

VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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7 Things I Learned at the Columbia Union Camporee

Adentro:
Noticias en
Español, p.6

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Rain Comes With the Territory

Taashi Rowe

Pathfinders have to “stick it out in the rain, snow and cold!” That is just one of the seven lessons I learned at last month’s Columbia Union Conference “Choose Without Compromise” Camporee held at Camp Mohaven in Danville, Ohio. Find out what else I and the 1,600 Pathfinders learned.

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About the Cover: Photo by Ely Brothers Photography

On the Web



Videos – *Columbia Union Story* is a DVD show produced by the Columbia Union Conference and hosted by president Dave Weigley. It features inspiring stories of members and ministries that are 6-8 minutes each. Watch them on our YouTube channel at youtube.com/columbiaunion.

¿Habla español? – Visite columbiaunion.org/noticias y lea las noticias en Español. Si tiene noticias o fotos que desea compartir, mande un mensaje al correo electrónico de la Editora de Noticias del *Visitor*, Taashi Rowe: trowe@columbiaunion.org.



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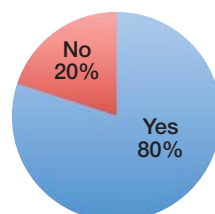
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Visitor Facebook Poll

Are you or were you ever a Pathfinder?



Source: facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor

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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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Volume 117 ■ Issue 9

Modeling a Life of Service



There is nothing more rewarding and joyful than to see our children walk with the Lord, commit their lives to the Lord's service and help others find Jesus. However, the harsh reality we face as a church is that many of our children have left or are not actively involved. What can we do?

A concerned mother once told me, "Pastor, our church is not doing enough to help our young people." She expressed how poorly operated she found the Pathfinder ministry. My response to her was, "Sister, the church won't do more for our children than what we are willing to do for them. If you are ready to help, I'll have the church board consider you. I'm sure the brethren will be happy to see you leading that ministry." She called me later saying, "Pastor, I'm ready to help." By working side by side with her children, her church's Pathfinder ministry became one of the most successful in the conference.

This brings to mind José and Randy Tremols. They got invited to lead a church plant in Reading, Pa., and would hold small group meetings in their home every week. They conducted the meetings in Spanish, which meant that, because of the language barrier, their daughters could not participate or invite their friends. They decided that while José led the study for adults, they would lead a small group in English for the young people. Their kids' friends from church and school started attending; more than 20 of them have been baptized thus far!

MAKING SERVICE A FAMILY AFFAIR

Modeling a life of service is so essential in helping our children become God's instruments in saving souls. Ellen White wrote: "The home is the child's first school, and it is here that the foundation should be laid for a life of service" (*Christian Service*, p. 206).

Scripture says, "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family" (Heb. 11:7, NIV). Every member of Noah's family got involved. As a result, they entered the ark and God saved them.

I am a pastor today because my parents involved me in their missionary activities. I remember helping my father give Bible studies to our neighbors, hosting evangelistic meetings and later helping him plant a church. Have you found a ministry that allows you and your children to help others find Jesus? Like Noah, there is surely a place for you and your family in God's plan.

Rubén Ramos serves as assistant to the Columbia Union Conference president for Multilingual Ministries.

Newsline

TAASHI ROWE

PRAYER RALLY TO LAUNCH NEW YORK OUTREACH

At the last General Conference Spring Meeting, leaders made plans to renew outreach in one mega city in each of the denomination's 13 world divisions in 2013. The first major city in the North American Division will be the metropolitan area of New York City and the surrounding areas of northeast New Jersey and southern Connecticut. That project is named NY13.

From September 21 to 22, there will be a special satellite/Internet evangelism and prayer rally to launch NY13.

It will be uplinked via satellite and streamed live via the Internet from the North Bronx (N.Y.) church. Watch it live on the Hope Channel, the Hope Church Channel, Esperanza TV, Atlantic Union Adventist Media, 3ABN or via praisevision.com. Read more at ny13.org.



FORMER WGTS RADIO HOST DIES AT 83

Long time radio host Gerry Fuller, DDS, died recently at the age of 83. A member of Potomac Conference's Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., he was best known as host of the Saturday morning broadcast *Breakaway* that aired on Washington Adventist University's WGTS 91.9 FM radio station in Takoma Park. For 45 years, people tuned in to the station to hear Fuller's familiar voice and listen to fascinating interviews with well-known guests.

Fuller (who is pictured receiving a gift from John Konrad, WGTS general manager at his retirement party from WGTS last fall) was also a dentist.

Fuller's wife, Joy, his three children, Gerri Ann, Jon and Jay, as well as his two grandchildren survive him.—*Barby Kulakov*

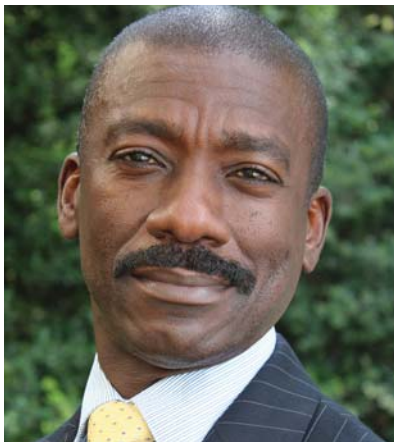
By the Numbers

NAD Teachers' Convention

28,000 Meals Served	530 Breakout Sessions
14,000 Hotel Room Nights	490 Columbia Union Educators
6,500 Attendees	18 Columbia Union Presenters
1,000 Teachers Anointed	15 Countries Represented

UNION NAMES NEW EDUCATION ASSOCIATE

For his commitment to the fundamental mission of Seventh-day Adventist education and his strength in curriculum and research, the Columbia Union Conference Office of Education named Donovan



Ross, PhD, associate director of secondary education.

An alumnus of Andrews University (Mich.), where he obtained his terminal degree in educational administration and supervision, Ross has more than 25 years of combined experience in the areas of teaching, advising, staff and program development, and administration. His administrative experience includes service at Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, Ohio, and the former Garden State Academy in New Jersey.

Ross shares that his ultimate goal is to bring students to Christ, and says, "Yes, we want to have great academics and test scores, but when [our students] walk away from us, my goal is that they also have a lasting relationship with Christ."—*Samantha Blake*

“... the Holy Spirit was present to inspire us with an end-time prod ‘To Be About Our Father’s Business.’ We set a goal to provide each church member of the Columbia Union who wants to witness with the tools to do so.”

—*Denise Hayden, Columbia Union Adventist-Laymen’s Services & Industries (ASI) president, at last month’s ASI convention in Cincinnati, Ohio*

SHARE ONE THING YOU LEARNED AT THE NATIONAL TEACHERS' CONVENTION THAT WILL HELP IMPACT YOUR WORK



“After attending sessions specific to the new math textbook series, I have a deeper understanding of all its facets and how they can be utilized both at school and home. There are ways for parents to interface with the program to help their child, as well as online activities and tutorials for students. There were also opportunities to learn new teaching strategies designed to build math reasoning, number sense and conceptual understanding.”
 —Wendy Pega, *Principal, Potomac Conference's Beltsville Adventist School, Beltsville, Md.*



“The breakout session ‘ABCs of a New Principal’ was very helpful because it emphasized the basic foundation of how a new principal can administrate, manage and educate in a learning environment. It also pointed out that the principal has a key role in building a collaborative working relationship between the home, the church and school community. I found the sessions ... informative and uplifting. I am truly ready for the 2012-13 school year.”—Sheresa Woodson, *Principal, Allegheny East Conference's Ephesus Adventist School, Richmond, Va.*



“I was reminded of the important role marketing plays in my life as a teacher. Whether I am answering the phone, greeting a student at the door, talking with a parent, dealing with a problem or visiting a home, I must always be marketing the school with grace, class and wisdom. If the marketing isn't done well, all the well-planned lessons in the world won't get students through the door to experience our quality school program.”
 —Cheryl Jacko, *Principal, Mountain View Conference's Highland Adventist School, Elkins, W.Va.*

DONOVAN ROSS BLOGS ABOUT THE TEACHERS' CONVENTION IN NASHVILLE

As I huddle in our registration booth with the staff from the Columbia Union Conference Office of Education, I am somewhat apprehensive. Of the 6,500 educators expected to arrive from all across the North American Division, some 500 are from the Columbia Union. We pray and prepare to greet and register them (there's already one waiting patiently). With that many people trying to get registered, I expect our team of six will encounter our fair share of challenges.

It's mid-afternoon and my job has changed from greeting and directing our educators to running back and forth from one end of the convention center to the other trying to ensure that they have appropriate lodging. At 6:30 p.m. we move into the main auditorium for the opening session, one of nine such general sessions that will be presented over the next four days. Afterward we notice that a line has formed in front of our booth, so we ditch plans to wait until Monday morning to re-open and are rewarded with grateful smiles from tired educators who just want to get to their beds after a long day. One attendee shares with me that she was blessed after hearing Carlton Byrd, DMin (pictured), speaker and director for Breath of Life Ministries, and could not wait to see and hear what was in store for the remainder of the convention. To read the complete blog, visit columbiaunion.org/2012teachersconvention.



PHOTO BY DAN WEBER



ACAMPANTES HISPANOS DE LA MOUNTAIN VIEW CONFERENCE ENFRENTAN TORMENTA

Precisamente cuando los miembros de Mountain View Conference estaban listos para empezar su tercera reunión campestre hispana, una gran tormenta azotó el Centro Adventista de Valley Vista en Huttonsville, W.Va., cortando la electricidad. Los dirigentes se preguntaban si debían suspender las reuniones cuando los acampantes les recordaron que el tema era: “Dame este monte”. En vez de cancelarse, todos se dirigieron a la cafetería y cantaron alabanzas al Señor.

ESCUELA DE NEW JERSEY OBTIENE UN NUEVO EDIFICIO

En el otoño de este año, la escuela Vineland Regional Adventist School, que hasta el momento funciona en el sótano de la iglesia Vineland Spanish en Vineland, N.J., se mudará a sus nuevas instala-

ciones ubicadas en el 1155 E. Landis Avenue. Con más espacio y una población estudiantil que va en aumento, la escuela tendrá un nuevo nombre: Vine Haven Adventist School; se expandirá a tres maestros de tiempo completo que incluyen a Yolanda Acosta y Erica Santiago. Cathy Tomlinson, exdirectora de la escuela Cohansey School en Bridgeton—cerrada por tener muy pocos alumnos—fungirá como directora y maestra.

En un futuro próximo esperan expandir el programa académico para ofrecer un programa para preescolares y jardín de infantes. “Los planes a largo plazo incluyen que la escuela crezca al punto de ofrecer noveno y décimo grados”, dijo el supervisor de escuelas Sadrail Saint-Ulysse.



LAICOS PREDICAN Y BAUTIZAN EN LA REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA

Mariano Samayoa (abajo, derecho) es miembro de la iglesia Takoma Park Spanish, en Takoma Park, Md. y también un pastor laico. El hermano Samayoa se graduó el año pasado de la Escuela de Discipulado de Potomac Conference en donde obtuvo un certificado de Asistente Pastoral. Durante este verano, se unió a otros veinticuatro pastores-laicos y profesionales—de Ohio, Washington, D.C., El Salvador y Costa Rica como integrantes de un viaje misionero a la República Dominicana, en donde miles de personas aceptaron al Señor.

“Es sorprendente ver cómo la gente en ese lugar acepta a Dios cuando uno predica”, comenta Mariano. “Rentan un local bien grande y cuando se habla de Dios, ellos prestan mucha atención. Muchas personas pasan cuando se hace el llamado para aceptar a Jesús”.

Los misioneros combinaron la predicación con distribución de comida y atención médica gratuita. Al preguntarle cómo se siente después de esos ocho días en la República Dominicana, Mariano dijo: “Me doy cuenta que este es el tipo de proyecto que verdaderamente se necesita en el mundo”. Más información en columbiaunion.org/dominicanarepublic.



¿CUÁL ES MI RECUERDO FAVORITO DE UN CAMPOREE?



“Me gusta conocer diferentes personas que tienen la misma religión y perspectivas sin importar de dónde vienen. Me gusta hacer nuevas amistades. Lo disfruté a pesar del clima.”—*Joely Martin, 15, iglesia Hispanic First of Columbus, Ohio Conference, Club de Conquistadores Soldiers of God, en Columbus, Ohio*



“Me gusta que es divertido, y hago muchas especialidades, hay una piscina y no hace frío. También me gustan los cantos porque me gusta cantar. ¡Hice especialidades como fieltros, arena, y otros más!”—*Isaac Cedillos, 11, iglesia Gaithersburg Spanish, Potomac Conference, Club de Conquistadores Morning Star en Washington Grove, Md.*



“Mi experiencia favorita hasta ahora es la lluvia. Algunos tenían miedo cuando tronaba, pero yo vi una oportunidad para poner mi fe en Dios. Después de eso creí que todo estaría bien.”—*Kassandra Fernandez, 17, iglesia Passaic I, New Jersey Conference, Club de Conquistadores Soldiers of the King, en Passaic, N.J.*

DOCE NUEVAS CONGREGACIONES HISPANAS SE UNEN A POTOMAC

En la reunión campestre hispana, personal de Potomac Conference presentó a doce grupos e iglesias nuevas a los asistentes. Estas incluyen las iglesias de Dale City, Leesburg, Woodbridge Route 1 y Martinsville; las compañías de Takoma Park II, College Park, Reston y Sterling, y los grupos misioneros de Lorton, Lynchburg, Gaithersburg II y Manassas II.

“El establecimiento de estas nuevas congregaciones es fruto de los esfuerzos de los estudiantes de la Escuela de Teología para el Discipulado, quienes se han estado preparando con este propósito”, dijo el director de ministerios hispanos de la Asociación, José Esposito, DMin.



1,600

Asistieron el mes pasado al Camporee de Conquistadores de Columbia Union Conference celebrado en Camp Mohaven en Danville, Ohio. Para más información sobre el camporee de la unión, visite columbiaunion.org/2012conquistadores.

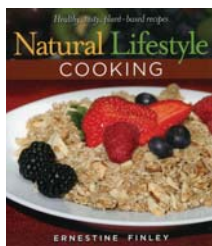
Potluck

BETH MICHAELS

What's New?

Books > *Natural Lifestyle Cooking* Ernestine Finley

"A diet of fruits, nuts, grains and vegetables is the diet chosen for us by our Creator," writes Ernestine "Teenie" Finley, a member of



Chesapeake Conference's Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md. With this collection of plant-based dishes—from Strawberry-Almond Milkshakes to Cashew Nut Casserole to Sweet &

Russet Potato Hash—Finley hopes she can pass along the healthful eating habits she gave her family. "One of the best gifts that we can give our families is the gift of good food," she says. Order at adventistbookcenter.com.

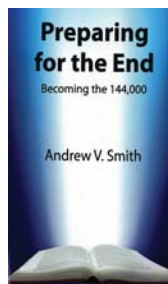


Preparing for the End Andrew V. Smith

First-time author Andrew V. Smith, a member of Potomac Conference's Wheaton church in Silver Spring, Md., published this Bible study for young Christians who have a limited understanding of Scripture. It includes a review of time from Creation to



now that explains how we are nearing Christ's second coming. There is also an appendix of subjects most often misunderstood by new believers, like death. "My desire is for people to shed preconceived ideas and allow the Bible to interpret itself," says Smith. Get more at sotruth.org.

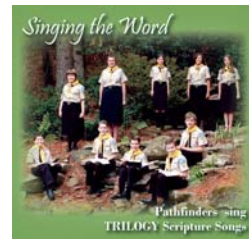


CD > *Singing the Word* Derek and Bodil Morris

Derek and Bodil Morris, members of Potomac's Olney (Md.) church, have put hundreds of Bible texts to song, and share them regularly on their show, "Hope Sabbath School," on the Hope Channel. Their eighth CD,



however, is a direct response to requests from Pathfinders who have discovered that memorizing scripture is more easily done through melody. Sing along with fellow Pathfinders to the 26 passages, like Exodus 20:1-17, "all word-for-word from the King James Version," says Bodil. Order through adventsource.org or itunes.com.



APP > SDA Finder

Planning to travel? Using the built-in GPS abilities of your iOS device, the new SDA Finder app helps you easily locate Seventh-day Adventist churches, schools and other organizations in North America. You can also choose to view sites near you by selecting a zip code or Adventist conference. The app is available for iPhone and iPad users through iTunes, and for Android users through androidzoom.com.



From the Pulpit

He [had to be] crowned with the crown of suffering before He could be crowned with the crown of kingship. He chose to wear that crown of thorns so that you and I could wear a crown of eternal life!
—Robert Martinez, Sr., Pastor, Westminster (Md.) Church



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE GREENE

What You Bring to the Table

On the Web

Retweets >

RajAttiken



Not For Sale—movement to abolish modern-day slavery—to be

featured at 2012 Innovation Conf. Check it out @ <http://sdapartnersininnovation.org>.—*Raj Attiken, Ohio Conference*

WashingtonAdventistU



We encourage our students to apply what they've learned through internships

with over 400 partner organizations.—*Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park, Md.*

Facebooked >

New Jersey Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists Inc.



Vineland Seventh-day Adventist Church 138th anniversary

[video], produced by Jeff Pierre, director of Media Ministry: http://youtu.be/t_e8lSVhWXw.—*Trenton, N.J.*

Ohio SDA Youth Department



... What an amazing summer we had. God is good, and it was such a blessing

to be a part of camp ministry. I'm so excited for next summer. I've already begun to make plans!—*Pastor Steve Carlson, Mount Vernon, Ohio*

In the Spotlight > Redeeming Grace Fellowship Adventurer Club



GETTING SOMETHING

STARTED: When Janet Garcia moved with her family from southern California to Virginia Beach, Va., there were no nearby Adventurer clubs with which to place her 5-year-old daughter. As a former club director who grew to love the program, Garcia felt led to start one for area children. In 2010, using her old director's manual and the help of volunteers, she started the Redeeming Grace Fellowship (RGF) Adventurer Club.

Already RGF has grown from 19 to 28 Adventurers, and gets support from seven area churches. And, Tidewater Adventist Academy in nearby Chesapeake opens their gym to RGF for club meetings. "The Lord has blessed us," says Garcia.

EMPOWERING THE YOUNG: The children live out their club motto, "Like Jesus," through community outreach. Every other month, on Sabbath afternoons, RGF members meet at a local assisted living facility to interact with the elderly. The Adventurers worship with the residents through song and give them their handmade crafts. "They adore the children," Garcia reports.

The Adventurers also host fundraisers. Their biggest one is selling homemade jam, which they distribute all year long. The jars sold help cover the costs for campouts and other club outings.

HELPING FAMILIES GROW: Parents and children especially look forward to the annual Memorial Day campout. Nature hikes, canoe rides, scavenger hunts and nightly s'more roastings bring the children closer to their parents, allow for fellowship with other churches and unite families with God. The RGF Adventurer Club continues to seek supporters who will help direct this rising children's ministry. Those interested can contact Garcia at garciafj@mac.com—*Samantha Blake*

Rain Comes With The Territory

7 Things I Learned at the Columbia Union Camporee

Story by Taashi Rowe



1 RAIN COMES WITH THE TERRITORY. Thursday it rained, Friday it rained and Sabbath it rained, though not as much. Though I cringed at driving and walking through the mud and ran for cover during intermittent showers, most of the Pathfinders shrugged off the bad weather. Rain comes with the territory, they said while donning ponchos, umbrellas and other raingear. According to Harriett Ponder, a member of Potomac Conference's Seabrook Seahawks in Lanham, Md., Pathfinders learn to "stick it out in the rain, snow and cold!"

And stick it out they did. Some 1,600 Pathfinders braved the weather at the Columbia Union Conference "Choose Without Compromise" Camporee held last month at Camp Mohaven in Danville, Ohio.



2 IT'S FUN, YOU MAKE FRIENDS AND YOU LEARN A LOT! Pathfinders really enjoy camping, swimming, earning honors and making friends. During the four-day event, attendees could work on 40 honors, including sand, rope knots, African-American Adventist history and the hugely popular tie-dyeing.

3 HELP IS JUST A TENT AWAY. After a night of heavy rains and strong winds, members of the Central Spanish Conquistadores, a Pathfinder club comprised of three Chesapeake Conference churches in Maryland, awoke to find their canopy destroyed and its contents rain-soaked. "We would have been discouraged but the Waldorf Wildcats rescued us and gave us a new canopy, and others chipped in to help set it up," said Lourdes Alvarenga, a member of the Washington-Spencerville Spanish church in Ashton, Md. "Then the Hagerstown Pathfinders blessed us by sharing breakfast."

4 PATHFINDERS IS NOT JUST FOR ADVENTISTS. John Garrett and his daughter Shannon feel quite at home even though they attend a Sunday church. When his daughters made friends at Chesapeake Conference's Atholton church in Columbia, Md., he thought he would check out their Faith Blazers club. He said, "Our daughters were getting a much better Christian education than they were at our church." Most of the kids in Ohio Conference's Akron Crusaders Pathfinder Club are not members of the church. "We don't know why they would want to keep hanging out with a bunch of 50 to 60 year olds, but we love them and they love us," shares Mark Sarokes, one of the club's counselors.





See more photos at columbiaunion.org/2012cucamporee.

5 IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR. Sebastian Harris, 16, and Alexander Azambuja, 17, of the Pennsylvania Conference Easton church Hummingbirds, say their counselors have impacted their lives. "They cry with us, feed us, come to our house to pick us up, play sports with us and play jokes on us," they say. And although Azambuja is heading to college, he'll always be a member of this club, because "you can't leave a family."



6 ONCE A PATHFINDER, ALWAYS A PATHFINDER. Marie Grant, a member of Allegheny West Conference's Glenville church in Cleveland, joined the Pathfinders 62 years ago when she was 10 growing up in Trinidad. Since then her entire family has joined the church and all her children are Pathfinders too. E.W. and Zelda Bailey, members of the Allegheny West church in Middletown, Ohio, are now in their 80s. They retired just this year after serving some 48 years as Pathfinder leaders.



7 YOU GET CLOSER TO GOD. On Sabbath, when speaker José H. Cortés, Jr., Youth Ministries director for the Atlantic Union Conference, called for Pathfinders to "Choose Without Compromise," dozens came forward for baptism. Jonathan Dale, director of Mountain View Conference's Summersville church Warriors, said that the sermons made an impression on three of his sons. "Micah, my 6-year-old grabbed my hand and said, 'Daddy, I want to be baptized,'" Dale said. "I looked around and suddenly Nathan and Zachary were also standing by my side. I don't know if they know what it means, but this was the first time in their lives they've come forward like this."



2012 Strategic Leadership Summit

“In The Spirit of Tomorrow”

*Engaging Race, Ethnicity, Sexuality and
Its Impact on Relevant Kingdom Building.*



Andrew R. Harewood,
Senior Pastor Fourth Street
Friendship SDA Church

October 19-21, 2012



4THST *friendship* CHURCH

Summit Venue: Fourth Street-Friendship Seventh-day Adventist Church,
1611 4th St NW, Washington, DC, 20001

- Satellite Locations:**
- C. S. Lewis Home, Oxford, England
 - Ras Al Khaimah SDA Church, Dubai, UAE
 - Bridgetown, Barbados
 - Kingston, Jamaica
 - London, England
 - Ontario, Canada... and other international cities

View live streaming: www.friendsat4thandq.org

Leadership Panelists: Moderated by JoAnne Powell-Lightford, *Producer CBS News*
Debra C. Anderson, *Deputy Chief of Staff/Communications Director*

Cain Hope Felder *Founder, Biblical Institute for Social Change, Howard University*

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Inka J. Vesela *Conference Lead Coordinator*

Ebenezer Member, a First Black Marine, Receives Medal

Things in North Carolina were pretty rough. They didn't want us there anyway," says Phillip Herout, now 85 years old, recalling his basic training at Montford Point Camp in New River, N.C., which was set up to train the first black Marines. "The place was full of mosquitoes and snakes." They also lived in substandard housing and suffered abuse from their white drill instructors.

Herout continues, "They were mean but ... we had to put it in our minds that we had to take [it]. It was part of our training."

Some 70 years after he first enlisted, Herout, a member of the Ebenezer church in Philadelphia, was among some 400 men who recently traveled to the Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C., to accept Congressional Gold Medals for their service to the United States with the Montford Point Marines.

Until 1942 the United States Marine Corps refused to recruit people of color. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's creation of the Fair Employment Practices Commission in 1941 forced the Corps to begin recruiting black Marines. The Marines' first black recruits received basic training at the segregated Montford Point Camp adjacent to the whites-only Camp Lejeune until 1949.

In supporting the congressional legislation to award the medal, Gen. James Amos, Marine Corps Commandant, wrote to Congress that the Montford Point Marines "served with distinction in three of the bloodiest battles in the Pacific—Saipan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa." They "defended a society that enjoyed freedoms they did not share," he wrote.

Despite segregation and racism, Herout, then 15 years old, looks back at his time in the Marines with



Phillip Herout was one of the first blacks to serve as a Marine.

pride. "I loved it and the rest of the guys loved it also," he said. "I was just glad and so proud just to be in the Marine Corps."

Herout shipped out with the 51st Battalion to the Solomon Islands during World War II. After an injury forced him to leave the Marines in 1949, Herout went on to a career in transportation where he first drove trucks, then buses, and then started his own business.

Herout said his wife introduced him to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and his fellow church members, "are always thanking me, and I appreciate that." However, when he first heard he and his fellow soldiers would receive this long overdue recognition, Herout said, his voice trembling with emotion, "I never would have imagined this. I always remember what my mom told me, 'One of these days, it would be so nice if you can smell your roses.' The sweetest rose I ever got was when they gave me that [medal]."

One of the two people allowed to attend the ceremony with him was his good friend, Ronald Edmonds, who pastors the Garden of Prayer church in Baltimore. "It was an extraordinary and humbling experience," Edmonds said. "To see these old men sitting there, some in wheelchairs and with oxygen tanks, waiting for their due, finally [getting] their recognition was very special."

PHOTO BY JOSHUA MARTIN



Pastor Ronald Edmonds embraces his friend Phillip Herout at the award ceremony.

Holy Spirit Rains on Camp Meeting

With the theme “Let It Rain,” attendees to the Allegheny East Conference Camp Meeting enjoyed a wide array of spiritually enriching activities and seminars. Below are some photos from the meetings:

PHOTOS BY KEITH GOODMAN



Left: Pastors pray for Donald McKinnie, assistant pastor at Sharon Temple in Wilmington, Del., during his ordination.



Some 30 teenagers took a stand for Jesus in the youth tent. Pictured here are 11 prior to their baptism.

West Philadelphia Member Reaches Out Thru Art

William Bacon, a deacon at the West Philadelphia church, recently worked with the Mill Creek



Community Partnership, nonprofit organization, to bring art to the sick and shut-in at the St. Ignatius Nursing Home. The Fine Art Through Our Eyes (FATOE) program allows visiting artists to donate time to intergenerational art programs.

Bacon took on the task that FATOE's Cassandra Green describes as “providing a hand or an eye or a leg” to assist bed-bound residents in creating art. Thanks to Bacon, for the first time in eight years, each floor had an individual work of art and all residents

William Bacon (right), a deacon at the West Philadelphia church, embraces Walter Briggs, the artist he worked with to help brighten the halls of a nursing home.

participated in the FATOE project.

“We could not have done the project without Brother Bacon,” Green said. “He was more than we could have asked for. He and Walt [the assigned artist] just hit it off.”

At the unveiling of four collages, Bacon told the residents, “Working with you is the best thing that could have ever happened. I never heard the word collage until I met Mr. Walt. I enjoyed being here helping people.”—Donna R. Riley

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2,000 Learn About Sanctuary Thru Ephesus Church Events



A volunteer gives visitors a tour of the life-sized replica of the biblical sanctuary.

Just after reaching the milestone of burning their mortgage, the Ephesus church in Columbus, Ohio, set out to accomplish unprecedented events. They achieved their goal by simultaneously hosting the Messiah's Mansion tour and the "Salvation in the Sanctuary" seminar. Never before have both ministries appeared in the same place at the same time.

Donald L. Burden, Ephesus senior pastor, and Christopher C. Thompson, associate pastor, along with more than 120 members and the tour staff built the life-sized replica sanctuary based on the same blueprint given to Moses in the wilderness. According to Clayton Leineweber, Messiah's Mansion president,

the Ephesus congregants set another record: erecting the replica in just one day.

For seven days, from 1 to 7 p.m., Oklahoma Academy students guided 2,000 visitors through mansion tours while offering detailed, biblically based teachings on the sanctuary rooms and furniture and their application to visitors' daily lives. From 7 to 8:15 nightly, except Thursday, "Salvation in the Sanctuary" founder and evangelist Dwight E. Haynes lectured about how Christ shows His love through the sanctuary message.

To prepare for the simultaneous evangelistic events, Ephesus members distributed more than 10,000 invitations to area residents, while the ministerial staff, Bible workers and prayer warriors prayed over every area of the Ephesus church.

—Angela V. Baker



Ephesus church members set a record by erecting the sanctuary replica in one day.

Columbus Korean Church Celebrates Financial Freedom



Members of the Korean church in Columbus, Ohio, are thankful to have satisfied their mortgage after 10 years of diligent sacrifice. Pastor Choong Lee welcomed friends from Korean churches in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana to their recent mortgage-burning ceremony. Carl Rogers, assistant to the Allegheny West Conference president, delivered the keynote address, exhorting parishioners to keep God at the center of God's house. The high Sabbath also featured celestial harmonies from the church choir and orchestra and ended with a fellowship meal.—*Cynthia Moore*

Carl Rogers (center), assistant to the Allegheny West Conference president, assists Choong Lee (far right), pastor of the Korean church, and his leadership team in burning their mortgage.

Hilltop Members Impact the Community

Young and elderly members of the Hilltop Community Worship Center are busy doing ministry in and out of their church, spreading Christ's love to their neighbors in Columbus, Ohio. Most recently the church's community services department led by Leslie Clark,

the youth department led by Tamara Kulameka, and the Pathfinders and Adventurers groups led by Peggy Lambert set out on a recent Sabbath to feed the homeless at nearby Bicentennial Park. The participants braved the 90-degree temperatures and engaged in Spirit-filled witnessing.

Also on the move is senior Hilltop member, Sabbath School teacher and deaconess Gladys Forquer (pictured). She recently received the State of Ohio 2011 LPN of the Year award. Her church brothers and sisters claim Forquer, who has served patients since

1968, deserved the recognition because she shares her love for God to everyone she meets and, as a result, bears fruit wherever she goes.—*Gregory Foster*



Hilltop Pathfinders and Adventurers, led by Peggy Lambert (back row, far left), prepare to feed the homeless in Columbus' Bicentennial Park.



Melrose Avenue Sisters Have Tea on the Lawn

The Lord blessed the Melrose Avenue church Women's Ministries Department with a beautiful day for their second annual "Sisters' Tea on the Lawn." Attendees, including Roanoke, Va., residents, enjoyed music, prayers, poetry and delicious food, with all activities centered on the theme "Restoration, Consecration of the Body and Temple."



A fashion show was a highlight of the event, when several Melrose members modeled ensembles designed and created by Mary H. Harris, one of the church's newest members. She also made a suit for Pastor Nathaniel Lyles. The church's homecoming committee also participated in the festivities by sponsoring an old fashioned cakewalk, with proceeds going toward the church building fund.

The tea is a forerunner to the church's women's day celebration. For this year's special event, the Women's Ministries department, led by Jean Mills, partnered with the deaconess department, directed by Billie Jean Poindexter. On Friday evening, Melrose Avenue first lady Natasha Lyles (left) offered the vespers message. On Sabbath morning, Lisa Hood, from the Danville/South Boston district, spoke for the divine

worship. Members report that both ladies delivered thought-provoking messages.

"The community is already asking if we will have the event next year. The Lord truly blessed us," comments Mills.—*Delores E. Ferguson*



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1339 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205 ■ Phone: (614) 252-5271
awconf.org ■ President, William T. Cox
Editor, Bryant Taylor

Is It Worth the Cost?

As an educator for more than 23 years, I often find myself wondering if the long hours have been worth it. Seldom do you hear from the many students who have journeyed toward excellence in your classroom. So, you can understand the question: Don't we all inherently want to know that what we do matters?

Consider this. Recently I was given the honor of speaking at the graduation banquet for the kindergarteners and eighth-graders of the Stroudsburg Seventh-day Adventist School in Stroudsburg, Pa. While sitting there waiting to speak, I got an answer to that question.

As the students got up to sing, I noticed that not one or two, but five Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) students or alumni were involved with the program. Avonelle Davis ('13) stood behind the tallest eighth-grader and lent her vocal talent to the choral song, while her sister, Carolyn Davis ('08), actually directed the singers through "In Christ Alone." Nyeka Jegade ('07) bustled around making sure students were ready and in the right place, all while taking pictures. Jeremy Yansen ('06) manned the photo booth while Aleli Gravatt ('13) turned music at the piano. To top it off, Justin Yansen ('12) assisted in various ways to help make the banquet a smashing success!

It's a simple example to be sure, but when you consider how Paul described us as "the body of Christ," it is clear that BMA students, past and present, see themselves as important members of a family actively taking part in impacting their world. This is just another simple reason why *your* children belong at Blue Mountain Academy!



David Morgan
Principal

Students, Staff Mourn Passing of Voice Teacher

Blue Mountain Academy students and local church members knew Larry Karpenko as a pleasant, friendly gentleman with an exceptional baritone singing voice. Karpenko transferred to BMA from Sheyenne

River Academy (N.D.) in 1971 to teach voice. He held that position until 1978, when he launched a career as a real estate investor, a livelihood he continued until his death this summer.

In the early 90s, learning of a need at the academy, Karpenko volunteered as voice teacher and choral director, once again inspiring students and listeners. He also sat on the BMA board, and was chairman of the Blue Mountain Seventh-day Elementary School Board.

Karpenko and his wife, Donna (pictured with one of their grandchildren), have lived on the hill north of the campus since he left academy employment and often shared their musical talents with the BMA church, where he served as an elder and Sabbath School teacher. He also spent the past 16 years as a member of the Wheatland Chorale of Lancaster, Pa., a group that performed at his funeral.

"He was a friendly, humble, down-to-earth person who always had an encouraging word," says Nancy Stewart, a BMA church member.

In addition to his wife, Karpenko is survived by his daughter, Julie, and her husband, Charles Reid, and their three children; his son, Larry, and daughter-in-law, Tescha, and their two children; and his brother, Lyle, and sister-in-law, Janet. The Karpenko family asks that contributions in his honor be sent to a special music fund at BMA.



Religious Programming Changes Students

On a typical Friday night, Blue Mountain Academy’s chapel is scattered with clusters of teenagers, whose hair and clothes are in perfect order. At the front, several students sing or play instruments, with the lyrics displayed on the screen above them. Some students belt out the words, while others sit quietly and clap in cadence with the music. Later in the evening, someone stands at the pulpit and shares from their heart the Word of God. Friday night vespers is just one of the many opportunities BMA provides for its students to develop a relationship with God. Here are some of the students’ experiences:

Until her time at BMA, Bruna Barbosa (’13) had ridden on the coattails of her parents’ faith. She knew all the stories, had gone to church and was even baptized in 2004, but away from home, she knew her parents couldn’t force her to worship. She had to take hold of her own faith. “It’s my

relationship now,” she says. “I’m still learning. I probably need to spend more time with Him, but I’m trying.”

“The FOCUS weeks have really changed me,” reports Jonathan Ringer (’15). He says the latest Focus on Christ’s Ultimate Sacrifice Week especially impacted him, when the guest speaker talked about the power of prayer and how it rescued him from being a thief and entering a gang.

Jethra Link (’13) loves the special musical programs the school holds around Christmas and Easter every

year. She says they help her feel closer to God and her peers. She says she’s still working on her relationship with God but knows He is there for her. “He is a good friend of mine,” she states.

Regardless of which aspect of BMA’s religious programming affects students, they all agree that God is an important part of their lives. “I would say life is difficult, and the only thing that is able to get us successfully through life is having that relationship with Christ,” says 2012 alumnus Josh Stahl.

—Ashley Richards (’08)



Talent Show, Carnival Benefits Local Cancer Survivor



For the past two years, seniors have planned, promoted and hosted Blue Mountain Academy’s talent show titled Celebrate the Arts. This year the event doubled as a fundraiser for a sophomore in the Hamburg area, Megan Lesniak, who suffers from Hodgkin’s lymphoma. The fundraiser was a “Rockin’ Robin” carnival-type talent show. Graduating seniors Tylor Curtis and Alissa Welgo, along with Pastor Shawnessey Cargile of the BMA church, decorated the gymnasium with posters and balloons, prepared a vegetarian hot dog dinner and secured snow cone and cotton candy machines.

Senior Ryan Agard models one of the T-shirts auctioned at the carnival to raise money for a local cancer survivor.

A few students shared their God-given talents to help raise money for the young lady, and Pastor Shawnessey auctioned off T-shirts throughout the evening. Lesniak was just one day away from her last treatment and therefore unable to join the festivities; however, her mother and sister attended and accepted a check for \$600 from the school. The good news is that, after all of the struggle, Lesniak has been officially determined cancer free!

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THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2012

Walk With God! Share His Grace!

The 23rd Psalm has long been a great source of encouragement to Christians. Interestingly, the darkest and most forbidding imagery also has the most wonderful promise. “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil” (verse 4, NKJV).

What is the reason for having no fear? Why can we have hope in the midst of our greatest difficulties? “For You are *with me*.” The good Shepherd chooses to be with His sheep. His presence transforms even the darkest of life’s passages.

The New Testament sharpens the focus even more. As Jesus’ birth approaches, the instruction is given, “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, ‘God with us’” (Matt. 1:23).

The idea of God being with us in the person of Jesus is so profound. “Since Jesus came to dwell with us, we know that God is acquainted with our trials and sympathizes with our grief. Every son and daughter of Adam may understand that our Creator is the friend of sinners. For in every doctrine of grace, every promise of joy, every deed of love, every divine attraction presented in the Saviour’s life on earth, we see ‘God with us’” (*Desire of Ages*, p. 24). So the choice is ours. Jesus has already demonstrated His desire to be with us. We can be aware of His presence. We can accept the value He places on our lives. We can claim His power. We can have assurance and comfort in the shadow or the sunshine—all because we walk with God.



Rick Remmers
President

Summer Camps Foster Fun and Faith

Each summer hundreds of kids, in grades 1-12, flock to Hagerstown, Md., to spend a week participating in one of Mount Aetna’s summer camps. They stay in cabins and enjoy activities such as rock climbing, basketball, Christian drama and photography. The more adventurous youth opt for an outpost camp in wilderness survival or waterskiing.

The programs aren’t just about recreation. About 20 young people each summer make the decision for baptism while at camp. The program also grooms high



A visit to the nearby Air Mobility Command Museum was popular with participants of the day camp held at the Dover First church in Delaware.



PHOTOS BY RANDY MYAING

Campers attending the FLAG Camp at the Park church in Salisbury, Md., gather for a photo following team-building games on the church lawn.

school students and young adults for leadership by training them for jobs as counselors and activity directors.

A weekday Fun Learning About God (FLAG) Camp, held at select churches, allows kids in various communities throughout the conference to have a camp experience too. The locations and participating churches vary from year to year.

“I rejoice that parents trust our ministry as a place for their young people,” says Carl Rodriguez, conference Youth Ministries director.

Korean Congregation Ministers, Grows Churches in Africa

Members of the Washington-Spencerville Korean (WSK) church are spreading the gospel and making a measurable difference in the quality of life for people in the Republic of Congo (Congo), a country in central Africa plagued by hunger and malnutrition.

The congregation got involved in 2009, after a missionary sponsored by the Northern Asia-Pacific

Division visited the WSK church in Spencerville, Md. Since then members have made annual trips to the Congo for evangelism, and this year the church plans to send a missionary there for one year to focus on children's ministry, says David Kim, WSK associate pastor.

The project is multifaceted, says Hyo Su Jung, the missionary on site who frequently shares updates on the projects. The WSK church provides funding, supports education for students of all ages, as well as church and school construction, and the operation of an orphanage, bakery and poultry program. Recently the church partnered with Adventist World Radio to donate more than 100 audio recorders for

personal evangelism.

"The impact on our WSK congregation is immeasurable," says senior pastor Jonathan Hong. "It has given members a focus and an evangelistic mindset."

The church also has 21 "cell groups" that each have a sister cell group in the Congo. These groups connect regularly for Bible study and training. New members are integrated into the groups, and the groups on both continents grow.

The church plants in the area are growing fast. In 2009, there were 253 baptisms; in 2010, 769 were baptized; and last year, 1,060 new members joined the Seventh-day Adventist family.

Pastor Hong says this is a good model for finishing God's work and is calling other congregations to get involved. It costs just \$100 per month to support a local missionary family. They are also trying to raise \$500,000 to build a technical school. For more information, visit comejesus.org.



Seon Wook Yang, a member of the Washington-Spencerville Korean church, visits with a local woman and her infant on a recent trip to the mission site in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Members Get Moving for Better Health

Elmer Carreno, MD, one of three Health Ministries leaders at the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., is excited about the North American Division's InStep for Life initiative. The church recently launched the program with 210 participants. Many area churches will host a 5K fun

run/walk on September 23, which is "Let's Move!" Day.

It takes just a small change in lifestyle, says Carreno, a family practitioner, to reduce the chance of getting cancer, heart disease or diabetes.

Brenda Meadows, RN, Health Ministries director for the

Martinsburg (W.Va.) church, says the church and its school, Rocky Knoll Adventist School, will participate again this year.

"On September 25, the students will be involved in a series of different physical activity stations at the school that will get them active," she explains. "Students will each set a mileage goal and receive a pedometer for tracking their mileage during home and school activities." To learn more, visit adventistsinstepforlife.org.



To participate in the Vibrant Life 5K Fun Run/Walk, September 23, on the campus of the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Md., visit vibrantlife.com.

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President, Rick Remmers
Editor, Samantha Young

MOUNTAIN VIEW POINT

SEPTEMBER 2012

“We Exist to Help Others,” Thriftstore Owners Say

I’m sure it was the Lord’s idea,” Kester Erskine says with conviction when asked how the idea of running a thrift store came to him. “Marie, my wife, was right beside me every bit of the way. I was just going to start it and turn it over to somebody else.”

Now 16 years later, with at least 14 other stores inspired by the first, the Erskines, both members of the Lewisburg (W.Va.) church, are still ministering through thrift stores.

“The year we got started, there was a flood here. Somebody gave us a thousand blankets; a manufacturer gave us 2,600 pairs of socks; we got a trailer load of personal hygiene supplies, and right away we were known for helping people,” Erskine says. “That’s the only reason we exist.”

In 2000 they bought a lot and a log kit. Miraculously they had five men volunteer to help put up the floor and walls, then volunteers from the church and community came and finished the building. “We had the building paid for before it was built, and gave away over \$100,000 to the community the next three years,” Erskine said.

The Erskines never forget that their primary goal is ministry. With profits from the thrift store, they are able to donate to the local church school, help people pay their bills and host cooking classes and health lectures. Additionally, “Every customer gets a piece of literature—a tract, a small book, something with the gospel in it,” he says.

“Only in heaven will the real story unfold, revealing how many lives were changed forever because of a dedicated, humble, generous, and cheerful ministry that tries to spread the love of Jesus one customer at a time,” says Linden St. Clair, pastor of the Lewisburg church.



Campers Weather Storm at Third Hispanic Camp Meeting

Just as they were ready to begin the third Mountain View Conference Hispanic Camp Meeting, a big storm hit the Valley Vista Adventist Center in

Huttonsville, W.Va., and knocked out the electricity. Leaders wondered if they should call off the meetings and send everyone home in the morning. However, they were reminded of the camp meeting’s theme, “Give Me This Mountain.” Instead of leaving, everyone made their way to the cafeteria and sang praises to the Lord. Guest speaker Williams Ovalle, a pastor from Columbus, Ohio, gave his first message in the cafeteria, with only emergency lights working.

“Sabbath morning arrived and we still had no electrical power,” said Walter Cardenas, the conference’s Hispanic Ministries coordinator. “Even though there was no power and the temperatures were high, there was nothing stopping us from praising our God and learning about His promises.”

At the end of the last meeting, Ovalle made an altar call for those who wanted to win one soul for Jesus, and all 56 attendees came forward and made the decision to serve the Lord under any circumstance. They were ready to claim the mountain.



Cely Martinez (left) and Guadalupe Castro greet each other with a hug.

Thrift Stores Thrive Across Mountain View Conference

The Mountain View Conference is home to several thrift stores, which double as community ministries. Below are some of their stories:

The **Rainelle Better Living Center and Thrift Store** in Rainelle, W.Va., has had a presence in that town for over nine years. Owned and operated by Gary and Naomi Mattingly, they actively witness to shoppers. They offer a seminar room where shoppers can watch or read educational and religious materials. The Mattinglys also provide stop smoking classes plus health and parenting seminars. They also keep the television tuned to 3ABN in their store. They opened their second store in July, this time in Oak Hill.

The **Oceana Better Living Center (OBLC)** in Oceana, W.Va., has been open for eight years. Donna Nester, a Logan (W.Va.) church member, manages the store along with her daughter, Amy, and eight community volunteers of various faiths. Relationships have developed over the years, and when someone needs help, OBLC generously provides what they can—for free. Nester says she loves “just being able to help people.”

The Highland Adventist School (HAS) operates two **NEWSTART Thrift Shops** in Parsons and Elkins, W.Va. Workers at both stores are



happy to help others in emergency situations. They also frequently make friends of repeat customers, many of whom enroll in the church's correspondence Bible school program. Harold and Ruth Whitesel (below) manage the Elkins store, and Randy and Amy Harris, parents of two students at HAS, manage the Parsons store. NEWSTART Thrift Shops also provide funding for student scholarships and operational expenses at HAS.

About five years ago, Parkersburg (W.Va.) church members took a leap of faith and opened the **NEWSTART Thrift Mart**, which Amy Fullmer manages. Parkersburg members are determined to be a light in the Vienna community where the store is located. They partner with a local charitable organization to help those truly in need with their utility bills.

They also assist Parkersburg Academy, supply clothes and shoes for the local public school nurse's closet and mail care packages overseas to service men and women. They've also received positive comments on the 3ABN radio programs that air in the store. Some customers have even listened to complete sermons. Every bag receives some type of literature. The store's tag line is “Come to NEWSTART where donations are welcome and so are you!”

In June the Spencer (W.Va.) church opened a thrift store known as the **Roane Better Living Center (RBLC)** (above) on Main Street. Without any advertising, the store is already doing well in sales. Church members are giving their support by volunteering to sort through donations and setting out new items daily. Volunteers say it is a blessing to have customers coming to the store not only to make sales, but also to witness to them with a smile, a religious tract, conversation or via the 3ABN programming, which airs while customers shop.



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NEWS NEW JERSEY

SEPTEMBER 2012

Fishing in Deep Waters

When we talk about opening new churches, are we committed to opening real “cities of refuge” for the people who suffer out there—people who live without Jesus? Or do we mean snatching members from already established churches? I want to encourage Jesus’ disciples *not* to go fishing in prestocked pools, but rather to head out into deep waters in search of souls who do not know God. I’m talking about going after the unchurched, those who perhaps have never worshiped in a church. I’m talking about reaching out to the thousands who have abandoned the faith, for one reason or another, and wandered away. Are we willing to work for these kinds of folks?

We need to be very decided concerning this aspect of the mission; way too many church members simply prefer to give their offerings and let others go out seeking for the lost. Like Caleb, we are to go forth and conquer the highlands where nobody else has gone before, into the land of giants, overcoming all obstacles that beset us on the path, and there plant the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel (see Josh. 14:12-14). Only then can we give God glory and feel the satisfaction of fulfilling our duty to God. This would reveal unmistakably that our lives reflect God’s love, and that we are not mere theorists spewing hot air. Are you willing to minister in such a way, so that many can know that a true city of refuge is available for them?



José H. Cortés
President

New School Building Secured in Vineland

Through the miraculous leading of the Lord, the New Jersey Conference was able to purchase the First Baptist Church and School property in Vineland. The church originally listed the property, which includes six acres of land, for \$1.6 million. However, this was beyond the financial reach of the Vineland Regional Adventist School and its constituent churches. After some discussions with the Baptist church, conference leaders offered \$750,000. It took some time, but the Baptist church finally accepted the

offer. The property has a church building, which seats 150, and a separate two-story school building with 14 classrooms and a kitchen.

The Vineland Regional Adventist School, which had been meeting in the basement of the Vineland Spanish church and had to limit its enrollment to about 40 students and two teachers, recently moved into their new facility. With the larger space and growing enrollment, the school is changing its name to Vine Haven Adventist School and will expand to three full-time teachers, including Yolanda Acosta and Erica Santiago. Cathy Tomlinson (above), former principal of the Cohansey School, which is closing due to low enrollment, will serve as principal/teacher.

They also hope to expand the academic program to provide a preschool and kindergarten program. “Long range plans include the growth of the school to provide ninth and 10th grades,” says Sadrail Saint-Ulysse, superintendent of schools.



NEWS



Harrison, Kearny, Rahway Spanish Churches Welcome New Pastor

Pastor Julio Labrador recently transferred to the Harrison/Kearny/Rahway Spanish district to replace Pastor

Charles Gonzalez, who passed away earlier this year. For the past six years, Labrador served as the pastor of the Guttenberg/Jersey City/Union City Spanish district. He has a burden for evangelism and church planting and agreed to take on the challenge of growing the new Kearny Mission Caleb group into a full-fledged church.

He also wants to grow the Rahway Spanish church, which recently purchased a large building that seats more than 500 people. "My goal is to grow the membership of the Rahway church so that we can fill the sanctuary and be a strong light in the community," said Pastor Labrador.

25 Baptized During Camp Meetings

On Sabbath afternoon of the New Jersey Conference English Camp Meeting, held in Tranquility, only one person was supposed to be baptized. However, after that person was baptized, Pastor Jean-Michel Etienne made an appeal. Four additional individuals who had been studying, but had not yet been baptized, came forward and responded to the call. A similar

experience took place during the Spanish camp meeting weekend, and 21 were baptized.



Left to right: José H. Cortés, conference president; Stephanie Lawrence, Pastor Jean-Michel Etienne, Alex Czereuta, Ken Smith, Randy Randazzo, Pastor Jorge Coxaj, Dennis Blake and Pastor Leonel Pottinger (background)

Revive Bookstore Changes Hours of Operation

The Revive Bookstore has changed its hours of operation for their conference headquarters store. The new hours are:

Sunday	10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Monday-Wednesday	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Thursday	10-7 p.m.
Friday & Sabbath	Closed

dates

NEW JERSEY

September

- 1** Adventist Education Day
Local Churches
- 7-9** Couples Retreat Weekend
Tranquil Valley Retreat Center (TVRC)
- 9** Nominating Committee Meeting, *Conference Office, 10 a.m.*
- 14-16** Master Guide Camp Weekend, *TVRC*
- 23** Conference Constituency Meeting, *Robbinsville Church, 10 a.m.*
- 29-30** Prison Ministries Training, *Conference Office 9 a.m.-3 p.m. daily*

October

- 6** Children's Ministries Emphasis Day, *Local Churches*
- 6-13** Women's Ministries Evangelism Week
Local Churches
- 12-27** ShareHim Reaping Event, *Local Churches*
- 20** South Jersey Spanish Festival of Laity, *Bridgeton Spanish Church, 3-6 p.m.*

November

- 3** Sabbath School Friends Day, *Local Churches*
- 3** North Jersey English Festival of Laity, *Newark English Church, 3-6 p.m.*
- 10** North Jersey Spanish Festival of Laity
TVRC, 3-6 p.m.

New Jersey News is published in the Visitor by the New Jersey Conference 2303 Brunswick Ave., Lawrenceville NJ 08648 Phone: (609) 392-7131 ■ njcsda.org President, José H. Cortés ■ Editor, Jim Greene

Male Members Discuss Familial Roles During Manfest

Earlier this summer, some 65 men of all ages converged at Camp Mohaven in Danville for Manfest. The Ohio Conference intentionally designed and structured the innovative weekend to include spiritual and “manly” activities, concluding with a work bee where the men helped with the construction of Mohaven’s new bathhouse.

Kevin Kuehmichel, pastor of the Walk of Faith Fellowship congregation in Cleveland; Ron Anderson, pastor of the Chillicothe/Jackson/Portsmouth/Manchester district; and Dave Robinson, Mohaven camp ranger, organized the event. During the weekend, they had attendees discuss fatherhood, including the impact of fatherlessness on society and individuals.



Attendees discuss the role of fatherhood and the impact of fatherlessness on society.



Manfest attendees lend their muscles to help construct a new bathhouse for Camp Mohaven in Danville.

“This created quite a discussion in our breakout groups,” reports Kuehmichel. “Statistics were covered dealing with incarceration, education, obesity and poverty that are directly related to children without dads. We talked about the biblical definition of manhood, and challenged the men to become what God has called them to be in their families, churches and communities.”

Attendee Zoltan Sestak, a Westlake church member, gave a glimpse into the weekend: “The church itself has many mission fields. We have children’s ministries like Pathfinders, summer camp, kids Sabbath School, etc. Women have their own ministries ... I have never been exposed to a true men’s ministry where we focus on the issues, problems and challenges that men face in this sinful, wretched world. Manfest was something

completely different.” He continued, “We discussed the real issues of life. Being a loving daddy, a loving husband, together leading our family to the throne of God, was just scratching the surface. In small groups we discussed what true manhood was and how to show our families, our church, the world, what a true Christian man *should* live like. It was a truly deep spiritual experience for me personally.”

On Sunday the men walked around the campsite offering to put their muscles to good use. They cut trees, split wood, painted and built a bathhouse. The hard work also helped the men bond. Another men’s weekend is planned for May 17-19, 2013. For details, visit ohioadventist.org.



Members Develop Ministerial Skills at ACS Symposium

More than 50 men and women from across Ohio and neighboring states spent a weekend at the Worthington church developing their skills for ministry, hoping to learn how to better meet needs in their local communities. Each participant selected to attend one of the following three seminars: "Tutoring Underprivileged Children," taught by Sandra Brown, specialist for the North American Division (NAD) Adventist Community Services; "Community Development" led by Gaspar Colon, PhD, dean of the School of Arts and Social Sciences at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md.; and "Disaster Response Projects,"

Disaster Response (DR) coordinators (in yellow) and community service directors from Ohio and beyond flank symposium attendees who completed the DR track and received a Donations Operations certificate of completion.

taught by Joe Watts, NAD Disaster Response coordinator.

A group of young adults from the Ebenezer Haitian church in Columbus took the tutoring seminar. As a result, they are now planning to organize a tutoring/mentoring program for children in their neighborhood, most of who live under the poverty line and have single parents. Andrew Clark, who recently relocated to Ohio to lead the four-church Youngstown district,

and some of his members also attended. Clark shared his hopes and dreams for making a real impact in Youngstown, a metropolitan area with the highest level of need in the state.

At least 10 other Ohio Conference churches sent one or more members to the training event. Several have already started community projects, while others are thinking of doing so in the future.

—Monte Sahlin



Mysterious Benefactor Blesses Bowling Green Church

Shortly before his closing remarks during a recent church service and communion, Pastor Patrick Mazani of the Bowling Green church saw a gentleman appear at the sanctuary door. The man appeared uncomfortable and stood



just out of sight. Member Karen Griffith exited the sanctuary to greet him and asked if she could help. He handed her an envelope with Huntington Bank printed in the upper left corner. As the gentleman hesitated, Griffith opened the envelope and pulled out a blank piece of paper and a cashier's check.

Griffith asked the man if he would tell her the donor's name. "That isn't necessary," the man replied. "Are you a Seventh-day Adventist?" she pressed. "Let's just say I am acquainted," he answered. When asked why he was giving such a great gesture, he replied, "It's because of all the good work

your denomination does."

With his permission, she offered up a simple prayer for a blessing on the gift and the giver. Declining again to provide his name, the man quickly realized he did want something. Walking over to the bookstand and picking up a copy of *Steps to Christ*, he asked, "Can I have this?" Griffith told him he could not only that but that he could also have *The Master of Love*. She also invited him to join them for a meal and to return each Sabbath for fellowship and a meal. He declined and quickly exited. The amount of the check? \$3,020.

Karen Griffith, the Sabbath School superintendent at the Bowling Green church, displays the two books she offered the mysterious donor who visited their church recently.

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Raj Attiken ■ Editor, Heidi Shoemaker

Pennsylvania Pen

SEPTEMBER 2012

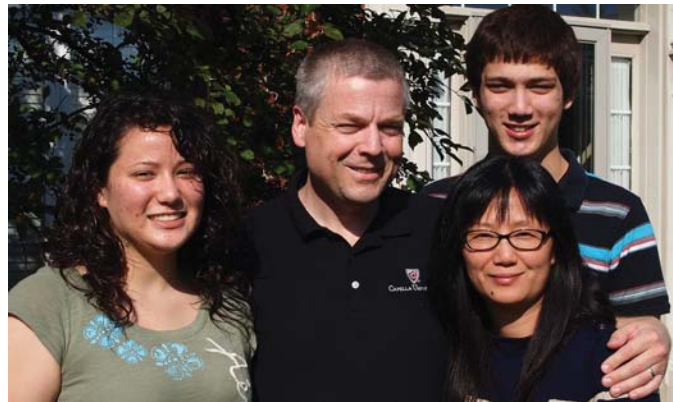
Pennsylvania Welcomes New Education Vice President

Jeff Bovee, former principal of Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, Ohio, recently accepted an invitation from the Pennsylvania Conference Executive Committee to serve as the vice president of education.

"We are very excited to have Jeff accept the call, and see this is an answer to much prayer," states Ray Hartwell, conference president. "He has an excellent track record in Adventist education and as a well-respected principal of Spring Valley Academy. Jeff is well known and thought of by the education leaders in the Columbia Union Conference. We feel that God has led us to Jeff and that he combines the leadership skills, administration and classroom experience that will best support the Christian education ministry of the Pennsylvania Conference."

Bovee is enjoying his new position in Pennsylvania; he began visiting schools in July, getting to know teachers and school board members as they prepared for a new school year. "I am excited to join the Pennsylvania Conference team," he shares. "Pennsylvania has a rich history of excellence in Adventist education and I am honored at this opportunity to serve Him in this new ministry role. With Christ as my role model and leader, I look forward to serving and meeting the needs of others."

Jeff and his wife, Marianne, have two children. Kristie is a senior biology/pre-med major at Andrews University (Mich.). Their son, Ryan, was elected Student Council president for this school year at Spring Valley Academy. After much prayer, the family decided that Marianne and Ryan will remain in the Kettering area for the school year so that Ryan can graduate with his senior class and fulfill his role as president. Following his graduation, he and Marianne will join Jeff in their new home in Shillington.



Members Invited to Attend Town Hall Meetings

Join Pennsylvania Conference officers—Ray Hartwell (below right), president; Will Peterson, vice president for mission and administration; and Ron Christman (below left), treasurer—at one of several town hall meetings being held this fall. The officers

will share brief reports and then invite members to share their prayers, hopes, dreams and questions. Each meeting will last approximately two hours. Everyone is invited to attend as the officers talk about the mission field of Pennsylvania and how every member can live out the conference's mission statement: "Revealing Jesus, Making Disciples."



Sunday, September 16

10 a.m. Erie church located at 190 Hunter Willis Road

4 p.m. Pittsburgh church located at 4021 Evergreen Road

Sunday, September 30

10 a.m. Kingston church located at 17 Second Avenue

4 p.m. Philadelphia church located at 8441 Roosevelt Boulevard

Sunday, October 14

10 a.m. Williamsport church located at 201 South Market Street

4 p.m. Harrisburg church located at 424 North Progress Avenue

NEWS

Stroudsburg Member Turns 103

Although she now spends her days at a nursing home in the Poconos, Margaret "Peg" Kitchen continues to share her love for Jesus and tell others about His soon return. She turned 103 last month, but "her mind is still sharp and she witnesses to everyone," shares her longtime pal Nettie Martling, 89. Kitchen started her ministry at the Stroudsburg church in 1932, and spent



many years leading the church's community service center and helping with ingathering. "She and a



group of people from the church, including myself, would get together at her home and make lint brushes and fried peanuts," recalls Martling. She says that one time they sold enough to raise \$3,000, which helped them buy new carpet for the church.—*Beth Michaels*

York Members Say, "Here I am, Send Me"

Members of the York church

(some pictured) are inviting their neighbors to study the Bible through the Amazing Facts Bible studies. Recently eight members responded to retired pastor D.G. Rand's invitation to go and share these Bible study invitations in the York community. More than 70 people have responded to the Bible study invitations, with more than 20 scheduled to complete their course soon.

Completely His

A lot of words are used to define us as women. But only one truly defines who we really are.

His.

Join author and speaker Tamyra Horst as she helps us discover what it really means to be completely His and how to live believing it's all true.

**Fall Women's Retreat
October 12-14, 2012**

**Laurel Lake Camp
Rossiter, Pa.**

For more information, thorst@paconference.org or 610.374.8331. Register online at www.paconference.org > Ministries > Women's Ministries.

Potomac People

SEPTEMBER 2012

Growing Healthy Disciples for Christ

After we recharged English and Hispanic camp meeting attendees to focus their lives on making disciples for Christ, nearly 450 signed their names to an 8-by-4-foot copy of Harry Anderson's painting "Christ Ordaining the Twelve." Their signatures signify their commitment to bring one new individual to Christ this year.

No doubt many attendees felt nostalgic about seeing Anderson's paintings on display, as many recognized pieces used in *Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories* and as cover art for books such as *Steps to Christ* and *The Desire of Ages*. However, we hope the display meant more. Anderson's powerful painting of Christ ordaining His disciples

prompted us to recommit to God's call in Matthew 28:19. Potomac takes this message to heart in our mission to grow healthy disciples for the kingdom.

By the year 2020, we hope to double our membership, one precious individual at a time, and continue creating healthy, disciple-making churches through community focus. Several of our churches are already responding to this recommitment. Read below what is happening at the Seabrook church in Lanham, Md.

We look forward to witnessing the work God will do through these faithful followers, and the many more to come. Visit the new page on our website that will highlight the stories that grow out of these commitments.



John Cress
Director, Pastoral
Ministries

Seabrook Church Grows Thru Friendship Evangelism

In January Seabrook church members responded to Potomac's ongoing call to each bring one new individual to Christ this year. Collectively, their members have committed to finding 100 new believers by December. One way they have been fulfilling their pledge is through getting to know their Lanham, Md., neighbors. As of July, the church has witnessed 36 baptisms, five rebaptisms and three professions of faith.

Members have also rallied behind congregant Felicia Chelliah, who has been on the doorstep of many neighbors in the past. Here is one of her success stories:

When Chelliah lost her job two years ago, "I huffed and puffed in the beginning," she admits. "Then I realized there was no reason to. One day the Lord clearly told me to go out and meet my neighbors. So I did. I knocked on their doors and, after introducing myself, I offered them any literature they might have found

interesting. At the end, I asked if they needed prayer over anything. This is how I met Gladsie [Maxwell], or Mrs. G as I call her, and her



Seabrook church member Felicia Chelliah met Gladsie Maxwell after knocking on her door and offering to pray with her.

granddaughter. We've been friends ever since."

The Seabrook church baptized Maxwell into their family this summer. "When I moved to Maryland, I longed for a friend to pray and worship with; a true follower of Christ. One day Felicia, a stranger, knocked on my door and my prayers were answered. Now she and I regularly come together to talk to the Lord and share stories of how He loves us and how we love Him. God takes the impossible and makes it possible."



Jimmy Muñoz, a pastor at the Seabrook church, prepares to baptize two new believers.

Potomac People

Potomac Relaunches Women's Ministries



Sharon Cress, pastoral ministries associate for discipleship, announces that Potomac Conference will once again have a Women's Ministries department.

International, is planning a 2013 women's conference convention. This will help them prepare for the North American Division's convention in 2014.

"We'd like to give a special thanks to president Bill Miller and John for their vision of empowering women to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ," adds Sharon. "And, we'd like to salute the Women's Ministries groups that have already been effectively ministering in their communities."—*Tiffany Doss*

During a special prayer breakfast, with nearly 200 ladies in attendance, conference leaders announced plans to relaunch Women's Ministries at the conference level. Their vision is to encourage and train female members to be involved with community entities like abuse and domestic violence shelters and aiding unemployed women, high school mothers and young girls.

"We hope to empower the women of Potomac to be disciples of Jesus, and to nurture our congregations and communities by sharing the message of good news," says Sharon Cress, pastoral ministries associate for discipleship. "We want this to be an opportunity for women to mentor within their community.

Everything we do ought to involve the public. I don't want to see us plan events just for entertainment within our [Seventh-day] Adventist groups, but I want to see us inviting others and fellowshipping."

John Cress (no relation), director for pastoral ministries, says he is excited for Women's Ministries to restart. "Women make up more than half our church membership. That's a huge impact right there," he shares. "While they focus on building a strong, supporting community, it provides another significant component of growing healthy, disciple-making churches."

Sharon, who served as the associate ministerial secretary for the General Conference for 18 years, as well as the director of Shepherdess



More than 200 women attended the conference's prayer breakfast.

Potomac Spotlights Rusty Nesbitt



One Sabbath morning, after church members told him he wasn't "attired like a Christian," Rusty Nesbitt (left) left the church family feeling hurt and at odds with the focus of those around him. He didn't turn back for 20 years. Just months ago, Nesbitt responded to God's call to return to the same congregation.

"I was nervous at first, but now it feels like where I'm meant to be. It feels like home," he said recently, with tears welling in his eyes. Watch him share his powerful testimony at pcsda.org/welcomehome.

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Spotlight on Spencerville

SEPTEMBER 2012

Simple Math

Remember when you returned to school after having a relaxing summer? The excitement and nervousness was palpable as you renewed friendships and swapped summer stories. But, stop and reflect for a moment. Why do we educate our children? I know a lot of cliché answers for why we teach; after all I have dedicated my life to working in this field. But, when was the last time you really stopped and asked yourself, “What is the purpose?”

Look no further than the book *Education* by Ellen G. White. This is my favorite quote from it: “To restore in men and women the image of his Maker, to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created, to promote the development of body, mind, and soul, that the divine purpose in his creation might be realized—this was to be the work of redemption. This is the object of education, the great object of life” (pp. 15-16). Wow, that puts it all into perspective. Education equals redemption. How is that for simple math?



Brian Kittleson
Principal

Academy Welcomes Four New Staff



There are four new educators on the Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA) campus this school year. **Krista Hunt** joins the high school math department. She transferred from Tennessee, where she earned a bachelor's in mathematics from Southern Adventist University. While in college, she

spent a year teaching pre-algebra, algebra and geometry to students at Nile Union Academy in Cairo, Egypt, where she served as a student missionary.

Jarrold Lutz is the new high school English teacher, where he is reuniting with his former instructor, Carrie Hess. Lutz has a passion for the field of English and high school education. He is a recent graduate of Andrews University (Mich.), where he received a bachelor's in English. Lutz is happy to return to Maryland. “To return to my home community and teach at my alma mater is a great dream of mine,” stated Lutz, who attended SAA from second- through 12th-grade.



Christina Ramirez is serving as the director of the resource department. She has 11 years of experience teaching general and special education in Maryland public school settings. She holds a master's degree in education, coupled with 60 credits in special education courses. Ramirez and

her husband, Alex, have two daughters, Alessandra and Gabriella, who both currently attend SAA.

Sharon Williams transferred from Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, Ohio. She has more than 25 years of teaching experience and desires to continue the challenge of meeting the individual needs of children. She will be teaching middle school language arts. Williams and her husband, Scott, have adult twin daughters who reside in Michigan.



Spotlight

Student Musicians Travel to South Africa

Earlier this summer, two Spencerville Adventist Academy seniors, Sydney Portela and Vanessa Baioni (below), had the privilege of traveling and performing in South Africa with the New England Youth Ensemble (NEYE) and Columbia Collegiate Chorale of Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md. Baioni is a violinist in the NEYE and Portela sings in the chorale.

One place the tour group visited of special interest to Baioni was Maluti Adventist Hospital in the



Kingdom of Lesotho. Baioni and her sister, Juliana, who is also an NEYE member, were able to deliver baby blankets made for the South African hospital by participants of Keep in Stitches, a ministry of the Spencerville church. The Baioni sisters and their mother founded the ministry, which is comprised of female members who like to knit, crochet and sew. "Making baby blankets to send to Maluti was one of many projects we have completed. It was a privilege for my sister and me to deliver the blankets into such deserving hands," commented Baioni.

Baioni and Portela said they were greatly impacted by the tour. "I had an amazing experience spending time with the members of the orchestra and choir," said Baioni. "Listening to one of the soloists ... I could hear his love for what he was doing in the beauty of his performance. It inspired me to



Spencerville student Vanessa Baioni (left) and her sister, Juliana, deliver handmade baby blankets to Jorge Rodriguez, medical director for the Maluti Adventist Hospital.

find my passion, whether its music or something else."

Portela added, "South Africa is possibly one of the most beautiful places I've ever traveled to internationally. But most of all, I honestly feel blessed for having the opportunity to perform with the chorale and NEYE!"

Data, Statistics Reconfirm School's Success

SAA administrators are proud of their continued success and students' accomplishments. Here are some recent facts and figures:

- During the past five years, SAA has experienced a 16.7 percent growth rate.
- Half of last year's senior class scored 100-300 points above the

national average on the SAT.

- On average, elementary classrooms score one grade ahead of the nation's students taking the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills.
- There is cutting edge technology in every classroom plus two computer labs.
- 65 percent of SAA teachers and administrators hold advanced degrees, and all are North American Division certified.
- The Columbia Union Conference Office of Education awarded Brian Kittleson, principal, with the 2012 Outstanding Administrator Award. Kittleson is pictured accepting the plaque from Ian Kelly (right), former associate education director for the union. The award also came with a \$1,000 check.



PHOTO BY BOB MENCH

Calendar

September

- 8 Teacher Dedication
- 9 High School Beach Day
- 10 Prospective Student Open House, 9:30

20-23 SALT

October

- 6 Senior Dedication
- 8-12 New England Study Tour
- 9-12 New York Study Tour
- 17 PSAT Testing
- 19 Grandparents Day
- 21 Fall Festival
- 28 ACT Testing

Spotlight is published in the *Visitor* by the Spencerville Adventist Academy 2502 Spencerville Road, Spencerville, MD 20868 ■ Phone: (301) 421-9101 spencervilleacademy.org ■ Principal, Brian Kittleson ■ Editor, Heidi Wetmore

SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

HAPPENINGS



SEPTEMBER 2012

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

New Principal Follows God's Call

I wasn't looking for this job; it found me," shares Travis Johnson, Shenandoah Valley Academy's (SVA) new principal. "And, I believe strongly that when God calls you to do something, you do it."

Johnson is transferring from Deamude Adventist Christian School in Utah, and brings an understanding of finances and marketing, as well as administrative qualifications. He is a graduate of Walla Walla University (Wash.) where he earned a bachelor's in business administration. After teaching English in Japan for one year, he returned to Walla Walla to get his Master of Arts in teaching in elementary education. He also later obtained his administrator's certificate.

"I have seen the difference God and a devoted Adventist educator can make in a student's life," he says. "I believe that, as an administrator and teacher, it is my job to help students develop a love for learning and to become responsible citizens who love and choose to serve the Lord. Our school should be exemplary in every area, especially academics, but the most important lesson I want SVA students to come away with is a passion for Jesus and serving Him."

Johnson has been happily married to Nicki for five years. They have two girls and a new baby boy (all pictured).



Two New Staff Lead Language, Math Programs

SVA's new English Language Learner director, Andy Rivera, transferred from Atlantic Union College (Mass.) where he served for 12 years as the director of the English Language Institute. He also developed and ran a TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) certification program at a local college.

Rivera started his career in Maryland public high schools, where he taught French and Spanish for nine years. He was also a contract ESL, Spanish and French teacher for Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, Md.

"I am excited about teaching at SVA because I see how invested the community, conference and church are," say Rivera. He is inspired by Ellen White's philosophy that education is more than just a course of

study and believes that SVA strives to do that.

The Rivera family—Andy, Valentina, Julia, Diego and Nicholas—regularly performs at a local nursing home and other venues.



Rivera, who plays guitar, and his wife, Valentina, have three musically gifted children: Julia (11) plays the violin and piano, Diego (8) the banjo and Nicholas (7) the mandolin. The couple is expecting their fourth child this November.

Another new SVA staff member is Becky Patrick (right), who will teach algebra and geometry. She received her bachelor's in math from the University of Louisville (Ky.). She spent the past 15 years at Highland Academy in Tennessee, the past four years as principal. Prior to that she taught math, science, Bible, Spanish and computer science.



Patrick looks forward to working at SVA because of its strong academic and spiritual emphasis. "I really like teaching kids because they are so open and honest about everything," she says. "I enjoy seeing them get excited when they learn something new."

Patrick and her husband of 17 years, Mike, have two daughters, Gabby (11) and Olivia (8). In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, baking, sewing, playing volleyball and watching football.

HAPPENINGS

Two Graduating Students Receive Special Recognition

Each year the Columbia Union Conference Office of Education recognizes high school students who have made an impact on the lives of those within their community through the Caring Heart Award. During the recent Commencement services, the school announced



graduating senior Timothy Davis (left) as this year's recipient.

"He is one of those people who is irreplaceable!" said Ron White, IT director, who oversaw Davis as a student worker. "When people saw him coming, they were happy. They knew he would fix their problem."

Nominated by the faculty and staff for his kindness to others, integrity in the workplace and classroom, and cheerful personality, they report that Davis always had a smile on his face and was ready to help anyone get the job done. He was also heavily involved in the music program as a member of the handbells ensemble, concert choir and select choir, the Shenandoans. Davis is now attending Southern Adventist University (Tenn.) with a major in computer science.

The school also honored Preston Lawrence during graduation ceremonies as the 5,000th SVA graduate. His mother, Rebecca Watson



('86), and his grandparents, Raymond and Susan Dickson, are all SVA alumni as well. Lawrence is now studying computer technology at the University of Delaware.

GHRoW Recipient, Alumna Comes Full Circle

When Sarah (Axmaker) Coulter graduated from Shenandoah Valley Academy in 1997, she had no idea that her journey would lead her back to the SVA campus. In 1993 she became the first person to receive a GHRoW scholarship, just two years after four alumni founded the organization as a way to help

worthy students achieve their dream of attending SVA.

In 2001 Coulter earned her bachelor's in education from Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, Md. She taught in Honduras for two-and-a-half years, first as a sixth-grade teacher in the public school system, then as a K-12 English teacher for the Adventist mission on a campus with nearly 250 students.

In the fall of 2004, after a brief stint as a substitute teacher in Maryland, Coulter became the head teacher of the former Hampton Roads Seventh-day Adventist School in Virginia. While there, she and fellow CUC student Todd Coulter got reacquainted. The couple married in 2007, then taught together for six years at Yale Adventist Elementary in Yale, Va.

Coulter is now the pre-K and

kindergarten teacher at SVA's sister school, Shenandoah Valley Adventist Elementary, while her husband serves as SVA's guidance counselor and work coordinator. She recently had her article "I Wanna: The Art of Persuasion" published in the *Journal of Adventist Education*.

Coulter will always be grateful for the assistance she received from GHRoW, which, to date, has awarded scholarships totaling more than \$200,000 to 67 SVA students. Read more about the organization at ghrow.org.



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University Reaccredited for 10 Years

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) recently reaffirmed Washington Adventist University's (WAU) accreditation for 10 years. The MSCHE is the unit of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools that accredits degree-granting colleges and universities in the mid-Atlantic region and several locations internationally. The commission is a voluntary, nongovernmental, membership association that defines, maintains and promotes educational excellence across institutions with diverse missions, student populations and resources. It examines each institution as a whole, rather than specific programs within institutions.

Due to the MSCHE's rigorous accreditation standards and their enforcement, the public and students can have confidence in Washington Adventist University's institutional mission, goals, performance and resources.

This significant achievement is a result of the hard work and commitment of our faculty and staff. During the past two years, the members of the accreditation steering committee and the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, have guided and supported the entire reaccreditation process. The steering committee that Professor Bogdan Scur chaired, with members representing all units of the university, such as trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, students and community, was responsible for the bulk of the work that resulted in such a positive outcome. To everyone involved, I say, "Thank you and congratulations!" This is Washington Adventist University!



Weymouth Spence
President

Mission Trip Yields 900 Baptisms in Tanzania

In hopes of helping students build a strong and caring view of the world, WAU's ministry department recently led a mission trip to Tanzania. "It is important to take students beyond books and classrooms to places outside their comfort zones," said Baraka Muganda, vice president for ministry. "We want to teach them how to serve ... and grow closer to God, as well as to each other."

For this 13-member team, outside their comfort zone was Dar Es Salaam, where the group stayed for nearly a month. Dar Es Salaam, is the largest city in the East African country of Tanzania and one of the oldest known inhabited areas on Earth.

Students led Vacation Bible School while Muganda took charge of evangelistic meetings. "In VBS we taught God's love in ways that would apply to their various ages," said Kaneil Williams, chaplain for ministry. "They were able to understand God at their own level." The program graduated more than 200 children, and each child received a Bible.

Meanwhile, more than 5,000 people attended the evangelism meetings each day, while on Sabbath an estimated 40,000 either attended in person or tuned in over the radio or the television. Before the trip was over, almost 900 people were baptized.

Overall, "Students returned with brand new lenses through which to view life, and how they can make a tangible difference in the lives of those they serve," said Muganda.

During a mission trip to Tanzania, some 5,000 people attended evangelism meetings led by staff from the Office of Ministry.



Broadcaster's Legacy Lives on in Scholarship Fund

For more than three decades, Walter Dorn served as the volunteer host of WGTS 91.9 FM's *Musical Memories*, a two-hour long program aired on Saturday nights that revisits the music of the 30s and 40s. After he passed away in 2009, the station established the Walter Dorn Scholarship to continue Dorn's legacy and support communication students at WAU, WGTS's parent company.

Dorn's daughters, Jacquie Paul and Sharon Brunnabend, made the initial contributions to start the fund that now provides between \$30,000 and \$50,000 each year in tuition



Eric Waicaga is a senior nursing major.

assistance. As soon as she heard about the idea for the scholarship, Paul said she was happy to get on board and donate money to the radio station that her father loved for so many years.

"It was not something I ever remember discussing with him, but I think he would have been surprised and thrilled," Paul said, recalling her father's passion for the station and his willingness to help student workers in need. Presently almost all of the students working at WGTS 91.9 FM, receive some form of subsidy from the fund.

Jamichael Folson, a junior broadcast journalism major at WAU, began receiving the tuition assistance two years ago. "It would be really hard for me to go to school without it," he said. "It provides a

way for me to chase my dreams."

Ben Manzano, a senior nursing major, feels equally fortunate to receive the assistance. "The scholarship was the answer to a lot of my prayers," he said.

Eric Waicaga, a senior nursing major who moved from Kenya to attend WAU, has been receiving the subsidy for two years and says it lightens his financial burdens and helps him pursue his goals. He said, "I feel so lucky to receive the additional help."

The rising cost of living and a slow economy make programs like the Dorn scholarship invaluable to the students, says WGTS vice president John Konrad. "We need more backing to stay fully funded and offer the chance of higher education to as many students as possible," he said.

To make a donation, visit wgts919.com, click the "Donate" button and specify the Walter Dorn Scholarship Fund in the comment section. For more information, email john@wgts919.com.—*Barby Kulakov*



Jamichael Folson is a junior broadcast journalism major.

Ben Manzano is a senior nursing major.



The Gateway is published in the *Visitor* by the Washington Adventist University ■ 7600 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 ■ Phone: (800) 835-4212 wau.edu ■ President, Weymouth Spence
Communication Director, Grace Virtue



your healing MINISTRY

Always Be Open

SEPTEMBER 2012

"He will not let your foot slip – he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep." – Psalms 121: 3-4 (NIV)

God Leads

It was my senior year at Pacific Union College, and I was the number one recommended student for medical school. I was shocked to find out that I had not been accepted. Confused and frustrated, all I could think about at that moment was how I needed to get away to a quiet place to spend time with God. I asked Him, "Why me?" He replied back, "Not you, but Me." I lost my breath. My focus was on myself and not Him. He was the one who would lead me to the places I needed to be, and I just needed to trust that He would not let me slip. I became at peace and let God back in control.

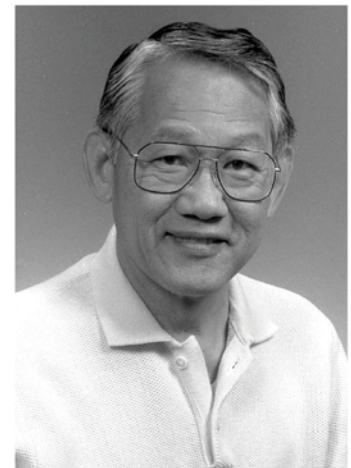
Sure enough, later that summer a spot had opened up at Loma Linda Medical School. He also reacquainted me with a young lady named Betty who was studying to be a nurse. We shared the same goals and desires, and had a common love for God and helping others. We got married my sophomore year and signed up to be missionaries. I was finishing my rotation at Ohio State when I received a phone call from Harley Rice at the General Conference. He told me a husband and wife, Eugene and Virginia Kettering, planned to open up a hospital in Kettering, Ohio and wanted it to be run by the Seventh-day Adventists. Betty and I decided that we could be missionaries in the United States.

Touching Lives

During the construction of the hospital, I spent my time at a neighboring hospital. My first week brought me into the surgery room where a patient was lying on the table and the physician was running out of options. I lifted the sheet and noticed the patient did not have a heart beat or a pulse. It overwhelmed me, but I asked God out loud to guide and show me what to do. Fifteen minutes later, the patient was stable and the physician could proceed. Word spread quickly that I was a praying doctor and other physicians started requesting me to come do the anesthesiology for their own "families' procedures" and pray with them.

Before the doors even opened at Kettering Adventist HealthCare, I had already built the best anesthesiologist group in town. Word spread of our group and other physicians wanted to sign on due to our reputation. God led Betty and me to Kettering, Ohio, giving us the opportunity to spread His love and mission of healing others.

Vernon C. Luthas, MD is a member of the Centerville Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Vernon Luthas, MD

Vernon C. Luthas, MD

Retired Anesthesiologist for
Kettering Adventist HealthCare

"In life we expect to follow a straight path. When we come upon a curve, we may get flustered and bothered. That is when we need to put our full trust in God and stop worrying about the unexpected."



your healing MINISTRY

A Community That Cares

The Golden Years at Sycamore Glen
by Christina Keresoma



Resident Norman Harris and
Jeni Fultz, RN

Many of us spend our lives looking forward to an easy but meaningful retirement. After a long career of hard work we want to kick up our feet and relax for the golden years.

Norman Harris and his wife both worked for Kettering Adventist HealthCare. After 28 years of service Norman gave another 10 years of volunteer service. But when driving and mobility became a problem, Norman knew where he needed to go. Norman and his wife wanted a faith based community with social activities, dining, transportation, a hospital, church, and

much more. Sycamore Glen Retirement Community was the place for them. They moved into a nice apartment with 24-hour care. Rather than losing their independence, they gained a support team. Life was good, and now they felt secure with the support of staff and the ability to keep their same physicians.

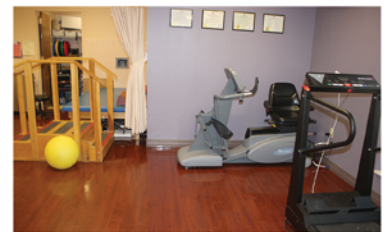
A community of faith

Sisters Martha and Grace knew they wanted to spend their golden years together. Being Seventh-day Adventist, they desired to live somewhere close to a church. Sycamore Glen Retirement Center provided that opportunity, being located on a campus with an SDA church and transportation to it. One of Martha's favorite highlights about the community is that the staff can freely share in prayer and ministry. She says this has many times strengthened her and helped her through difficult times. "You won't find that anywhere else," she commented.

In Martha's words... "People here, in comparison with other communities, simply care. They have compassion and there is no place that my sister and I would rather live."



Sycamore Glen Retirement Center
Lobby



Sycamore Glen Health Center
Physical Therapy Room



Dining Room at Sycamore Glen
Retirement Community



Caring for others

Every little girl dreams about what they want to be when they grow up, but it usually changes a dozen times. Not for Jeni Flutz, RN at Sycamore Glen. At the age of five, she knew that she wanted to become a nurse. She wanted the opportunity to help others and make them better when they are ill.

"I love the fact that our community is diverse and we can openly share our faith and love of Christ. It's nice knowing that you're not going to be judged for your faith or beliefs. It adds freedom to express myself wholly with the residents and give all that I am to them each day. I see how just being there for them makes them feel a little safer, a little happier with who they are here in this time of their life at Sycamore Glen Retirement Center" said Jeni.

Sacred work

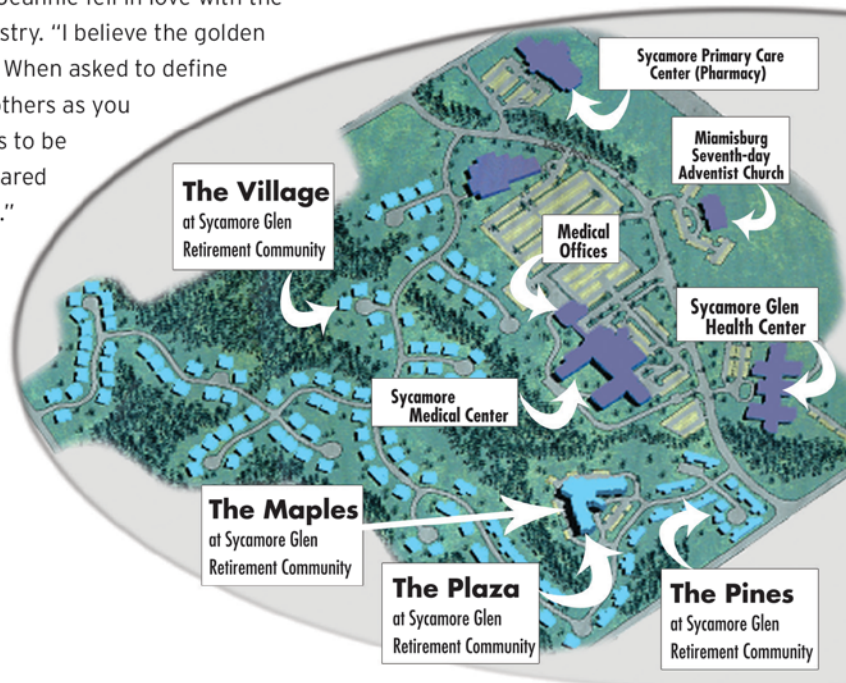
Fifteen years ago Jeannie Hollingsworth's husband passed away. After that tragic heartbreak she felt she needed to find meaningful work. Immediately, she began the job search until a friend who worked at Sycamore Glen told her about an open position. She applied, was offered the position, and now, fourteen and a half years later, still loves her job. Jeannie fell in love with the residents immediately and views her job as a ministry. "I believe the golden rule applies to my position," Jeannie commented. When asked to define her idea of the golden rule, she stated, "To treat others as you would want to be treated. I would want my parents to be treated with love, dignity, and respect, and to be cared for by a genuine individual whom they could trust."



Nurse assisting a patient at Sycamore Glen Health Center



Outdoor patio at Sycamore Glen Retirement Community



NEWS



Network News

SEPTEMBER 2012

Raising Money to Fight Arthritis

Southview Medical Center hosted the Arthritis Foundation Walk and Expo. The walk brought 541 participants and raised almost \$70,000



for programs, services and research for people with arthritis. Working with other organizations to improve the community is an important part of Kettering Adventist HealthCare.

Dayton's First Senior Behavioral Care Center Opens

Kettering Adventist HealthCare opened the doors to the first dedicated gero-psychiatric unit in Montgomery County.



The Senior Behavioral Care unit is located at Grandview Medical Center and cares for patients over 65 with illnesses such as dementia, depression, and psychiatric disorders.

Seniors are the fastest growing population in Montgomery County, yet dedicated psych care for seniors has been almost non-existent - until now.

"Traditionally, adult psych units and nursing homes care for these patients. Often, they are not cared for at all," said Grandview Psychiatry Medical Director George Broderick, DO. "Research showed plenty of behavioral beds for adults and adolescents, but none for seniors. A dedicated center was the next logical step for the community."

The center was carefully developed and researched, with safety as a top priority since seniors have a high fall risk.

"We wanted this center to treat the whole person. The center offers excellent care while having access to hospital services and expert teams of caregivers," said Dr. Broderick.

Soin Dedicates Ollie Davis Pavilion

Even on one of the hottest days of the year, it was standing room only at the Ollie Davis Pavilion dedication. People from all over the Network and the community came out



to honor Ollie Davis, who donated the funds to build the medical office building at Soin Medical Center.

Ollie Davis is a longtime Beavercreek commercial real estate developer and community health care advocate. She was one of the first women to work in commercial real estate sales in the Dayton area. With a passion for building, she spearheaded construction projects, including the Ollie Davis Medical Arts and Education Center in Beavercreek.

Soin Medical Center President Terry Burns joined CEO Fred Manchur, Beavercreek Mayor Vicki Giambrone, Raj Soin in honoring Ollie and her generosity in giving back to the community. The 107,000 square-foot, five-story pavilion will be devoted to leased space for physician offices and medical services.



Executives, dignitaries, and Indu and Raj Soin help cut the ribbon to open the new Ollie Davis Pavilion.

LET'S MOVE! DAY

Sunday, September 23, 2012



HELP US REACH OUR 2 MILLION MILE GOAL!

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Find resources and information at www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org



Let's Move Day is an event of Adventists InStep for Life
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- Hear experts from Washington Adventist University, Andrews University, the Columbia Union Conference, the Baptist Joint Committee and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
- See the conferral of the Adrian Westney Religious Liberty Award
- Dr. James Londis will give the Sabbath Homily

October 20, 2012

9:30 - 5 p.m. (lunch provided)

**Columbia Union Conference Headquarters
5427 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia, MD**

For further information, contact Walter E. Carson at
410-997-3414, ext. 580, or wcarson@columbiaunion.net

Bulletin Board

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EMPLOYMENT

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a director of graduate enrollment management to provide strategic leadership for recruitment and graduate enrollment management. Qualified candidates should have a minimum of a bachelor's degree with three years' experience. For more information and to apply, visit: Andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_salariied.cgi.

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES: (formerly Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences) in Orlando, Fla., seeks an assistant program administrator for the nurse anesthesia program. Qualifications: CRNA with current recertification; eligible for Florida licensure; minimum of master's degree from regionally accredited institution, with doctoral degree preferred; and academic experience. This is a faith-based institution, which seeks candidates who fit its unique culture and mission. Submit letter of interest and CV to Dr. Alescia DeVasher Bethea, alescia.devasher@fhchs.edu or fax (407) 303-9578.

FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES is seeking a curriculum coordinator to work with both the academic departments and faculty on curriculum, mapping and course development in a blended learning environment. Qualifications: PhD in curriculum development preferred, with 10 years of successful teaching in higher education. Send inquiries to: Dr. Don Williams, Sr. VP Academic Admin., Florida Hospital College, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; (407) 303-5619; don.williams@fhchs.edu.

FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, ORLANDO, FLA., is seeking a physical therapist program director

beginning 2013. The program director will provide overall academic leadership developing this program, and salary will be competitive. Qualifications: minimum doctoral degree from regionally accredited school; senior faculty status; understanding of higher education and contemporary clinical; eligible for Florida PT licensure; and PT academic experience. Submit letter of interest, CV, three references and/or letters of recommendation to Dr. Don Williams: don.williams@fhchs.edu, or fax (407) 303-5671.

FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES is seeking applicants for the position of program director for a new physician assistant program. A master's degree is required; doctoral degree is preferred. Florida Hospital College is a faith-based institution, which seeks candidates who fit the unique culture and mission of the college. Please email CV to: Dr. Len M. Archer, Associate Vice President for Academic Administration, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; len.archer@fhchs.edu.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS (GC) Department of Information Systems Services is seeking to hire a Microsoft SharePoint/ASP.NET application developer to continue the development and maintenance of their SharePoint document management infrastructure. Applicants should have multiple years of development and server administration experience and be able to implement complex web architectures using ASP.NET/IIS/SQL Server. Previous exposure to SharePoint administration and development would be ideal. It is the policy of the GC to hire only Adventist church members who consistently financially support

their church. Applicants may apply by faxing or emailing their résumés to GC Human Resources at (301) 680-6768, or stavenhagen@gc.adventist.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

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balance. Price: \$66,000. Phone: (304) 377-2513.

HOUSE FOR SALE ON 27+ ACRES: 3BR, 2BA home on 27.4 acres in West Virginia. Large covered front porch and smaller back porch and carport. Apple grove and large garden area. Appliances include washer/dryer, refrigerator w/ice maker, stove and dishwasher. Available immediately. \$89,900. Call Angie, West Virginia Realty (304) 619-3081 or (304) 354-0408.

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LEGAL NOTICES

QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE ALLEGHENY EAST CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the fourth quadrennial session of the Allegheny East Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will convene Sunday, October 14, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. at Sandy Cove Ministries, 60 Sandy Cove Road, North East, MD 21901. This meeting is called for the election of officers, departmental directors and committees that may properly come before the session at that time.
Charles L. Cheatham, President
Henry J. Fordham III, Vice President for Administration

MEETING OF THE PINE FORGE ACADEMY CONSTITUENCY

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Pine Forge Academy Constituency will be held in connection with the fourth quadrennial session of the Allegheny East Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists at Sandy Cove Ministries, 60 Sandy Cove Road, North East, MD 21901, Sunday, October 14, 2012, at a time that will be called by the chair. This meeting is called to elect a Board of Trustees for the academy and to transact any other business that may come before the constituency at that time. The delegates of the fourth quadrennial session of the Allegheny East Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists are delegates of this session.
Charles L. Cheatham, President
Henry J. Fordham III, Vice President for Administration

PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE TRIENNIAL SESSION

The triennial session of the Pennsylvania Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 11, 2012, at Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Pa.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers for the ensuing term, to receive reports and to transact such other business as may properly come before this full conference in session at that time.

An organizing committee to select the Nominating Committee and nominate the Constitution and Bylaws Committee will meet at 10 a.m. on Sunday, September 16,

	Sept 7	Sept 14	Sept 21	Sept 28	Oct 5
Baltimore	7:27	7:16	7:04	6:53	6:42
Cincinnati	7:58	7:47	7:36	7:25	7:14
Cleveland	7:49	7:37	7:25	7:13	7:01
Columbus	7:53	7:41	7:30	7:18	7:07
Jersey City	7:18	7:06	6:54	6:43	6:31
Norfolk	7:24	7:13	7:03	6:52	6:42
Parkersburg	7:47	7:35	7:24	7:13	7:02
Philadelphia	7:22	7:10	6:59	6:47	6:36
Pittsburgh	7:41	7:30	7:18	7:06	6:55
Reading	7:25	7:13	7:02	6:50	6:39
Richmond	7:29	7:18	7:08	6:57	6:46
Roanoke	7:39	7:28	7:18	7:07	6:56
Toledo	7:57	7:45	7:32	7:20	7:08
Trenton	7:20	7:09	7:57	7:45	7:34
Wash., D.C.	7:28	7:17	7:06	6:55	6:44

2012, at the Harrisburg Seventh-day Adventist Church in Harrisburg, Pa.
Raymond C. Hartwell, President
William J. Peterson, Executive Secretary

ADVENTIST HEALTH MINISTRIES TRIENNIAL SESSION

Notice is hereby given that the regular session of the Adventist Health Ministries constituency will be held in connection with the triennial session of the Pennsylvania Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 11, 2012, at Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Pa.

This meeting is called for the election of trustees and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the session at that time. Every delegate to the Pennsylvania triennial constituency is a member of this session.
Raymond C. Hartwell, President
William J. Peterson, Executive Secretary

PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION TRIENNIAL

Notice is hereby given that the triennial session of the Pennsylvania Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the triennial session of the Pennsylvania Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 11, 2012, at Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Pa.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect trustees and transact any other business that may come before the association at that time. Delegates to the Pennsylvania Conference session are recognized as delegates to the association meeting.
Raymond C. Hartwell, President
William J. Peterson, Executive Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELTSVILLE ADVENTIST SCHOOL invites alumni, faculty and friends to a weekend celebration of 55 years of Adventist education, October 27-28. Activities begin Sabbath morning with special guest speaker Kathy Goddard, former faculty, and continue through Sunday with the second annual Run Fast for BAS 5K. Visit baschool.org, join our Facebook page, or call (301) 937-2933 for more information.

SHARE HIM FESTIVAL OF EVANGELISTIC LIVING seminar will be held September 28-29 at Blue Mountain Academy, 2363 Mountain Rd., Hamburg, PA 19526. This seminar is for everyone

Bulletin Board

interested in church growth and friendship evangelism. Learn how to make evangelism an intentional part of daily living. The first session begins at 7 p.m., Friday, September 28. For more information or to register, visit: festival.sharehim.org or call (877) 874-2738.

ATTENTION ADVENTIST HEALTH STUDY-2 PARTICIPANTS!

Please update your contact information if it has changed: address and phone number. Contact us by email: ahs2@llu.edu, phone: (800) 247-1699, or fax: (909) 558-0126. You may write to: AHS-2, Loma Linda University, Nichol Hall 2031, 24951 N. Circle Drive, Loma Linda, CA 92350, or visit adventisthealthstudy.org.

SUNNYDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND,

October 4-7. Honor classes are '47, '52, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02 and '07. Activities begin Thursday evening with the Silver Showcase banquet and continue Friday with a career day. The Sabbath speaker is Mike Ryan, Class of 1967, former Sunnysdale Academy boys' dean and current General Conference vice president. Sunday is the Alumni Golf Tournament. For additional information, call (573) 682-2164, or visit sunnydale.org.

Maryland Men of Faith 2012 Conference

"Thou Art the Man"
A call to accountability

Featured Speakers:

Justin Kim
Ricky Carter
David Franklin
Volodymyr Grinchenko
Gerald Klingbeil
Robb Long
Roosevelt Marsden
Erika Puni

Sabbath, October 6

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October 6

Ronald Ninala

October 13

Robin Froelich

October 20

Cesar Gonzalez

October 27

Steve Stender

November 3

Robin Froelich

November 1

Bobbi Garufi

November 17

Ralph Krum

November 24

Mac Balkcom

Sabbath School: 10 a.m.

Worship: 11 a.m.

OBITUARIES

COBERLY, Ann M., born October 27, 1925, in Campbell, Ohio; died October 25, 2011. She was a daughter of the late Myron and Margaret (Kalischak) Bilchik. She was a member of the Evergreen church in Boardman, Ohio. She had been a dietary supervisor for Northside Medical Center for 13 years. Ann enjoyed gardening, shopping and doing crafts. She leaves her husband, Jack L. Coberly; one son, Ronald S. (Marilyn) Ciccolelli, and one daughter, Judy (Kenneth) Oles, both of Austintown, Ohio; two stepsons, Dennis R. (Deborah) Coberly of Redlands, Calif., and Jack D. (Andrea) Coberly of Oregon; one brother, Anthony (Margaret) Bilchik of North Olmstead, Ohio; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

FELTMAN, Icyle M., born January 15, 1922, in Gloucester, Ohio, to Steve and Elizabeth Craig; died September 15, 2011, as a resident of the Eastern Star Home, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. After finishing high school, she moved to Zanesville in 1942. She was very active in many programs of the Zanesville (Ohio) church, and operated her own beauty shop. Later she worked in a physician group practice and was a unit secretary at Zanesville Bethesda Hospital and Washington

Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, Md. Icyle then returned to Ohio and worked in Rhodes Office Tower in Columbus. She retired from there in 1983. After her husband's retirement in 1991, they moved to Tuscon, Ariz. After spending 13 winters there, they relocated to Mount Vernon to be closer to their children. They transferred their church membership to the Mount Vernon Hill church. Icyle is survived by her husband, Dr. Elvin Feltman; daughter Sandra (Charles) Richards of Mount Vernon; daughter Jayne (Dr. James) Todd of Dalton, Ga.; son, Captain Alan (Marina) White of Oolteawah, Tenn.; stepsons: David Feltman of Loma Linda, Calif., John (Karen) Feltman of Mount Vernon, and Donald (Rebecca) Feltman of New Market, Va.; and a sister, Adrinne Jago of Florida; 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, Ralf White; and her brothers, Dr. Carl and Samuel Craig and Trent Johnson.

GEER, Ralph R., Sr., born September 29, 1918, in Fayette, Ohio; died October 24, 2011, in Newark, Ohio. He was a member of the Newark church in Heath, Ohio, serving in various capacities, including head elder, teacher and church school board chairman. He was also active in the early days at the food pantry and was the go-to guy at the local Adventist community center. Ralph was employed by the Newark Bus Company until the company closed. He then bought the first of four Marathon Stations. In 1954 Ralph and his wife, Norma, bought a farm near Wilkins Corners and named it Airie Acres Angus, where they raised registered Black Angus cattle. Ralph was a devoted father and husband, and sent their three children to Adventist schools. Ralph was preceded in death by his wife in 2003; his brothers: Carl, Glen, Jim, Chester, Gale "Curly," and Ed; and his sister, Iris Sommerfield. He is survived by his children: Sandy (Buddy) Loveland of Michigan; Ralph R. "Sonny" Geer, Jr., of Zanesville, Ohio; Ron (Sara) Helmick of Washington Court House, Ohio; and Sheryl Callander of Newark; grandchildren: Shelli Rae (Jamie) Helfer of Maryland and Sean Dustin (Debbie) Geer of Zanesville; great-granddaughter Diana of California; brother Rod (Norma) Geer, and sister Ethel Wolfe, all of Newark; and many nieces and nephews.

GILLIS, Laertes, Jr., born August 27, 1926, in Washington, D.C.; died May 11, 2011, in Washington, D.C. He was a member of the First church in Washington, D.C. He was active in his church since his baptism 73 years ago, until his health declined. He was the first Pathfinder coordinator in the United States and served for almost 50 years.

Other offices and activities were associated with the Young People's Society leadership, now called AYS. He also served as head deacon and church elder, as well as in the music department. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Betty F. Gillis of Washington, D.C.; his son, Laertes (Veronica) Gillis, III, of Fort Washington, Md.; his daughter, Sheryl G. (Richard) Reeves of Coatesville, Pa.; six grandchildren: Adrian, Anthony, Andrew, Sharrel, Sheria and Dwinne; seven great-grandchildren; and 11 stepgrand and stepgreat-grandchildren; a sister, Elaine G. Howard of Huntsville, Ala.; a brother, Donald J. Gillis of Calif., and many nieces, nephews and friends.

RECUENCO, Catherine Aracel, born October 17, 1996, in Chattanooga, Tenn.; died September 1, 2011, in Sanatoria Canoas in Mexico. She was a member of the Hagerstown (Md.) church. Cathy graduated from Mt. Aetna Elementary School in June and was planning on attending Highland View Academy. Cathy was in Mexico taking treatments for leukemia. Survivors: her parents, Manuel and Pilar S. Recuenco; a sister, Jacqueline Recuenco; a brother, Kevin Recuenco; her grandfather, Luis Recuenco; a grandmother from Chile, South America; and a grandfather from Peru, South America.

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