

VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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A photograph of two men standing in a laundry room. The man on the left is younger, with dark hair, wearing a grey polo shirt with a small yellow logo and dark pants. The man on the right is older, with dark hair, wearing a light blue t-shirt and dark pants. They are both smiling. Behind them are several commercial washers. One washer has a sticker that says "BIG DAD".

Students. Christians. Volunteers. Entrepreneurs.

WAU Enactus Team Shares Christ Through Service

Plus: Combating Bullying. How Can We Help the Helpless?

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PHOTO BY HEARLY MAYR



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Mark Tyler

Washington Adventist University students have recently helped a struggling laundromat owner revamp his business, and, in the process, received national recognition for their efforts.

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Above: Heather Alas and Erica McKitty participate in Washington Adventist University's Enactus Team presentation at the May 2016 Columbia Union Conference Constituency Meeting.

About the Cover: Ross Patterson photographed Enactus member Levi Soares and owner Nok Kim in the Rainbow Coin Laundry in Silver Spring, Md.

ON THE WEB

ENACTUS VOLUNTEERS

Heather Alas, a senior at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., and the current WAU Enactus president, has volunteered with the organization since her freshman year. She says the group's work is a form of stewardship and allows the team members to share their values with the community. Read more about her experience at columbiaunionvisitor.com/enactuswau.



LET'S KEEP MOVING!

Seventh-day Adventists across the Columbia Union Conference celebrated Let's Move! Day, September 18, but the emphasis on exercise and healthy living doesn't have to stop. Visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/letsmove for tips on how to remain active in the upcoming colder months.



SABBATH SERENITY

What are your family's special Sabbath traditions? Send them to visitor@columbiaunion.net or tell us at facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor. You might see them in the November *Visitor*.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

WGTS 91.9, a Christian radio station owned by Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., has gathered tools to help parents transition into the new school year. Visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/backtoschool for more information.



SHARE YOUR STORY

Each week the *Visitor* staff publishes *Visitor News Bulletin* an e-newsletter with news and events from around the Columbia Union. For publishing consideration, email your photos, videos, stories and upcoming events, with web links, to visitor@columbiaunion.net.

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Volume 121 ■ Issue 8

God Can Make it Possible

The whole Israelite community was overjoyed when, through King Solomon, they built a place of worship and dedicated it to the Lord. It became a house of prayer. “I was glad when they said onto me, let us go to the house of the Lord” (Ps. 122:1).

We serve a God who is “an impossibility specialist.” Although Chesapeake Conference’s Northeast church in Parkville, Md. (pictured), is a small congregation, God made it possible for them to acquire their own place of worship. Through the Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF), the church purchased and renovated an old building. At the dedication, the sanctuary was full to capacity. I could feel the presence of God, as well as the excitement and joy on the faces of all the church members.



PARTNERING WITH CURF

CURF is making ministry possible by helping finance the gospel ministry through assisting constituent churches and schools with purchasing buildings and land, making land improvements, completing renovations and other projects. This empowers congregations to better follow the

gospel commission. I envision a day when all our constituent churches will have their own church buildings and worship God in Spirit and truth, and bring other people who are yearning for the salvation of our Lord to come.

This may sound like a great challenge. However, we serve a perfect and awesome God who has power to do more than we can ever imagine. I have witnessed and experienced the great and mighty power of God in my own life, and I believe it is possible that, through CURF, in partnership with members who invest, we will continue to provide low financing to our various constituent entities to embark on building projects and renovations.

COUNTING ON GOD’S PROMISES

There are so many of God’s promises we can count on every day. My favorite ones are Luke 1:37: “For nothing is impossible with God” (NIV); and Jeremiah 33:3: “Call on me and I will tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know” (NIV). We need to constantly remember who God is by intentionally recalling to mind His rich promises.

Each day I meditate on one promise of God and it gives me strength, peace and joy. I am able to go through each day with the hope that God is by my side, making me “more than a conqueror” (see Romans 8:37).

Try meditating on the promises of God, and I believe your whole attitude and perspective on life will change. You will be strengthened each day and you will find peace in your struggles. I have tried it, and it is working for me. With God, all things are possible!

Emmanuel M. Asiedu, MBA, is secretary-treasurer of CURF and associate treasurer of the Columbia Union.

Newsline

LONGTIME CURF BOARD MEMBER PASSES AWAY

Violet Pulidindi, a member of the Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF) Board for the past 11 years, passed away August 1.



Pulidindi, also a member of CURF's Investment Committee and Audit Review Committee, retired from the World Bank (Washington, D.C.) but continued to serve as a consultant. "She was a great resource to CURF," says Dave Weigley, president of the Columbia Union Conference and chairman of the CURF Board. "We truly appreciated her counsel and contribution; she will be missed."

WAU MOURNS DEATH OF JOSEPH GURUBATHAM

The Washington Adventist University (WAU) community is mourning the death of Joseph Gurubatham, Ed.D., who died August 9 at age 74. He was a former vice president of academic affairs for WAU in Takoma Park, Md., and had recently retired as senior vice president at the Accrediting Council



for Independent Colleges and Schools in Washington, D.C.

Gurubatham's career included service as president of Griggs University in Silver Spring, Md., the Seventh-day Adventist Church's long-distance educational institution. Gurubatham, who is an alumnus of WAU, also served in a variety of other leadership positions for the Church.

"This is a tremendous loss for Washington Adventist University and for all of the educational institutions that Dr. Joseph Gurubatham enhanced with his strong spirit and management skills," says Weymouth Spence, WAU president.—WAU Staff

19.5 Million

The Seventh-day Adventist Church's official membership totaled 19,578,942 members in the first half of 2016, a net increase of 452,495 people (2.37 percent), powered in part by a record 100,000 baptisms in Rwanda. As of June 30, North American Division membership totaled 1,225,317, and Columbia Union membership reached 146,768.—Andrew McChesney and Visitor Staff

One of the greatest challenges we face is making Adventist Education more affordable and accessible to all of our constituents. This year I am praying that God will continue to increase our student population, help our schools to obtain additional sources of funding and that all students enrolled in our schools will have a real encounter with Christ. I invite our readers to pray with us as we work toward making these dreams a reality.

—Donovan Ross, Vice President for Education, Columbia Union Conference



The inaugural WGTS 91.9 Summer Concert with recording artist Colton Dixon in Tysons Corner, Va., drew more than 4,000 people.

Pine Forge Academy Celebrates 70 Years

Last month Pine Forge Academy (PFA) celebrated its 70th anniversary. PFA is one of only four predominantly black boarding schools in the nation, and the only Adventist institution among the four.

Alumni Weekend provided an opportunity for former and current students to celebrate the institution's milestone. The weekend kicked off with Career Day on Friday, where alumni shared their professions with current students. Sabbath service included a sermon by U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black ('66), who was part of the 50-year honor class (pictured below).

Lynda Johnson Robb, daughter of Lyndon Baines Johnson, the 36th president of the United States (pictured above), received an award from Bryan Akil Marshall (on left),



president of the honor class of 1966. The class invited her so they could honor her father's commitment to passing several civil rights laws that impacted their class directly. "It was because of him that members of our class had the opportunity to receive scholarships for college and get jobs," shared Rockefeller Twyman ('66), who today owns a public relations company.

The weekend also included a special alumni awards program, a benefit banquet and the first 5K run/walk, "Race for the Forge," which raised more than \$10,000. Other fundraising efforts include the sale of a 70th anniversary commemorative yearbook produced by the Class of 2016 and the #Reignite70 campaign to raise funds for the renovation of the school's facilities.

"Alumni weekend is not just about coming together for one weekend, but celebrating what we as alumni are doing year round to make sure the academy stays open another 70 years," says Leon Thomas ('81), National Pine Forge Alumni Association president.

PFA opened its doors September 9, 1947, a few years after the formation of the first three regional conferences—Lake Region, Northeastern and Allegheny. These conferences were formed in response to years of challenges with race relations in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. One such challenge was blacks being denied equal opportunity to attend Adventist schools. This

led to the desire for an Adventist school where black youth could obtain a Christian education in a non-hostile environment.

When the administrators of the Allegheny Conference heard about a 575-acre property for sale in Berks County, Pennsylvania, they purchased it. "Such an institution was essential not only because Christian education has always been a priority for Adventists, but because of the lack of viable educational options for the growing number of young black Adventists in the North, who were largely discouraged, and often prohibited, from attending white Adventist schools," says Adventist historian Benjamin Baker.

For seven decades, PFA has pursued its mission to "provide a Christ-centered curriculum in a safe, caring environment, and to prepare students spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially for the service of God and man." The PFA experience has been so valued that many alumni have passed the opportunity down to their children.

"I know the impact that PFA had on my young life as a teenager, and I knew that it would be the ideal place for my two sons' academic, spiritual and social development," says Charles D. Battles ('70) and former history teacher ('75-'84).

"I feel like this is where God wants me to be," says Jonathan Williamson ('18).



Dexter Fields ('83), a member of Allegheny East Conference's Capitol Hill church in Washington, D.C., was among five alumni honored. The barber, floral designer and business owner who provides free monthly grooming services to the homeless, was recognized for his dedication to community service.

FUN FACTS

Notable Grads

- Barry Black ('66), U.S. Senate Chaplain
- Clifton Davis ('63) Actor/Singer

Grads over 70 Years

- ~3,000
- 6 in the first graduating class
- 100% graduation rate
- 100% are accepted into one or more colleges

FALLECE MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA DIRECTIVA DE CURF

Violet Pulidindi, miembro de la Junta Directiva de Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF) durante los últimos 11 años, pasó al descanso el 1 de agosto. Pulidindi, quien también fue miembro de la Comisión de Inversiones y de la Comisión de Auditoría, se jubiló del



Banco Mundial en Washington, D.C. y luego sirvió allí como asesora. “Ella fue un gran recurso para el CURF”, comenta Dave Weigley, presidente de la Junta Directiva del CURF. “Apreciamos de corazón su asesoramiento y contribución; se la echará de menos”.

LA UAW LAMENTA LA PERDIDA DE JOSEPH GURUBATHAM

La comunidad de la Universidad Adventista de Washington (UAW) está de duelo tras la muerte de Joseph Gurubatham, Dr.Ed., quien falleció el 9 de agosto a los 74 años de edad. Fue el ex vice presidente de asuntos estudiantiles de la UAW en Takoma Park, Maryland, y recientemente se había jubilado de



la posición de vicepresidente del Consejo de Acreditación para los Colegios y Escuelas Independientes en Washington, D.C.

La carrera profesional de Gurubatham incluyó ser el presidente de la Universidad Griggs en Silver Spring, Maryland, una institución educativa a larga distancia. También sirvió en diferentes posiciones de liderazgo para la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día. Gurubatham fue un ex alumno de la UAW, de la Universidad Católica de América (D.C.) y de la Universidad Estatal de Pennsylvania.—*Personal de UAW*

LA MEMBRESÍA ADVENTISTA SUPERA LOS 19,5 MILLONES

La membresía oficial de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día superó los 19,5 millones de miembros en la primera mitad del 2016. Este aumento fue impulsado en parte por los cien mil bautismos en Ruanda. La iglesia tenía 19.578.942 miembros en los libros el 30 de junio, un aumento neto de 452.495 personas, o un 2,37 por ciento, desde el último recuento realizado el 31 de diciembre.

“Alabamos a Dios por Su increíble bendición de proveer 19,5 millones de hermanas y hermanos bautizados alrededor del mundo”, expresó el presidente de la Iglesia Adventista, Ted N.C. Wilson, el jueves en su página de Facebook.

“Dios seguirá usando a cada persona que está dispuesta a ser parte de la Participación Total de los Miembros: Todos haciendo algo para Jesús, para alcanzar a los 7,5 billones de personas alrededor del mundo que tienen que saber sobre Cristo, Su justicia, Su salvación y Su segunda venida”.—*Andrew McChesney, Revista Adventista*

NIÑO DE NEW JERSEY PRESENTA ESTUDIOS BÍBLICOS

Cada semana Jaffet Vazquez, un alumno de cuarto grado de la Escuela Adventista Vine Haven en la Asociación de New Jersey, les enseña a los niños que viven en la Calle Walnut sobre la Biblia y su mejor amigo, Jesús. Su madre, Susana Vazquez, después de mucha oración se acercó a cada madre en esa calle para pedirles permiso para que sus hijos asistan a los estudios bíblicos en



Uno de los desafíos más grandes que enfrentamos es lograr que la Educación Adventista sea más económica y accesible para todos los constituyentes. Este año estoy orando para que Dios continúe aumentando nuestra población estudiantil, que ayuda a que nuestras escuelas puedan conseguir fondos adicionales, y que todos los alumnos inscriptos en nuestras escuelas puedan tener un encuentro real con Cristo. Invito a todos nuestros lectores que se unan a nosotros en oración mientras nosotros trabajamos en hacer estos sueños una realidad.

—*Donovan Ross, vice presidente de Educación de la Unión de Columbia*

su hogar. Muchas respondieron positivamente y enviaron a sus hijos. Jaffet usa lo que aprende en la clase de su maestra, Violeta Molina y en la del Pastor Raúl Rivero, maestro de Biblia, para enseñar y compartir el amor de Dios y el regalo de la salvación con sus amigos. Lea más sobre la historia de Jaffet en el boletín informativo de la Asociación de New Jersey en la página 24.
—Cristina Macena

RETIRO ESPIRITUAL REÚNE MUJERES HISPANAS EN OHIO

Hace unas semanas, el personal de la Asociación de Ohio realizó el Retiro Hispano de Damas en el campamento Thornville de la Asociación Allegheny West. Liz Enid Polanco, capellana y música adventista de Puerto Rico, predicó sobre la Palabra de Dios. El lema fue “Guiadas por el Espíritu”. “El Espíritu del Señor se sintió fuertemente en cada momento del retiro”, comentó la organizadora del retiro y directora del Ministerio de la Mujer de la Primera Iglesia Hispana de Cleveland, Jeanette Pellot-Ayala.

Entre las oradoras invitadas estuvo Buffy Halvoresen de la Asociación de Ohio, quien predicó el sábado de mañana, y la cantante internacional, Sarah Capeles, quien según las damas que asistieron les elevó el espíritu y las acercó a Dios a través de su ministerio musical. Lea más en el boletín informativo de la Asociación de Ohio en la página 25.—Jeanette Pellot-Ayala

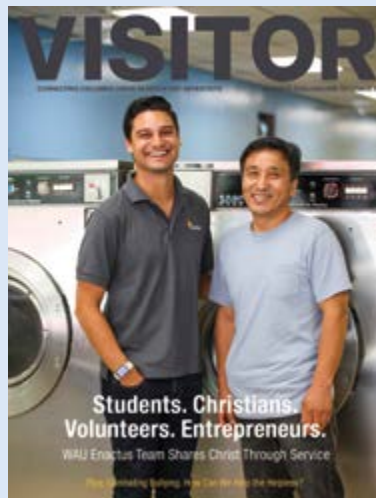


WGTS AUSPICIÓ UN CONCIERTO DE VERANO

El concierto inaugural de verano de WGTS 91.9 atrajo a un gran público en Tysons Corner, Virginia, un suburbio de Washington, D.C. Más de 4,000 personas asistieron al show, realizado al aire libre, para ver a Colton Dixon, un ex participante del programa American Idol. El concierto se hizo en una flamante plaza suspendida a 43 pies de altura entre el centro comercial de Tysons Corner y tres edificios grandes.

“Fue un lugar maravilloso para realizar el concierto. Muchos se presentaron con entradas, pero otros vinieron por curiosidad y se quedaron para participar del evento”, dice Jerry Woods, locutor del programa radial de la mañana y director de promoción de WGTS.—Personal de WGTS

¿Usted está consiguiendo todas las noticias?



Visite columbiaunionvisitor.com/october2016 para bajar el pdf de la revista completa, leer los artículos publicados en la internet y para encontrar historias para compartir en sus redes sociales.

Para recibir noticias sobre los eventos y ver fotos y videos, siganos en Twitter, [@visitornews](https://twitter.com/visitornews); Instagram, [@columbiaunionvisitor](https://www.instagram.com/columbiaunionvisitor); Facebook, facebook.com/columbiaunionvisitor.



Combating Bullying: How Can We Help the Helpless?

The dictionary defines the term “bully” as someone who uses strength or power to intimidate those who are weaker. Quarrelsome, overbearing and oppressor are common synonyms of a word that describes a systemic epidemic in our communities. In 2015 one out of every four children reported being bullied during the school year.

Physical, verbal, social and cyber bullying isn't just found in the public school systems. This disease knows no creed, race, age or gender and to stop it from spreading, we must admit there is a problem, educate ourselves and be proactive in enforcing change.

Change doesn't necessarily require a significant amount of time, especially when advocating and working collectively with each other to achieve a common goal. Isaiah 1:17 tells us to “learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed” (NIV). God has called on us to serve Him by serving others.

Seventh-day Adventists are working toward a solution. Here are several ways Adventist churches, schools and members in the Columbia Union are helping to put an end to bullying.

STEPPING IN AND STEPPING UP

Carol Rey, a fifth- and sixth-grade teacher at Pennsylvania Conference's Reading Junior Academy in Reading, stepped in one year to foster change in her classroom where bullying occurred on a daily basis. Her efforts sparked a school-wide initiative that has garnered astounding results, nearly eliminating bullying in the entire academy.



“During that particular school year, three or four years ago, the negative energy was palpable,” says Rey. “I tried talking to students and handling each situation as it happened, but the issue kept resurfacing.”

After Christmas break, Rey felt she had to do more. One day, she asked students to write down the names of those in the class who were bullies, and the answers revealed that half of the class was labeled as such. Rey took action by requesting materials on bullying and, every day for the rest of the year, took her students out of the classroom to the library to

discuss the effects of bullying.

“Academics came second because, if students didn't feel safe, then they weren't learning,” she says. “We had open discussions daily to bring awareness about this epidemic because most of them didn't think they were bullying—they called it teasing. We talked about events from the day before, how to react to a bully, and what to do if they saw someone being bullied.”

For Rey, it was important to make students aware of what they were doing and the lasting effects their words and actions can have on people. Rey's proactive stance prompted change, leading to

the implementation of the BKTOA (be kind to one another) anti-bullying campaign at Reading Junior Academy.

On the first week of school every year, students attend an assembly where bullying is re-enacted in the form of various scenarios. Students sign posters and pledge that their school is a no-bullying zone.

CREATING AN ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM

If one isn't aware, then one isn't able to make a difference. An anti-bullying program educates individuals on the many different forms of bullying and ways to address this issue. The program that Reading Junior Academy rolled out was inspired by the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, which has been endorsed by the Columbia Union Conference Office of Education, and implemented in hundreds of schools across the country.

Spring Valley Academy (SVA) in Centerville, Ohio, found that it has room to grow in living up to its motto: Know, Follow, Share Jesus—specifically in the way students treat and speak to each other. Principal Darren Wilkins, shared his mission with the school community on protecting the school's students and providing a "great environment for them to thrive." In his April 2016 *Spring Valley Academy Happenings* editorial in the *Visitor*, titled "We're Pro-Kindness," Wilkins shared information about the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, explaining how the school community would use the resources Olweus provides to help support this initiative:

- Parent in-service to better understand the school's new approach and how they can support the school's efforts at home
- Free webinars and online courses
- Resources for warning signs and the prevention of bullying

This past spring, the New Jersey Conference held a two-day training for all teachers, principals and staff on bullying prevention using

the same curriculum. The training was sponsored by the La Sierra University Conflict Resolution Center (Calif.) as a collaborative effort to educate school officials about bullying and discuss initiatives to implement that help prevent and/or stop bullying.

BE CONSISTENT IN YOUR MESSAGE AND MISSION

Once staff step in, step up and create an anti-bullying initiative at a school, church or home; consistency is key to its success.

Brody Wiedemann, a teacher at Potomac Conference's Richmond Academy in Richmond, shared that his school regularly publishes tips on bullying in their newsletter. They also have a student who transferred in from a public school where he was being bullied. Since transitioning, the student is no longer a victim of bullying and is doing well.

A young girl at Reading Junior Academy wasn't going to return to the school due to the extent of bullying she encountered. That student was involved in the dialogue that Carol Rey initiated every day and, in conjunction with the BKTOA initiative that was implemented, she witnessed change, and ultimately decided to stay.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Bullying isn't limited to our schools. Adults are victims as well and can experience forms of bullying in the workplace, at church or at home. "Childhood bullies can grow up to be adult bullies," writes Jim Redfield, retired pastor and Olweus trainer. "Individuals who practice bullying behavior will use it in any relationship, whether it is their own family or work places, neighborhoods, social groups, sports organizations or congregations."

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program is designed for use beyond the classroom. And since the program's 2012 implementation, more and more Adventist Church entities are striving to live by this motto: be cognizant, be vocal and

be involved. To learn about bullying and ways to get involved in your church, school or community, visit stopbullying.gov.

Danielle Tyler is a writer, aspiring novelist and graduate student.



Bullying: Know the Signs

The Bullied

According to Adventist Risk Management, depression, anxiety, sadness, aggression, low self-esteem, and deficits in peer relations are common symptoms exuded by someone who is bullied. Stopbullying.gov dives deeper by listing unexplainable injuries, lost or destroyed belongings, faking illness, difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares, declining grades, loss of interest in schoolwork, or not wanting to go to school, sudden avoidance of social situations, and self-destructive behaviors such as running away from home, harming themselves, or talking about suicide as possible signs someone is bullied.

The Bully

Stopbullying.gov lists signs that may indicate when a child is bullying others as children who constantly get into physical or verbal fights, have friends who bully others, are increasingly aggressive, get sent to the principal's office or to detention frequently, have unexplained extra money or new belongings, blame others for their problems, don't accept responsibility for their actions, are competitive and worry about their reputation or popularity.

Students. Christians. Volunteers. Entrepreneurs.

By Mark Tyler

How do you help a struggling local business quickly become more competitive?

Step 1: Change the name.

Step 2: Upgrade the appearance.

Washington Adventist University (WAU) students are helping a Takoma Park, Md., laundry owner accomplish both steps through the school's award-winning Enactus team.

According to the organization's website, "Enactus is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring students to improve the world through entrepreneurial action."

Enactus teams compete on regional, national and international levels by volunteering to create community development projects.

WAU is one of five Seventh-day Adventist universities in the program that boasts the involvement of more than 70,000 students, from some 1,700 colleges and universities throughout 36 countries. The WAU team of 38 students volunteered nearly 4,000 hours last year. That means each student averaged more than 100 hours of service, in addition to all of their other personal commitments and academic responsibilities.

Weymouth Spence, WAU president, says when students help local business owners succeed, it promotes the school's mantra of being the "Gateway to Service."

"Every activity of the university is tied to the foundational concept of preparing our students for not only a college degree, but also to be of value to humanity," says Spence. "Symbolically, our freshmen enter the university through the Gateway to Service to learn how one can be of service to humanity, and as graduates they exit through the Gateway to Service as competent moral leaders returning to their communities to change the world."

The Flower Facelift Project

Students have adopted a business district near the university, giving particular attention to a laundry owner facing the challenge of competing with a new laundromat nearby.

Nok Kim, 58, who owns the Rainbow Coin Laundry, formerly Spin Cycle, on Flower Avenue, says the students have been a godsend.

The Enactus team advised Kim to reinvent his business. They told him he needed to rebrand. Then they transformed the dull building in the middle of a run-down block into the bright, welcoming establishment that it is today.

"It feels like a new place," Kim says.

WAU Enactus Team Shares Christ Through Service



Students painted the building's interior and exterior, changing drab white walls into vibrant sections of yellow, blue and green. Then they deep-cleaned the floors and shined up the machines. Kim added a flat screen television, vending machines and video games.

People noticed, says Kim, telling him, "You changed something—wow!"

The students attacked the project with the fervor of a team of highly-paid professional consultants, Kim explains. "They were nice to the customers, and anything I needed help with, they helped me—from the sign to the logo," Kim says.

But the Enactus team didn't stop there.

They noticed that the laundry—which is in a disadvantaged section of typically affluent Montgomery County, Md.—was always full of immigrant children waiting for their parents to wash and dry clothes. So WAU students put the children's idle hands and minds to work by establishing a tutoring program. More than 50 children now receive homework assistance at Rainbow Coin Laundry.

Levi Soares, 23, a junior nursing major who is a past president of the Enactus team, says that this spontaneous portion of the project exceeded everyone's expectations.

"Initially that program wasn't supposed to be tutoring," Soares

Washington Adventist University faculty, staff and students join Peter Franchot, comptroller of Maryland (center) and Yumi Hogan, the first lady of Maryland (second from right), at Rainbow Coin Laundry for a Sam's Club award ceremony.

explains. "But we said, 'We can help the kids educationally *and* help the laundromat.'"

"We needed to help his business, and that just happened to be the biggest thing to boost his financials," Soares adds.

Karina Molina, 25, and her 7-year-old daughter Bryanna, moved to nearby Hyattsville last year. But they still make the approximately 30-minute commute to Rainbow Coin Laundry, in part, because of the tutoring program.

"Everything is good," says Molina, whose daughter is in the second grade.

Tanya Hayes, 21, of Takoma Park agrees. "There are laundry rooms all around, but I still come here," she says.

Winning Through Service

Kimberly Pichot (pictured above, far left), former chair of the WAU Business and Communication department, who served as faculty sponsor of Enactus until recently,

How Enactus Works

1 Program Establishment

Enactus supports student recruitment and engagement of university staff, business advisors and team leaders on more than 1,700 campuses in 36 countries.

2 Team Development

Through sharing insights, robust training tools and leadership events, Enactus builds capacity to maximize student and global impact.

3 Collaborative Guidance

Teams participate in needs assessment and insight gathering for local and international community impact projects.

4 Entrepreneurial Action

Students deploy business innovation to improve the human condition and enable sustainable human progress.

5 Competition Excellence

At national and world events, teams collaborate, drive innovation, prove impact and connect with world business leaders.

—From the Enactus Team Handbook: Academic Year Ending 2016



Above: Enactus students present at Washington Adventist University's Constituency Meeting in May.

Left: Students celebrate their 1st place trophy for Sam's Club Step Up for Small Business award at the Enactus USA Expo.



and oversaw the Flower Facelift and other projects, says her students have consistently done well for themselves and their school just by doing good.

"We look for needs in the community. We put together programs to address those needs, and then we do pre- and post-assessment to try to measure the impact that the students are actually having," says Pichot.

Service, which has its own intrinsic rewards, can also propel an Enactus team to award-winning success. "We take our results to competitions where Fortune 500 companies assess the results," explains Pichot.

In May the WAU team placed second in their league of the opening round at the 2016 Enactus United States Exposition in St. Louis, Mo.

This success came after advancing through the regional competition held in March in Washington, D.C., where students presented findings from the Flower Facelift and several other projects.

"I am very proud of our team," says Pichot. "As second-place

recipients in the opening round, we are now classified in the top 10 percent of Enactus teams in the United States. This is the best our team has ever done, and we're very excited to continue building relationships in our community where the real impact is experienced."

Rachel Mobley, vice president of marketing communications and operations for Enactus United States, says both awards are outstanding achievements. "Washington Adventist [University] advanced out of our largest regional [competition]," Mobley explains.

WAU progressed through a total of seven Enactus regional competitions—six in physical locations and one virtual, Mobley says. "Being a regional champion and taking second in their league places them in the top 25 percent of all competing teams within the United States," explains Mobley.

The university has also accomplished other endeavors along the way, Mobley adds.

During the 2015-2016 year, WAU won 1st place in the Sam's Club Step Up for Small Business Project

Partnership, winning \$5,000.

"This specific partnership seeks to empower underserved Main Street business owners in the U.S. to navigate the lending market and equip themselves with the skills and knowledge necessary to make sound business decisions," Mobley says.

Additionally, the team placed third in the Walmart Women's Economic Empowerment Project Partnership. And, during the 2014-2015 year, WAU placed third in the Uncap Opportunities for Women Project Partnership.

The students have held a small business symposium on branding, helped business owners improve their marketing and developed a positive relationship with the Long Branch Business League, an association of shopkeepers in the Flower Avenue area of Takoma Park. The WAU team has also held community Christmas parties, backpack and school supply giveaways and other forms of outreach.

"Their success in competition means that the team effectively used entrepreneurial action to launch their projects, which had real measurable impact," Mobley says.

Service to God and Humanity

Spence says the Enactus goal of creating positive change in the world runs parallel to the university's mission despite the fact that Enactus is a secular program.

"Our vision at Washington Adventist University is to produce graduates who bring competence and moral leadership to their communities," Spence says. "It is important that the university is connected to the community, not only by the taxes or fees we pay, but also by the humanitarian and professional services we provide to our neighbors."

Pichot agrees, and says that students demonstrate their faith through service.

"Enactus, even though it is a secular program, we've made it a spiritual program," she says. "We have solid leaders engaged in our program, and they're going out making an impact."

Enactus gives students an opportunity to share Christ in a meaningful way.

"We are about service to humanity because Jesus' ministry was about helping people where they were—and that transformed lives," Pichot says. "I believe that is still our mission as Seventh-day Adventists—raising moral citizens, engaging minds, transforming lives."

When Education Meets Practical Application

Clarissa Machado, who is a faculty advisor for the Enactus team, says the program is a benefit both to the students and businesses.

"We get real world experience, and they get new, viable ideas," says Machado.

Although the students are unpaid, the experience is invaluable.

"Whatever they're learning in the classroom, they're applying," Pichot says. "We have turned the subject matter into something very real and practical."



studies and faculty sponsor of Enactus

The students are being impacted spiritually. When I talk to them, they say they have been impacted positively by their ability to be servant leaders. It has enabled our students to recognize that they are agents of change. [Also,] that it is okay to believe in their God-given skills and talents, that they are capable of making meaningful change in their communities.—*Andrea Baldwin, new chair of the department of business and communication*

Pichot says this allows students to mature both academically and professionally, which better prepares them for career success.

"They are presenting to business owners. They are dressed in suits. They know what they're talking about, and the businesses take them seriously," she explains. "The students continue to receive all of the textbook knowledge, but they go out and put it into practice."

Mobley says the "Enactus ecosystem" is a beneficial partnership between three essential entities: students, faculty advisors and business leaders.

"Collaboration between these groups is vital and part of what makes Enactus so unique," Mobley says.

Spence says learning to work with others is also part of the benefit of faith-based learning. "The utilization of the knowledge they have gained from the classroom to improve the lives of others is the direct outcome of a Christian

education," he says. "We value generosity in both attitude and practice and consider higher education to be both training and an opportunity for service."

Looking to the Future

Machado says students have primarily done consulting, and she would like the next step to be helping someone achieve their dream of building a new business from its inception.

The university president says WAU and Enactus are perfect together. "It gives me great joy to know that I am part of a system that provides Christian service to humanity. This is the value of Christian education," Spence says. "At the end of the day, this is what education is all about—engaging minds and transforming lives."

Mark Tyler, president of Tyler Enterprises, LLC, writes from Atlantic City, N.J.



emphasis, is the new student president of Enactus

Enactus is all volunteer work. Members may volunteer up to 500 hours a year, but it all depends on the individual. Other universities give scholarships and stipends to their team members—we don't have that luxury just yet. At WAU, however, we join because we feel the need to help others.—*Heather Alas, a WAU senior with a dual major in business administration, finance emphasis, and business administration, marketing*

COLUMBIA UNION REVOLVING FUND

MAKING MINISTRY POSSIBLE

After serving the community for almost 30 years, the Summersville (W.Va) Seventh-day Adventist Church's Friends-R-Fun Child Development Center in the Mountain View Conference needed room to grow. With a loan from CURF, they added a two-story addition, entry area, stairs and an outdoor porch to their facility adjacent to the church. Now there's more room in the Baby Bungalow, the toddler's quarters and the kindergarten readiness program.

By providing loans for more than 2,000 projects to date, CURF helps further the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church all across the Columbia Union.

Learn more:

(866) 721-CURF | columbiaunion.org/CURF



Since 1968 the Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF) has been providing low-interest loans and financing for Seventh-day Adventist church and school building and renovating projects so as to facilitate growth. What started as a \$200,000 fund with investments from members has grown to a \$168 million resource that makes ministry possible.

CURF

Helping Finance the Gospel Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church



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Dupont Park School Garden Enhances Student Learning

Teachers and parents of the Dupont Park Elementary School have created a garden through which kindergarten students are learning to take care of the earth and themselves.

Sheila Woods, kindergarten teacher at Dupont Park Elementary School in Washington, D.C., and Gilda Allen, Dupont Park grandparent and member of the Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club in Mount Airy, Md., developed the garden last school year through a grant funded by the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

The purpose of the garden is “to inspire and create a group of young gardeners who will love and protect the environment and see God’s love through nature,” says George Thornton, principal.

To start the garden, students painted garden signs, made stepping stones and grew vegetables from seeds. From digging through soil, discovering composting critters and making snacks like kale smoothies, quinoa salad and jellyfish cookies, the students learned how to take care of the garden and themselves.

“The beauty of planting our garden is watching the



Dupont Park Adventist School kindergarten student Michael Haughton checks on the school garden.

excitement in my students’ eyes each time they run into the classroom to see how much their seeds have grown,” says Woods.

Churches Respond to Violence

Many Allegheny East Conference church members have responded to recent violence expressed from and toward police.

Carlos McConico, pastor of the Ebenezer church in Philadelphia, and his members visited the 17th Police

District Headquarters to pray with officers.

“The shooting in Dallas had just occurred and we wanted our local police force to know that we appreciate them,” he says. “We also wanted it to be clear that we need and support our local officers,” he says.

During a recent community unity day, Errol T. Stoddart, pastor of the Church of the Oranges in Orange, N.J., called prayer warriors and elders forward to lay hands on the members of the Orange New Jersey Police Department, firefighters and first responders. The following Sabbath, church leaders held a special season of prayer for all black men in the community.

“I reminded all of our young men that their first job is to get home safely,” says Stoddart.

The Baltimore Area Ministerium hosted a town hall meeting at the Berea church in Baltimore to discuss how to solve the problem of violence in their city.

“We feel that every opportunity community members have for coming together and discussing positive ways to mend our neighborhoods can go a long way toward making our area great again,” says Maurice Taylor, Baltimore area leader.



Pastor Reginald Anderson-Exum and Liam Davis, a representative of Baltimore City Council, discuss the goals and responsibilities of the Baltimore City Council office.

NEWS

Angaza Sharon Church Hosts Vespers Broadcast

After arriving at an empty church one Friday evening for vespers, Bashir Rex Kinful, media director of the Angaza Sharon church in Newark, N.J., started brainstorming how to revive their vespers experience.

“People have gotten busier, are working more hours, or moved too far from church, so I thought about developing a program where vespers could be streamed live on all platforms,” says Kinful. After discussing it with his spouse, pastors and a few elders, the Angaza Sharon church started their Vespers Broadcasting Network and launched the “Vespers Fire” series.



Moses Njuguna shares a message on the Angaza Sharon Church’s Vespers Broadcasting Network.

They went live January 2, 2015, on YouTube and have been streaming every Friday since. The program runs from 8 - 9 p.m., and listeners ask questions or share prayer requests through text messages or email. The broadcast link is also posted on the church WhatsApp group. Kinful is also planning to release a mobile app.

View the broadcast at youtube.com/c/vespersfire.

Pathfinders Organize First Abuse Prevention Community Event

The Green-Castle Knight Pathfinder Club from the Green-Castle church in Chambersburg, Pa., recently organized “Childhood, a Great Project,” the town’s first Children’s Rights March to speak against child abuse, bullying and neglect.

Close to 200 people attended, including a marching band and other Allegheny East Conference Pathfinder clubs. After the march, a crowd gathered at the courthouse plaza for a special presentation and watched performances highlighting children’s rights.



The Green-Castle Knight Pathfinder drill squad performs at the first March for Children’s Rights.

“We tried to show the community what some children have to go through at home and school, and also share how the Pathfinder club can help those children,” shares Kevin Patino, associate director.

Pine Forge Academy Faculty Attend Educators’ Conference

Pine Forge Academy leadership recently sent eight staff to the KIPP School Summit in Atlanta. The purpose of the summit is to bring educators together to connect, learn and share with their colleagues. This year’s conference theme, “Better Together,” focused on social injustice and equity in the field of education.

“We were fortunate to have the opportunity to network with other professionals, recharge our instructional batteries and embrace the concept that all students are able to learn,” says Vanessa Wilson, history instructor.



Teachers represent Pine Forge Academy at the KIPP School Summit.

Hope for Today Crochet Ministry Leads to Bible Study

The women of Hope for Today church in Appomattox, Va., prayerfully searched for ways to continue building relationships in the community after the completion of a recent health seminar and computer literacy training class. A discussion with two women, guests who had attended these events, led to the development of an introduction to crochet class taught by member Pamela Singletary. Beginning with the basic single crochet stitch, the group learned how to crochet hats. As their projects began to take shape, the women decided they would donate the completed hats to the newborn unit at Central Hospital in Farmville, Va.

This summer, just four months after the class began, the ladies made their first presentation of 26 newborn hats to the hospital. Not satisfied with that contribution, the ladies are currently learning the double crochet stitch with the intention of donating more hats to the cancer unit at the same hospital.

Each class opens and closes with prayer. Before closing prayer, however, each lady recites a memorized text and shares with the others what the Holy Spirit has impressed upon their heart concerning the text. This evolved into a formal Bible study in August due to the



Members of the Hope for Today crochet class display their creations.

questions raised by attendees who don't attend the Hope for Today church.

"Please pray for the ladies as they seek to follow Christ's method of reaching people, meeting their needs, then bidding them to follow Him," says Pastor Reginald Robinson.

Southeast Church Hosts Urban Ministry Conference

Pastor Jerome Hurst, community service director of the Allegheny West Conference, recently hosted

the Urban Ministry Training conference at Southeast church in Cleveland, where he pastors. Sung Kwon, executive director of the North American Division's Adventist Community Services, led out in this two-day training where pastors and community leaders learned methods of effective outreach and approaches to reaching the community. Leaders and pastors from around the conference listened as Kwon described the importance of reaching out and partnering with community service organizations and being committed to make a change in our community "without the desire for our churches to get the credit."

Sterling Thompson, pastor of the Shiloh church in Huntington, W.Va., and Berea church in Charleston, W.Va., says, "It was a paradigm shift for me. We can use Christ's method of mingling and helping people by partnering with other organizations outside of our local church and see our communities change for the better, without doing everything and without getting all the credit."



Adventist Community Service leaders from across the Allegheny West Conference discuss how to effectively reach their communities.

Hilltop Church Hosts Safety Forum

Residents in Columbus, Ohio, have been looking for ways to help after several recent violent sex crimes against prostitutes in their area. The Westside Health Advisory Committee, of which Jason Ridley, pastor of the Hilltop Community Center church, is a member, organized a community safety forum to address the issues of safety, assault prevention, and care for the victims—ladies whose needs are often forgotten.

Several community and municipal organizations participated in the forum hosted at the Hilltop church, including Brian Newsome, Columbus Police Department liaison officer; Carly Mesnick, Mt. Carmel Crime and Trauma Assistance program manager; Bryttani Barker, Anti-Human Trafficking coordinator at the Salvation Army of Central Ohio; and Brian Pierson, regional director of Outreach Population Health, Mt. Carmel Health System. Participants listened to the concerns and questions raised that evening. Napoleon Bell, who is running for State Representative for the 25th District, moderated the discussion.

“This forum, we hope, is just the beginning of a collective effort led by Hilltop Community Worship Center where we are able to come together as a community and model the ministry of Jesus by



Participants Brian Pierson, Bryttani Barker, Carly Mesnick, Officer Brian Newsome, Pastor Jason Ridley, Dru Bagley, Sgt. Dwayne West and Napoleon Bell gather after a community safety forum.

intentionally caring for the least, the last, and the lost in our community as we minister to the needs of these women,” says Ridley.

Three Angels Message Church Hosts Back-to-School Drive

The Three Angels Message church in Danville, Va., recently sponsored a community-wide



Three Angel’s Message church members and community volunteers work together to serve local families during the back-to-school drive.

back-to-school drive. Church members collected funds to buy and distribute more than 500 backpacks with the children’s names and addresses on the front.

Volunteer church members distributed flyers throughout the community, calling families to register to get supplies for their children. Event organizers required participating families to attend an abbreviated worship service on Sabbath morning before receiving the supplies. The children participated in their own service in the children’s classrooms and ate snacks while Pastor John Coaxum preached to the adults in the sanctuary on the importance of shielding their children. Many of the visitors came forward after Coaxum made an appeal for the attendees to give themselves to Jesus.

Finally the parents and children went downstairs to the fellowship hall where they received their book bags, clothes, food, toiletry items and candy.

As the day finally drew to a close and the multitude of people began to leave, one woman told Coaxum, “Thank you so much for doing this for us.”

THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

OCTOBER 2016

Coming Home

Welcome!" "We're glad you're here." "How was your week?" "Will you join us for lunch?" "Happy Sabbath! I've been praying for you."

Isn't it refreshing to enter a place where you are warmly welcomed and people are genuinely glad to see you? A place where there is peace and comfort and you can find encouragement and strength? Hopefully this is your experience each time you go to church.

We each attend church with a specific purpose or need. We don't always think of it in those terms, but when we have been battered and bruised, or are wrestling with a weighty decision, we need a place to go where we can be encouraged and find grace.

When Jesus walked this Earth He found rest in the home of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. Without a house of His own, He valued the times He could visit Bethany and relax with friends who valued His company.

Every week people attend your church hoping for such an experience. How can we help them find a healing home where they can belong?

Each of us can be intentional about making eye contact, smiling, extending a hand in greeting and expressing words of welcome. We can demonstrate genuine interest in becoming acquainted with others. When we reach out to others, our blessing reflects back and brings us benefits as well.

So next time you're at church, look for a visitor you can get acquainted with. Take a moment to catch up with a member who may need an encouraging word or prayer, and value the positive change it brings to you and them.



Rick Remmers
President

Hispanic Health Fair Impacts Baltimore

A health fair in east Baltimore recently drew more than 100 visitors for health screenings, dental care, seminars and counseling.

Volunteers from the Baltimore Spanish, Baltimore Centro and Dundalk Spanish churches in the Baltimore area partnered with the community for the event. Representatives from MedStar Harbor Hospital offered free medical exams and other health services. The Baltimore City Mayor's Office provided information on emergency and disaster response. The Baltimore City Health Department presented on the topics of chronic illnesses and lead poisoning in children. Volunteers also



Orlando Rosales, Baltimore area pastor and Hispanic Ministries coordinator, conducts a drawing for a gift.



A chaplain volunteer shares tips for relieving muscle pain with visitors.

provided information on addiction services and human trafficking prevention.

Kaiser Permanente, State Farm Insurance, TransAmerica Community Outreach, the Baltimore City Fire Department and Living Well Adventist Book Center also provided free information to attendees.

The many volunteers, chaplains, Pathfinders and Adventurers did a good job, says Orlando Rosales, Hispanic Ministries coordinator. In addition to helping, they marched up Broadway and Eastern Avenue in the neighborhood parade that was part of the event.

Mt. Aetna Teacher Named Educator of the Year

Vail Mason was recently named Columbia Union Conference Office of Education Educator of the Year. She has taught in Seventh-day Adventist schools for more than 36 years, impacting the lives of many students. Currently Mason teaches first- and second-grade at Mt. Aetna Adventist School in Hagerstown, Md.

Rod Kerbs II, principal, says he applauds Mason for how she engages her classroom in a fun, creative way, connects with the students on an emotional level and how she integrates technology in her lessons.

“She has influenced the culture of the local Adventist community by her kindness and steadfast efforts in the classroom,” Kerbs says.

Mark Walker, Chesapeake Conference associate superintendent, concurs. “I appreciate Vail’s calm, quiet demeanor in the classroom and her devotion to Christian education.”

After more than three decades as an educator, Mason continues her professional growth via seminars and trainings, such as the Daily 5 literacy program, ENVoY and Love and Logic classroom management techniques.—Ricardo Bacchus with Samantha Young



Teachers Visit New England Author Homes

Thirteen teachers recently participated in Chesapeake Conference’s second annual Teachers’ Educational Tour.

The literary tour themed “American Authors and Poets” featured a bus trip through the northeastern states. The expedition focused on 18th and 19th century authors and poets, but included writers of the 20th century.

Among the homes visited were those of Mark Twain and Harriet Beecher Stowe in Hartford, Conn.; Edith Wharton, Herman Melville, Emily Dickinson, Louisa May Alcott, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Ralph Waldo Emerson in Massachusetts; Washington Irving in eastern New York state; Robert Frost in southern New Hampshire; and Pearl Buck and Edgar Allan Poe in Pennsylvania. A visit to the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Mass., was a highlight for the early childhood teachers on the tour.

The tour also included background on writers who lived in New England, but whose homes no longer exist. Anna Warner was never well known as a poet, but one of her works, “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know,” has graced children’s ministries for many generations. Katherine Bates wrote the poem that became the words of the hymn, “America, the Beautiful.”

Glen Milam, director at Mount Aetna Retreat Center, and Mark Walker, associate superintendent of education, organized the tour. “We believe that learning has special significance when people can visit the site where an educational event took place,” says Walker. “And teachers can bring learning alive for their students when they speak from the point of experience.”



Teachers visit the Robert Frost house in New Hampshire.

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

OCTOBER 2016

The Dream That Changed my Sister's Life

I became a member of the Summersville (W.Va.) church in 2010. Since then I have prayed for my family to come to know Jesus. I really focused my prayers and personal evangelical efforts on my sister, Tammy Hypes, for more than two years. While at an *It Is Written* partnership weekend a couple years ago, I picked up some Bible studies, hoping to study with someone. That “someone” ended up being my sister, Tammy.

For the first one and half years, our studies were casual and not consistent. But one day while I was visiting my daughter and her family in Texas, my sister texted me saying, “I have to talk to you, but I will wait until you come back home.” I was too curious to wait so I called her immediately.

My sister told me she had a dream. In her dream she was standing on her back porch. While looking up at the sky the most beautiful colors and sounds occurred. She ran to get me from my house, just two doors down, so I could see the sight. Then, Tammy said in her dream, “You looked at me and asked, ‘Are you ready?’”

When Tammy relayed the dream to me, I shared with her that God was trying to reach her and she needed to make a decision before it was too late. Our Bible studies together intensified. During one of our studies together, Tammy began to cry. That day the study guide we were reading was on the topic of the second coming of Jesus. When I asked what the matter was, my sister said, “That’s it. That was my dream!”

The Bible lesson had an illustration of the second coming of Christ, similar to the Nathan Greene interpretation of Christ returning in the clouds. The illustration was filled with many different colors and images of angels blowing trumpets, announcing His triumphant return. “That’s what I saw in my dream,” Tammy said. I told her that God had used a dream to reach her before it was too late!



Michelle Stegman (right) and Pastor Jamie Rodriguez (left), excitedly raise hands to show acceptance of Tammy Hypes into membership of the Summersville Adventist church.

After her dream, Tammy agreed to attend church with me. After two or three Sabbaths, Tammy asked me, “Is it too soon to join the church?” I told her it is never too soon to follow God and His will.

Tammy got baptized this spring. On the day of her baptism, I shared Tammy’s dream about Christ’s second coming with the congregation. I know now that “with God, all things are possible” (Matt. 19:26) because, after six years of prayer, I saw the miracle of Tammy choosing Jesus above all else happen right before my eyes.

—Michelle Stegman

Pathway to Health Event Impacts Volunteers

Visitors to the recent Your best Pathway To Health (YbPTH) in Beckley, W.Va., weren't the only ones to benefit from the two-and-a-half day free clinic.

"Your best Pathway To Health is a non-profit organization that exists to serve the physical needs of the underserved by providing entirely free mobile multi-specialty clinics that offer medical, surgical, dental, eye care and other critical services." A Seventh-day Adventist organization, "Pathway to Health deliberately seeks to serve as an effective 'path' to lead patients to physical and mental healing and to improved spiritual health," according to their website PathwaytoHealth.org.

Former medical lab tech Elaine Buchanan, a member of the Williamson (W.Va.) church, volunteered as a phlebotomist. Three students from a local college helped the volunteers set up the lab department on Tuesday and assisted patients on Wednesday. As Buchanan chatted with the students, she says she "immediately clicked" with a student named Heather. Wednesday morning, Heather asked Buchanan, "Would you help me if I run into problems?" Buchanan assured Heather she would be very willing to help, "but there is someone else who could help you even more." When Heather asked whom that might be, Buchanan responded, "God! Could we pray together?" At the end of the prayer, with tears in her eyes Heather asked, "Who are you Seventh-day Adventists?"

Throughout the day, Buchanan had many opportunities to share with Heather. On Thursday, Heather was onsite at 7 a.m. commenting that she "was so moved by what was taking place [at YbPTH] and I feel at home here," that she wanted to continue to help. Before she called the hospital to ask about skipping her clinical that day, several volunteers gathered to pray. Her supervisor's response was, "By all means,



Elda Campbell, 99, who attends the Glenville (W.Va.) church, volunteers in the clothing department at the Your best Pathway To Health event in Beckley, W.Va.

stay. We have heard what is going on there."

Cheryl Balisciano, a member of the Spencer (W.Va.) church, volunteered at YbPTH as an x-ray tech. "Thursday afternoon there was an equipment malfunction that prevented us from taking x-rays," Balisciano shares. "We prayed and another volunteer told us about a bio-med tech working with the dental equipment. We called him and he began to troubleshoot our machine. It wasn't long before he determined that a switch in the touch pad had gone bad. He was able to rig up an alternative to the touch pad using... a paper clip. That prayer and paper clip allowed us to finish out the [YbPTH] event. It was nothing short of a miracle that the bio-med tech had the skills and knowledge to be able to work on our equipment!"

Volunteers of many different skillsets, medical and other, came together to make the YbPTH event happen.

"I think this is the best job for me," says Krista Dale, Summersville (W.Va.) church member, (pictured in the kitchen at YbPTH, with sons, Nathan and Zachary). Krista, along with other volunteers, created 1,800 rolls, 630 burger buns, 12 each of blueberry crisps, blueberry cobbblers, chocolate lava cakes and six peach crisps. These bakery items were used for the sack lunches and dinners for volunteers and patients during the two-and-a-half days of the clinic and the Sabbath services at YbPTH. "It really was so much fun. We all loved it," says Dale.



How to Revive a Dying Church

Are you worried that your church is dying? Your church may be on its last leg if:

- a) Your attendance is continually dwindling.
- b) Young people are no longer attending.
- c) Community members pass by and ignore your church.
- d) Your baptistery is inhabited by spiders.

If any or all of the above are true about your church, it may be dying. A church on its way out is sad and action needs to be taken to revive your church before it is too late. Sometimes that action is letting your current church rest in peace and planting a new church in the area or close by where your ministry can flourish like a new sapling replacing a dying tree.

It is terribly painful for me to perform a funeral service for a church. I love to see churches growing and flourishing. I consider it a beautiful experience when stagnant congregations reinvent themselves inside and outside in order to continue their mission to reach their community.

Listen carefully, before you have to turn off the lights and close your dying church. Please follow these divine recommendations to love those in your community and church: "So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples" (John 13:34-35). Paul also counsels church members, "Do not get involved in foolish discussions..." (Titus 3:9). Avoid worthless, foolish talk that only leads to more godless behavior. This kind of talk spreads like cancer" (2 Tim. 2:16 -17). If we follow this guidance, we may revive our dying churches.

We belong to a great church, one of the fastest growing churches in the world. You are also part of a growing conference, but the only way to make a local church, conference, or any entity great is by loving as Jesus loved.



Jose H. Cortés
President

Volunteer Lay Pastors Join Conference Team

New Jersey Conference leadership recently initiated a new Volunteer Lay Pastor program to help enhance the evangelism efforts already running in the state.

During camp meeting, leaders commissioned 16 lay pastors to serve the congregations of Mission Caleb church plants and new groups throughout the state. The volunteers will serve for one year under the supervision of a New Jersey Conference pastor. Many of them have already baptized new members and say they are excited about this opportunity to serve the Lord and use their leadership skills in their new role, says Sadrail Saint-Ulysse, director for the non-Hispanic lay pastors.

Pedro de La Rosa, lay pastor at the Bayonne Mission Caleb, is one of the 16 new volunteer lay pastors in the New Jersey Conference.



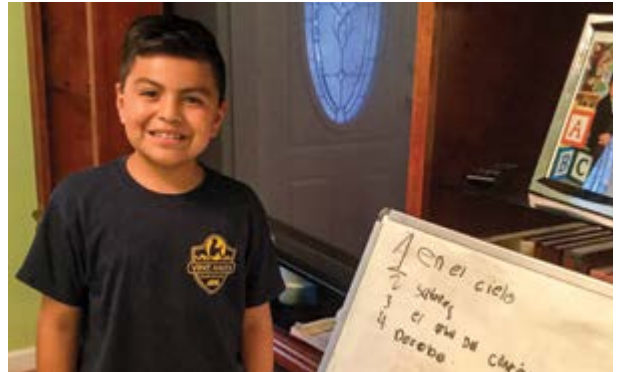
Vine Haven Fourth-Grader Hosts Bible Study

It's not just the adults at the Bridgeton Spanish church in Bridgeton giving weekly Bible studies to their neighbors.

Every week Jaffet Vazquez, a fourth-grader at Vine Haven Adventist School in Vineland, teaches the children that live on Walnut Street more about the Bible and his best friend, Jesus. His mother, Susana Vazquez, prayerfully went to every mother on the street and asked permission for their children to attend Bible studies at her home. Many said yes and about 13 children ages 5-10 meet at the Vazquez home weekly for Bible studies. Jaffet uses what he has learned in class from his teacher, Violeta Molina, and Pastor Raul Rivero, Bible class teacher, to share with his friends about God's love and gift of salvation.

"I am really happy to learn more about Jesus and teach my friends. They come over to my house and we learn more about God together and also get to play. I use my allowance to buy prizes for them," says Jaffet.

His mother provides support as he teaches his class and prepares snacks for the children to enjoy at the end of their study. Usually 13 children, ages 5-10, attend. The children say they are excited to learn new



Jaffet Vazquez teaches children from his neighborhood about Jesus in his living room.

worship songs and learn how to pray. When Jaffet started teaching, only one child from his block went to church. Now many of the children attend the Sabbath service at the Bridgeton Spanish church and their parents are more open to Bible studies for themselves. Eight of the children have already been baptized because of Jaffet's ministry.

New Jersey Conference Welcomes New Pastors

The New Jersey Conference recently welcomed two new pastors and their families. Pastor Daniel Cabezas comes from Venezuela and will be serving at the Bridgeton Spanish church in Bridgeton and the Hammonton Spanish church in Hammonton. Pastor Jorge Cepero will be serving at the Trenton Spanish church in Trenton and the Hightstown Spanish Mission Caleb church in Hightstown.



Pastor Daniel Cabeza is joined by his wife, Belsy Ochoa, and daughters, Yessica and Erika Cabeza.



Pastor Cepero with his wife, Maria Cepero, will serve the Trenton and Hightstown Spanish churches.

Medina Church Welcomes Special Young Man

About a year ago, the Haney family began searching for a church where they could bring their son, Dillon. Other area churches had made the family feel uncomfortable because 19-year-old Dillon, who is autistic, can sometimes cause a bit of a distraction because of his unusual behaviors.

After James, Dillon's father, called Chester Hitchcock, pastor of the Medina church about visiting his church, both Hitchcock and the Medina church congregation welcomed the Haney family with open arms.

After conducting in-home Bible studies with the family, Dillon Haney along with his stepmother, Janet, and father, James, decided to be baptized on Dillon's 20th birthday.

Although Dillon was initially a little hesitant to step into the baptistery, all three family members entered at the same time. Janet has a special connection with Dillon which helps him in areas where he might otherwise struggle. Janet and Dillon faced each other in the baptistery and held hands, allowing Hitchcock to baptize them together. Dillon immersed happy, then watched James' baptism. Dillon enjoyed the baptistery so much that he did not want to get out. Smiling,



Dillon Haney (center), his stepmother, Janet (left), and father, James (right), celebrate their baptisms.

Hitchcock told to the congregation, "If the angels rejoice in heaven at baptisms, they must have been giving high-fives this morning."

The family continues to attend the Medina church where Dillon has found his church home.

Women Guided by the Holy Spirit at Hispanic Retreat

Ohio Conference staff recently held the 2016 Hispanic Women's Retreat at the Allegheny West Conference campground in Thornville.

Liz Enid Polanco, an Adventist chaplain and



Liz Enid Polanco and Sarah Capeles sing during the 2016 Hispanic Women's Retreat.

musician from Puerto Rico, preached the Word of God at the retreat. The theme was "Guided by the Spirit."

"The Spirit of the Lord was felt at every moment of the retreat," says retreat organizer and First Cleveland Spanish Women's Ministries leader Jeanette Pellot-Ayala.

Additional guests included Buffy Halvorsen of the Ohio Conference who delivered the sermon Sabbath morning, and Sarah Capeles, an international solo artist, who attendees say elevated spirits and brought women closer to Him through her music ministry.

Patty Cuyan from California presented two seminars. The first shared how human trafficking is affecting communities and the second was titled "Hope After Depression."

Wanda Lugo and Dalia Gonzales, members of the Ebenezer Spanish church, prepared meals for the event and "cooked up some really good food for us that weekend," says Pellot-Ayala.

Ladies have already begun looking forward to next year's retreat, Pellot-Ayala says.

Conference Welcomes New Superintendent of Education

Conference leaders screened the names of nearly 30 candidates before hiring Richard A. Bianco as superintendent of education for the Ohio Conference.

Bianco's name was continually recommended for the position during the hiring process. Personnel Committee members and educators present at his interview say they were impressed with his love of Jesus, leadership skills and passion for Seventh-day Adventist Christian Education.

"I am thrilled by the way I saw God leading in our search for a new superintendent," says Ron Halvorsen Jr, Ohio Conference president. "We are at a crossroads in Adventist Education here in Ohio. Bianco has the kind of experience that will allow him to help us grow. I

believe God sent us Richard to be a leader here for just such a time."

Bianco has an exceptional reputation as an educator, principal and associate superintendent in the Pennsylvania Conference where he served for 17 years.

"Bianco understands how to grow schools, connect communities and involve churches. He believes our students grow the most spiritually when they are involved in service in their community and church," says Leona Bange, principal and teacher of Northern Ohio Adventist Academy (formerly Clarksfield). "He understands the changing times and challenges we face and is passionate about finding solutions and setting goals so that Adventist Education can move forward effectively for our students."

Bianco says he is "looking forward to the new opportunities that are present in Ohio and working with one of the finest education teams in the NAD," says Bianco. "My passion lies with young people, both urban and rural. I am always cognizant that sometimes our rural folks get lost in the shuffle and I am not one to allow that to happen if I can."

Bianco replaces Ken Knudsen who returned to Spring Valley Academy in Centerville. Bianco is married to Jennifer, also an educator. Together they have two daughters, Alyssa and Gabrielle, both in college.

"I am very excited about where God is leading the Ohio Conference and grateful to have an opportunity to be a part of its wonderful future," Bianco says.

PHOTO BY TIZ ANNA



Retreat Aims to Improve Marriages

What are the characteristics of a healthy relationship? Do you and your spouse ever have issues with communication, forgiveness or processing regrettable incidents or attachments?

Buffy Halvorsen, Ohio Conference Family Ministries director, and Stephanie Halvorsen Parrish, both marriage and family therapists, will share key tools to help couples strengthen their marriage at the Ohio Conference Marriage Retreat. Whether you are a newlywed or have been married for 50 years, this marriage retreat could be for you, says Halvorsen.

The event takes place October 21-23 at Camp Mohaven Retreat Center in Danville. Prices range between \$145 - 240 per couple and includes food, lodging and materials. Space is limited. Visit ohioadventist.org or call (740) 397-4665 for more information or to register.



Buffy Halvorsen and Stephanie Halvorsen Parrish will speak at the Ohio Conference Marriage Retreat.

Pennsylvania Pen

OCTOBER 2016

Shermans Dale Church Coordinates Their Own Cool Camp

For several years the Shermans Dale church hosted the Pennsylvania Conference's Cool Camp at their church. This year church members decided to minister to community children by hosting their own Cool Camp.

"Cool Camp is awesome," says Cathi Bornman, a Cool Camp team and Shermans Dale church member. We loved Cool Camp and the team did a great job when they came, but we recognized that we [church members] needed to be the people the kids were forming friendships with so that when they came back [to church] they'd know people."

Church members agreed and committed to hosting and running a Cool Camp themselves. They transformed their church into a space station—utilizing every space for some aspect of the program that attracts community children to a church that has only one toddler attend on a regular basis. Teens not young enough to attend the week's activities, designed for 6-12 year olds, volunteered as "junior counselors."

They spent mornings singing songs, hearing a Bible story, learning memory verses, playing games outdoors and creating a craft to reinforce the day's lesson. After lunch, they headed for the local pool on a bus rented by members.

The church evangelism efforts didn't end when the week was over. The church Cool Camp team planned activities throughout the year to which they invite children and their parents. One follow-up for the older kids included a weekly small group Bible study. A dozen teens are attending.

Adult volunteers took a week off from work to greet



Members transform the church's picnic pavilion into a space outpost for the morning snack.

campers, lead song service, tell stories and host activities for five full days. This option is twice as expensive as hiring the Pennsylvania Conference Cool Camp team—a group of young adults who lead Cool Camps across the state each summer—and way more work.

Why is the Shermans Dale church doing this?

"God said to go," says Pat Marschner, one of six people who take the week off from work to help. "We have a burden to let our county know about the Good Lord. We keep looking for new ways to share Him, and, as a church, we need children."

Lance Engle, Shermans Dale church Cool Camp director, agrees. "There is a void in our community that needs to be filled. We have a responsibility to do something."

His team members also agree. "I have a strong conviction God wants us to grow this church," says Matt Bornman. "I think our community kids are a great way to do that. I want to do all I can to make it possible for them to know Jesus."

Thirteen members spent a week this summer sharing Jesus with more than 65 children—their highest attendance of the four years they have been hosting children's evangelism efforts. The church hosted the Cool Camp team for three years before doing it themselves last year.

"This team is an amazing group of people," says Pastor Paul Wasmer. "They want to make a difference in our community. They believe that's why we are here."



A dozen members, like Matt Bornman (pictured back left), serve in a variety of ways for a week.

Associate Education Director Moves to Ohio

Richard Bianco, associate education director for mission and growth, recently accepted the position of education director for the Ohio Conference.

A Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) graduate, Bianco served as a teacher and then principal for Huntingdon Valley Christian Academy, in Huntingdon Valley, Pa., for more than 17 years. He more recently joined the team at the conference office, helping local school staff connect with their communities and helping to create and work with their first mission school, Simplicity Christian Academy in Allentown. He also worked for five summers at Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter, Pa., where he and his wife, Jennifer—also a BMA graduate, were married.

“I love Pennsylvania and it will always be ‘home’ to me,” Bianco says. “I look forward to coming back to visit my very large Pennsylvania Conference family. I am also looking forward to new opportunities in Ohio. God has led our family in the past, and we are trusting Him to continue to lead into our future.”

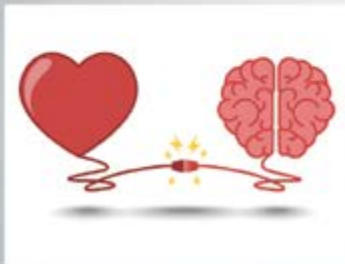
Jennifer will continue as principal for the Lehigh Valley Seventh-day Adventist School in Whitehall, Pa., for one more year before joining the Ohio team as principal for the Worthington Adventist Academy in Worthington.



EQUIPPING MINISTRY LEADERS FOR MISSION

Equipping University is a powerful gathering of Pennsylvania Conference church leaders who love Jesus, see things missionally, and feel a burden for equipping our churches to be more effective at preparing as many people as possible for the second coming of Jesus Christ.

At **Equipping University One-Day**, Dr. Neil Nedley will present, “Belief and the Brain.” Throughout the day he will explain how through emotional intelligence the brain works to make and keep commitments, and prepare participants to help others become committed to Jesus for life.



Join us at EU1Day:

November 13, 2016, Hamburg, PA

Registration: 8:00 AM

Event: 9:00 - 5:00 PM

Per Person: \$59.00

After Sept. 29: \$69.00

Blue Mountain Academy
2363 Mountain Rd, Hamburg, PA 19526

Visit www.paconference.org and click on “Calendar of Events” for more INFORMATION and TO REGISTER.

Potomac People

OCTOBER 2016

School Pays \$16,000 Debt, Doubles Enrollment

Due to our increasing debt of \$16,000 and low enrollment, we were told our school would be shut down,” says Johnnie Davis, teacher of the Powell Valley Christian School in Dryden, Va. “The only way it could stay open is if the debt could be paid off before the upcoming school year and have an enrollment of 10.”

Don Elswick, pastor of the six-church district that includes the school, Davis and several students traveled to the six churches to promote the school. The closest church was more than two-and-a-half hours away.

Every church in the district quickly aided the school. By August, contributors paid off the debt and enrollment increased from four students to 10, more than double the previous enrollment.

“God has answered our prayers in so many ways,” says Davis. “Every church contributed. Several members have even given special donations for tuition gifts and others helped secure new computers and tablets.”

Following this turn-around, leaders created another board comprised of representatives from each of the six churches, designed to keep members up-to-date



Volunteer Lanny Wilson teaches students Hunter (left) and Colton Busic how to start a fire without matches.

with the needs of the school. “It’s amazing to have such support behind us and to see a true miracle happening right before our eyes,” says Davis. “It’s honestly a dream come true.”

Three Ordained To Gospel Ministry

Potomac Conference administration recently affirmed three pastors in the gospel ministry through ordination.

“We are blessed to have wonderful people answering the call,” says Bill Miller, Potomac Conference president.



Rick Jordan, vice president for pastoral ministries, prays the ordination prayer over pastor Ruben Ramos and his wife, Silvana.

Paolo Esposito, pastor of Redeeming Grace Fellowship church in Chesapeake, Va., was ordained at Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md. Born in Argentina, Paolo was raised in a family involved in the ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for three generations. He is passionate about seeing lives transformed by the power of Jesus.

Ruben Ramos, associate pastor of the mega district with churches in Northern Virginia and Maryland, was ordained. Ramos says he has a love for God and service that has led him in his spiritual journey. He attributes this spiritual growth to his upbringing and the obstacles we all face in life. Ramos says he feels inspired to share God’s love for humanity and Jesus’ soon return with his generation.

Josant Barrientos, Potomac’s director for youth ministries, was also ordained. Prior to his current position, he served as the associate pastor for Community Praise Center in Alexandria, Va. He has led in many youth congresses, evangelistic series and youth retreats around the world. Barrientos focuses his work, not only on event planning, but on finding ways to connect youth with local churches.

Potomac People

God Delivers Far West End Church From Fraud

There were many times Far West End church members came close to buying property, but various reasons kept them from making a purchase. The church's land acquisition committee eventually found an open field in Rockville, Va., and, though it wasn't listed for sale, learned the owner was open to the idea of selling it to become a church property.

"As negotiations came to a close, the final step was to bring a cashier's check to the settlement agent," says Ed Cerovski, Far West End treasurer.

As soon as he received wiring instructions, Cerovski transferred the money and emailed the agent to confirm the transaction. That's when he found out the agent's account had been hacked and she didn't know where the money was wired.

"I felt sick," says Cerovski. "I called the bank right away to stop the transfer. Other members of the committee contacted the FBI, police department and the conference about the wire fraud."

After what felt like hours, Cerovski was able to get in touch with a banker who took the information needed to stop the transfer. But it was too late, the money was in an account at a Florida bank.

Meanwhile, Pastor Junnie Pagunsan, received a phone call from a strange man who claimed to own the account.

"We asked him to return our money," says Pagunsan. "He acted confused and said he needed to investigate the ownership of the money before taking action."

Committee members discovered the man had a history of mishandling funds and was known for repeatedly opening and closing his company and oversea accounts.

After five long days, members learned the money



Pastor Junnie Pagunsan stands with James Hooker, prior owner of the Far West End church's new property and members Robert Wood, Mar Gonzalez, Moises Moyani, Harold Frans and Ed Cerovski.

had been frozen in the account and, pending a fraud investigation, the funds would not be released for at least 30 days. There was a chance the money would never be returned.

This presented another series of problems. In order to keep the property, the closing deadline—18 days away—needed to be met. A member contacted the bank's CEO and four days later the funds were back in the church's account.

The next day Cerovski went to the bank, requested a cashier's check and hand delivered it to the settlement agent. "The property is secured and this spring it was dedicated," Cerovski says. "Through this challenging spiritual journey, God has once again proved that He is faithful and hears our prayers."—*Miranda Cerovski*



This spring members of the Far West End church dedicated their new property and thanked God for His many blessings.

Summer Offers More Than a Break For Students

Each summer Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) students have the opportunity to earn valuable experience, help pay for their tuition and gain a sense of accomplishment and ownership in their education by participating in the summer work program.

The summer program is different than the Vocation Education program, a portfolio-based education class available during the school year. Summer program students clock in and work eight hours a day with breaks and a lunch break. Staff also provide Wednesday night activities, vespers, Sabbath morning and afternoon worship opportunities, as well as an outing Saturday night and a fun activity on Sunday.

Sebastian Stiles ('20) (pictured) says that the summer program “helped me to make money to pay on my bill. I also liked the many new experiences we had like camping, playing mini golf and all the different places we got to eat!”

Café director Matt Anderson says the summer program helps initiate new students into school life and the vocation education program. New students can use the summer to enhance their education experience and increase levels in the vocation education program during the school year, Anderson says.

Aaron Weber, summer program coordinator, believes “building a strong work ethic foundation for students now ensures their ability to seamlessly move into society and become effective practitioners in the career of their choosing.”



Students Prepare for Mission to India

Blue Mountain Academy students are planning to join Ray Hartwell, Pennsylvania Conference president, for a two-week mission trip to India in February and March



Students are preparing for a two-week mission trip to India.

of 2017. Solomon Lazar, trip coordinator and science teacher, says that students will be engaged in conducting week of prayers at several Seventh-day Adventist schools in the city of Madurai in Southern India.

“In these schools the student population is 95 percent Hindu,” Lazar says. “BMA students will have the chance to present the Gospel to these young people and be a witness for the two percent of Seventh-day Adventist students who also attend the same schools.”

Lazar says students will hold evening meetings in five open-air sites in the rural area outside the city, as well as five areas within the city. “Students will also be given the opportunity to experience Indian culture,” he adds.

Because BMA has a distinctly global focus as part of its mission to “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel,” this trip perfectly allows students to experience the joy of sharing with others,” says Hartwell.

The mission trip has limited space and is also open to members of the Pennsylvania Conference. For more information, contact slazar@bma.us.

PHOTO BY RAY HARTWELL

Alumna Returns as Assistant Girls' Dean

Marci Corea, a 2012 Highland View Academy (HVA) graduate, recently joined the HVA staff as assistant girls' dean.

As an alumna, Corea has positive memories of her time at HVA and wants to continue to create those same opportunities for current students. As assistant dean, Corea says she aims to create a family-like atmosphere between the students and staff.

"I want the students to feel personally mentored and cared for during their time at HVA, as I did when I was a student," Corea says. "Fostering a community of respect and appreciation for one another is a vital element of students' spiritual, academic and developmental growth."

Corea has been enjoying helping students adjust to the first few months of boarding school. Teenagers are her favorite age group to work with in ministry, she says.

"They possess such a fire and excitement for life and adventure. Harnessing this energy and channeling it into positive outlets can be such a wonderful and rewarding challenge! The adolescent years are also often the years when young people choose whether they want to live for Christ. I feel honored to be a part of this time of change, and I aim to show them how beautiful the gospel truly is," she says.



Corea completed her Bachelor of Arts in global policy and service studies with an emphasis in nonprofit management from Southern Adventist University (Tenn.). During college she worked for several community nonprofit organizations, and every summer she worked at Mt. Aetna Summer Camp in Hagerstown, Md., most recently as girls' director.

"[My parents] instilled in me a strong passion for service and outreach, and I have been inspired to pursue a career of ministry ever since," Corea says.

HVA Teaches Me Teamwork



Being involved in sports at HVA has really taught me what it means to be part of a team. Last year I was a member of the Lady Tartans basketball team, composed mostly of freshmen like me.

Competing in the 21st annual Hoops Classic Tournament at Southwestern Adventist University (Texas) last winter brought our team closer together and strengthened our ability to work together. The trip gave us the opportunity to bond socially, emotionally and spiritually. Our ability to bond and work together as a team led to our fairly new team bringing home the third-place trophy in the girls' varsity division. From that experience I learned how much can be accomplished through God's help when we all work together.—*Kyra Wirsz ('19)*

Spotlight

on Spencerville

OCTOBER 2016

Highlights from Spencerville Adventist Academy

Teachers Travel for Professional Development

Three Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA) teachers, Rachel Fuentes, Sharon Williams and Amu Mullikin, strengthened their teaching skills this summer at the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project (TCRWP) at Columbia University (N.Y.).

The teachers, along with some from Potomac Conference's Beltsville Adventist School in Beltsville, Md., implemented the program's new writing curriculum last school year. While at TCRWP, the teachers learned writing strategies that focus on independent student work, teacher modeling and one-on-one and small group guidance.

Attendees met several important children's book authors including Pam Munoz Ryan, author of the popular, *Esperanza Rising*.

"*Esperanza Rising* is one of my favorite books and it was exciting to hear the background details and Ms. Ryan's life experiences that birthed the story of *Esperanza*. Definitely my favorite moment of the week!" says Rachel Fuentes, second-grade teacher.

The teachers worked in small groups by grades and attended sessions of their choice for the five days of professional development. At the end of the project, five teachers were selected to read their writing drafts aloud.



SAA teachers Rachel Fuentes, Sharon Williams and Amu Mullikin say they are grateful for the opportunity to strengthen their teaching skills this summer.

"TCRWP was a professionally enriching experience. I learned to sit in the students' place and follow the process of good writing," says Sharon Williams, middle school teacher. "I can't wait to share what I've learned with my students!"

Staff, School Board Fellowship at Spiritual Retreat



Paul Rivera, Robert Martinez, Nathan Hess, German Rodriguez (seated) and Tim Soper provide music during a time of spiritual fellowship.

Spencerville Adventist Academy staff, school board members and their families recently attended a spiritual retreat at Wintergreen Resort in Virginia.

The retreat focused on the importance of having a biblical worldview as the foundation for Seventh-day Adventist education. Ed Zinke, former associate director of the Biblical Research Institute at the General Conference, was the featured speaker.

"This event has done an excellent job of grounding us, individually and as an institution, with a biblical worldview as our foundation and a mission to instill the Bible as the sole source for truth," Mark Noble, school board chair, says.

Brian Kittleson, SAA principal, adds, "This event bonded our teaching staff, administration and board in a common commitment and clarity of our mission and vision of Adventist education."

SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY^{.ORG} CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

OCTOBER 2016

School Provides Multiple Opportunities for Music Education

Spring Valley Academy (SVA) offers students exposure to music through the choral program, instrument lessons, or in the band, from Kindergarten through high school.

Cristy Doria, choir director, and Donald Huff, band director, lead the music program. Both are dedicated to helping students develop their skills and confidence, says Angie Peach, director of alumni and development.

Alyson Cole, a senior and band member, says she enjoys the band tours, in particular the tour they took last year to New York, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia, where they played music and learned about important historical sites. This year band members are planning to travel to Atlanta.

Both the choir and band programs provide opportunities for performing in churches and non-sacred concerts. Last year the choir took a trip to Chicago to perform at various churches and city venues. This year the high school choir plans to perform in California at the end of their tour there in November.

Both teachers choose a theme for the school year. Huff has chosen time travel with his theme "Timescapes" (see schedule below) for the 2016-17



school year, with concerts dedicated to exploring different genres and styles of music. Doria's theme is "Sing Your Heart," in which she says she wants "students to learn that vocal music is an expression from the depth of their heart and soul."

"Music teaches students so many things!" she adds. "They develop their communication skills and learn discipline. It also helps them develop a personal sense of mission and gives them a way to share that with others."

Music Performance Schedule

Medieval Times

Middle School Band, October 18,
7 p.m., Kettering church

High School Band, October 20,
6 p.m., Kettering church

1960s Television Concert

High School Stage Band,
November 13, 7 p.m.,
Kettering church

Sacred Christmas Concert

Grades K-12 Choir, December 9,
7 p.m., Kettering church

Classical Christmas Concert

Grades 5-12 Band, December 10,
7 p.m., Kettering church

Wild West Concert

High School Band, January 28,
6 p.m., SVA

Roaring 20s (Part of the Gatsby Gala)

High School Stage Band,
Feb. 26, 6 p.m., Mandalay
Banquet Center

Ohio Conference Middle School Music Fest

Grades 5-8 Choir, April 7-8, SVA

Circus Days Concert

Grades 5-12 Band, April 25,
7 p.m., SVA

Elementary Musical

Grades K-4 Choir, April 29,
4 p.m., SVA

British Invasion

High School Stage Band, May 7,
7:30 p.m., Kettering church

Spring Concert

Grades 5-12 Choir, May 11,
7 p.m., SVA

Connections is published in the *Visitor* by Spring Valley Academy ■ 1461 Spring Valley Pike, Centerville, OH 45458
Phone: (937) 433-0790 ■ springvalleyacademy.org ■ Principal, Darren Wilkins ■ Editor, Vicki Swetnam

SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY HAPPENINGS

OCTOBER 2016

www.shenandoahvalleyacademy.org

God Will Honor Our Dedication

Richard and Wendy Schuen, Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) parents, shared the following devotional at the Parent Tribute Service at the 2016 graduation weekend.

Academy is a crucial time when teens prepare to take their first steps toward seeking and fulfilling God's will for their lives. As parents, we are dedicated to Seventh-day Adventist education. We love our schools, dedicated teachers, fellow, faithful parents and the wonderful students being educated as the next generation of Christ's disciples. Our family has been blessed by 87 years of Adventist education, nine years at Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA) and five more ahead.

We believe parents send their children to SVA much like Hannah brought Samuel to the temple. After praying for, and receiving the blessing of a child, she dedicated him to God's service. In 1 Sam. 1:11, Hannah prays, "Lord Almighty, if You will only look on Your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget Your servant, but give her a son," and then vows, "I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life." Hannah trusted God to lead Samuel in His will. This is the primary reason we have sent our children to SVA. We are convicted that this path provides our children the best opportunity of knowing God's plan for them.

Hannah's example encourages parents' trust in God. Her prayer expresses confidence for the future, which we may also embrace when we dedicate our children to the Lord.

God had great things in mind for Samuel's life. When God called audibly to Samuel one night, it took priest Eli to discern the voice of God. Samuel answered the call, and God was revealed and glorified through his prophetic life. God was faithful to honor Hannah's dedication.

What is God's will for our children? How will they hear His call? Consider this: Samuel did not recognize God's call until his mentor and teacher helped him identify God's voice. We know God reaches us where we are—and that is a choice we make. If Samuel had not been serving in the temple, he may have never heard God's voice. For our children, a Christ-centered education makes it easier to hear God's call and for His will to be known to them.



The Schuen family celebrates the graduation of daughter Meredith, Class of 2016 salutatorian.

Our children may not immediately recognize God's call or see His hand guiding their future plans. We may be confident, however, that their Heavenly Father will lead them in His Will. God is faithful to honor parents' dedication in educating their children to live for His purposes and glory.—*Richard and Wendy Schuen*

Calendar

October

- 7-9 Parents' Weekend
- 9 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 26-30 Homeleave/Ringfest

November

- 11 Senior Recognition
- 12 Senior Extravaganza
- 22-28 Thanksgiving Break

December

- 1-5 Journey to Bethlehem
- 9-10 Christmas Candlelight Concerts
- 10 Christmas Concert and Student Art Auction
- 21 Christmas Vacation

January

- 4 2nd Semester Begins

Happenings is published in the *Visitor* by Shenandoah Valley Academy ■ 234 West Lee Highway, New Market, VA 22844
Phone: (540) 740-3161 ■ shenandoahvalleyacademy.org ■ Principal, Donald Short ■ Editor, Janel Haas Ware

www.ta.edu TATO DAY

News you can use from Takoma Academy

OCTOBER 2016

New Recruits Enhance School Staff

Takoma Academy (TA) started the 2016-17 school year celebrating a strong enrollment and a strong staff roster including several new teachers.

English teacher Kareena B. Gracia has had a varied career that encompasses collegiate level and secondary education teaching positions.

"My favorite professors didn't just make me a better student, they changed how I viewed the world and how I viewed myself," Gracia says. "I want to make sure my students experience that as well. My prayer is that in turn they will go on to change their communities and their neighborhoods for the better."

Physical education teacher Tremayne Douglas received a B.S. in Kinesiology from the University of Maryland, College Park.

"Obesity is a national problem that affects over half of the population in the United States and is now a recognized disease by the American Medical Association," Douglas says. "My mission is to start [educating] children about the importance of their health in the hopes of establishing health habits that are consistent with God's Word."

Chaplain Eustace Laurie comes to Maryland after serving on the West Coast.

"I am excited to see what God has in store for TA this coming school year," Laurie says. "I hope to build collaborative relationships with both the faculty/staff and the students. God is alive and cares about every aspect of our lives. My hope is to be an example of God's love and care at TA this year."



Chaplain Eustace Laurie greets sophomore students Tocarah Banks and Yasmeen Cartwright.

From curating and exhibiting fine art in "The Art Dossier" art show in Washington, D.C., to designing couture gowns, art teacher, Toni Horne plans to enhance TA's Fine Arts Department. A graduate of Howard University (D.C.), Horne says she is enthused to be back at her alma mater, especially in the capacity of art.

"I plan to do great things and expand the [students'] creative minds," Horne says.

Bible Teacher Jonathan Gantt is a graduate of nearby Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., where he received a B.A. in theology. Gantt also holds a North American Division certification in secondary education for Bible.

"I am passionate about the Gospel and our work to bring people into the kingdom of God as I believe it is the only cure for a broken and hurting world," Gantt says.

English teacher Erica Blackwell's mantra is to "consistently encourage" students to think "outside of the box and critical thinking." She personally wants "to be the best and get the best from all who I interact with." Blackwell is a graduate of Lincoln University (Mo.) and is currently pursuing a Masters in Education from Rosemont College (Pa.).

Another recent highlight on campus is principal Carla Thrower receiving the Columbia Union Conference Office Education Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award. Read more about the award at columbiaunionvisitor.com/educator.



New staff members Jonathan Gantt, Tremayne Douglas, Kareena Gracia, Erica Blackwell, Toni Horne and Eustace Laurie in the lobby at Takoma Academy.

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Phone: (301) 434-4700 ■ ta.edu ■ Principal, Carla Thrower ■ Editor, Ron Mills



Class of 2020

The class of 2020 is now enrolled in colleges and universities. They are labeled as Generation Z (Gen Z). They were born during the financial meltdown and don't know a world without the Internet. Research indicates that they will become the most entrepreneurial, conservative, diverse and educated generation in the world. They have a different

set of values and beliefs than their predecessors. Research indicates that:

- 58% are either somewhat or very worried about the future.
- 77% believe they will need to work harder compared to those in past generations to have a satisfying and fulfilling professional life.
- 76% are concerned about man's impact on the planet.



Weymouth Spence
President

- 79% display symptoms of emotional distress when kept away from their personal electronic devices.
- 84% multitask with an Internet-connected device while watching TV.
- 52% state that honesty is the most important quality for being a good leader.
- 66% say that technology makes them feel that anything is possible.
- 52% use YouTube or other social media sites for a typical school research assignment.
- 64% consider earning an advanced degree as one of their life goals.
- 50% will be university educated compared to 33% of millennials and 25% of Gen X.
- 71% expect to experience significant failure before achieving success, and nearly 40% say they see failure as an opportunity to try again.
- 61% would rather be an entrepreneur instead of an employee when they graduate college.

D.S. (2014, July, 17). 51 Of The Most Interesting Facts About Generation Z [http://danschawbel.com/blog/39-of-the-most-interesting-facts-about-generation-z/]

Welcome to Washington Adventist University, Class of 2020.

—Weymouth Spence

Washington Adventist University President Spence Issues Charge to the University Community to Demonstrate Core Values for Excellence in the 2016-2017 School Year

During Opening Convocation for the Fall Semester, Washington Adventist University President Weymouth Spence, Ed.D., charged students, staff and faculty to demonstrate ten core values consistently in order to achieve excellence in all that they do this school year.

"This year, we will continue to engage the entire learning community in fine tuning the strategies and operational actions on the journey to growing with excellence," said Spence, who noted that the focus continues to be on the learner. Among the actions being implemented by Washington Adventist University (WAU) are tackling roadblocks that impede student success; integrating technology that supports learning and operational efficiencies; providing strong liberal arts, stem and career-based programs; and consistently measuring learning. The Vision 2020 plan adopts the six pillars of excellence – quality, people, finance, growth, service and community.

The Opening Convocation, held August 31 on campus at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, started with an invocation by Vice President of Campus Ministry Baraka Muganda, Ed.D. A welcome that recognized the incoming Class of 2020 followed, with remarks by Provost Cheryl Kiszunz, Ph.D., Board of Trustees member Lois Peters, and Student Association President Rosemary Ascencio. The classes of 2017, 2018, 2019, transfer students, new and returning faculty and staff, and the President Student Advisors were also recognized.

"As the 19th President of Washington Adventist University, my ultimate task, like others who have served, is to not only define, but also by the Grace of God to demonstrate, the core values of Washington Adventist University," said Spence.



President Weymouth Spence welcomes students to the fall semester.



Provost Cheryl Kiszunz



Faculty, staff and students gather for Opening Convocation.

KETTERING COLLEGE



The carnival was one of the many events hosted by Kettering College and the community to celebrate the start of the new school year

Kettering College events connect students and their families to a wider community

Kettering College recently kicked off the new school year by reminding students that they are valued by Kettering Adventist HealthCare and the community at large. Students select Kettering College because of their strong emphasis in the medical arts and focus on educating the mind, body and spirit. The community embraces students from Kettering College because they contribute to the quality of life throughout the Greater Dayton area.

A carnival brought students, their families and the community together to kick off the school year and showcase Kettering College's services, Student LIFE, ministry and activities. The students and families enjoyed a fun-filled day with water slides, trampolines, a rock climbing wall, kids games, a dunking tank, food, music and more.

This event is a collaboration between the Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church, Kettering Adventist HealthCare, and Kettering College.

In addition to the Kettering College carnival, many other opportunities were offered throughout the weekend for students to connect and create community. A Friday evening vespers, hosted by Kettering College Student LIFE, met in Chaplain Steve Carlson's home. This weekly event is hosted in different homes throughout the school year to connect students with community members. The Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church hosted Longest Table—a Sabbath potluck lunch where the church members provided food to welcome the new and returning students.

"By inviting more organizations in our community to invest in welcoming and celebrating the College students, our entire community is strengthened," said Carlson, campus chaplain and Student LIFE coordinator. "We're all so busy that it's easy to get disconnected; this is just a great excuse to get to know all the people around here, build new relationships, and celebrate the people and organizations that are a part of our community."





Profiles in Caring

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“What Are You Building?”

Once upon a time, a traveler came upon two men who were hard at work, building a long wall. The location, dimensions, and materials had all been marked very carefully. The two men were working separately—one at each end of the ongoing construction.

The traveler approached the first man and asked, “What are you building?”

Straightening up from his work, the man looked at the traveler with tired disdain and said, “Can’t you see? I’m working on this wall. I was working on it yesterday; I’ll be working on it tomorrow.

“All I ever do is work on this wall—and it seems to go on endlessly. And please don’t ask me any more questions because I can’t answer them. My job is to build this wall, not answer your silly questions.”

“And another thing—I don’t care. I don’t care about this wall, or about why it is being built, or how long it is going to take, or how much it will cost. I can hardly wait for Friday afternoon because then I can go home and get some rest until I have to come back here on Monday and build this wall.”

The traveler waved his hand in recognition of the long answer, and turned to go—but seeing the other man at the far end of the wall, he decided to try his question on him.

Once again he asked, “What are you building?”

The man straightened up and looked at him and smiled. “I, sir,” he said, grandly motioning with his trowel, “am helping to build a new cathedral. This is the eastern wall that will catch the morning light.

“From where you are standing, you will be able to look up at a massive vaulted ceiling that will recreate the heavens, and everyone who comes here, for generations—perhaps even my own grandchildren, if I am ever so blessed—will be inspired and say, “My grandfather helped to create this amazing place!”

Of course it is just a story—a parable, really. It’s been told many times, in many ways. Very few of us are actually building walls, but we do create the framework for how we explain, understand, appreciate and value our work—and how we spend our lives.

Martha Washington, our first First Lady, summarized this great truth in a letter she wrote to a friend.

“I am still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be; for I have also learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances.”

If a traveler was to happen upon you today, how would you answer the question, “What are you building?”



Terry Forde

President & CEO of Adventist HealthCare

Cancer Patient Benefits From Quality Care and Free Produce Program to Improve Health

"I look at the glass as half full," says Angela Reid, a 56-year-old member of Wheaton Seventh-day Adventist in Silver Spring, Md. "That comes from my faith and trusting God for everything."

This comment isn't exactly what you'd expect from a woman diagnosed with breast cancer less than a year ago and who just finished six months of chemotherapy.

Helping keep both her glass and her pantry full these days are weekly deliveries of free fruit and vegetables through a new program at Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital that helps some recently discharged patients eat healthy foods easier.

"I love to cook healthy food, so I really appreciate it. And because of the cancer, I'm limiting the toxins that go into my body by eating fresh, organic food," Angela said.

Comprehensive Care

Angela had a mammogram with normal results around the time of her annual physical in March 2015 with her primary care doctor, Proshat Nikou, MD, with Adventist HealthCare Adventist Medical Group. But in June 2015, she felt a lump in her breast that had developed.

A biopsy done at Adventist HealthCare White Oak Breast Center by Cynthia Plate, MD, a breast surgeon, showed that Angela had stage one breast cancer.

Dr. Plate counseled Angela and then performed her mastectomy at Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital in October 2015.

Continuing Care at Home

Shortly afterwards, Angela began six months of chemotherapy with Alida Espinoza, MD, a medical oncologist. But Angela did not have to face this challenge alone. Victoria Anisu, RN, a transitional care nurse with Washington Adventist Hospital, helped ease and manage Angela's care back home with phone calls and visits.

Anisu also asked if Angela would like to join the hospital's Prescription Produce Program, which delivers free produce weekly to qualified patients who could benefit from a healthy diet at home. The combination of Angela's



Angela Reid, a member of Wheaton Seventh-day Adventist, begins to prepare a home-cooked meal with free vegetables provided by Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital.

chemotherapy and diabetes made her a candidate for the program.

"Providing patients with fresh fruits and vegetables, delivered right to their front door, allows the healthcare team to partner with our patients in their care and ensure that they have access to proper nutrition, allowing them to be successful in managing their health," said Katherine Barmer, RN, director of Population Health Management for Adventist HealthCare. "This ties directly into our organization's mission and to our roots in the Adventist church to improve the health of people and communities."

Through a partnership with Hungry Harvest, a Maryland-based start-up that recovers and sells produce that might not be eaten otherwise, the hospital provides patients with fruits and veggies delivered to their home each week.

"I look forward to getting the fresh food every week. I steam the vegetables or put them in a soup, even if I've never had it before," said Reid. "I get to try lots of new vegetables and fruits. They even send you a recipe with the box every week!"

Do you have a health concern?
Visit AdventistMedicalGroup.org
to find a doctor near you.

Adventist HealthCare Celebrates New Urgent Care Opening in Prince George's *Centers now located in Germantown, Rockville and Laurel*

When a bout of flu or a broken bone happens, Adventist HealthCare offers three urgent care centers to provide residents in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties with convenient access to quality care.

Adventist HealthCare's first center opened in Rockville, Maryland in March 2015. This year Centra Care Adventist HealthCare Urgent Care opened in Germantown in May and our newest center opened in Laurel in July.

Convenience with a Compassionate Approach

As patients seek more convenient care options, our urgent care centers offer quality healthcare as a fast, easily accessible and lower cost alternative to emergency departments. At Centra Care, patients can receive treatment for a full range of minor illnesses and injuries. Many patients can come to the center and receive care in less than an hour – and find treatment during extended evening and weekend hours.

"Strong access to urgent care centers helps to cut down on expensive emergency room visits by offering care for non-life-threatening health conditions at times and locations that are convenient for patients," says Richard Samuel MD, a physician at the Laurel location and also a member of Southern Asian Seventh-day Adventist.

By offering quality urgent care services, Adventist HealthCare broadens its comprehensive network of health services and fulfills its mission of improving the health of people and communities.



Dr. Tiruayer Negatu runs through a series of tests for a patient as part of his fall sports physical at Centra Care Adventist HealthCare Urgent Care.



Quality and Convenience

The Adventist HealthCare Centra Care Urgent Cares are open from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., and offer convenient urgent care for minor illnesses and injuries with on-site x-rays and prescriptions. Patients can walk-in or make an online, no-wait reservation. To learn more about Adventist HealthCare's urgent care centers, visit AdventistUrgentCare.com.

Expanding Care in Upper Montgomery County

The opening of Centra Care in Germantown continues Adventist HealthCare's commitment to meeting the full range of healthcare needs of upper Montgomery County. Urgent care in Germantown joins other Adventist HealthCare services like the critical care at the Germantown Emergency Center, primary care services with Adventist Medical Group and comprehensive imaging services at Shady Grove Radiology.

Bringing Quality Care to Prince George's County

Adventist HealthCare is committed improving access and eliminating local disparities to quality medical care. Accordingly, opening a Centra Care location as our first stand-alone care facility in Laurel is a significant step to ensuring residents in that region are properly served by a healthcare system.

"We recognize that fulfilling our mission of improving the health of people and communities includes providing convenient access to services for residents of Prince George's County," says Terry Forde, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare. "We look forward to expanding our offerings to all of Prince George's County moving forward."

El Programa de frutas y verduras gratuitas contribuye a un estilo de vida saludable

“Yo veo el vaso medio lleno”, dice Angela Reid, una socia de Wheaton Seventh-day Adventist en Silver Spring, Md. “Eso viene de mi fe y de confiar en Dios para todo”.

Este comentario no es precisamente lo que uno esperaría de una mujer a la que se le ha diagnosticado cáncer de mama hace menos de un año y que acaba de terminar con seis meses de quimioterapia.

Hoy en día, gracias a entregas semanales de frutas y verduras gratuitas a través de un nuevo programa de Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital, ella puede mantener el vaso medio lleno y también su despensa llena. Este programa ayuda a que, para algunos pacientes que recibieron el alta recientemente, sea más fácil comer comidas saludables.

“Me encanta cocinar comidas saludables, por lo que realmente estoy agradecida. Y debido al cáncer, estoy limitando las toxinas que ingresan a mi sistema comiendo alimentos frescos y orgánicos”, comentaba Angela, 56.

Atención integral

Angela se realizó una mamografía que dio resultados normales cerca del momento de sus exámenes físicos anuales con su médico de atención primaria, el Dr. Proshat Nikou, en marzo de 2015 con Adventist HealthCare Adventist Medical Group. Pero en junio de 2015, sintió un bulto que se había desarrollado en su pecho.

La Dra. Cynthia Plate, una cirujana especializada en mamas, le realizó una biopsia en Adventist HealthCare White Oak Breast Center, la cual determinó que Angela tenía cáncer de mama etapa 1.

La Dra. Plate asesoró a Angela y luego le realizó una mastectomía en Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital en octubre de 2015.

Atención continua en casa

Al poco tiempo, Angela comenzó seis meses de quimioterapia con la Dra. Alida Espinoza, una oncóloga médica. Pero Angela no tuvo que enfrentar este desafío sola. Victoria Anisu, una enfermera profesional de atención de transición de Washington Adventist Hospital, la ayudó a facilitar y manejar los cuidados de Angela en su hogar con llamadas telefónicas y visitas.



Angela Reid, una socia de Wheaton Seventh-day Adventist, ayuda a mantener un estilo de vida saludable con verduras gratuitas proporcionadas por Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital.

Anisu también le preguntó a Angela si quería inscribirse en el Programa frutas y verduras recetadas, que envía productos agrícolas gratuitos todas las semanas a pacientes que califiquen que podrían beneficiarse de una dieta saludable en el hogar. La combinación de la quimioterapia a la que Angela tuvo que someterse y su diabetes la convirtieron en candidata para el programa.

A través de una colaboración con Hungry Harvest, una nueva empresa con base en Maryland que recupera y vende productos agrícolas que de otra manera no se comerían, el hospital les brinda a los pacientes frutas y verduras, enviadas directamente a su casa, todas las semanas.

“Espero con ansias recibir los alimentos frescos semana tras semana. Cocino las verduras al vapor o las agrego a una sopa, incluso si nunca las he probado antes”, dijo Reid. “De esta manera, puedo probar muchas verduras y frutas nuevas. ¡Incluso te envían una receta con la caja todas las semanas!”

Para más información sobre los servicios de Adventist HealthCare, visite www.AdventistHealthCare.com

2016 Annual

MISSION CONFERENCE

You and your family are invited to attend
**Kettering Adventist HealthCare's
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3939 Stonebridge Road, Kettering, Ohio

- The Isaacs Concert** • November 4 at 7 p.m.
- Sabbath School** • November 5 at 9:30 a.m.
- Mission Conference Program** • November 5 at 10:45 a.m.
- Orchestra Concert** • November 5 at 7 p.m.

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CONCERT November 4

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speaker, author, sociologist, pastor, social activist

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LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY School of Religion is seeking an assistant professor to begin the winter 2017 quarter. This is a tenure-track position in which candidates should possess clinical ministry training and a completed PhD (preferred). Please email a cover letter, curriculum vitae and three professional references to Dr. Erik Carter, ecarter@llu.edu.

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (ADU) seeks a full-time library faculty to head library liaison and information literacy/instruction services. The optimal candidate will be an Adventist with a Christian world view who embraces the mission and ethos of ADU; has an ALA-approved master's degree in library and information science; a strong history of health sciences library instruction and scholarship; and be available to work beginning January 2017. Send CV to Deanna Flores at deanna.flores@adu.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

PREACHERS NEEDED! Come

and join the General Conference Total Member Involvement (TMI) team for one of the most thrilling experiences of your life. Next February we will take a team of volunteer preachers—young and old alike, with or without experience—to five countries of Eastern Europe to preach a full evangelistic series. Sermons will be provided. 4,000 preaching sites expected! For more information and to register, visit tmi.adventist.org.

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MARYLAND ADVENTIST DENTIST, DAVID LEE, DDS, FAGD, AFAAID, FICOI, has practices located in Silver Spring and Columbia, Md. He is extensively trained in implant, cosmetic, TMD/TMJ, sleep apnea treatment, sedation and laser dentistry. Dr. Lee is an Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, as well as having many other certifications. For appointments, call (301) 649-5001 or (410) 461-6655. Mention this ad and receive a 10% discount on all services, excluding third-party payers. We welcome new patients!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIDDAG LEGACY: All are invited to join us at Camp Kulaqua January 13-15, 2017, for a weekend of honoring Norm and Barbara Middag! Plans are being made to expand the nature center in their honor. Rekindle old friendships, or show your appreciation of the Middags. Cost: \$50/weekend. To register call (386) 454-1351 or email rescentral@floridacamps.org.

OBITUARIES

FRY, M. Jane, 73, born Oct. 18, 1941, in Cedar Grove, Tenn., died Feb. 23, 2015, in Altamonte Springs, Fla., after a short illness. She was a member of the Forest Lake church in Apopka, Fla., for eight years and volunteered at their gift and thrift store. Jane devoted her life to working for the denomination. She began denominational work as a secretary at the church's world headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., and then at the Chesapeake Conference, in Columbia, Md. She was an administrative secretary at the Washington Adventist University, in Takoma Park, Md., followed by a mission appointment as an administrative secretary in the Far Eastern/Asia-Pacific Division. Returning stateside, she was an administrative secretary at the Columbia Union Conference, in Columbia, Md., from where she retired in 2007. In retirement, Jane continued to find ways to serve the Lord, and was employed part time as an office assistant for the Florida Conference, in Altamonte Springs. Her family was an important part of her life. She is survived by one brother, Gerald (Mae) Fry of Mohrsville, Pa.; a twin sister, Jean (Mo) Dickson of Zellwood, Fla.; a niece, Becky Fry of Mohrsville, Pa.; and missed by numerous co-workers and friends.

JOHNSON, Eugene F. "Shorty," born March 12, 1933, in McDowell

County, W.Va.; died January 15, 2015, in Princeton, W.Va. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He was an original member of the Princeton Rescue Squad and was a Boy Scout leader. Over the years, he worked for Rockwell International, Christian Record Foundation, and owned and operated the Back to Eden Natural Food Store. Shorty was baptized in October 1972 and was a member of the Valley View church in Bluefield, W.Va. He was a deacon, Pathfinder leader and food pantry director. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and gardening. His greatest joy besides serving the Lord was his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Survivors: his wife, Judy Dye Johnson; daughter Sherry (Keith) Heming of Chattanooga, Tenn.; sons, Dr. Frankie (Dianne) Johnson of Princeton and Russell (Teresa) Johnson of Gastonia, N.C.; grandsons: Justin Moore of Princeton, Stephen Lee Johnson of Princeton and Stephen Allen Johnson of Gastonia; granddaughters Rebecca Johnson of Gastonia and Crystal Graves of Chattanooga; great-granddaughters Ryleigh Moore and Reagan Moore of Belpre, Ohio; great-grandson and great-granddaughter Morgan and Edna Moore of Princeton; great-granddaughter Morgan Johnson of Bland, Va.; and a sister, Edna (Dewey) Walker of Princeton. He was preceded in death by his parents, Worthie and Villa Johnson; and four brothers, Clyde, Teddy, James and Earl Johnson.

McFARLAND, Roger A., born January 6, 1951, in Millersburg, Ohio; died July 19, 2015, in Columbus, Ohio. He was a resident in the Glenmont/Loudonville (Ohio) area all of his life, and a member of the Millersburg (Ohio) church. Roger was a member of the National Guard from 1970-76, and was an independent, owner/operator truck driver for 34 years. In his spare time, he enjoyed old hot rod cars, flower gardening and raising Belgian draft horses. But, the love of his life was his family and grandson. Survivors: his wife, Pam McFarland of Loudonville; his son, Roger E. McFarland of Mt. Vernon, Ohio; his daughters, Cheri McFarland of Mansfield, Ohio, and Nicole Bilancini of Loudonville; and his mother, Alice McFarland of Millersburg.

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Sunset Calendar

	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28
Baltimore	6:40	6:30	6:20	6:11
Cincinnati	7:12	7:01	6:51	6:42
Cleveland	6:59	6:48	6:37	6:27
Columbus	7:05	6:55	6:44	6:35
Jersey City	6:29	6:18	6:08	5:58
Norfolk	6:40	6:30	6:21	6:13
Parkersburg	7:00	6:49	6:39	6:30
Philadelphia	6:34	6:23	6:13	6:04
Pittsburgh	6:53	6:42	6:32	6:22
Reading	6:37	6:26	6:16	6:06
Richmond	6:45	6:35	6:25	6:17
Roanoke	6:55	6:45	6:35	6:27
Toledo	7:07	6:55	6:45	6:35
Trenton	6:32	6:21	6:11	6:02
Wash., D.C.	6:42	6:32	6:22	6:13

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