not have been possible without the generous support of the Chesapeake Conference, the Commonweal Foundation, and anonymous donors," said principal Sheri Tydings. "We want to especially recognize and thank conference members Herb and Marilyn Dennison, of Dennison Plumbing, for donating labor for the bathroom renovations," Tydings added. The Dennisons are members of the Frederick (Md.) church and have two children, Angie ('93), and Herbie ('96), who are alumni of Highland View Academy (HVA)



Team members help a student jump to the ground.

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www.highlandviewacademy.com



Sheri Tvdinas Principal

"It is a whole lot better. The new windows make the building look much newer, the painting gives the dorm a fresh look, and the bathrooms look incredible. The dorm actually seems more welcoming with all of the improvements," said Lornah Misati, a senior girls' dorm resident.





Students and Faculty Enjoy Commitment Weekend

r or the past several years, HVA has dedicated the first weekend of the school year to bringing the faculty and students together for a time of spiritual focus. The intent of the weekend is to help the students make a commitment to spiritual growth and involvement during the school year. The weekend began with a special yespers focusing on prayer. During the service students spent time in individual prayer for others, and also prayed in groups at various sites on campus and for various aspects of the school program.



On Sabbath morning, the faculty and students went to

nearby Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center for an outdoor service (pictured). Students demonstrated creativity through their original skits to portrav different aspects of the story of the talents found in the Book of Luke. After a lunch of haystacks, a

large group of students and faculty hiked to Black Rock. The weekend events concluded with the annual scavenger hunt on Saturday evening. Though all classes made a great showing and demonstrated excellent class spirit, the Class of 2009 triumphed and took the first-place prize.

Staff Welcomes 126 Students

ome 126 students are currently Oenrolled at HVA for the 2008-09 school vear. Of these students there are 31 freshmen, 31 sophomores, 34 juniors, and 30 seniors. Community students number 79, and there are 48 in the dormitories.

"Each year you have a sense of what the student body, as a group, is like. I think this group of students is energetic and enthusiastic, and I believe they are going to make this school year a great one," says principal Sheri Tydings.

At the annual handshake activities, Jacob Boring, Student Association (SA) pastor, shared a devotional, before students and faculty got a chance to meet each other during the traditional handshake line (below). SA officers also led the students in several gettingacquainted games. Freshman Karen Tejada said, "I didn't know what to expect since this is my first year at HVA, but I had a lot of fun and got to know a lot of new friends on the first day."



CALENDAR

1-4 Week of Prayer

October

- 4 Barn Party
- 10-12 Bible Retreat
- 15 College Fair 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., HVA Gymnasium
- **15-19** Home Leave
- 26 Parent-Teacher Conference 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Administration Building

November

- 2-3 Academy Days
- Parent Weekend 7-9
- 7 Senior Recognition 7:30 p.m., Highland View Church
- 7 Talent Show, 7 p.m. HVA Gymnasium

25-

Dec. 1 Thanksgiving Break

Highlander is published in the Visitor by the Highland View Academy = 10100 Academy Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740 Phone: (301) 739-8480 = Fax: (301) 733-4770 • highlandviewacademy.com Principal and Editor, Sheri Tydings

The Grand Work of Women

n the book *Evangelism*, Ellen White speaks of a grand work awaiting the woman who consecrates herself to service for God. She writes, "The refining, softening influence of Christian women is needed in the great work of preaching the truth" (p. 472). White says a woman "can come close to the hearts of those whom men cannot reach." Is it because a woman's strengths lie in her nurturing abilities, in her patience to listen, or in her sensitivity to discern? Yes, those, and more. As a woman and director of Women's Ministries for several years, it has been my privilege to observe the interaction of Mountain View women engaged in heart-to-heart conversations, earnest prayer sessions, in-depth study of God's Word, and in extending helping hands to one another. Mountain View women join women around the world who have grown spiritually by introducing Jesus to a thirsty soul, by ministering to the needs of a new mother; by mentoring a new Christian; and by using their gifts of discernment, caring, and nurture in a host of other ways. Remember that Mrs. White wrote: "Each person has his own lamp to keep burning ... Teach this my sister. You have many ways opened Feryl Harris before you" (p. 473). Women's Ministries Director

Brian Jones, "Spiritual Giant," Dies

Brian Jones, who most recently pastored the Weirton and Wheeling (W.Va.) churches, and served as conference communication director, has passed away.

"The world church has lost a spiritual giant and a warrior for God," said Larry Boggess, conference president. "Brian was a very loving and caring pastor who brought healing to individuals and congregations."

Elizabeth, Brian's wife of 19 years, recalls: "He preached from home one Sabbath because he was too sick to leave the house. Afterward he went back into the bedroom and I sat beside him as, one by one he invited members to visit. I listened to him pour out



Many in the Mountain View Conference remember Brian Jones for his integrity and love for people. He is shown here with his wife, Elizabeth, and daughter, Rebekah.

Jones was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1975 and became a Bible worker in 1978. He also pastored in the Chesapeake, Nevada-Utah, Upper Columbia, and Washington conferences. He earned a doctorate in Christian counseling, wrote six books, contributed to three Adult Bible Study Guides, and published numerous articles.

"In many of his poems, books, and Bible studies, he attempted to express his deep appreciation for the cross and what it meant to him," Elizabeth said. "His conversion experience brought him out of the darkness of a drug-addicted, hippie lifestyle to the peace and power of the cross." "My heart has a void for this man of God who would

counsel with me anytime I would ask his advice on anything," said Daniel Morikone, the conference Health Ministries director and pastor for Parkersburg, Ripley, and Tollgate churches. "Brian loved Jesus. He cared about God's church, God's people, and his lovely family." Elizabeth said Brian loved to write poetry, cook ethnic foods, and read the Bible every chance he gotwhether he was waiting in line at the grocery store or sitting at a doctor's office.

Jones is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; his 6-year-

old daughter, Rebekah; parents, Bertrand J. and Walborga "Wally" Jones of Oakland, Calif.; and brother, Bertrand B. Jones, of Hedgesville, W.Va.-Taashi Rowe/Valerie Morikone





his love for each person. He was so genuine---it really touched my heart."

Mountain VIEWPOINT

Marlinton Company Hosts Healthy Cooking School

The Marlinton Company recently hosted a five-night cooking school with church members attending along with nine people from the community. Lindie Moore (left), who helps her family run a bed and breakfast in Marlinton,



taught attendees how to make healthy changes and enhance their health. Using DVD's Moore covered such topics as mad cow disease, meat eating, and the high sugar consumption in our country. She also lectured on the dangers of too much fat in the diet, the effects of caffeine and nicotine on the body, and talked about various diseases. After showing the class how to make plant-based recipes, attendees were given many food samples to taste. Diagnosed with osteoporosis several years ago, Moore said she has never had to take medication because of changes made in her lifestyle and eating habits. She said the cooking school was a wonderful avenue to share her testimony with others.---Yvonne Michael

Parkersburg Women Knit Helmet Warmers for Soldiers

ome January, when temperatures in Iraq dip below freezing, several U.S. Soldiers will be warm thanks to women from the Parkersburg (W.Va.) church. These women recently knitted five wool helmet warmers for soldiers.

The Parkerburg women got involved in the project when Christine Miner came into the NewStart Thrift Mart in Vienna, W.Va., looking for a helmet liner for her grandson, Spc. Adam Haas of the 82 Airborne Division. She was looking for one of those tight-fitting headsocks that motorcyclists and skiers wear to keep their faces warm, recalled Amy Fullmer, volunteer manager at the store. Miner told Fullmer that while the government does supply these liners they are 100 percent acrylic and the men need 100 percent wool to keep warm. They cost around \$30 to purchase and \$10 to ship.

"That is tough on a fixed income," Fullmer said. "When I spoke to her, I thought the women of our church could help."

So Fullmer, along with other women of the Parkersburg church, joined in making the liners at about \$9 per piece. They plan to get more churches involved in the project.-The Parkersburg News



Amy Fullmer (left), Patty Smith, and other Parkersburg women made head warmers for U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

Logan's Strip Mall **Evangelism Bears Fruit**

n fall 2006, members of the Logan church, along with Pastor/Evangelist David Morgan (Huntington/Pt. Pleasant district) held a series of meetings in a strip mall near the small town of Lyburn, W.Va. Prior to the meetings Bible worker Janelle Morikone trained church members how to go door to door and give Bible studies.

Fast forward to the summer of 2008. A small group is still meeting in the

same building. Led by Logan member Carol Roberts, these weekly sessions continue to meet the spiritual needs of those who attend. This group has gone through lessons such as the Daniel Seminar, In the Footsteps of Pau/, and is currently involved with a Bible marking program. Roberts also conducts a Friday night meeting in her home where a group watches programs on DVDs and studies the Adult Bible Study Guide. They also meet from time to time for a picnic or cookout. Supported by Logan members who live in the Man, W.Va., area, there are several visitors who participate in these in-home meetings.

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Carol Roberts leads a small group focused on teaching more about the Bible.

27 Mountain View Executive Committee, 10 a.m.

Valley Vista Camp

Mountain View EVENTS

3-5 Women's Retreat

October

Mountain Viewpoint is published in the Visitor by the Mountain View Conference • 1400 Liberty Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101 Phone: (304) 422-4581 mtviewconf.org President, Larry Boggess = Editor, Vacant



r or the past three years, Mount Vernon Academy (MVA) has leaped into the school year with a special Fireshman registration and orientation designed to help students adjust to boarding school life and get acquainted with the campus. This year was no different as 35 enthusiastic freshmen arrived on campus eager to meet new people and begin the new year.



This year, freshman orientation began at Camp Mohaven with a special day of team-building activities designed to give students an opportunity to bond before classes started. Students participated in the lower ropes course and a variety of games. The day ended with swimming, basketball, and soccer.

and dislikes throughout the course of the day."

Freshman Andy Wolfe enjoys a slice of watermelon during a break from team-building activities.

New Year Brings New Staff, New Students

A new school year found the MVA campus bustling with activity as Rew and returning students greeted faculty, completed registration,



The annual Student Association handshake gives students and returning students.

moved into the dorms, found returning friends, and made new acquaintances.

Among the crowd were several new staff members. Addiel and Rebecca Amador (pictured, top) join the MVA staff after serving at Wisconsin Academy. Addiel is the new business manager, and Rebecca assists in the girls' dormitory. The Amadors have two children, Jeremy and Sienna. Arnesia Cooke (bottom), a graduate of Mount Vernon Academy, and Amy Woodruff have joined the staff as assistant deans of women. Nathan Shinn (right), another MVA alumnus, returns to campus as the assistant maintenance director and will also help staff a chance to greet new and coach the soccer team. Dusty Shuster will help assist the business office.



"I got to know lots of new friends," Evelyn Ruiz commented. "It was so much easier meeting friends in the social environment."

Faith McCullaugh said, "I liked that I got to know my roommate's likes

Staff members noted making friendships on the first day was a great way for students to start their high school careers. "Freshmen orientation gives our staff an opportunity to build relationships with the freshmen without the entire student body on campus. It really allows for our teachers to focus on helping our freshmen be successful from the moment they arrive here at MVA," said principal David Daniels.—Ed Strunk





SPIRIT

Students, Staff Begin Year With Service

ach new school year brings new challenges and new copportunities. Yet the all-important goal, the most immediate concern for any Seventh-day Adventist school, is that each student will come to know Christ. At Mount Vernon Academy a monthly community service day is one way of helping neighbors and helping students to see Christ more clearly. The year's first "service day" was spent at the Mount Vernon Seventhday Adventist Elementary School. The high school students cleaned and helped rebuild the playaround. Working in shifts students encouraged each other and were energized in knowing they were helping their younger counterparts have a better school year.

"Service days at MVA are a vital part of our program. We are intentional in our calendar and budget-



these opportunities a reality for our students. Service is not just what we do, it's who we are," said principal Daniels. Manv stu-

ing to make

Tae Jun Jeon and Rvan McNeal organize books.

dents who would otherwise see no need for Christ in their life are drawn to Him by

practicing service for others, says MVA chaplain Tim Soper. He points to Christ's Object Lessons, where Ellen White says: "Christ's followers have been redeemed for service. Our Lord teaches that the true object of life is ministry. Christ Himself was a worker. and to all His followers He gives the law of service-



Seniors Alex Ruth and Josh Burt repair playground equipment.



A group of sophomore ladies help clean the gymnasium.

service to God and to their fellow men. Here Christ has presented to the world a higher conception of life than they had ever known. By living to minister for others. man is brought into connection with Christ. The law of service becomes the connecting link, which binds us to God and to our fellow men."

"As the students of Mount Vernon Academy learn and serve," says Chaplain Soper, "please pray with us that they will come to a fuller understanding of who Christ is and what His plans are for them in these closing moments of Earth's history."

CALENDAR of **EVENTS**

October

12-14	Midterm Exams		
15-19	Home Leave		
26	Girls/Boys Club Retreat		
27-31	OGT Testing		

November

7-9	Parent Weekend
8	Fall Festival
17-20	ACT Prep
23-30	Thanksgiving Break

December

5	Choir/Bells at Kettering		
16-18	Semester Exams		
20	Christmas Concert		
20-Jan. 4	Christmas Vacation		

Spirit is published in the Visitor by Mount Vernon Academy 525 Wooster Road, Mount Vernon, OH 43050 - Phone: (740) 397-5411 mvacademy.org Principal and Editor, David Daniels

We are Instruments of Mission

peturning from a recent mission trip to San Jose, Costa Rica, I wondered what I would say when people asked The about my experience. So much happened in just two weeks. I left for the trip apprehensive, nervous, and afraid. I came back feeling loved, blessed, empowered, and freed. I also discovered that words cannot fully express my experience. The Lord blessed our group by using us to make a difference in people's lives, in a place where almost half of us didn't speak the language. Only Jesus' miraculous power can do something like

that. That alone showed us that no matter what language you speak, the love of Jesus is universal. The Lord's presence was there with us in Costa Rica. Each and every day the Lord guided our every move. He was there in the beauty of nature, in the people of Leon XIII, and in each of us. I can't really explain my experience in Costa Rica to you. All I can say is that God used me. He used me as an instrument for His people. The group that came was a blessing. We could see that Jesus had the Holy Spirit handpick the people who went on the trip and we became a family. We embodied Ephesians 6:7, which says, "Serve wholeheartedly as if you were serving the Lord, not men" (NIV). Thanks to the Lord for the marvelous things He did through us!

Guttenberg Spanish Member Wins Multiple Scholarships

When 19-year-old Samuel A. Cruz was younger, he made a promise to God that he would always tithe 20 percent of whatever money he received. Looking back, Cruz says he never missed that money because God has always taken care of all his needs. He says he is even more committed today because recently God took care of his college education when



he received four scholarships totaling \$117,000. The largest scholarship, \$100,000, comes from the Ronald MacDonald

House Charities. Another \$10,000 came from Nordstrom, and \$5.000 came from the American Chemical Society.

Cruz. a member of the Guttenberg Spanish church. is slow to take

Samuel Cruz savs praver is the reason he won more than \$100,000 in academic scholarships.

credit for his academic success. Instead, he points to prayer. "We prayed about paying for college because my mom is a single mother and we couldn't afford it. So we prayed at home and we prayed at church," He said. "Even though I couldn't study on Sabbath, it always seemed as if He gave me extra time on Sundays to study, and do homework and projects." A young immigrant from Colombia, Cruz struggled to learn English and received his education through English as a Second Language courses. After years of hard work and dedication, Cruz was placed in the same classroom as his native English-speaking counterparts by his first year at Union Hill high school. Many of his courses included honors classes. In addition to his academic achievements, Cruz served as a clerk for the Union City Municipal Court and mayor's office. He also served as a church deacon and secretary for his youth group. The latter he said

not only helped him grow spiritually but "helped my

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Philomena Ogalo Member. New Brunswick English Church

resume, because colleges want to see that you are involved in your community." His pastor, Julio Labrador, was very proud of Cruz's

accomplishments. He said, "Samuel is very smart and verv spiritual."

Cruz recently started his freshman year at Ramapo College in Mahwah where he plans to study genetics. Needless to say, his mother Isabel, and his sister, Cindy, are also very proud of him.

Youth Take on one of Costa Rica's Worst Neighborhoods

ight months ago Pastor Laffit Cortés, director of Youth Ministries, visited Costa Rica to speak at an evangelism meeting with Mario Thorp, pastor of the Spanish Edison, Lakewood, and Collingwood Park churches. He noticed that one church rented a bus and came to the meetings every night. When he visited their church, a one-room house in one of the poorest communities in San Jose, he promised the pastor that he would bring back some New Jersey young people to help.

Recently 18 people from the New Jersey Conference fullfilled that promise when they spent two weeks in Leon XIII helping and ministering to the community.

"The place is so dangerous that even the pastor got mugged in front of the church," Cortés said. "Everywhere we went, people looked at us like we were crazy for working in Leon XIII. But that didn't stop us. We told the kids that we were not going to let fear paralyze us when God was so needed in that community."

While there, the young people were involved in a whirlwind of activities from a temperance parade and evangelism, to visiting a nursing home and an orphanage, to teaching an English class and remodeling the church.

"Half of those young people didn't even speak Spanish." Cortés said, "But it was so encouraging to see what can be accomplished when you give a task to a young person and you just step back and let the Holy Spirit take over."

Marylou Cornago, one of the young people on the trip, said, "Being on this trip has influenced the way I view and relate to the world around me. As a leader and, more importantly, as a co-worker with Jesus Christ, I have learned that the best way to influence others is to touch their hearts. Looking

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back I realize the heart that was truly touched was my own."

The group left the church money to raise the roof and build a second floor. They are planning to revisit the country every year for three years.



Jonathan Candelaria and Nestor Varicelly paint the outside fence of the church.



Jonathan Candelaria and Philomena Ogalo with a nursing home resident.



Joel Nino preached a Sabbath message.



Local kids spend time with Maxine Langenfeld after Vespers.



The Pathfinders lead a temperance parade around Leon XIII.



Mission trip group members play with the children at the orphanage.

New Jersey News is published in the Visitor by the New Jersey Conference 2160 Brunswick Ave., Trenton NJ 08648 Phone: (609) 392-7131 • njcsda.org President, José Cortés Editor, Laffit Cortés

Former Worthington Foods President Honored

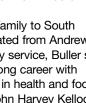
llan Buller, former president of Worthington Foods, was Arecently honored for serving on the Ohio Conference Association board for 36 continuous years. He will be 91 vears old in December.

Born in Canada, Buller moved with his family to South Dakota, then to Michigan, where he graduated from Andrews University in 1941. After one term of military service, Buller settled in Ohio in 1945 and began a 54-year-long career with Worthington Foods. He became interested in health and food production at age 18 while working with John Harvey Kellogg at the "Miami Battle Creek" in Florida, where he ran the projector during the health lectures each Sunday night. He started as an assistant manager at Worthington Foods in 1945 and was named president of the company in 1982. While at Worthington, Buller earned a Masters in Business Administration from Ohio State University, witnessed the acquisition and merger of Battle Creek Food Company in 1960, and was present at the opening of a second plant in Zanesville. After

retiring in 1986, he continued to serve on the board, and served as chairman of the board from 1990 to 1999. In addition to his work at Worthington Foods, Buller has been deeply committed to serving the Lord. For 25 years he served the Worthington church as head elder, and served on the Ohio Conference and Columbia Union Conference executive committees for 23 years. Buller said he found work with conference committees very inspiring. He retired from all his responsibilities in December 2007. He now resides in Dublin, Ohio, with his wife, Mildred.

A little girl participates in a craft at Camp SonPower.









Conference president Raj Attiken (left) and Harry Straub, Trust Services director present Allan Buller (center) with a plaque of recognition.

Camp SonPower Shines on Communities

ortsmouth was one of 10 churches across Ohio that recently hosted weeklong camps for children in their communities with SonPower high school and college students. Portsmouth offered one camp at the church from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and then did something different—they offered a second camp in the evenings at a low-income housing development. Attendance during the day averaged 30 children, while the evening camp drew an average of 60 children. On the final day, they bused all the children to the church where they had a fun day of activities with more than 100 children participating. There was also an evening program for the parents.

"The Holy Spirit poured oil on it and, at the end, it was obvious that the puny little efforts we made gave the Holy Spirit an opportunity to work," said Mike Stevenson, Youth Ministries director for the conference. "Most of the community parents came to the closing event, and the church was more full than I've ever seen it."

Portsmouth members plan to keep in contact with the kids by returning to the neighborhood each month to do a Sabbath School program.

Vernon woman.

MISSION OTHER

Chillicothe, Jackson Pastor Retires

A fter 13 years pastoring the Chillicothe and Jackson churches, Frank Steyn has retired from full-time pastoral work. Originally from South Africa, Steyn has done pastoral and evangelistic work, and served eight years in youth departments in South Africa and Zimbabwe. After completing his Clinical Pastoral Education at Kettering Medical Center in 1987, he worked as chaplain at an Adventist psychiatric hospital (Vista Clinic) in South Africa. During that time he also completed his doctorate.

He and his wife, Jennifer, have relocated to the Dayton area, where he will be doing part-time chaplaincy work at Kettering Medical Center and serving as bi-vocational pastor of the Piqua church, as well as working on some writing projects.

Frank Stevn (shown here with his wife, Jennifer, and their grandchildren) has retired from full-time pastoral work.

Youth Fix-Up Elderly Woman's Home

While getting her daily lunch at the local senior cen-ter in Mount Vernon, Ruth Jockisch, 86, was asked if she'd be okay with a group of young people doing some house and yard work for her. "Of course," she replied, not really knowing what lay ahead.

When asked to lead the youth program for the 2008 Ohio Camp Meeting, the group from Kettering College of Medical Arts, led by Victor Brown along with Ben Moushon, Brandon Kennison, and Mike Unterseher knew they wanted to plan something unique. Through the Adventist organization Caring through Sharing, and the mayor of Mount Vernon,

Brown arranged to perform an "Extreme Makeover" to Jockisch's home similar to the TV show.

"These young people come from all over Ohio, and this year, we wanted to do something special that was productive and helpful," Brown said. Kennison added, "When we first saw the house the week before camp meeting, we were a little disappointed. We had hoped for something more dramatic."

However, after walking around, they quickly realized there was plenty to do. They started by tearing out old, overgrown landscaping and scraping the house to repaint. Lowes, a home improvement store, donated new shutters and a back door to replace the one that had not opened for many years. Sherwin Williams donated all the paint, and Wal-Mart donated other materials.

As the week went by, Jockisch's neighbor, local sheriff Wayne Noggle, started calling in favors to have a new stove and all the landscaping materials donated as well. The three-day project turned into five days, but the youth gladly gave up their activity days at Camp Mohaven in Mount Vernon to finish the project.

"This was the best camp meeting I've ever been to," one youth said. "As long as we do this next year, I'll be back and will bring all my friends." An inspired Sheriff Noggle is already looking for another house for the Fraternal Order of Police to help with next vear.--Ben Moushon

Mission Ohio is published in the Visitor by the Ohio Conference P.O. Box 1230, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050 Phone: (740) 397-4665 - ohioadventist.org - President, Raj Attiken Editor, Nancy Barnett

Does Your Community Love Your Church?

What would you think if:

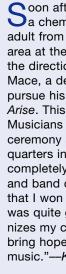
- 30-35 community children enjoyed time at your church facility?
- 20-25 non-Adventist families appreciated your church because it showed love to their child?
- 20-25 new families knew and liked numerous church members and your church's pastor?
- Nearly all of these people were asking for programs that your church offers and wanted to understand what you believe?

That's what happened this summer in three locations across Pennsylvania when a team of 11 senior youth and young adults joined the staff of the mission endeavor Cool Camp, a summer day camp started three years ago. As the teams partnered with pastors and their members, the results were awesome. This summer Cool Camp spent two weeks at the Kenhorst Boulevard church in Reading, and one week each at the Reading Spanish church and the Shamokin Three Angels' Outreach Mission Group.

God blessed tremendously at all three locations, but allow me to tell you about Shamokin. The 12 members of this church plant saw Cool Camp as evangelism and took it very seriously. Four times the church knocked on doors and handed out flyers in their community. They spent a day praying and fasting for God to reach their community. They put ads in the newspaper and on the radio. God answered. Shamokin children filled the camp to capacity every day. This small group reached a community and will continue to build the relationships begun with the children and families as a result.

It wasn't the program that made the difference. It was a church and a staff of Pennsylvania youth that took to heart God's recipe for the accomplishment of His mission, "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts" (Zech. 4:6, NKJV). It's awesome to see how the Spirit works when we pray and give it all to God.

Young Adult Receives Adventist Musicians Guild Award





"home makeover" project for an 86-year-old Mount







Kris Eckenroth Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director

oon after graduating from Penn State University with Ja chemical engineering degree, Erich Mace, a young adult from Pennsylvania, served in the Greater Pittsburgh area at the Adventist Community Services center under the direction of Pastor Andrew Clark. While in Pittsburgh, Mace, a devoted follower of Jesus, began to seriously pursue his music and soon produced his first album, Arise. This year he was recognized by the Adventist Musicians Guild with the Minister of Music Award at a ceremony at the Seventh-day Adventist Church headguarters in Silver Spring, Md. He said, "Although I felt completely out of place among organ PhD's, violin solos, and band conductors. I was pleasantly surprised to find that I won the category of Minister of Music. The moment was quite gratifying. I'm thankful that the church recognizes my commitment to Jesus and my commitment to bring hope and empowerment to human beings through music."--Kris Eckenroth

Pennsylvania Pen

LEGIT Worshippers Grow and Serve

After attending Equipping University last January, Javier Mendez, youth leader for the Easton church, Aclaimed his neighborhood as his mission territory—this included a bus stop with about 50 high school students. Mendez invited the kids to come to his house for a Friday night meeting. Thirteen young people came-nine were not members of the Adventist Church. As they answered three questions he had chosen for discussion, the young people opened up about some of their struggles. Several asked if they could go to church with Mendez and were at his door, ready for church the next day. This marked the beginning of LEGIT (Loving Encouraging Giving Inspiring Teens) Worshippers.

The youth group continues to grow, with about 16 young people attending; five are Adventist. They're growing not just in numbers, but personally. One young person said, "I'm like most teens; I have made mistakes and gotten into trouble. But, I think that this group has changed me and made me a better person." Mendez is teaching the teens how to become closer to God—and how to serve. Recently one of the group members and his mom were moving into a new home, but they had no one to help them. Several members of LEGIT Worshippers showed up and helped. One young person said, "These are the kinds of things that make you realize that God is looking down at you and telling you how amazing you are and that you are doing a wonderful thing!"

Another young person sums up his experience with the group: "I never truly understood how important God was. Now I can honestly say that I know my place with God. LEGIT Worshippers has made me into a better person."

Students Knock on 75,000 Doors

Fifteen academy and college students hit the front lines of mission in Pennsylvania this summer. They were invited to work in the Fairview Village and Pottstown church district with Pastor Edson Henriquez for 10 weeks as literature evangelists.

These students knocked on approximately 75,000 doors, prayed with about 10,000 people, shared nearly \$60,000 worth of books, and signed up more than 150 people for personal and correspondence Bible studies.

One day Pastor Henriquez and Raquel Hernandez, a Huntingdon Valley Academy student, were assigned the lower-income area of Pottstown. The two prayed and asked God to lead them to at least one person who was longing for guidance and searching for truth. For the first hour, no one was receptive, but when they knocked on Juanita's door, she gladly welcomed them in and purchased their



"It was amazing to see God answer our prayers in such an amazing way and in such a short period of time," Henriquez said. "We prayed with Juanita, and I asked her if I could come and study the Bible with her. She was so excited and said she would love to study the Bible and was looking forward to reading all the books."

entire collection of nine books.

Members of the Fairview Village and Pottstown churches are now following up on over 100 requests for Bible study.

M/hat's happening

October

- 3-5 Pathfinder Camporee and Adventurer Picnic Laurel Lake Camp
- 17-19 BMA Leadership Weekend, Laurel Lake Camp
- 24-26 Fall Women's Retreat Laurel Lake Camp
- Fall Youth Leader 25 Training, Hamburg Community Church

November

- 1 Church Planting Summit, Allentown Church
- 7-9 Equipping University Carlisle
- 7-9 Adventurer and Pathfinder Leadership Training, Laurel Lake Camp
- 14-16 Young Adult Retreat Laurel Lake Camp

Pennsylvania Pen is published in the Visitor by the Pennsylvania Conference 720 Museum Road, Reading, PA 19611 Phone: (610) 374-8331, ext. 210 paconference.org = President, Ray Hartwell Editor. Tamvra Horst

Potomac People

Retired Pastor Receives International Chaplain's Award

An ordained Adventist minister for 36 years, Chaplain Jim Cox recently Areceived an award from the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC). Cox, former pastor for the Wytheville church district (Va.) and chaplain for the Wytheville Sheriff's Department, received the "Diplomate Credential"-the second highest award that the organization offers.

The award represents achievements in tenure, education, training, and service to ICPC. Those who are awarded the Diplomate Credential are recognized for their tremendous accomplishments and service. The award was presented at ICPC's Annual Training Seminar awards banquet in Mobile, Ala., and was attended by chaplains from many other countries. ICPC is a training membership organization fielding 2,500 chaplains in 20 countries. Cox was one of six to receive the award.

However, this is not the first time Cox has been honored. While in the U.S. Air Force he received the Good Conduct Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Presidential Outstanding Unit Award for his unit's role in the Cuban Crisis in 1962.

Cox retired from pastoring the Wytheville district in January but has been a Law Enforcement Chaplain for the last 17 years. He became the chaplain for the Wythe County Sheriff's Office in 2006 and is also a reserve Deputy Sheriff. He is married to the former Carol Hudson. They have two children, Jimmy, deceased, and Mike a criminal investigator for the Sheriff's Department in Hamilton County, Tennessee. They have one grandchild, Morgan Elisabeth Cox.

Conference Hosts Second Annual Treasury Seminar

Several members of the conference's Treasury staff recently hosted a daylong Seminar for church treasurers in Southwestern Virginia. The day consisted of tutorials and discussions to help church treasurers be more comfortable and efficient in this very important area of



Radford church treasurer Carmine Dinitto raises a point during a seminar discussion.

church ministry.

One of the first sessions covered the use of

The seminar took place at the Radford church with six church local church treasurers attending. Jewel Accounting-a software that was developed by the Florida Conference to meet the needs of all churches, large and small. Associate treasurer Rebecca Witz led the session.

"We're really excited to have this training here Luis Alferez found the seminar at the Radford church because it is really difficult for some of our people to get up to some of assistant treasurer at the the bigger sessions," said Pastor Vince MacIsaac of the Galax District in Virginia. "So by Temple Hills, Md., where he having the training sessions my members are able to come from the area and get trained for whatever we need to know."



Chaplain Jim Cox receives the Diplomate Credential from the International Conference of Police Chaplains.



very helpful in his new role as Hispanic training center in acts as a treasurv liaison for the growing Hispanic work throughout the conference.

Potomac People

Reaching University Students Through FRIENDS

ach year more than 40,000 students flow into the New River Valley of Virginia to attend Radford University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine. They come from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, face unfamiliar surroundings and, at times, awkward worship arrangements. For Adventist young people who attend these institutions, The Virginia Tech Adventist Christian Fellowship (Friends) provides a welcoming, spiritual home away from home-an opportunity to stay connected or get connected for the first time.

Sylvia Grove, immediate past president of Friends, and a veterinary medicine graduate student at Virginia Tech, says although the organization was started long before she came, it had fizzled out by the time she started school at Virginia Tech in 2003.

"I was approached by the new Radford pastor, Daniel Royo, to start the club again and act as president," she says. "We decided to make it an open discussion-based forum for all beliefs but specifically designed and led by Adventists. The response was



Sylvia Grove (left), with new Friends president Jamie Stern.

great at first, with about 25 or so showing up for our first meeting. As time went on, those numbers dwindled until only about five or so attend regularly."

"John," one of the regular members of FRIENDS, recently received a PhD from Virginia Tech. He has been attending the group for several years and regularly attends the Radford church, however he has not joined the church and wishes to remain anonymous. "Around here there are several different types of

Bible studies and groups for the 18-30s age range. Some are meant for socializing, some are for basic teaching, and some are meant for serious learning. Friends is a group where there is serious Bible study mixed with food, fellowship, and humor," John says. "We are a group of people from different walks of life meeting together to learn more about God's Word. We spend around two

hours talking about a chapter of the Bible, and explore what it means for us as Christians today." Grove says while

the group is small, it has a big impact. "Those who do come sav it is one of the most in-depth and God-centered studies they've ever had the privilege to

We are a group of people from different walks of life meeting together to learn more about God's word.

-John

be in." Grove says. "Over the years, it hasn't been uncommon to see more visitors attending Friends than Adventists, but, this club has been a great opportunity for me personally to witness to my friends who do not believe in the Bible or Christ and have been hurt by religion in the past. In an open, small-group atmosphere, they feel they can be open and share their doubts, concerns, and questions about religion-any aspect of it-and will only be met with understanding, acceptance, and answers,"

She adds that group members do not shy away from the tough issues. "We have discussed key issues such as where God fits into the life of a college student, how to be a Christian when those around you find it an undesirable personality trait, where God fits into modern government and politics, what the Bible says about America and other religions in the end days, and many more," she says.

John says that going to the group has definitely changed his preconceived notion of Adventists. "Most people associate the word "Adventist" with a cult. This is not the case though. We are a normal Bible study group that you would find in a Baptist. Methodist. Lutheran, Presbyterian, Catholic, or non-denominational church," he says. "The Bible is the sole source of God's Word in our group."

Potomac People is published in the Visitor by the Potomac Conference • 606 Greenville Ave., Staunton, VA 24401 Phone: (540) 886-0771 = pcsda.org = President, Bill Miller Communication Director. Don Wood



We Lift Christ Up

Two years ago, Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) was going through a bit of a crisis with the lowest enrollment in more than 50 years. But then the SVA staff and Board of Trustees decided to make spirituality our environment where our students want to develop a saving and lifelong relationship with Jesus.

We have learned firsthand that when Christ is lifted up, people will indeed be drawn to Him (John 12:32). Last year SVA's enrollment increased by 30 percent and included 110 new students. Nearly half of those came from schools that were not Adventist. We rejoiced that Christ had led in bringing so many new students to SVA where spirituality is our number one objective. This year we've also seen incredible growth and we now have 114 new students attending SVA, and 55 percent of them were not enrolled in Adventist schools last year! Praise God! The freshmen, sophomore, and junior classes all have 59 to 61 students in each, and there are 47 seniors. Eighty-one guys live in Phanstiel Hall and 101 girls in Hadley Hall; 45 students live in the community. We also have students from 12 states and 12 countries!

Many students, parents, alumni, and friends have told their families and friends about SVA and what is being attempted here for Christ. While many of our staff has worked hard to accomplish this increase in enrollment, we give all of the credit to Christ. We believe most of our students are here because they are making spiritual things most important in their lives, too.

Attending SVA is a Family Affair

here are 40 students attending SVA this year who have had either a parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, or even a great-great-grandparent graduate from Shenandoah Valley Academy. These students are here carrying on the tradition that their families started when they first chose to attend SVA. SVA



SVA graduates pose with their daughters who are all attending SVA. Front, left to right: Callie Williams ('11), Lindsey Wilhelm ('11), and Allison Handel ('12). Back row, left to right: Tony Williams, Dale dents attending this year Wilhelm, and Scott Handel are all graduates of the Class of 1982.

has 23 second-generation students, 11 third-generation students, five fourth-generation students, and one fifthgeneration student.

To date there has been only one student who is a fifth-generation graduate--Rebecca Wheatlev Wilson, Class of 1997, who joined four generations of SVA women graduates in her family. Matthew White will become SVA's second, fifth-generation graduate when he graduates with the Class of 2010.

There are now seven stuwho have had both parents graduate from SVA.

Happenings is published in the Visitor by Shenandoah Valley Academy = 234 West Lee Highway, New Market, VA 22844 Phone: (540) 740-3161 = shenandoahvallevcademy.org = Headmaster, Dale Twomley, PhD = Email: daletwomley@hotmail.com

www.shenandoahvallevacademv.ora



Dale E. Twomley Headmaster

Scenes From a New School Year



Students register for classes and go through the handshake line.



A Season Leading to Rebirth

What comes to mind when you think of the fall season? For me, it is a time of colors changing, flowers dying, leaves falling, frost, layers of clothes, and heaters being turned on. It is a season of "death"

▼ V leaves failing, frost, layers of clothes, and heaters being turned on. It is a season of "death" and yet, without that death there would be no rebirth. Fall reminds me of the Friday during Passover Week when Jesus gave up His life for us all. If it were not for the gift of His death, we would have no hope of rebirth. Thank you, Jesus, for expressing Your love for all of us in such a tangible way. Hebrews 4:15-16 states: "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need" (NIV).



C. Dunbar Henri Principal

Students Prepare for Upcoming Events

PSAT, Wednesday, October 15

Every junior takes the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT), which helps students practice for the SAT. Students who do well at the PSAT also qualify to compete for national scholarships. Takoma Academy (TA) has a history of producing several national finalists and semifinalists and this year will be no different, says principal Dunbar Henri. Last year D'Anna Hines and Leon Osbourne were national semifinalists. In 2006 David Byass, Alex Holness, and Julian Oliver received National Achievement Semifinalist awards. In 2005 Lehdeen Bennett was a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist and a National Achievement Finalist. In 2004 six TA students had National Merit Scholarship qualifying scores: Kyle Dever, Tiffany Tapp, Dwight Byass, Jonathon Corrodus, Collier Rowe, and Alexander Wisbey. Henri says he is not surprised that TA students do well on the test: "The academic education that students receive while attending TA is strong and allows them to achieve whatever they desire."

Semester Exams, Thursday and Friday, October 23 and 24

Being on the block schedule means that semester exams come earlier than usual. The first exams for the school year are on Thursday, October 23 and Friday, 24.

Fall Fest, Sunday, October 26

"Fall Fest at TA is a time to celebrate young people," says



Henri. This year's event will feature pony rides, carnivaltype games, flea market tables, food, and more. Fall Fest also allows classes to sell various food items to raise money for their projects. Community members can rent tables to sell items for their churches or for themselves. Fall Fest will be in the gymnasium and lasts from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information about the festival, or to rent a table, call (301) 434-4700, ext. 712.

Several students attending local Adventist schools,

and other Christian and public schools will visit TA on

October 30 to see what the school offers. Student

from 9:30 a.m. (including worship with the entire

guides assist in all aspects of the day. The day runs

school) through lunchtime (lunch is provided). Each

group is guided by students and visits various disci-

plines such as Bible, English, fine arts, physical educa-

Academy Day, October 30

tion, math, and science.



TA Today is published in the *Visitor* by Takoma Academy **=** 8120 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 **=** Phone: (301) 434-4700 ta.edu **=** Principal, C. Dunbar Henri



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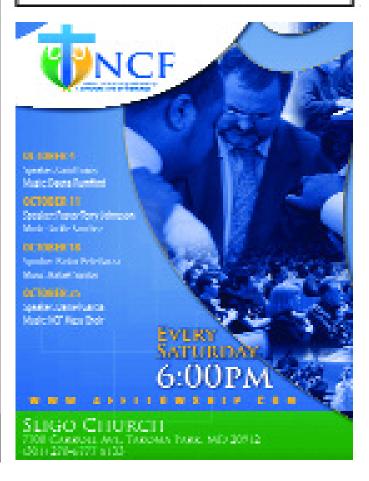
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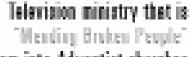
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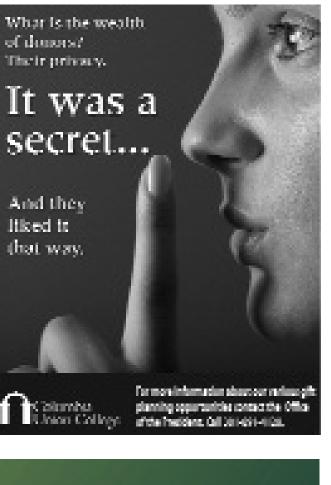




Sunday **NOVEMBER 9, 2008**

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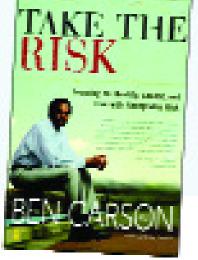
From an at-risk child to a risk-taking surgeon

Mexet the man who understands risk

Dr. Ben Carson

Hear Dr. Carson's interview on W8T8 91.9 FM Breakaway New Y, 7:30 per and

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Book Signing Event

Sunday November 9 2 to 4 pm

You can find our culture's obsession with avoiding risk everywhere, from multiple insurance policies to crush-tested vehicles. But is ducking risk the most moductive way for us to live? Surream and author Dr. Ben Carson, who faces risk on a daily basis, offers an inspiring message on how accepting risk can lead us to a higher purpose.

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Bulletin Board

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Bulletin Board

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Kiev, Black Sea, Istanbul Cruise, July 11-28, 2009. Visit Kiev, Sevastopol, Yalta, Odessa, Romania, Bulgaria, Istanbul. Turkey extension June 28-July 2, 2009, to visit the Seven Churches, Patmos, and Pools of Pamukkale. Price includes air, cruise with meals, on-shore excursions, hotels, quides. Contact: Merlene Ogden at (269) 471-3781 or ogden@andrews.edu

VACATION ON KAUAI, HAWAII-"The Garden Island " Kahili Mountain Park is a scenic mountain getaway located at the base of Kahili Ridge. Just minutes from popular Kauai attractions. The park has an assortment of 1-4 room cabins with sleeping for 2-6 persons. See pictures and rates at kahilipark.org. Reservations: (808) 742-9921.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEAF EVANGELISTIC ADVENTIST FELLOWSHIP (DEAF)

invites you to join us during our Deaf Eastern Autumn Revival (DEAR) Camp Meeting from October 23-26 at Camp Blue Ridge in Montebello, Va. For more information, contact Cathy Ingram: email clerk@deafellowship.org or visit deafellowship.org/dear.

A.N.E.W. CONFERENCE

(Addressing the Now in Exercising the Will) is a conference that brings together Adventist students on secular and Adventist campuses from all over the East Coast, It's a place for committed students to be part of a network of campus ministries that brings continual support to individual campuses. This year's conference will be at Mt. Aetna Retreat Center, Oct. 31-Nov. 2. To register and view our list of seminars. please visit our website: anew-web.org/2.html.

CALLING ALL RICHMOND (JR.) ACADEMY ALUMNI:

If you attended Richmond (Jr.) Academy in Richmond, Va., please update your address, contact numbers, and family information. Contact the school at (804) 353-0036, ext. 11, or visit rasda.org to submit your information on the alumni page The centennial celebration is planned for spring 2011.

OBITUARIES

BUTTERFIELD, Katherine L., born, June 30, 1914, in Spartanburg, S.C.; died April 16, 2008, at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Beford, Pa. She was the daughter of the late John and Mary Vreeland Vick, Katherine was a devoted church member who attended various churches over the years, i.e., Silver Spring (Md.) church; Sligo church, Takoma Park, Md.; and Needmore (Pa.) church. She worked as an LPN at the Florida Sanitarium and Hospital She also played violin and piano. Survivors: a daughter, Maria Riedthaler, owner/administrator of Pine Ridge Retirement and Assisted Living, where Katherine resided since 1993; and two sons: Herbert D. Butterfield Jr. of Warfordsburg, Pa., and John V. Butterfield who resides in the Philippines.

DEVER, Arlene (Detamore),

born December 29, 1932, in Penang, Malaysia; died July 6, 2008, in Chattanooga, Tenn. She was a member of the Hagerstown (Md.) church. She taught for 27 years in several of our church schools, including elementary-level schools in the Ohio. Mountain View, and Georgia-Cumberland conferences. Her life's focus and ministry was teaching children. She was the daughter of evangelist Fordyce Detamore, a missionary for the Voice of Prophecy She traveled with her parents to various countries, as well as in the United States. She authored a book, God's Living Dynamo, as a tribute to her father. Survivors include her husband, Homer Dever of Dunlap, Tenn.; three daughters: Lorna Dever of Columbus, N.C., Beth (Clavton) Brandt of Davton. Tenn., and Ronda Dever of Dunlap; grandchildren: Ernie (Amber) Brandt of Ooltewah, Tenn., Kristi Brandt of India, and Wanangwa Dever of Columbus. N.C. and sisters: Gwen Wiser of Cloverdale, Ore., and Kathy Smith of Portland, Ore.

GATZ, Albert O.,

born August 22, 1923, in Gladwin. Mich.; died July 23, 2008, in Hagerstown, Md. He was a member of the Hagerstown church. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Gatz; a daughter, Patricia Larson; and three sons: I vnn Steve and Doug Gatz.

HIGGINS, Eugene B.,

91-year-old son of the late Daniel P. and Mary Wright Higgins, born in Princeton, W.Va.; died July 8, 2008, in Parkersburg, W.Va. He was a member of the Parkersburg church. He retired from B.F. Goodrich in Marietta, and was also a U.S. Army Veteran who served in World War II. He is survived by his wife, Wanda L.

Higgins of Parkersburg; five sons: Richard, Daniel, and David Higgins, all of Elizabeth, W.Va., Stephen Higgins of Orlando, Fla., and Blake Higgins of Tulsa, Okla.; two daughters: Judith Reed of Elyria, Ohio, and Sandra Gray of Williamstown W.Va.; nine grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and two sisters: Rhea Goodaker and Katherine Wandersee, both of Florida

LEMON, Glenn Austin,

born December 5, 1905, in Elks City, Neb.: died March 20, 2008. in Odenton, Md. A member of the Atholton church in Columbia, Md., he held church leadership positions in Michigan and assisted evangelism in the Tennessee area. Years ago he employed a number of Andrews University students (made an honorary alumnus at age 100). This 102-year-old Adventist pioneer experienced many world changes. He lived life to the fullest. The Lemon family numbers 125. He's survived by five children: Doris Lucas (Tenn.), Cecil Lemon (Md.). Vivian Hatcher (Mich.). Duane Lemon (Tenn.), and Beverly Zacharias (Ga.); 17 grandchildren; and many greatgreat-grandchildren.

LIERS, Clara Thomas,

born September 20, 1923, in Rock Hall, Md.; died June 4, 2008, in Dover, Del. During her lifetime she was a member of the Rock Hall. Md.: Chestertown, Md.: Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, Fla.; Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA); New Market, Va.; and Dover, Del., churches. She attended Lake Ariel Academy in Pennsylvania, and worked in the cafeteria and book bindery at SVA. She retired from food service at the Vo-tech school for the state of Delaware. She was preceded in death by her husband, William F. Liers, and a sister, Ella Nora "Kitty" Urie. She is survived by daughters: Joanna Mae Lowley of Morgantown, W.Va., and Lou Ann Liers of St. Petersburg, Fla.; brother William Thomas of Marydel, Del.; and a granddaughter, Melinda Lowley Wiley; and great-grandchildren Tucker, Dylan, and Sydney Wiley of Core, W.Va., and many nieces and nephews.

MILLER, Edwin L.,

born July 18, 1933, in Takoma Park, Md.: died May 26, 2008. in Winchester. Va. He was a member of the New Market (Va.) church, where he was a deacon. He is survived by his wife. Kay Miller, and two nieces. He graduated from Takoma Academy, Class of 1950 He retired as a glass mechanic in the Washington, D.C., area after over 40 years, and moved to Mt. Jackson, Va., in 1992.

NORRIS, Ellen M.,

born October 15, 1913, in Beaver, Pa.; died July 6, 2008, at the

For information on placing an obituary in the Visitor, please call Sandra Jones at (888) 4-VISITOR or email sjones@columbiaunion.net. Obituaries are placed free of charge, in the order they are received, on a space-available basis.

Bulletin Board

	Oct 10	0ct 17	0ct 24	Oct 31	Nov 7
	001 10	06117	061 24	06131	
Baltimore	6:34	6:24	6:14	6:06	4:59
Cincinnati	7:06	6:56	6:46	6:38	5:30
Cleveland	6:53	6:42	6:32	6:22	5:14
Columbus	6:59	6:49	6:39	6:30	5:22
Jersey City	6:23	6:12	6:02	5:53	4:45
Norfolk	6:35	6:25	6:16	6:08	5:02
Parkersburg	6:54	6:44	6:34	6:26	5:18
Philadelphia	6:28	6:17	6:08	5:59	4:51
Pittsburgh	6:47	6:36	6:26	6:17	5:09
Reading	6:31	6:20	6:10	6:01	4:54
Richmond	6:40	6:29	6:20	6:12	5:05
Roanoke	6:49	6:40	6:31	6:23	5:16
Toledo	7:00	6:49	6:39	6:30	5:21
Trenton	6:26	6:16	6:06	5:57	4:49
Wash., D.C.	6:36	6:26	6:17	6:08	5:01

SUNSET CALENDAR

Shenandoah Memorial Hospital in Woodstock, Va. She was a member of the New Market (Va.) church and retired as a self-employed, home-health, private nurse. Surviving are three sons: Vern Norris of Cartwright, Okla., Dennis Norris of New Market, and Henry J. Norris, Jr., of Woodstock, Va.: a daughter. Connie McDonald of Woodstock; 15 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; and 13 greatgreat-grandchildren.

RUNGE, Esther Marion (Roth), born January 28, 1929, in Cincinnati, Ohio; died July 3, 2008 in Laurel, Md. She was the voungest of six children born to Pastor and Mrs. Daniel F. Both She was not only the daughter of a pastor, but the wife of a pastor, Ernest Runge, a retired worker from the Chesapeake Conference. They served churches in Laurel, Berkeley Springs, Williamsport, Reisterstown and the Triadelphia church in Clarksville, Md, She was a member of the Triadelphia

church Survivors include her husband of 58 years, Ernest Runge; three daughters: Kathi, Vicki, and Pamela; three grandchildren; and a brother, Don Roth.

SIMMS, Anna Wade Hisey, born May 18, 1909, in Cedar Bluff, Mo.; died May 19, 2008, in Marysville, Ohio. She was a member of the Mansfield (Ohio) church. Survivors: sons Donald Hisev and Glen Hisey: daughter Alice Simms: stepson Robert Simms: eight grandchildren; and 11 greatgrandchildren. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Glenn L. Hisey, and her second husband, W. Richard Simms.

WHITESIDES, Laura Jean, born November 14, 1926, in Salisbury Md · died August 1 2008, in Hagerstown, Md, She was a member of the Hagerstown church. She was employed at Southern Publishing Association in Nashville, Tenn., and then moved to Hagerstown, Md., in

OBITUARY SUBMISSION

Bulletin Board

1981, where she was employed by the Review & Herald Publishing Association, retiring in 1990. She is survived by her husband, Cyril G. Whitesides, Sr. her daughters: Vivian Jenkins. Sharon Channosk, Jeanne Bursott, and Christine Mackey her sons: Steve Whitesides and Cyril Whitesides, Jr.; many grand children, great-grandchildren, \and great-great-grandchildren.

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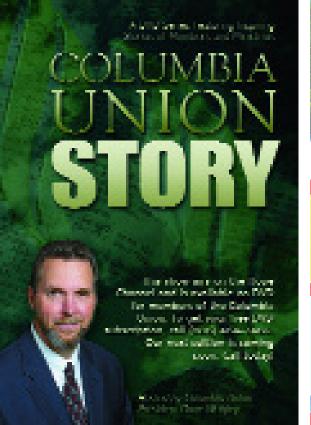
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The Visitor provides news and information, resources for effective ministry, and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help people celebrate God's transforming grace in preparation for His return.

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Issue 10

re you sure you want to go there? It's such a sinful place," said a wellmeaning family friend upon learning of my first post-college job as a congressional legislative staffer. After a lifetime in Adventist communities and schools, this was my first real experience in "the world." Working with politicians in Washington,

D.C., had faith-shaking potential, mostly in the form of low wages, easy booze, and gifts from lobbyists (before campaign finance reform). After all, I was in the "capital of the free world" where power flows down Pennsylvania Avenue and worldaltering decisions are made every day. Despite the heady environment, I was careful to preserve my reputation and avoided a lot of socializing with colleagues who were not Adventists. But, during four years on Capitol Hill, followed by 12 years of graduate school and teaching in secular universities, something happened. As I experienced more of life outside the Adventist cocoon and relied more on the Lord's leading in my life, my faith grew. He gave me educational and career opportunities that I never expected, including an invitation to return to Washington as an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow. Through that opportunity, I accepted a short-term placement with Sen. John Cornyn and a subsequent offer to become his full-time education policy advisor.

TRANSCENDING THE PARTY LINE

In a democracy, it is important for people of faith to participate in government. In the senator's office, I am privileged to work with many faithful Christians who are quick to encourage and pray for one another. Our shared love of Christ gives us the ability to transcend political differences and repair bruised egos. Although it's easy to forget this when in the heat of a fiercely partisan battle, as sincere Christians we are also challenged to seek forgiveness, reconciliation, and healing.

This ability of my colleagues to be open about their faith is in contrast to my experience as a graduate student and a professor at secular universities. I also realized that for much of my early career, I had been so focused on preserving my distinct religious beliefs, that I missed the opportunity to really experience, exemplify, and share the love of Christ with others.

Michelle L. Chin, PhD, legislative assistant for Sen. John Cornyn, attends the Capital Memorial church in Washington, D.C.

Last Words

MICHELLE L. CHIN

When Faith Matters Most



Not any more. Just as God used Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Daniel, Joseph, and many others who walked the hallowed halls of government, my prayer is that at the right time-when it matters most—I, too, will rightly represent Him.

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