

Gleaner

NORTHWEST ADVENTISTS IN ACTION

JULY 2011
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**free as
lambs**
**EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT**

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IMAGES OF CREATION



Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.

LUKE 12:27 (NIV)

'Pollen Collector' in Colstrip, Montana, by Jent Kyle of Colstrip, Montana.

Our Eternal Mission

A few simple words from Ellen White are embedded in the very fabric of our Adventist philosophy of education: "... the work of education and the work of redemption are one." (*Education*, p. 30) This holistic view of mankind is a defining characteristic of our church. The physical, mental and spiritual cannot be separated. Each influences the other.

And so, from our earliest days, we have desired to have church schools linked with churches as an integral part of our ministry. It takes the combined efforts of home, school and church to prepare young people not only for a meaningful life of service in this world but also for their heavenly home.

The Cognitive Genesis studies conducted recently through the education department of La Sierra University are a tremendous affirmation of the Adventist advantage in education. Adventist students scored above average in all subjects for all grade levels for all school sizes, regardless of ability levels. The more years students spent in Adventist schools, the higher they scored in achievement and ability.

But it's not just about academics. Higher achievement is associated with spiritually harmonious homes rich with good reading material, positive family communication, active involvement in the school, consistent discipline and high expectations.

Yes, this active involvement with our children ideally begins at home when they are very young. In the April 28, 1909, edition of our very own North Pacific Union Conference *GLEANER*, Ellen White

encouraged Adventist parents to give their little ones a healthy start. "Mothers, let the little ones play in the open air; let them listen to the songs of the birds, and learn the love of God as expressed in His beautiful works."

Yet, when reality says children will otherwise go without 24/7 training from the home, it's an opportunity for our church to step into the gap and do something powerfully redemptive.

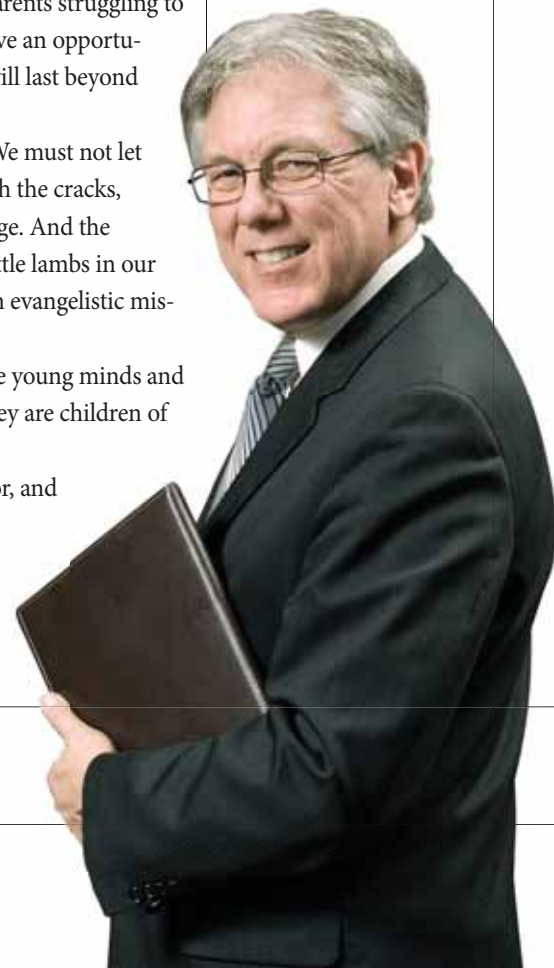
And so, new cultural realities are prompting our church toward an increased emphasis on early childhood education care. In this fast-paced society, with two-income families and single parents struggling to meet their children's needs, we have an opportunity to make an impression that will last beyond a lifetime into eternity.

The present affects the future. We must not let our Adventist children fall through the cracks, especially at a young and tender age. And the opportunities to minister to the little lambs in our communities are enormous. It's an evangelistic mission field not to be missed.

We want to put the idea in these young minds and hearts, as early as possible, that they are children of the King — now and forever.

That's a mission I am praying for, and you can too.

"Mothers, let the little ones play in the open air; let them listen to the songs of the birds, and learn the love of God as expressed in His beautiful works."



MAX C. TORKELSEN II
NORTH PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

Regional Convocation Meets in Auburn

Hundreds packed into the facilities at Camp Berachah in Auburn, Washington, for the 35th-annual Northwest Regional Convocation. Organized by Alphonso McCarthy, North Pacific Union Conference vice president for regional affairs, and his administrative assistant, Patric Parris, this historic convocation featured a booklet on Northwest Adventist black history written by Byron Dulan, Washington Conference community service and outreach director. Read more about the convocation in the August issue of the *GLENER*.



Idaho Constituents Elect Officers

Delegates met Sunday, May 22, in Caldwell, Idaho, for the 52nd constituency session of the Idaho Conference. They elected David Prest Jr., president; Don Klinger, vice president for administration; and Gary Johnson, vice president for finance, to replace Harold Dixon, who is retiring. Johnson, currently Hawaii Conference treasurer, subsequently turned down this invitation. The conference executive committee was commissioned to elect another nominee at a June 14 meeting. Delegates also elected departmental directors, a new executive committee and a new board of education. More details will be forthcoming in the Idaho section of the August *GLENER*.

New Blogs

Dear Counselor ...

"Lately I've noticed texting from my mobile phone has become an obsession. I send texts to all my friends and keep sending to those who reply. It doesn't make any sense, but when I am left without anyone to send to, I just text myself! At times it's almost impossible to keep my hands off the cell phone. Any advice?" — Rick

Read the answer from Julian Melgosa and staff from the Walla Walla University School of Education and Psychology this month on the *GLENER* Blog.



Cheri Corder talks about fish ...

My daughter grew up a vegetarian. She's never had a hamburger or a piece of chicken or even one little bite of smoked Alaskan salmon. "HOW could anyone go HUNTING?" she'd wonder. "And FISHING?" Which is why I couldn't help but smile when she married into a family that not only EATS fish ... they FISH, in ALASKA. Every summer. And now, SHE is going fishing too.

"Wow!" I said. "That will be a lot of really hard, physical work!"

"I think I'll do fine," she reassured me, "once I get past all the fish."

Read more of Cheri Corder's humor with a point this month on the *GLENER* Blog.

Mike Jones asks ...

Do you ever notice some folks you used to see regularly in church aren't present anymore? Do you think, "I really should give them a call?" But you don't? I've got some ideas that may help you carry out those good intentions to connect with former members.

Read Mike's ideas and share some of your own on the *GLENER* Blog.



Add your comments to the *GLENER* blog at www.GleanerOnline.org.



WWU Not the Only One

Although I'm currently a student at Pacific Union College, in Angwin, California, I still make my family forward the monthly *GLENER* to me so I can keep up with what's going on back home.

In the May 2011 article in the Walla Walla University section, it says, "Currently, WWU is the only Adventist university in North America offering an international communication major." I'm actually a student in the program here at PUC. I feel like it should be noted that WWU is not the only college with that program.

—Brittney Alexander, Melba, Idaho

A Slippery Slope

Greg Hamilton (Feature, May 2011) raises legitimate concerns about some Adventists who promote agendas sponsored by those who may ultimately push for Sunday legislation. Terms such as "Christian Nation" are deceptive fronts for such agendas. Hamilton clearly distinguishes

between legitimate civil concerns and religious practices. Those who feel government should promote religious practices are sliding down a slippery slope.

—Connie Dahlke, Walla Walla, Washington

A Question of Source Credibility

In his May editorial, Max Torkelson spoke of the good news that Jesus is coming again. In support of this good news, Torkelson quoted an "End Times Predictions" website that claims major earthquakes are increasing in frequency. However, according to the United States Geological Survey (which has credibility in the field of earth science comparable to that of the GAO in the realm of government or the CDC in the

field of public health), the frequency of earthquakes has not increased over the last hundred years or so that systematic records have been kept.

In this case, the standard sources nearly unanimously contradict the statement in the editorial. Linking our convictions about Jesus' return to dubious assertions of scientific "fact" diminishes our credibility.

Our confidence in Jesus' return is based on the surety of His promise, not on the horror of disasters.

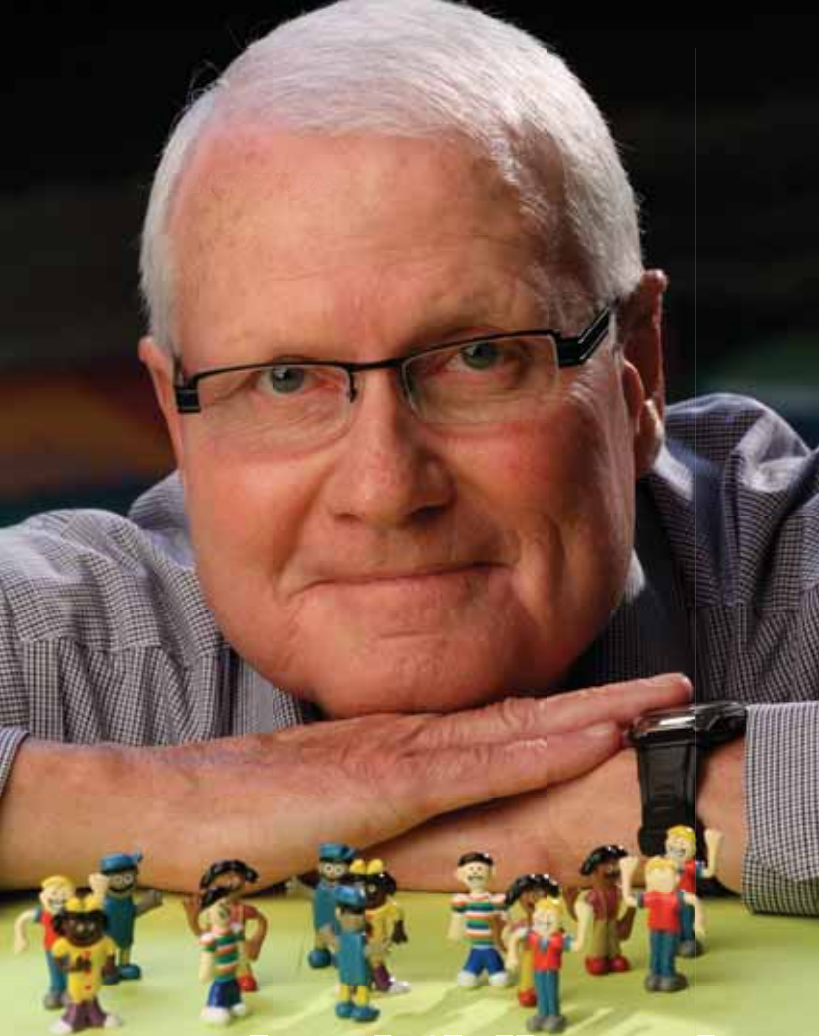
—John McLarty, Enumclaw, Washington

FROM THE *GLENER* ARCHIVES

Can You Tell Us Where This Is?

These fine folks do not deserve to disappear into the *GLENER* archives, unnamed and unsung. If you know when or where this photo might have been taken or the names of any of these individuals, we'd like to know. Add your ideas to the July Archival Photo discussion online on the *GLENER* Blog at gleaneronline.org or email talk@gleaneronline.org.





IN OUR free lamb

early childhood development

Is early childhood education a dilemma or an opportunity? Biblical counsel and words from Ellen White have gifted us with a unique perspective on the importance of parental presence in training our “little lambs.”

But in spite of this ideal, cultural realities and personal choices have brought increasing numbers of young children to day-care centers in our communities — and not a few from Adventist families. We honor parents who make the choice to be home with their children, but many have not found that possible.

So, reality becomes an opportunity. Adventist-operated Early Child Educational Centers throughout the Northwest are community service efforts following the Bible principle to “train up a child in the way he should go.”

Sue Patzer, our North Pacific Union Conference Early Childhood Education coordinator, is working with our local conferences and ECEC programs around the Northwest to encourage quality care and safe, sound educational experiences. We pray the bonds created between teachers, children and parents will provide a bridge to greater spiritual opportunities.

Alan ‘Lanny’ Hurlbert, is the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists vice president for education.



JR FOLD... e as mbs

EDITORS' NOTE: Historically societies are often defined by the way they treat their young and how they look after the old. In animal communities the largest, toughest mammals form protective circles about their weakest members. As Adventist Christians, we have long supported traditional parenting roles within a home context. However, estimates show over half of U.S. children are receiving care from someone other than their parents. Does our traditional stance mean we should remain inactive in spite of clear social needs? Cindy Chamberlin, GLEANER managing editor, recently interviewed Sue Patzer, North Pacific Union Conference Early Childhood Education coordinator. Here are several of her responses:



CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER >

GLEANER: *So we've gone down that road. First it was the mother as the primary teacher. Then we moved education largely out of the homes and into formal classrooms. Once there, we decided our grades 1-12 Adventist education was tops; then we brought in kindergarten programs. Now, we've opened up the door both hinges — to child care and preschools. Have we sold out?*

Sue Patzer: We as a church have long understood the ideal nurturing and educational environment for young children is found at home. We've been counseled it is the God-given responsibility of parents and families to provide the earliest years of training and education within the home. Taking this wisdom to heart, there has been some opposition to providing early childhood centers for young children. After all, godly counsel emphasizes allowing the children to be free as lambs and in the primary care of their mothers. So why

are centers for young children under school age being run by our churches and schools? The answer is simple: In a growing number of families, for one reason or another, MOMMY



IS NO LONGER AT HOME. So it is no longer argued that quality child care is an urgent need in today's society.

G: *Fifty years ago, families had one car, one television (maybe) and one phone. Now we have three-car garages, plasma TVs, iPods, multiple phone plans, gym memberships, boats — even children's playhouses are 1,000 square feet. What used to be pure luxury is now*

DISCOVERYLAND

Twenty-five years ago the Mt. Tabor (Oregon) Adventist Church was searching for an outreach program. They polled the community and found an overwhelming need for quality child care.

Taking the request seriously, they made necessary changes to their building for state certification. Many volunteer hours later, the church received a license to provide care for 58 children ages 2 ½–6 years old. On September 5, 1989, Discoveryland opened its doors with Lina Fernandez, preschool teacher, and Polly Johnson, director. Now 22 years later, they are still there and believe Discoveryland is their mission field.

In 2005, the neighborhood expressed a need for infant and toddler care. Once again, they

listened and added an infant and toddler component. Annette Clark oversees the program, ensuring each family receives love and care.

Their philosophy is simple: Children learn through play. Teachers prepare theme-based weekly lesson plans which include interactive play with learning. These activities provide opportunities to explore and grow spiritually, physically, socially and academically.

Children learn Jesus loves them. Staff witness little miracles, renewing their faith. The director begins each day with a request for God's presence and protection, and ends each day praising and thanking Him for His goodness.

Polly Johnson, Discoveryland director



“necessary.” Don’t you think these scenarios play into this need?

P: Much has changed in 50 years, our wants, needs, desires. In a growing majority of 21st century two-parent families, both parents are working outside the home. This is coupled with the rapidly changing structure of the family (i.e. many broken, single-parent, and surrogate-parent homes); it becomes vitally necessary for parents to find assistance in giving their preschool children the best care possible.

G: *This is the state of the children... our best natural resource?*

P: Yes, and divine counsel and scientific-based research both tell us that early childhood is the most important period of life for development and character formation. The church has been advised and strongly encouraged to provide for the training of younger children where parents work out of the home and/or find themselves lacking in parental skills. *Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 202-3 advises us, “...Then let the church carry a burden for the lambs of the flock. Let the children be educated and trained to do service for God, for they are the Lord’s heritage. “In following Christ’s directive to, “Suffer the little children to come unto Me and forbid them not...” we can best serve these young ones and their families by ministering to their needs in offering quality Christ-centered nurturing programs consistent with the principles of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

G: *Bible council is largely for parental care. Are you saying we have no choice as a church but to*

NW EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS

ALASKA

- » Anchorage Jr. Academy Pre-K
- » Dillingham School Pre-K
- » Fairbanks, Golden Heart Pre-K
- » Palmer, Kids’ Place Preschool

IDAHO

- » Boise Valley School Pre-K
- » Caldwell School Pre-K
- » Eagle Adventist Christian Ctr.
- » Twin Falls, Hilltop Pre-K
- » Pocatello, Jessie Clark Pre-K
- » La Grande, OR, Little Friends Preschool

MONTANA

- » Bozeman, Mt. Ellis Pre-K

OREGON

- » Sheridan, ABC Day Care
- » Tangent, Central Valley Preschool
- » Portland, Discoveryland Child Care Ctr.
- » Boring/Hood View Preschool/Daycare

- » Kelso, WA, Kelso-Longview Preschool
- » Gresham, King’s Kids Preschool/Child Care
- » Gladstone, Rivergate Preschool/Childcare
- » Washougal, WA, Riverside Child Care/Preschool
- » Medford, Rogue Valley Adv. Academy Pre-K
- » Madras, Stepping Stones Preschool
- » Hillsboro, Tualatin Valley Acad. Preschool

UPPER COLUMBIA

- » Moses Lake, Brite Beginnings
- » Wenatchee Cascade Christian Childcare/Preschool
- » Grandview Adv. Jr. Academy Pre-K
- » Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, Lake City Preschool,
- » Milton-Stateline, OR, Kinderschool
- » Spokane, Palisades Christian Learning Center

- » Moscow, Idaho, Palouse Hills Preschool/Day Care
- » Pasco, Small World Learning Center
- » Spokane Valley Adventist Pre-K
- » Hermiston, OR, Sunshine Preschool

Washington

- » Bellingham, Baker View Christian School Pre-K
- » Monroe, Busy Bees Preschool
- » Port Hadlock, Cedarbrook Day Care/Preschool
- » Seattle, Green Lake Preschool/Childcare Center
- » Chehalis, Lewis County Preschool
- » Auburn, Loving to Learn Child Development Ctr.
- » Puyallup, NW Christian School Preschool
- » Olympia Christian School Early Learning Ctr.
- » Shelton Valley Christian Child Development Ctr
- » Burlington, Skagit Adventist Pre-K



get on the bandwagon regarding child care?

P: No, but I am saying the bandwagon is leaving with our without us. When Ellen White was challenged concerning statements she had made regarding ideal school entrance age, she responded: "Circumstances alter conditions: Circumstances change the relation of things," (Sanitarium Church School Board Minutes, January 14, 1904). Sadly, we are living in a time of changing circumstances. Child care is now recognized as an essential thread in the social fabric of our society. Most families need and will continue to use some form of child care to help them raise their children.

G: *The late Fred Rogers, from television's Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood said: A child will make it in life if he/she has just one good, safe, consistent lap to sit upon. Are you saying the church can be that "lap?"*

P: Yes, I believe as a church organization, we are uniquely positioned to look at early childhood education as the ministry it is: an outreach to community families. We can

usefully provide an Adventist faith-based environment for young children of the local congregation and as a feeder for the church and community children for further nurturing the Adventist school. Unfortunately, some churches and schools have had the disappointment of learning the hard way that child-care centers should not be viewed as money makers to support the school or another ministry. Like any other evangelistic thrust, doing early childhood educa-

tion right — having a quality, Christ-centered program — costs money; it does not make much money. What is done for, with and in early childhood education must be done because God has commissioned us to "Go therefore, and teach," and to "let the little children come..." in the most Christ-like way possible and for the right reasons.

G: *I think I hear you saying it must be done correctly and with much thought, prayer and preparation?*

Child care is now recognized as an essential thread in the social fabric of our society.



little friends

Little Friends Christian Preschool and Childcare is located in La Grande, a rural town in eastern Oregon. It started as an idea in a church business meeting in June 2006. After many hours of hard work by members, the center opened in September 2006 with one student. From this small beginning, our center grew and it soon became apparent there was a need for a preschool. So it was decided to open one while continuing to provide child care. The hope was to grow the school and have a mission outreach in the community for those needing Christian-oriented child-care. Today, there is a full preschool of 20 students, and child care averages 8–15 children. Currently there are 16 preschoolers signed up for this fall. We are reaching our staff's goals, and we hope those signing up for the kindergarten program will continue in our local Adventist elementary school, grades 1–8. Some of the children and their parents have attended church. Staff members have an opportunity to be positive witnesses in the lives of these precious children and their families

daily. Learning the ABC's and saying "please" and "thank you" are great — but learning about the love of Jesus is the ultimate goal. Little Friends has a director, three teachers and church volunteers who all work together providing quality preschool and child care. It is rewarding to see these children grow and mature, and grow in the understanding that Jesus loves them and is coming soon.

For further information, please see Little Friends at www.littlefriends1.com.

Jonathan Beckner, Little Friends Christian Preschool director



Incidentally,
there is no
such thing as a
working or non-
working parent
— a parent by
definition is
working.

P: Precisely, the parent organization — the church or school — must be very clear about the mission for the child-care center. For this is an enormous and sacred responsibility. “Let suitable workers be constantly educating the children. Ask the blessing of the Lord on the seed sown, and the conviction of the Spirit of God will take hold of even the little ones. Through the children many parents will be reached,” (Manuscript 52, 1900, *Evangelism*, p. 584).

G: *Parents must weigh prayerfully their decision to raise offspring. There are a multitude of creative options, including flex-time, job sharing, juggling daytime and nighttime shifts, baby-to-work options, etc. There is no such thing as a working or non-working parent — a parent, by definition, is working. However, the parent in Proverbs 31 was working with heart and home as her anchor. If a parent needs to supplement his or her child’s upbringing with child care, can you tell readers what components signal quality care?*

P: “Free as lambs,” does not mean wild as animals, lack of organization or lack of learning. Rather, it means, within the confines of good organization and subtle structure, whether through directed creativities, imagining and pretending, or times of listening, expressing, and experiencing, the children feel free.

What will set our centers apart from the ones down the road? Not only should one see by various displays that this is a Christ-centered place when one walks in the door, but also by the gentle and professional ways of the staff as they minister to the children and their families. One should hear it in their voices as they interact, and feel it in the warm and caring atmosphere.

Cindy R. Chamberlin, GLEANER managing editor, and Sue Patzer, North Pacific Union Conference Early Childhood Education coordinator.

kid pla

Families in the c
trust Kids’ Place
academics, smal
healthy snacks,
care of their chi



Kid's Place

the community
Place for quality
small class sizes,
blocks, and love and
for children.

Kid's Place Preschool came into existence because two moms felt a need to provide quality preschool in the Palmer, Alaska, and area. The desire was to be able to teach their own children and be an outreach for the community. Enrollment is between 10–15 students. They operate under the same roof as Amazing Grace Academy, the Adventist elementary school, however their enrollment is predominately non-Adventist.

They promote the Montessori philosophy of educating the whole child. Care for self, others, and the environment are key to develop-



ing compassion in the child. Children are encouraged to explore various classroom materials to gain focus and concentration. The center features a Bible room, The Courtyard, a Montessori take on getting to know Jesus better. Children practice reverence, hear Bible



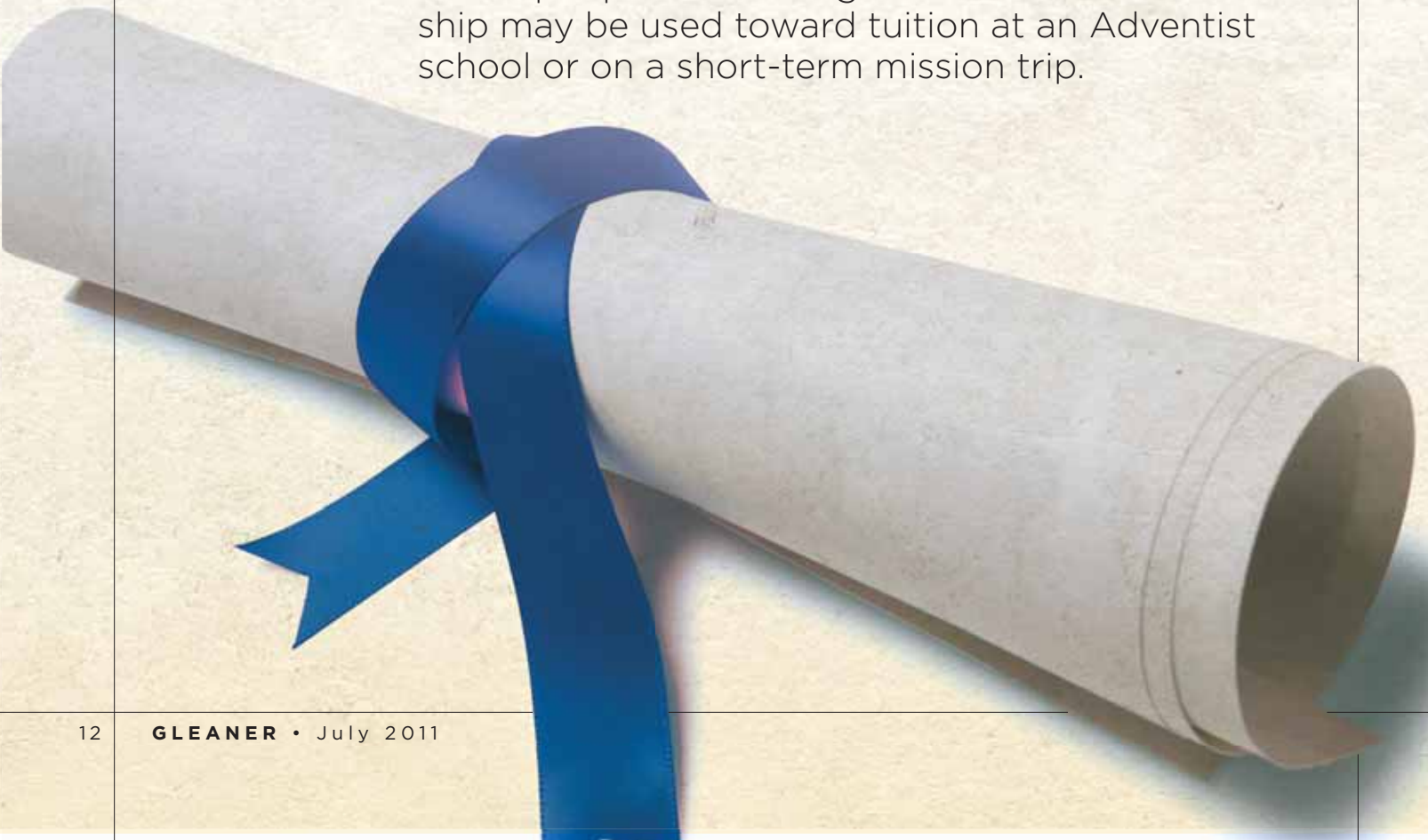
lessons, learn the geography of Israel, and go through individualized, hands-on lessons. The goal is to prepare children to love learning and be a friend to the community. Teachers accomplish this in a safe, loving, Christ-centered, environment.

*Ashley Bailey, Kid's Place
Preschool director*

2011

Caring Heart *Award Winners*

Thirteen Northwest academy students were recipients of the \$500 Caring Heart Award Scholarship made possible through three-way funding from the North Pacific Union Conference, local conferences and academies. Students were selected by their schools for exemplifying the spirit of the Caring Heart — a willingness to serve others. The North American Division provided each student with a plaque and an engraved Bible. The scholarship may be used toward tuition at an Adventist school or on a short-term mission trip.





Nolan Baker from Auburn Adventist Academy.

NOLAN BAKER is very active in Campus Ministries, including Student Week of Prayer. He is ready and willing at any time to help someone in need. Viewed by his peers as a close follower of Christ, Baker was selected by Auburn Adventist Academy as this year's recipient because he exemplifies what it means to be a Christian. Baker is currently a junior and his future plans include attending Union College. His parents are Scott and Tammi Baker.

GREGORY RINGERING is a senior at Cascade Christian Academy. He consistently shows true concern for his fellow classmates. He is spiritual vice president of his class as well as spiritual vice president of the Student Association. His



Gregory Ringering from Cascade Christian Academy.

future plans include studying engineering. His parents are Greg and Tracy Ringering.

WHITNEY SANDERS joined Columbia Adventist Academy during her junior year. It became very apparent she had a way of putting others before herself and would reach out to her peers and teachers with a spirit of friendship, empathy and compassion. She is a constant source of encouragement and shares a personal



Whitney Sanders from Columbia Adventist Academy.

testimony that says even in the most tragic of circumstances God gives hope and strength. She is an active leader in her church youth group and the local community service program and has participated in mission trips. Sanders' future plans include attending Southern Adventist University and majoring in nursing. Her guardians are Marvin and Mandy Fernando.

ELLISSA JOY NELSON is a junior at Gem State Adventist Academy. She takes the initiative to reach out, welcome and nurture new and lonely students. She's been a speaker for Student Week of Prayer, a speaker at a local evangelistic series and a speaker for entire Weeks of Prayer at local elementary schools.



Ellissa Joy Nelson from Gem State Adventist Academy.

She also gives sermons at local churches. Her future plans include attending Walla Walla University majoring in psychology and theology with hopes of becoming an equine assisted child psychotherapist. Her parents are Stan and Sami Nelson.

NATALIE SMITH, Student Body pastor, organizes spiritual activities at Livingstone Adventist Academy. She enjoys speaking at Girl Scout meetings and helping her neighbors with various jobs. She obtained her solo pilot's license for possible mission piloting. A junior at LAA, Smith's future plans include attending either Walla



Natalie Smith from Livingstone Adventist Academy.

Walla University or Loma Linda University and majoring in either medicine or civil engineering.

AMBER WILKINSON, a senior at Milo Adventist Academy, genuinely cares for the spiritual growth of those around her. She can be found cleaning up after major events



Amber Wilkinson from Milo Adventist Academy.

and being involved with various outreach projects including mission trips. Her parents are Gregory and Theresa Wilkinson.

JAIME WOODALL has created a prayer wall and has helped students by leaving encouraging notes and by praying for individual needs. Her Christian lifestyle, along with her loving smiles and energy have served as a fine example for others to follow. She is currently a senior at Mt. Ellis Academy. Her parent is Bart Woodall.



Jaime Woodall from Mt. Ellis Academy.

LAUREN LEWIS has been a shining example of God's compassion for others during her four years at Portland Adventist Academy. "Lauren is not only an academically gifted student," says Gale Crosby, PAA principal, "but she has the unique ability to see the needs of those around her and be of service wherever she may be. Her involvement in outreach programs and volunteer organizations is commendable." Lewis leads a small and growing group of students in an Abolitionist Movement that educates people about and helps to eliminate human traf-



Lauren Lewis from Portland Adventist Academy.

ficking. She has joined mission trips to Nepal and Zambia. Her teachers and classmates respect her because of her attitude, enthusiasm and energy for life. Lewis plans to major in anthropology at WWU and spend a year as a student missionary. She also plans to spend her life serving others. Her parents are Brant and Carlene Lewis.

TAYLOR AMANDA DECKER has been unanimously selected for this scholarship for her caring spirit that is evident in the halls and classrooms at Puget Sound Adventist Academy. Her generosity and concern extends not only to classmates,



Taylor Amanda Decker from Puget Sound Adventist Academy.

but staff and visitors as well. She is involved in sports, class office, church and community outreach. A junior at PSAA, her future plans include going to college to become a fashion designer. Her parents are Brian and Erin Decker.

JOSHUA J. WOOD is a senior at Rogue Valley Adventist Academy. On the India Mission Trip he renewed his love for God and has become a wonderful, spiritual young man. He has become a great leader in school activities including on and off the basketball court. His parents are Jon and Verona Wood.



Joshua J. Wood from Rogue Valley Adventist Academy.

DANIEL SACDALAN cares about his classmates, teachers and those in his community. As a junior, he currently holds a student office at Skagit

Adventist Academy. He was a speaker for Week of Prayer and has participated in the Nicaragua Mission Trip where he hand mixed concrete and assisted his father in providing dental care for children and



Daniel Sacdalan from Skagit Adventist Academy.

house parents at the orphanage. He is actively involved in church and sharing his faith with others. His future plans include computer programming or counseling. His parents are Jesse and Liliana Sacdalan.

PERLA SUAREZ is a caring young lady who is always willing to help others in the dorm whether it be with homework or with seeing the value in themselves. She has a positive personality and is not afraid to share her love for Jesus and



Perla Suarez from Upper Columbia Academy.

pray with students regularly. She is known as a hard worker on mission trips. A junior at Upper Columbia Academy, her future plans include attending college and entering the medical field. Her parents are Ismael and Angelina Tabares.

HERBERT SWEZEY is a senior at Walla Walla Valley Academy. He was chosen for his unique skills in seeking out those students who are on the margins of school life needing a listening ear, warm smile and encouraging words. At WWVA he is seen as a role model of how Jesus treated others. He serves in student



Herbert Swezey from Walla Walla Valley Academy.

leadership offices and is on the gymnastic team. Swezey's future plans include attending Walla Walla University and majoring in engineering. His parents are Herbert (deceased) and Karen Swezey.

ACCION

El Señor Obra Milagros en Spokane

Dios pudo haber escogido a ángeles para proclamar su mensaje de salvación al mundo, pero no lo hizo. El siempre ha utilizado personas. Las personas siempre han desempeñado un papel muy importante en la salvación de otras personas. Antes de la destrucción de la tierra por un diluvio, Dios escogió a Enóc para que predicara su palabra, Judas 14. También eligió a Noé y a su familia para que se salvara y

Pero Dios tenía otros planes para él. Cuando llegó a Spokane se dió cuenta que allí no había Iglesia Adventista Hispana. Empezó a reunirse con otras familias hispanas que adoraban en la Iglesia Adventista Central de Spokane para estudiar la Biblia y orar. Así fue como el grupo fue creciendo. Joel habló con el pastor Jeff Kenne sobre la posibilidad de comenzar una Iglesia Hispana. El pastor Jeff junto con toda su iglesia le brindaron todo el apoyo posible al pequeño grupo que se estaba formando. Por la gracia de Dios hoy tenemos una Iglesia Adventista hispana en Spokane, porque estas familias pioneras se dejaron usar como instrumentos en las manos del Dios todopoderoso. El pastor Walter Pintos, coordinador



Líderes de la primera Iglesia Adventista de Spokane, Wash., junto al pastor Canals y el pastor Bullón.



Alma Pérez estudia la Biblia con su hermana, Sara Noemí Granados.

para traer salvación a los demás, Gen 6: 8-9; 7:1. El medio por el cual todas las personas pueden conocer a Dios y aprender acerca de su bondad es a través de otras personas. Dios utiliza el principio de la multiplicación de unos pocos a muchos. Dios elige un individuo, una familia o un pequeño grupo de personas, las bendice y espera que ellos se multipliquen a sí mismos y lleguen a ser una bendición para los demás. Dios hoy obra de la misma forma. Dios escogió a Joel Pérez, un hermano que se trasladó a Spokane en busca de trabajo.



Angela siguió el consejo de su pastor, Enoc Márquez de orar por tres personas, oro para que sus amiguitas vinieran a la iglesia. Dios contestó su oración. Ellas vinieron con sus madres las cuales tomaron la decisión de ser bautizadas.

de la obra hispana en Upper Columbia, se dió cuenta del potencial que había en Spokane e invitó al pastor Alejandro Bullón a tener una caravana evangelística en el distrito de Othello/Spokane, durante el mes de Marzo que resultó en 20 bautismos. Una de las personas que fue bautizada fue Sara Noemí Granados. Sara pertenecía a la Iglesia Pentecostal. Sin embargo, ella tenía muchas inquietudes espirituales y estaba buscando agradecer al Señor Jesús. Su curiosidad espiritual la llevó a aceptar una invitación de su hermana carnal, Alma Pérez, quien pertenece a la Iglesia Adventista de Spokane. Juntas empezaron a estudiar la Biblia y a orar. El resultado fue que Sara decidió entregarle su vida al Señor Jesús y fue bautizada. Dios también utiliza niños para traer almas a sus pies. Angela tiene apenas 7 años de



Miembros de la primera Iglesia Adventista Hispana de Spokane durante la caravana evangelística del pastor Alejandro Bullón.

edad. Oró para que Dios tocara el corazón de sus amiguitas Vanesa e Itzel, ambas vinieron a la iglesia y sus respectivas madres tomaron su decisión para el bautismo. Dios quiere usarte también a ti.

*Pastor Ramón J. Canals, Vice
Presidente del Ministerio
Hispano en la NPUC*

God in Action at Amazing Grace Academy

As the fastest growing Adventist church school in the North Pacific Union Conference, Amazing Grace Academy, in Palmer, Alaska, is experiencing an answer to prayer that has surpassed its wildest hopes. From an enrollment of 19 in 2010 and 43 in 2011, there are now 72 pre-enrolled students for the 2011–2012 school year. As the AGA students gather in the school hallway for their daily morning ritual to sing, pray and pledge allegiance, their prayers are of thanksgiving and for God’s Spirit to inhabit the school. After the students disperse to their classrooms, staff and parents gather in the main office to pray and invite

His presence and will to be accomplished at Amazing Grace Academy.

As can be imagined, AGA has been scrambling to meet the challenge of so many new students all at once. Classrooms have been rearranged and new teachers have been hired. Ashley Bailey, teacher, will combine a pre-K/Kindergarten program and Matthew Sandvik, teacher, will expand the music department as well as teach the upper grades. As AGA integrates its new students, the staff strives to hold to the purpose of the school: to show children Jesus, nurture their love for Him and others, teach them to think for themselves and empower them to grow.

Pictured from left are: Cameron Peterson and Clarence Naya, students at Amazing Grace Academy in Palmer, Alaska.



Carol Woodward, Amazing Grace Academy teacher, and Cheyanne Cline, student, work on an art project together.

AGA needs a gym. The Alaskan winter wind comes straight off of the Matanuska Glacier, whistling down into the valley with gusts that can exceed 80 miles an hour. It blows balls across the highway during recess, dropping the wind chill to dangerous levels. According to one teacher, a sudden gust can knock over equipment and even children and teachers. Even without the wind, temperatures can drop down to -40, making it impossible to hold recess outdoors. Lively games in the basement must

now make way for classrooms. The gym, planned for later, has become an urgent need now. As the Palmer Church and AGA partner with the Lord on this project, it is exciting to imagine how He will lead.

Please pray for students and staff that, as they head into this new year, they will ultimately continue to follow and complete the plan God has for AGA.

Bobbie Grimstad, Palmer Church member

Wayne Hooper's Legacy Continues

Gem State Academy has many "greats." One such person is Wayne Hooper, class of 1938. Hooper spent his life composing and arranging Christian music. His masterpiece, "We Have This Hope," is well known and loved by Adventists around the world.

Recently Hooper's children established a Wayne Hooper Music Scholarship program at GSA. The purpose of this \$1,000 annual scholarship is to encourage students to practice and develop their musical abilities to the highest degree

possible — for the glory of God.

The first Wayne Hooper Music Scholarship was presented to Ellissa Nelson at the spring concert on May 13. Jan (Hooper) Lind, Wayne's daughter, and her husband, Dick, drove seven hours to be present for the ceremony. Friends who wish to augment Hooper's legacy may make a gift to the Wayne Hooper Scholarship Fund at GSA.

Linda Klinger, GSA GLEANER correspondent



Jan Lind, daughter of Wayne Hooper, stands with Ellissa Nelson, recipient of the Wayne Hooper Music Scholarship award this year.

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- Baker Valley Adventist School
- Enterprise Adventist School
- La Grande Adventist School
- Salmon Adventist School
- Gem State Adventist Academy

GEM STATE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Helping Families Reach Goals



Larry and Christy Davy have three children who attended Gem State Adventist Academy: Matt, '04, Leah, '05, and Abby, '11. Larry is the administrator of Tillamook County General Hospital. Christy is an RN helping to build cardiology services at Tillamook Medical Group Specialty Clinic.

Larry's Story:

I wanted our children to develop their God-given talents to the highest degree possible. GSAA exposed our children to many valuable opportunities and experiences. The faculty challenged our kids to be the best they can be mentally, spiritually and physically. If I had to make that choice again, I would definitely choose GSAA.

Christy's Story:

I wanted our children to learn to filter everything through God's plan for their lives and to learn, from experience, the benefits of choosing that path. GSAA, with its godly staff, proved to be a safe haven where there were many, many such opportunities. Because of this, our children have adopted service and mission as a way of life.



Allen's Story:

GSAA prepared me well for college. In academy I developed the study skills that I continue to rely on today. A significant amount of character growth occurs during high school years. Moving from childhood into a world where independent thinking is encouraged, ethical dilemmas are presented, and opinions are formed. . . these years are crucial, a foundation is set for life. To grow into well-rounded and effective adults, kids need to develop more than just academically—they also need spiritual, physical, and social stimulation. The work ethic and social skills that I learned in academy will help me the rest of my life.

Leah's Story:

GSAA helped to make our transition into the adult world a smooth one. There were endless opportunities to take on leadership roles at GSAA. Looking back, I can see it was a priority of the faculty to pull kids out of their shell and help them to sharpen their unique skill sets and thrive. I owe a lot to a few special deans, teachers, and faculty. Much has changed in my life since those years in academy, but I know that many of my professional and relationship goals have been reached because of the influence of those mentors.



Allen Botimer, '05, and Leah (Davy) Botimer, '05, got acquainted at Gem State Academy. Allen is in his third year of medical school at Loma Linda University. Leah is working as an oncology nurse at Loma Linda University Medical Center, and is also in her first year of LLU's pediatric nurse practitioner program.

For more information, contact Karen Davies at (208) 459-1627, or kdavies@gemstate.org

www.gemstate.org

Christian School Ground Breaking

In August 2010, Highland View Christian School in Butte, Mont., opened with six students and one teacher. A large classroom was set up in the basement of the church with a smaller room for the library and computer lab. The Town Council had given permission for them to hold school in the basement for a year. The church and HVCS board began planning for the following 2011–2012 school year. The property around the church was large enough to build on — but would this work? They needed a building and money.

Members began praying for direction. A large donation was made specifically for a school building. Additionally they hired ThinkOne Architects. Many meetings later, they stepped out in faith and presented plans to the Town Council on April 21. The council approved plans

for a new structure. So on Friday, April 29, at 2 p.m., the groundbreaking took place.

Ben Nagel, HVCS board chair, organized the ceremony and introduced speakers. Paul Babb, mayor, and Judy Martz, former Montana governor, attended. During his speech, Babb expressed his pleasure in having a Christian school in the community. Archie Harris, Montana Conference education superintendent, cited the benefits of an Adventist education, and Danny Flower, pastor, closed with prayer. Refreshments were served.

The new building will house two classrooms, a library/computer lab, a kitchen and a multipurpose room. Plans include more classrooms and a gymnasium. Members are praying for two full classrooms, another teacher and a teacher's aide for the next school year. They are

already receiving calls from the community requesting information.

This is a faith endeavor with all the funding not yet in place. However, the Butte Church trusts God for the future. Butte is a hard town

with a mining history and casinos on almost every corner. The members' goal is to offer something better — Jesus.

Lori Flower, Butte Church communication leader

Pictured from left are: Paul Babb, mayor; Judy Martz, former Montana governor; Archie Harris, Montana Conference education superintendent; Kathy Edwards, Highland View Christian School teacher; Brooke Flower, HVCS 8th grader; and Ben Nagel, HVCS board chair, break ground on the new HVCS building.



Adventist Student Makes Top 10 at State Geography Bee

More than 100 students from around the state met April 1 in Billings, Mont., at the state National Geography Bee to compete. The person who won first-place in the bee would qualify to move on to Washington, D.C.

Alex Wredberg, student at Five Falls Christian School in Great Falls, Mont., was one of those lucky students to compete. After winning the geography bee at his school, he took a test and qualified to go to the state competition.

In Billings, Wredberg had to answer tough questions about topics such as the call letters of airports and rivers around the world. While Wredberg placed sixth overall and didn't qualify to go Washington, D.C., he felt like he did well. He says, "I am already studying for next year's bee. This was tough, but I didn't want to win. Maybe next year."

Archie Harris, Montana Conference education superintendent



CAA Biology Trip

Research 'Transecting' all Disciplines

Usually 6:30 a.m. isn't the time to ask academy students to show up for school. But on April 20, that's the time 26 biology students arrived at Columbia Adventist Academy due to lunar forces. No, lunar forces didn't pull students to school but the forces were pulling strongly on the Earth, creating excellent low tides for marine studies of tide pools. Loading into the bus with their waders, mudding boots and binoculars, all were prepared to

Deception Pass State Park since their devastation in 1995 when thousands of unexpected school visitors trampled them during an extremely low tide. CAA students conducted three field studies: a study looking at the effect of different environmental factors on barnacle orientation, a rockweed age study looking at those same factors, and three line transects identifying the type and number of all organisms present. The latter data was then submitted to the



Destiny Cosner has a heart (cockle) for biology.



Columbia Academy students discover new marine organisms in the tide pools of Rosario Beach, Wash.

find as many birds and marine organisms as possible over the next three days.

The trip inventoried three intertidal zones: a sandy, cobblestone beach, a rocky shore (Rosario), and a muddy beach. For years, CAA biology classes have been utilizing the resources of the Walla Walla University Marine Lab and have been one of a select few groups allowed to collect data in tide pools of the protected areas of

government for its use in tracking population trends.

This year's trip was enhanced by chaperones: Virlys Moller, English teacher; Shelly Fry, global studies teacher; and John Williams, DVM. Moller shared her poetry and then had students write poems about the beach's inspiring environment. Fry organized the students to lead out in the morning devotions and evening campfire workshops. Williams led out in

birding expeditions, where students collectively identified 73 different species. In addition to the biology, English and spiritual focuses, statistics and math were used in the research and a history of the area was shared by the State Park docent. It was truly a trip involving all disciplines and all of the students' senses. When asked what was of greatest value to them, Destiny Cosner and Emmitt Johnson, CAA sophomores, said, "The

most valued part of the trip for me was getting to know God's creation more. Seeing how intricate the organisms were ... made me realize how incredible He is. To actually get out there and learn about biology hands on makes you realize there has to be a higher power that makes all this possible."

Larry Hiday, CAA GLEANER correspondent

Inspiration for poetry is provided by non-stop waves washing over pebble-covered beaches at the Walla Walla University Marine Lab.



PAA Teacher Wins National Award

A Portland Adventist Academy teacher recently won an Alumni Awards Foundation award for Excellence in Teaching.

Mark Smith, computer teacher and computer department chairman, was presented with a gold medallion, a framed certificate and \$2,000 by Arpad Soo, AAF board member.

Smith is one of nine other teachers in the North American Division recognized by the AAF. Smith was nominated by principals, superintendents, colleagues and former students. The Foundation made its selections based on classroom innovation, community involvement and leadership.

Smith's roles during his 14-year career at PAA have included everything from vice principal to founder of a climbing club, grant writer and math and computers teacher.

One of Smith's most recent

accomplishments includes the completion of the complicated process to add four college-credit classes and advanced placement classes to the computer department. He also spends his summers teaching computer classes at a community college in order to remain current in the classroom.

Few of Smith's colleagues, students and friends know that he gave up a promising engineering career with one of the nation's largest aerospace companies so he could pursue teaching in Adventist education.

"There is little doubt that more money can be made in engineering than in education," says Smith. "However, the hope of more money does little to build authentic fulfillment. The deepest fulfillment occurs when you reach a point of sensing that you are following God's path for your life."

At midpoint in his career, Smith says he no longer thinks that "teacher" is the best descriptor of true teaching. "I believe that 'minister' or 'pastor' better fulfills the true calling of the teacher," he says. That is seen in his classroom and in the bouldering gym as he uses everyday lessons to guide and mentor students in character development.

Gale Crosby, principal, helped nominate Smith for the award. He says not only is Smith a "highly accomplished professional who has high expectations for his students," but that he "loves Jesus, loves his family, his students and his church family. He has a clear picture of what it means to fol-

low Jesus and to teach as Jesus taught."

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent



Pictured here, from left, are: Arpad Soo, AAF board member; Gale Crosby, PAA principal; Mark Smith, PAA teacher and AAF award winner; Al Reimche, Oregon Conference president; and John Gatchet, Oregon Conference vice president for education.

LAA Students Eager to Serve

A dventist young people are eager to serve. When Livingstone Adventist Academy, in Salem, Ore., became a full high school in 2005, leaders wanted to stress the importance of service within the curriculum. As a result, the seniors, decided to do a mission project in lieu of a class trip. As a tie-in with their course work, they chose to go to Puerto Rico where they could immerse themselves in Spanish. Since the first trip, each succeeding

senior class has done the same.

After working in Cancun, students spent the past three years in Costa Rica in the town of Golfito on the Pacific coast. It has an active Adventist pres-



Taylor Gall hugs a young Costa Rican girl she befriended.

ence and a booming church attendance. Members wished to start a school on their property. So this year's seniors began work on a school building. The local church has embraced LAA students and wonderful friendships have been made, so much so that the new school is also to be named Livingstone Adventist Academy.

"I was so blessed when we went to Costa Rica," says Taylor Gall, a student at Walla Walla University who was part of the

2010 LAA mission team. "I felt a great connection with the people and what we were there to do. God showed me how I can impact people's lives. You don't need a lot to be happy." Alex Bones is the computer technician at Livingstone. He was a member of the 2008 team that worked on building a church in Cancun. "The mission trip was an amazing, life-changing experience," he says.

Jon Dickerson, LAA principal



PORTLAND ADVENTIST ACADEMY

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Students in Mr. Smith's classroom don't just learn about 2D animation or web design. They get a teacher who prays for them. They get a mentor and a minister.

For over 100 years, Portland Adventist Academy has been giving students a Christ-centered and character-driven education. From Advanced Placement and college level classes to hands-on learning in a professional recording studio, in PC and Mac labs, in a green-screen studio and on one of the largest bouldering walls in Oregon, PAA students get a broad range of experiences. And best of all, they get teachers who invest in their spiritual growth.

PAA'S MARK SMITH ALUMNI AWARDS FOUNDATION 2011 TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Sharing God's Love

Pathfinder Fair 2011

It's a typical cloudy spring day outside, but inside it's an exciting, fun-filled celebration of Pathfinder ministry.

The Oregon Conference Pathfinder Fair was held May 15 at the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany, Ore. The day started with 36 Pathfinder clubs from around the conference arriving in time to set up their booths displaying the "Sharing God's Love" Pathfinder theme and honors they had worked on throughout the Pathfinder year.

With Internet live streaming on the Oregon Conference website, the opening ceremonies started with the Pathfinder Parade led by the Pleasant Valley (Ore.) Panthers color guard and followed by more than 850 Pathfinders and staff in dress uniform. A welcome was given to the more than 1,000 attendees and those online by Tracy Wood, Oregon Confer-



ence Pathfinder director. Fay Ziegele from Hood River, Ore., was recognized for 58 years of Pathfinding. She has decided to retire and says, "It is time to let younger people take the lead."

Following the opening prayer, Al Reimche, Oregon Conference president, and Pathfinders recited the theme text for the year. Then, at the invitation to all Pathfinders in grades 9-12 to come forward, 109 teens flooded the stage for the reciting of the Pathfinder Pledge and Law and singing the Pathfinder Song. Next was the recognition of Pathfinders and staff who had been baptized

during the past year. More than 60 people filled the stage as 15 pastors from around the conference pinned the Pathfinder baptismal pin on those who had not already received it in their club. Three Pathfinders were invested as teen leadership trainees through the Teen Leadership Training program for grades 9-12. Brenden Teal, Whipple Creek (Wash.) teen Pathfinder, was invested as a Master Guide.

The day continued with clubs performing drill and march routines, Pathfinders participating in honor activities at club booths, and Big Lake Youth Camp staff facilitating

pinewood derby races. Club teams had practiced for the event relays: Healthy Edible Car Race; Treasure Transport; and a Sharing God's Love — Surprise relay. Much delicious food was prepared by eight clubs and willingly consumed throughout the day.

The closing ceremonies wound down the fair as many awards were made to clubs and individuals. Milo Adventist Academy presented six Pathfinder scholarships, and Big Lake Youth Camp gave a free week of summer camp to a Pathfinder. The day closed as Grants Pass (Ore.) color guard retrieved the colors and Reimche gave the closing prayer. What a day of celebrating ministry — Pathfinder style.

Tracy Wood, Oregon Conference youth ministries associate director

Rogue Valley Adventist Academy

Takes Trip to India

On Dec. 18, 2010, 16 high school students from Medford, Ore., arrived at Fjarli Adventist Academy in Darcy, India. Rogue Valley Adventist Academy students chose to use their Christmas vacation helping a 230-student school located in deep poverty and near much superstition and fear, in a third-world country.

Once students arrived at their "homebase," Maranatha International provided lodging, meals and transportation. A typical morning consisted of

a student-led worship, breakfast, a Vacation Bible School program with group singing, storytelling and fun. The afternoon was spent visiting villages and inviting people to come to the evening evangelistic meetings led by M. Wilson, local evangelist. Each evening found students greeting those who attended meetings with prayers and hugs. Students participated in the meetings by giving: health talks; children's stories; and personal testimonies.

For two-and-a-half weeks

students experienced the miracle of prayer as they physically embraced the people who pled for prayer, as demons were cast out before their eyes and lives were turned over to the one true God. These are all things they did, but what will stay with them forever is what they experienced. One student summed up his experience by saying, "I now see God through different eyes."

Grace Emori, RVAA correspondent



Josh Wood prays for an attendee of the evening meeting during the mission trip.



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Directional Difference

Looking for a safer environment and higher academic standards for their son, Neil, who had attended public school, the Patel family asked for directions to a private school. They were not interested in Christianity, as that would not agree with their Hindu beliefs, but they wanted the best education possible for their children.

They set out, carefully following the directions given to them. Shortly they found themselves lost and realized they had taken a wrong turn somewhere. But looking to the side, they could see a school. They turned into the parking lot and found themselves at Roseburg (Ore.) Junior Academy. It was not the school they had been looking for, but they met someone who offered to show them around and the Patels found themselves impressed with the buildings,

the atmosphere and the happy children who appeared to be receiving a quality education.

They enrolled their children, Neil in second grade and, later, Rikita for kindergarten.

This year, after 13 years in Seventh-day Adventist education, Rikita graduates from Milo Adventist Academy as an honors student with an enriched, college prep diploma in science, math and anatomy and physiology. She is a member of One Voice, the most active singing group on campus, and choir. She helps lead in song services regularly and is a resident assistant, leading out in worships and activities around the campus. She is also executive vice president of the senior class. Rikita went with other Milo students on a mission trip to Guatemala and led out in Vacation Bible School activities and evangelism. She

was elected by her peers as the most Christ-like representative on her dorm hall.

Patel is following in some of her brother's footsteps: She plans to attend Walla Walla University, where Neil graduates this June. She would like to go as a student missionary, and they are working together this summer at Big Lake Youth Camp. They also share plans to pursue medical degrees at Loma Linda University.

Rikita says Adventist education has made a huge difference in the direction of her life and she is forever grateful for the wrong turn that was taken on the way to a better school. A God-driven turn — a wrong turn that ended up being completely right.

Carol Bovee, Milo Adventist Academy teacher



CAROL BOVEE

A wrong turn makes all the difference for Rikita Patel.



NAINA PATEL

Rikita Patel and her brother, Neil, both benefit from Adventist education at Milo Adventist Academy.

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Mini-Mission Trip to Sweet Home

Nearly 75 “missionaries,” from a dozen churches around the Oregon Conference, recently participated in a three-day mini-mission trip, the community impact weekend, to Sweet Home, Ore.

On Friday morning, teams headed out to tackle a list of jobs the Sweet Home (Ore.) Church

“Missionaries” to Sweet Home, Ore., conduct litter patrol in the community.

had collected from around town. Projects included: cleaning, maintenance, and painting at the senior center and domestic violence shelter; painting at a health food store; household maintenance and yard work. Some brought local homes up to code; others gathered litter, collected food, mowed lawns,

built raised garden beds, and much more.

Additionally the church hosted a health and safety fair, conducting free blood pressure and pulse checks, eye exams, hearing tests, hearing-aid cleanings and mini massages. There was fingerprinting and safety photos of children, free car-seat checks by police, and even a fire truck for children.

Friday evening they hosted a free Vegetarian Tasting Affair, where the public sampled food and received recipes. Healthy Living Ministries, from southern Oregon, served as a co-host.

Sabbath afternoon, the church gave a free Joe Pearles, country-gospel concert. Military veterans were also honored.

The Elks club hosted a free

breakfast Sunday morning in support of the volunteers.

Mini-missions are being sponsored by the Oregon Women’s Ministries department. An offering was taken at the 2009 women’s retreat providing \$1,500 to the Florence (Ore.) Church for their community in 2010. The overflow, \$1,000, was used as seed money for the Sweet Home weekend.

If you are interested in hosting a community impact weekend, contact Cheri Corder, Oregon Conference women’s ministries director, at 503-850-3500.

Tawny Sportsman, Oregon Conference women’s ministries coordinator for Area 3



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UCC Relocates to New Headquarters

On Monday, May 23, the Upper Columbia Conference office staff met for one last worship in the leased facility that has housed the church's regional headquarters for more than two years.

During worship, Bob Folkenberg Jr., UCC president, encouraged staff to "remember the amazing ways God has led to this point."

After worship and a time of small-group prayer, the staff broke into three teams and began loading boxes of files,

equipment, church resources and office supplies into trucks. The trucks then hauled everything to the newly rebuilt headquarters on Spokane's (Wash.) west side and were unloaded the following day.

Even though the building wasn't fully finished, a temporary occupancy permit was issued by building inspectors. As UCC staff carried boxes and computers into the new building, they sidestepped workmen finishing hardware, trim and landscaping.

Teresa Livermore unpacks files in the education department at the newly constructed Upper Columbia Conference office.



Conference employees unload boxes and equipment moved from the temporary office on Euclid Avenue in Spokane Valley to the newly constructed office on Grove Road in Spokane.

"As we move into our new office, our new home, we're so thankful God provided the means to rebuild after the fire," says Folkenberg. "We look forward to the future, confident He will continue to lead and provide for His work here in Upper Columbia Conference."

The new headquarters, rebuilt following a fire in 2008, was entirely constructed with

funds from the insurance settlement. The facility is well-equipped to continue serving members, churches and schools in Upper Columbia Conference.

The new building is located at 3715 S Grove Road, Spokane, WA 99224.

Jay Wintermeyer, UCC communication director

A Dream Fulfilled *Mattawa Spanish Church Organized*

The Mattawa (Wash.) Spanish Church began as a company in 2003 due in part to a dream given to Jose Luis Perez. He dreamed that a voice said, "You must tell the people that I am coming very soon." Perez was part of one of the original families that began meeting together in Mattawa.

Fulfilling this dream is what the Mattawa Spanish Church strives to do and now, as an organized church, they continue to be a light in Mattawa to tell the community about Jesus.

Bob Folkenberg Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president, says, "This was a momentous day for this congregation." And indeed it was, as Walter Pintos, UCC Hispanic ministries director, had the members sign the charter of the newly organized church, and Mirian Perez shared the history of the church.

Kathy Marson, UCC communication administrative assistant



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TO WAS THE CONCEPT OF SELFLESS SERVICE. CAMPUS
MINISTRIES WAS THE TOOL BY WHICH GOD FIRST
TAUGHT ME THAT WHAT I DO SHOULD POINT OTHERS
TO HIM, NOT MYSELF."

-MICHAEL SMITH, CLASS OF '11

Walla Walla Valley Academy

Celebrating 125 years of Adventist Education

To the pioneers of the Seventh-day Adventist message ... who have handed on to us the torch of truth — kindled again at such infinite cost,” begins the dedication of the 1952 Walla Walla College Academy yearbook, the *Delphian*.

Milton Academy, founded in 1886, arose from the desire of area Adventists to establish quality Christian education in the valley. Milton Academy became Walla Walla College Academy in 1892 and is now known as Walla Walla Valley Academy. The academy, the oldest Adventist academy in the Northwest, is proudly celebrating and praising God for 125 years of transforming hearts and minds.

WWVA has become a commitment to many families. Alumni send their children who in turn send their children, and so a tradition is born. Last June, Lauren Prusia ('10) earned the distinction of being a fourth generation graduate of WWVA. She was preceded by her father Kenneth ('83), grandfather Charles ('57) and great-grandmother Darlene ('38). In fact, over the span of 72 years, a total of 14 Prusias (brothers, sisters, cousins and grandchildren) have become WWVA graduates. Occasionally, alumni even return to serve the school that saw them through their formative years. Currently one fourth of our faculty members are alumni.

Withstanding the test of time and generations, WWVA has moved ever onward in its journey to educate young people and deepen their relationship with the Savior. Herb Sweezy, senior, says, “Faculty and students have shown me God by being a spiritual family. You can bring your issues, saying ‘this is what I’m going through’ and they will be there for you, encouraging you to do the right things, the things that are good to God.”

Though WWVA has changed in name and location throughout the years, its mission has remained steadfast: To prepare our students for the Second Coming of Christ by instilling in each a love for

God, for learning, for life and for service.

If only the founders of Adventist education in the Northwest could have foreseen the comprehensive K–16 educational system in the valley that has blossomed from their faith in the vision. The conclusion to the 1952 yearbook dedication says it best: “... may we be worthy of their sacrifice and devotion. As sons and daughters of a noble cause, we dedicate not only this poor book, but our lives to the realization of their hopes and dreams.”

Katie Woolever, WWVA marketing and recruiting director

Pathfinder Fair

Weather forecasters predicted rain and even tornadoes during the recent Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder Fair in Lewiston, Idaho. But instead, an outpouring of the Holy Spirit’s power appeared to be the majority of the precipitation.

Eight hundred and four Pathfinders and club staff gathered at the Nez Perce County Fairgrounds for the annual Pathfinder Fair. At this year’s fair, more than 72 young people, ages 8–16, made a decision to be baptized, and “an army of youth” delivered more than 1,800 packets of GLOW tracts and *Steps to Christ* booklets to residents in the community.

“The speaker was awesome, and I can’t wait to start my Bible study,” says Tianna Whorral, Spokane (Wash.) Lynwood Torchbearers Pathfinder Club member, who made a commitment to be baptized this year.

The worship speaker for the weekend event was Tim Riesenger, an emergency room doctor from Tacoma, Wash. His stories of medical work in the emergency room and the mission field gave listeners a vivid picture of how God can give sinners a new heart and an abundant life.

Riesenger shared a story about a young girl named Helen whom he diagnosed with a heart condition. He used her

story as a parable to illustrate how we all need a spiritual heart transplant.

“I didn’t realize ‘til I heard that story that someone had to die in order to get a new heart,” says Carlie Haeger, of the Brewster (Wash.) Blazers Club, who also made a decision to be baptized this year.

Riesenger also explained why a loving God must someday end the lives those who choose not to follow Him. “Every parent, good or bad, is desperate to save their child when they are in the ER,” he says. “But when they know there is nothing more that can be done to save their life, no parent wants to continue to

inflict the pain of life support on that child.”

On Sabbath Pathfinders spent the afternoon delivering Gospel literature door to door in several Lewiston neighborhoods and giving health age appraisals at six different locations in town, including grocery stores, malls and K-Mart shopping centers.

On Sunday, in addition to the annual craft show and marching competition, this year’s fair included a unique kind of soapbox car race.

For the complete story and photos, go online to uccsda.org.

Jon Dalrymple, UCC communication associate

CCA's Music With A Mission

LIVEing for Him!

On Sunday, April 10, the Cascade Christian Academy bus pulled out from the school parking lot embarking on a nine-day, nine-concert journey that would cover more than 2,500 miles while visiting nine cities. The trip was a collaborative effort between Cristina Gryss, CCA chaplain, and Eric Anderson, CCA music director. The trip included not only music and mission, but educational opportunities as well. Alcatraz Island, the San Francisco Symphony and a visit to the northern California coast were among some of those opportunities. But this was a music trip with a mission twist. On that Sunday, the bus

contained 40 students, freshman through seniors, who were excited for the trip but not sure what to expect.

The first stop was at Livingstone Adventist Academy in Salem, Ore., where they spent their first night and performed a morning concert for the students. From there a long day of driving brought the group to Auburn, Calif., and Pine Hills Adventist Academy. Tuesday morning began with a concert at Pine Hills, an afternoon concert at Napa Christian and ended with an evening performance at Rio Lindo Adventist Academy in Healdsburg, Calif. The next day included a performance at Redwood Adventist Academy in

Windsor, Calif., and the beginning of the twist to the trip.

Wednesday night the group kicked off the mission portion of the trip with the Youth With A Mission organization in San Francisco, Calif. For the next two days, they worked with YWAM, ministering to the needs of the homeless in the Tenderloin District in San Francisco, which has one of the nation's highest homeless rates per capita. This included street cleanup, worship, and concluded with a Love Feast, which gave students a chance to prepare a banquet for the homeless.

It was remarkable to see students willing to not just step up, but to jump out of their

comfort zones showing God's love to all the people they came in contact with. Whether they were performing in the Wind Ensemble or talking to a homeless individual on the streets of San Francisco, they demonstrated the love of God. As Gryss likes to say, "God became visible!" CCA's mission is: Educating kids to LIVE for Christ. Through trips and activities like these, CCA students are stepping forward and giving breath and life to this mission. God is truly raising up a generation of young people to spread the word about His grace and love.

Brian Harris, CCA principal

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First Graders Travel the World Through Literature and Koalas

Ruthie McPherson's first-grade classroom oozes with color, creativity — and koalas. Every year the first-grade teacher at Buena Vista Adventist School in Auburn, Wash., selects a literature-based theme related to an animal: "Everyone otter read," "I toucan read" and "Alpaca book and read."

McPherson started her animal-related literature program in the 1980s, and every class since has had a different animal. At the end of the year, all of the animal paraphernalia, donated by parents or friends of the school, is raffled to students.

"The students identify themselves as kangaroos ('reading is a joey') or elephants ('reading is a ton of fun') or whatever the theme for the rest of their lives," says McPherson. "I have students who are now in college

come back and tell me they still have their reading animals from first grade."

For this academic year, McPherson selected koalas for "koala-tee" reading time. She initially planned to feature koala sleepovers with reading and journaling assignments for her students.

As the school year began, church friends with a personal koala collection offered to take a koala with them to Russia. Since that first trip, two traveling koalas named Snuggles and Cuddles travel regularly with itineraries, passport stamps, journal entries and photo collections from nearly 90 trips to seven continents, 28 countries and 30 states.

Snuggles and Cuddles (and travel buddies) have gone to Japan with the mayor of Au-

burn, Wash.; recruited Korean students; explored Saudi Arabia; met the queen of Uganda; and visited destinations in the Philippines, Germany, India, Argentina, New Zealand, the South Pole and more — all with school community family and friends.

Next school year, first-grade students will learn about "reading and tails" with ring-tailed lemurs.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director

Ruthie McPherson, Buena Vista first-grade teacher, develops creative reading curriculums each year to introduce students to the joy of reading and to encourage them to spend quality time with books.



HEIDI MARTELLA

Orcas Pilots Green Textbook Program



Orcas Christian School in Eastsound, Wash., is piloting a green textbook program using Apple iPads.

Orcas Christian School in Eastsound, Wash., is running a pilot program this semester using Apple iPads in two classes, American Literature and AP Biology.

The AP Biology class has the text material downloaded onto the iPad and students read the assignments on their screen. All note taking and written assignments are communicated electronically, thereby establishing a "Green Class," using no paper. Students can either use a keyboard to type their class notes during class presentations or simply use their finger or stylus to write their class notes.

In American Literature class, nearly all of the outside reading for the class is available on the iPad. Written work is handed in electronically. Students also exchange papers electronically and critique and suggest editing changes to improve the paper and send it electronically back to the assignment originator to implement the suggestions.

If the pilot program continues to progress smoothly, the OCS high school teachers will be adding all their classes to the iPad format for the 2011-12 school year.

Carmen Slavens, OCS staff member

Auburn Seniors Discover World of Medicine

Nicole Riederer found her career calling on Sabbath at 12:15 a.m. in Loma Linda University Medical Center's emergency department. Jonathan Simons job shadowed a physical therapist for four

hours, and Michelle Skoretz role-played a surgery with a cardiologist.

Senior students in Auburn Adventist Academy's research physics class have a much better idea of their career path

thanks to a five-day, hands-on field trip to Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, Calif.

"The trip to Loma Linda inspired me and scared me at the same time, but it was priceless," says Simons. "I loved every bit of it."

Tom Allen, physics and engineering instructor, first organized the annual extended field trip 17 years ago as an opportunity to introduce and launch students into medical careers.

Through the extended field trip, students expand their medical vocabulary, participate in job shadowing and set career goals. They also learn about different medical fields, experience the miracle of

birth, explore human anatomy in the cadaver lab and observe the precision of surgery.

"The fact that we got to go to LLUMC makes us feel like we are in some kind of 'elite' science class," says Eve Chuenchob.

"Since we were wearing lab coats, all of us were asked what year of college we were," adds Krista Reseck. "People had a hard time believing us when we told them we were just in high school."

Read journal excerpts at auburnacademy.org.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director, and Raschelle Casebier, Washington Conference communication apprentice

Auburn Adventist Academy seniors in research physics class interact with medical students and professionals at Loma Linda University Medical Center and learn firsthand about medical careers.



LCAS Builds for Eternity

Completing the new building for Lewis County Adventist School, the junior academy in Chehalis, Wash., was a major goal this year. There were also three spiritual goals emphasized: a personal relationship with Jesus, sharing Him with others and developing fruits of the Spirit through service.

A spiritual leadership campout in August 2010 with area pastors, school staff and secondary students set the tone for developing student leaders to lead social occasions, community service and spiritual events.

Students led a Week of Prayer



Ninth and tenth graders at Lewis County Adventist School in Chehalis, Wash., participate in a variety of community service projects during the 2010-11 school year, including emptying a hoarder's house.

in March and IMPACT teams held church services for five area churches as part of the spiritual sharing emphasis.

In addition, students worked hard with community projects,

including participating in a local "Extreme Build" project to construct a home; emptying a hoarder's house; preparing food boxes for the local food bank; distributing coats at Christmas

with the police department to school-age children; delivering homemade cookies and bread to police and firefighters; and hosting a Valentine's Day luncheon for senior citizens complete with a musical performance.

Students and staff are excited to move into the new Lewis County Adventist School facility this fall, but even more, they're looking forward to nurturing the spiritual leadership and service talents of all students.

Photos of the new facility are available at lcas.org.

Pam Chaney, LCAS teacher

PSAA Students Cast *for International Education Tour*

Two seniors at Puget Sound Adventist Academy, Stefan Danilov and Mina Mirmotahari, were chosen from a national casting call to be the new faces for EF Tours.

EF Tour photographers and videographers document the experiences of five high school students in Europe. Stefan Danilov and Mina Mirmotahari (far right), two Puget Sound Adventist Academy students involved in this trip, found opportunities to share their faith.



“Being in front of cameras and jet-setting the globe was just a dream that seemed far from reality,” says Danilov.

Danilov learned about the travel opportunity from an EF

Tours email. Having nothing to lose, he recorded a short video explaining why he deserved to be chosen.

A couple months later, EF Tours informed Danilov he had made the top 30 list of students. Through multiple interviews via Skype, Danilov and Mirmotahari were invited to tour Europe, all expenses paid, with the educational touring company.

They met three other students chosen for the trip when they arrived in Prague, Czech Republic, along with photographers, a videographer and public relations staff from EF Tours who recorded and photographed the students’ every move for two weeks.

“We ate pretzels in Prague, wüster in Germany and fondue

in Switzerland,” says Danilov. “We stayed in nice hotels and visited all the must-see attractions. Everything was, well, just surreal.”

The last night, the five students shared their religious views and PSAA students were able to witness and share about Adventists. “The great thing,” says Danilov, “was that we all share one thing in common: we all believe in the same God.”

Read Danilov’s firsthand account at washingtonconference.org.

Stefan Danilov, PSAA student, with Raschelle Casebier, Washington Conference communication apprentice

Weeks of Prayer Inspire Skagit Students

Weeks of Prayer are fundamental for any Christian school.

Lower elementary grades at Skagit Adventist Academy, in Burlington, Wash., started the year with a teacher-led Week of Prayer with Wendy Witas, first- and second-grade teacher, who shared life stories and lessons.

Doug White, Skagit principal, offered a concurrent Week of Prayer for grades 5–12, where students learned about “Practicing the Presence of Jesus” in life choices based on the advice of Philippians 4:8.

Academy students led a Week of Prayer in March where five classmates presented talks about “Signs Along the Way.” Each day, a traffic sign or signal was used to provide a focal point for inspiration and advice.

Dan Bynum, a long-time supporter of the school, arranged a week of inspiration in April where he brought in guests to share personal stories of when they persevered through a hardship or challenge because of their faith and trust in God. The guests encouraged students to identify people who inspire

them and to provide inspiration for someone else.

Area pastors presented a week of prayer for grades K–8. Each day a different pastor shared either a personal experience or story from the Bible that showed how Jesus ministers to us through miracles.

Each week of spiritual emphasis throughout the year inspired students to reconnect with a loving, amazing God.

Rachel Jordan, SAA teacher



Skagit Adventist Academy students participate in a variety of Weeks of Prayer during the school year.

Office of Education Prepares for Leadership Transitions

The Washington Conference office of education is geared up for a summer of transitions.

Denise White, associate superintendent, after a year-long process accepted a position at Union College in Lincoln, Neb., as department of human development chairperson. White contributed innovative leadership for teacher development and mentoring.

Lon Gruesbeck, vice president for education, announced this spring that he would step down after 13 years of leading the department where he focused on "growing great schools." He will now lead a self-funded program through

the Washington Conference to recruit international students.

Introducing New Leaders

Washington Conference invited Kelly Bock from Pacific Union Conference to serve as vice president for education. Bock brings a rich history of service in education as a boys' dean, principal and education superintendent on conference, union and division levels.

Bock has a business administration degree, a master's degree in education counseling, a specialty in education and a doctorate in educational administration. Bock is also an Auburn Adventist Academy (Wash.) graduate.

Bock's wife, Diane, and daughter, Kimberly, are nurses and another daughter, Kristen, is an x-ray technician. Bock's hobbies include sailing, hiking, swimming and cycling.

Additionally, Paulette Jackson, an educational leader from Idaho Conference, will be the new education associate. Jackson's 30 years of educational experience include serving as a principal, home economics teacher, librarian and education superintendent. Her specialties include education innovation, school reform and leadership training.

Jackson has an education degree from Walla Walla University (Wash.), a master's



Kelly Bock from Pacific Union Conference accepts Washington Conference's invitation to serve as vice president for education.

degree in educational media from Portland State University and is pursuing a doctorate in educational administration from Northcentral University.

Her interests include missions, travel and photography. Her family includes her husband, Bob, who runs a construction company, and two adult children, Greg and Shari.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director



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The Walla Walla University's Edward F. Cross School of Engineering has been offering quality education in a vibrant campus community for 64 years. More than 1,200 students have graduated from the school's civil, computer, electrical and mechanical engineering programs.

While many colleges and universities reserve their top-notch laboratory equipment solely for use by graduate-level students, the School of Engineering believes access to the best possible technology is key to a high-quality undergraduate education.

"Enabling students to build and test their designs is a core value for our program," says Ralph Stirling, project engineer

and engineering instructor. "It enhances the learning of the theory, increases motivation and further develops employable skills."

"I really appreciate the tools for prototyping," says Victor Shepherd, senior electrical engineering major. "It's helpful to be able to test our designs before we go into building a real project."

Engineering laboratories boast oscilloscopes, logic and RF spectrum analyzers, signal generators, a rapid prototyping machine, a computer numerical control lathe and mill, assembly robots, and other key tools.

Graduates from WWU's engineering program find high value in their education and satisfaction in their careers.

Nadine Lashier ('97) is employed by NASA and works at the Johnson Space

Center in Houston, Texas. Her team most recently trained the crew currently onboard the International Space Station.

Other graduates of WWU's School of Engineering include Gary Curtis ('59), who helped design the Space Needle in Seattle, Wash.; Arminta Jensen ('84), co-owner of a successful engineering firm in California; and Harley Heinrich ('79), developer of the RFID (radio frequency identification) tags used by vehicles traveling regularly on toll roads.

"WWU's combination of liberal arts studies and strong programs in science and engineering give students the best possible education," says Melodie Selby, assistant professor of engineering. "I also appreciate the small class size, which allows me to give individual attention to my students."

And it's not all about classroom learning.

"It is important to me to work directly with students on non-academic activities," says Curt Nelson, professor of engineering. "Projects such as Engineers Without Borders are as much fun as they are educational."

"There are numerous opportunities here that develop students for leadership in their employment, industry, community and church," says Doug Logan, dean of the School of Engineering. "That is all part of our mission."

To learn how you can be a part of the School of Engineering at WWU, call 800-541-8900 or email info@wallawalla.edu.

Becky St. Clair, WWU GLEANER correspondent

WWU's School of Engineering offers a unique opportunity to undergraduate students by giving them access to high-tech equipment that, in large universities, is usually reserved for graduate students.

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Registration is now open for the FIRST LEGO League Regional Robotics Challenge to be held at WWU on April 8, 2012.

Register your team at gofll.usfirst.org. This year's theme is Food Factor.

READ MORE AT:

WALLAWALLA.EDU/NEWS



Adventist Health News

Adventist Health recently launched a new corporate website. After months of working on content, visually pleasing design and increased functionality, the new site is now more user friendly and patient-centered. Visitors to the website will find:

- Directions (and zip code search) to all Adventist Health facilities.
- Health library with interactive tools, recipes, articles and more.
- Links to hospitals, Find a Doc, bill pay and giving abilities.
- Employment opportunities.
- Convenient links for employees and physicians.

While you're there, read our most recent annual report. Check out Adventist Health's site at www.AdventistHealth.org.

Long-time Tillamook Executive Retires

Donna Bechthold, RN, BA, recently retired from her role as vice president of patient care services at Tillamook (Ore.) County General Hospital. She has served as the top nursing leader at the hospital since 1987.

During her service at TCGH, Bechthold played key roles in launching the Healthy Families/Healthy Start program in Tillamook County as well as in creating partnerships with Tillamook Bay Community College and Clatsop Community College to establish RN nursing clinical programs at TCGH.

"We very much appreciate Donna's 24 years of leadership

for patient care," says Larry Davy, hospital president. "Her extraordinary commitment to mission, excellence and quality in health care will leave a lasting legacy in Tillamook County."

Karen Kellar, RN, MSN, has assumed the role left by Bechthold. Kellar holds a B.S. in nursing from Washington State University and a master's degree in nursing leadership and management from the University of Southern Indiana. Her areas of clinical experience



Donna Bechthold

include cardiac, labor and delivery, post-anesthesia recovery, medical surgical, emergency, and home care.

New Corporate Senior Vice President Assumes Role

Bill Wing has been named senior vice president for system performance and strategy of Adventist Health, according to Robert Carman, president and CEO of the integrated health care system. Wing assumed the role previously held by Scott Reiner, who was promoted to executive vice president and COO upon Larry Dodds' retirement May 13. Wing assumed



Bill Wing

his new responsibilities June 1.

In this position, Wing will direct system strategy planning, manage system operating performance and educate/implement strategies in response to federal, state or health plan initiatives, along with other responsibilities. Wing will also provide direction and oversight as board chairman at five California hospitals.

Wing has more than 20 years of health-care experience, including information technology, finance, strategic

planning, process/performance improvement, hospital operations, health plan operations, managed care and physician practice management.

Previously, Wing was senior vice president for RevWorks at Cerner Corporation in Kansas City, Mo., prior to joining Cerner, he was the senior vice president for Performance Excellence at Florida Hospital. He has held four other vice president positions while at Florida Hospital.

Wing has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Southern College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, Tenn., as well as an MBA from the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University, in Nashville, Tenn.

*Brittany Russell Dobbs,
Adventist Health GLEANER
correspondent*

Pictured here is the newly redesigned Adventist Health website.



MILESTONES

Colvin 90th

DeLores E. Colvin of College Place, Wash., celebrated her 90th birthday recently. She was born on Nov. 29, 1920, in Denver, Colo., with her twin sister, DeWillo. Both sisters married brothers, Bill and Harold Colvin, all of whom preceded her in death. Hosted by her family, the celebration party had more than 90 family members and friends in attendance.

Colvin was a cook at Monterey Bay Academy for 14 years and at Walla Walla General Hospital for six years. She is also an active volunteer at Walla Walla General Hospital.

She has five children, Bill of Watsonville, Calif.; Kathy Paddock and Vern Colvin of College Place, Wash.; Dan Colvin of Lewiston, Idaho; Jan Colvin of Lake Arrowhead, Calif.; 7 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

Eisenmans 75th

Albert and Bertha Eisenman recently celebrated 75 years of marriage at the home of their daughter in Republic, Wash. The couple met in the farming community of Mobridge, S.D. Bertha Neumiller was a high school friend of Albert's sisters. Albert fell in love with Bertha when she removed a sliver from his finger. They were married on Dec. 7, 1935, and made their first home near Mobridge, doing farming and ranching.

In 1970 they moved to Loveland, Colo., where Albert worked in construction, helping to build their last home at age 80. Bertha was busy as a homemaker and mother. She enjoyed gardening, sewing and missionary activities.

They also enjoyed volunteering at the Loveland Adventist Community Service Center. Since selling their Loveland home in 2003, Albert and Bertha have spent four years in Monroe, Wash., with their daughter, Aldine; two years in Calimesa, Calif., with their daughter, Joann; and this past year at Klondike Mountain Health Retreat in Republic, Wash., again with their daughter, Aldine.

A week-long celebration in December with all seven of their children present included: organizing and assembling seven picture albums representing each daughter's family, as well as albums representing their heritage, their friends and their siblings; singing (Dad loves to sing); Bible study; and more. A traditional German dish strudel, was served for a special family dinner on Dec. 11.

The Eisenman family includes Donna and Richard Hartensteine of Silverton, Ore.; Crystal and Richard Kronner of Roseburg, Ore.; DeEtta and Jim Burr of Evergreen, Colo.; Lititia and Jim Coleman of Mora, N.M.;



Albert and Bertha Eisenman

Aldine and Leonard Klein of Republic, Wash.; Joanne and Dan Rea of Calimesa, Calif.; Robin and Marvin Howard of Greeley, Colo.; 21 grandchildren and 42 great-grandchildren.

Harris 65th

Jack and Edna Harris celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary Dec. 23, 2010, in Portland, Ore.

They were students together at Plainview Academy in Redfield, S.D., from 1940 to 1944. Edna was known on campus as the "bell ringer," since it was her duty to ring the bell for each class. Jack noticed the cute young lady in 1940 as she walked down the hall and said to himself, "I want a Saturday night date with Edna." Being bashful, he wrote a note and handed it to a friend to give to her. His hopes were dashed when she never answered or even looked at him.

During the senior class picnic in May 1944, Jack was at the head of the lunch line and noticed Edna at the end. Catching her eye, he beckoned for her to come and join him. She did.

The day of graduation, Jack received his papers from the Army and was inducted a week later. He served as a truck driver in a medical unit in France, Belgium, Italy and Germany. Edna returned to her home in Tolstoy, S.D. They wrote to each other every day. Edna enrolled at Union College, in Lincoln, Neb., and studied to be a teacher. While Jack was on furlough, they were married on Dec. 23, 1945, at the pastor's home in Rapid City, S.D.

After his discharge from the Army and the end of Edna's school, they moved to Lincoln. Edna worked for the Elgin Watch Factory and Jack took courses required to enter the ministry. After graduation, they received a call to the ministry in Oklahoma and served there for six years.

They also served in Brazil, where Jack was a departmental director in one conference and president in another. Edna was busy as a housewife and homeschool their two children.

Upon their return to the U.S., Jack filled many roles pastoring in Maryland, Wisconsin, New York Conference, Southeastern California Conference and Columbia Union Conference. In the Northwest, he served as president of the Oregon Conference and as vice president of the North Pacific Union Conference, from which he retired.

Edna has worked as a secretary throughout the years in various conference offices, the Portland Adventist Medical Center and at the General



Jack and Edna Harris

Conference. She was always a favorite among her bosses because of her drive to be on time with her duties and her accuracy.

The Harris family includes daughter Karyl and her two children, Justin and Marissa, of Garden Grove, Calif., and their son Lance and his wife, Trish, of Portland, Ore.

Paulson 50th

Don and Sandy Paulson celebrated their 50th anniversary July 17-18, 2010. They went sightseeing to Mount St. Helens and on a Columbia River boat cruise near

Portland, Ore. These were both hosted by their children. They are members of the Village Church in College Place, Wash.

Don Paulson married Sandy Gibson on Aug. 28, 1960, in Spokane, Wash. Don worked 24 years for Stateline Furniture near College Place. In 1988, he then went to work for the Tietan Dental Team located in Walla Walla, Wash., where he is still employed. Don enjoys woodworking and bird-watching as well as collecting stamps and coins. He is also active on his church's social committee.

Sandy has managed a housecleaning business for more than 30 years in the Walla Walla area. She is also employed by the Tietan Dental Team where she has worked for 22 years. For 15 years she has played clarinet with the Walla Walla Community Bands, nine of which she was vice president. She enjoys reading and bird-watching and is also active on her church's social committee.

The Paulson family includes Dean Paulson of Covington, Wash.; Rochelle and Rhett Unger of Battle Ground, Wash.; and 2 grandchildren.

Yuros 60th

John and Ruth Yuros celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sept. 26, 2010, in Lincoln City, Ore. John met Ruth Hoover at Okanogan Junior Academy in Rutland, British Columbia, Canada, in 1947. They were married in the Rutland Church on Sept. 26, 1950, and moved to Lacombe, Alberta, where John was a third-year theology student at Canadian Union College. Their only daughter,



John and Ruth Yuros

Lorna Lou, was born while they were there. John graduated with a bachelor's degree in theology in 1952 and began his pastoral ministry in the Alberta Conference. During their 40 years of ministry, he also pastored in British Columbia, Nova Scotia, Wisconsin, Idaho, Montana and Oregon conferences. Along the way, John and Ruth spent four years teaching church school in Massachusetts, while their daughter (who is deaf) attended Clarke School for the Deaf in Northampton, Mass.

Since retiring, they have lived near Lincoln City, Ore. Woodworking, gardening and studying are John's main hobbies. He is also known along the coastal streets and by-ways for his avid walking and biking. Ruth enjoys flower gardening and shortly after retiring became involved in the Lincoln City Community Service Center, where she has been the leader for the last 10 years.

Their daughter and son-in-law, Lorna and Darrell Strait, live in Loma Linda, Calif., where Darrell works as an interpreter for deaf students attending Riverside Community College.

AT BIRTHS

EASTON — Gemma Dorothy was born March 23, 2011, to Mark and Trisha (Roosma) Easton, Bozeman, Mont.

HAYS — Meadow Tammera Kerrilee was born May 21, 2011, to Brian and Megan (McCombs) Hays, Gresham, Ore.

JEFFERY — Laurel Anatolia was born Nov. 13, 2010, to Michael and Tonia (Frazier) Jeffery, Hayden Lake, Idaho.

MCCAW — Alison Marie was born March 22, 2011, to Doug and Melinda (Wolfswinkel) McCaw, Grand Junction, Colo.

PADDOCK — Keagan Hawke was born May 12, 2011, to Ryan and Laura (Bredall) Paddock, Milwaukie, Ore.

SWARTS — Shosuke Miguel was born May 10, 2011, to Carl Brian and Izumi (Kasahara) Swarts, Chevy Chase, Md.

WISTER — Thomas Jeremy was born Jun 11, 2010, to Trevor and Tina (Davis) Wister, Washougal, Wash.

YOUNGBERG — Micah Gabriel was born May 1, 2011, to Michael and Eve and (Orelana) Youngberg, La Center, Wash.

AT WEDDINGS

ALLEN-BIGHAUS — Mary Lynn (Coleman) Allen and Phillip Bighaus were married May 1, 2011, in Sandy, Ore. They are making their home in Portland, Ore. Mary Lynn is the daughter of Dean Coleman (deceased) and Todd and Mildred (Rood) Coleman Ewers (both deceased). Phillip is the son of Daniel Bighaus (deceased) and Myrtle (Stark) Bighaus.

ANDERSON-ALLDIS — Connie Anderson and Bruce Alldis were married May 19, 2010, in Auburn, Wash. They are making their home in Chehalis, Wash. Connie is the daughter of Phillip and Sybil (Ratcliff) Anderson. Bruce is the son of Ralph (deceased) and Cricket Alldis.

BONSON-MAAS — Becky Bonson and Bryan Maas were married April 3, 2011, in Vale, Ore. They are making their home in College Place, Wash. Becky is the daughter of Craig and Teri (Ferguson) Bonson. Bryan is the son of Randy and Cheryl (Brown) Maas.

JEPSON-CLARK — Tiffany Jepson and Anthony Clark were married Jan. 23, 2011, in Medford, Ore. They are making their home in Albany, Ore.

AT REST

BABJAR — Virginia V. (Fry), 86; born Dec. 16, 1924, Lebanon, Ore.; died Feb. 26, 2011, Lebanon. Surviving: husband, Stephen; daughter, Sharon Mathiesen, Port Angeles, Wash.; brother, Leroy Fry, Milwaukie, Ore.; sisters, Dorah Hessong and Ruth Mathes, both of Portland, Ore.

BARTHOLOMEW — Donald Ray, 85; born Feb. 6, 1926, Eden, Wash.; died March 2, 2011, Vancouver, Wash. Surviving: wife, June (Davis), Battle Ground, Wash.; daughters, Kathy Kaiser, Vancouver; Janice Bartholomew, Portland, Ore.; Shirley Johnson, Meadow Glade, Wash.; Sheryl Shears, Seale, Ala.; sister, Pat Fulton, of Texas; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BROGDEN — Brittney Marie, 25; born Dec. 10, 1985, St. George, Utah; died Sept. 17, 2010, Tillamook, Ore. Surviving: daughter, Madisen Dawn Brogden Madsen, Tillamook; father, Leonard Brogden, Tillamook; mother, Sarah Brogden, Tillamook; brothers, Devan, Tillamook; Tyler, Pendleton, Ore.; half-brother, Gabe Brogden, Tillamook; sisters, Natasha Brogden and Megan Brogden, both of Tillamook; and half-sister, Mahala Brogden, Tillamook.

DIETRICH — Rowland "Dean," 71; born June 1, 1939, Yakima, Wash.; died Feb. 21, 2011, Sedro-Woolley, Wash. Surviving: wife, Lois (Thorn); son, Greg, Lewiston, Idaho; daughters, Tami Erwin, Dana Point, Calif.; Susie Mayhew, Battle Ground, Wash.; sister, Judy Whitehouse, Loma Linda, Calif.; and 7 grandchildren.

DIRKSEN — Marvin, 82; born Aug. 28, 1928, Shafter, Calif.; died Feb. 11, 2011, Grants Pass, Ore. Surviving: wife, Shirley F. (Hysler); sons, Dan and Lawrence, both of Grants Pass; daughter, Janette Dirksen, Grants Pass; twin sister,

Margie Whitmore, Grants Pass; 2 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

EDIN — Virginia Jacqueline (Montanye) Fleming, 84; born Jan. 31, 1927, College Place, Wash.; died March 6, 2011, Everett, Wash. Surviving: sons, Larry Fleming, Corinth, Maine; Mick Fleming, Mercer Island, Wash.; stepson, Thomas Edin, Arlington, Wash.; brother, Mike Montanye, Goldendale, Wash.; sister, Verona Schnibbe, College Place, Wash.; 9 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

GRAY — Fred Earl, 83; born April 9, 1927, Baker City, Ore.; died Dec. 17, 2010, Baker City. Surviving: daughter, Nancy Nelson, Baker City; sisters, Bonnie Entermille and Almyra "Marge" Walter, both of Baker City; 2 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

HAYNES — Helen Marie (Copper), 90; born Aug. 12, 1920, Byron Center, Mich.; died March 4, 2011, Caldwell, Idaho. Surviving: daughters, Carol Rasmussen, Loralwood, Md.; Kathy Knuth, Caldwell; Marjorie Yamashira, Park City, Utah; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

JOHNS — Orvil, 69; born Sept. 18, 1941, Merced, Calif.; died March 7, 2011, Portland, Ore. Surviving: wife, Linda; son, Michael, Summerset, Calif.; daughter, Dorothy Dufour, Medford, Ore.; brother, James, Phoenix, Ariz.; sister, Barbara Johns, Porterville, Calif.; 7 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

JOHNSON — Mabel Ruth (Harris), 93; born April 6, 1917, Choteau, Mont.; died Feb. 16, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Surviving: daughter, Melva Lorenz, Colton, Calif.

KEMPH — Erna (Reinke), 88; born Aug. 10, 1922, McClusky, N.D.; died Feb. 24, 2011, Billings, Mont. Surviving: son, Joe Kempf Jr., Custer, Mont.;

daughter, Karen Lich, Custer; sisters, Betty Amundson, Pasco, Wash.; Bernice Dickerson, Billings; Joyce Stoltz, Hardin, Mont.; 3 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

LEWIS — Robert "Bob" R., 98; born June 12, 1912, Minatare, Neb.; died March 11, 2011, Walla Walla, Wash. Surviving: sons, Ray H., Eugene, Ore.; Richard, Tustin, Calif.; daughters, Elsie A. Sharpe, Vale, N.C.; Lydia I. Christian, Mitchell, Neb.; brother, Jack, Renton, Wash.; sister, Opal Lewis, Modesto, Calif.; and 5 grandchildren.

OBERT — Dorothy Fay (Eckstein), 95; born March 19, 1915, Sunnyside, Wash.; died Jan. 14, 2011, Puyallup, Wash. Surviving: sons, Kenneth, Chimaquam, Wash.; Leonard, Renton, Wash.; David, Bonney Lake, Wash.; daughter, Eileen Anderson-Vetani, Bonney Lake; 9 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

PALMER — William Edwin, 84; born Dec. 5, 1925, Takoma Park, Md.; died Nov. 21, 2010, Purvis, Miss. Surviving: wife, Marybel Mays Hines Simper, Brentwood, Calif.; son, Brent E., Corinth, Miss.; daughter, Marquis Feese, Purvis; sister, Adele Rose, Centerville, Ohio; 4 grandchildren, 12 step-grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and 14 step-great-grandchildren.

REDMER — Velma E. (Collins) Weeks, 98; born May 29, 1912, Newport, Ore.; died Feb. 6, 2011, Junction City, Ore. Surviving: son, Delbert Weeks, San Francisco, Calif.; stepson, David Redmer, Coquille, Ore.; daughter, Della Ault, Richland, Ore.; stepdaughters, Kathryn Bailey, Crawfordville, Fla.; Pamela Walter, Junction City; Arlene Socia, Damascus, Ore.; a grandchild, 8 step-grandchildren and 19 step-great-grandchildren.

SCHULT — Janice (Rockwell), 95; born Sept. 5, 1915, Lincoln, Neb.; died Feb. 2, 2011, Port Orchard, Wash. Surviving: sons, Clarence and Eric, both of Port Orchard; Nathan, Colton, Calif.; Stephen, Tacoma, Wash.; daughter, Mildred Colson, La Belle, Fla.; 20 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

SIMER — Ronald E., 73; born Oct. 19, 1937, Corpus Christi, Texas; died Feb. 5, 2011, Medford, Ore. Surviving: wife, Lois (Tariane) Mendoza; sons, Steven and Kevin, both of Madison, Wis.; stepson, Jeff Mendoza, Bakersfield, Calif.; daughter, Rhonda Martinson, Madison; brothers, Harold Fowler, Seguin, Texas; Bruce Simer, Gainesville, Fla.; 8 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

TUCKER — Mildred R. (Rosine), 95; born May 8, 1915, Moon, Wis.; died Feb. 20, 2011, Clackamas County, Ore. Surviving: husband, Howard, Sandy, Ore.; son, Terry, Vancouver, Wash.; daughter, Marilyn Harnstra, Gresham, Ore.; 2 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and 4 great-grandchildren.

TUPPER — Roberta L. (Cotton), 92; born April 19, 1918, Staten Island, N.Y.; died Feb. 20, 2011, Portland, Ore. Surviving: husband, Myron, Damascus, Ore.; sons, Robert, The Dalles, Ore.; Edward, West Plains, Mo.; daughters, Elaine Oh, Kettering, Ohio; Ellen Tupper, Spokane, Wash.; Jenny Lame, Bend, Ore.; brother, Ed Cotton, of North Carolina; 7 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and 3 great-grandchildren.

WILDMAN — Jennie J. (Stone), 95; born Dec. 21, 1915, Formoso, Kan.; died March 15, 2011, Grants Pass, Ore. Surviving: son, Leon Sr., Hillsboro, Ore.; daughter, Twila Enoch, Grants Pass; 9 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

North Pacific Union Conference

Offering

- July 2** — Local Church Budget;
- July 9** — NAD: Women’s Ministries;
- July 16** — Local Church Budget;
- July 23** — Local Conference Advance;
- July 30** — NPUC: Alaska Conference.

NPUC and WWU Constituency Sessions

Official notice is hereby given that the twenty-seventh regular constituency meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) of Seventh-day Adventists and Walla Walla University will be held at the Walla Walla University Church, 212 S.W. 4th St., College Place, WA, Sept. 11, 2011, at 9 a.m. The purpose of the constituency meeting is to present reports covering the five-year period ending Dec. 31, 2010; to elect officers, board, and committees for the ensuing quinquennial period; to consider and act upon recommended changes to the constitution; and to transact such other business as may properly come before the constituents.

The present constitution provides that the voters of this meeting shall be the duly appointed delegates from the local conferences within the Union and certain ex officio and other delegates. Registration of delegates is scheduled to take place at the Walla Walla University Seventh-day Adventist Church from 8-9 a.m., Sept. 11, 2011. All duly accredited delegates are urged to be in attendance at this constituency session.

- Max Torkelsen II, NPUC president, WWU chairman
- John Loor Jr., NPUC executive secretary

NPUC Association

Official notice is hereby given that a regular membership meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference Association (NPUCA) is called for 3:45 p.m. on Sept. 11, 2011, and will be held at the Walla Walla University Church, 212 S.W. 4th St., College Place, WA.

The membership is comprised of the Board of Trustees of the NPUCA, the appointed ex officio members and other delegates to the Sept. 11, 2011 NPUC constituency meeting.

The purpose of this regular meeting is to receive reports and transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

- Max Torkelsen II, NPUCA president
- Kimberley Schroeder, NPUCA secretary

Walla Walla University

July 16 — WWU Alumni ice cream and blueberry feed at Oregon Camp Meeting. WWU tent, 2 p.m.;

- July 19** — WWU Alumni night with the Walla Walla Sweets. Join fellow alumni and WWU faculty, staff and students and watch John McVay, president, throw the first pitch and alumnus Jeremy Irland ('05) sing the national anthem. Borleske Stadium, Walla Walla, 7 p.m. Reserve tickets (\$2.50 each) by calling 800-377-2586;
- Aug. 12** — Alumni Spaghetti Factory Night in Boise, Idaho, 5:30 p.m. Reserve a free spot by Aug. 8 by emailing alumni@wallawalla.edu or calling 800-377-2586.

Idaho

Missing Members

The Caldwell Church is looking for the following missing members: Greg André, Stephane Barteni, Linda Beckman, Michael Casebolt, Chris Blystone, Adrianna Casias, Priscilla Cenicerros, Omar Cenicerros, Dennis Cook, Paul Cook, Phillip Cook, Neta Courtright, Patti Cromwell, Jim Davis, Theodore Dooms, Melinda Dudley, Coral Fleetwood, Ken Flynt, Robert Frank, Shirley Frank, Dawn (Strum) Henry, Carter Johnston, David Kelly, Jonathan Kostenko, Bryan Kulp, Laura Lawrence, Jeremy McCart, Caleb Munsey, Lana Munsey, Joe W. Nourse, Jonathan Pflugrad, Janette Rickman, Darren Robinson, Rose Shook, Amy Slack, Wesley Smith, Linda St. Clair, Luann Stanley, Mary Ann Thompson, Andreau Turner, Rendal Williams and Linda Willis. If you have any more information regarding these members, please contact the Caldwell Church, 208-459-2451, sdachurch1007@qwestoffice.net.

Oregon

Calvin Taylor in Concert

July 9 — Calvin Taylor, musician, composer, pianist and organist will present a vespers service at the Hood View Church, 26775 S.E. Kelso Rd., Boring, OR, at 7:30 p.m. Come hear his talents earlier in the day during our worship service beginning at 11 a.m. A vegetarian fellowship potluck will follow. Call 503-663-5611, fax 503-663-2737, email hoodviewchurch@gmail.com.

Classes and Seminars at Castle Rock Church

Depression the Way Out— A video seminar presented by Neil Nedley, MD, an internal medicine physician with an emphasis in gastroenterology and cardiology, preventive medicine and mental health, and the difficult-to-diagnose patient. This video seminar will be every Tuesday for eight weeks between Sept. 13 and Oct. 18. A free introductory meeting will be held Aug. 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Your Healthy Helper— Come and enjoy delicious, guilt-free, gourmet food prepared in a healthy way. Hosted by Melody Prettyman, gourmet chef seen on 3ABN. Prettyman will share secrets that transformed her chronic illness to vibrant health. Natural remedies and Prettyman’s personal testimony on Aug. 3 at 6:30 p.m. Food demonstrations with a light meal on Aug. 4 at 6:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food for Thought— from Lifestyle Matters will be presented on four Tuesdays Aug. 16 through Sept. 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This segment features nutrition's link to mood, memory, learning and behavior. Are lifestyle diseases linked with impaired mental processing and learning? Can making simple lifestyle changes affect a child's ability to think, learn and behave better? Science says, yes! No matter what your age, discover how to energize your whole system and make your mental engine "purr" instead of "ping." Delicious food samples; video presentations by Vicki Griffin, MPA, MACN, Evelyn Kissinger, MS, RD, and Bernell Baldwin, PhD; and personal group discussions.

Each class/seminar will be at the Castle Rock Church, 7531 Old Pacific Hwy North, Castle Rock, WA. For more information, including fees, and to register, contact Wanda Whitaker at 360-967-2165 or whitaker.d@comcast.net.

Sunset Schedule

July	1	8	15	22	29
DST					
ALASKA CONFERENCE					
Anchorage	11:39	11:30	11:18	11:03	10:46
Fairbanks	12:36	12:19	11:59	11:36	11:12
Juneau	10:06	10:00	9:50	9:38	9:24
Ketchikan	9:31	9:26	9:18	9:08	8:57
IDAHO CONFERENCE					
Boise	9:30	9:28	9:24	9:18	9:11
La Grande	8:44	8:42	8:37	8:31	8:24
Pocatello	9:12	9:10	9:07	9:01	8:54
MONTANA CONFERENCE					
Billings	9:08	9:05	9:01	8:55	8:47
Havre	9:24	9:21	9:16	9:09	9:01
Helena	9:25	9:22	9:18	9:11	9:03
Miles City	8:59	8:57	8:52	8:46	8:38
Missoula	9:34	9:31	9:27	9:20	9:12
OREGON CONFERENCE					
Coos Bay	9:01	8:59	8:55	8:50	8:43
Medford	8:52	8:50	8:47	8:41	8:34
Portland	9:03	9:01	8:56	8:50	8:43
UPPER COLUMBIA CONFERENCE					
Pendleton	8:48	8:46	8:42	8:35	8:28
Spokane	8:51	8:48	8:44	8:37	8:28
Walla Walla	8:48	8:46	8:41	8:35	8:27
Wenatchee	9:02	8:59	8:54	8:48	8:39
Yakima	8:59	8:56	8:52	8:45	8:37
WASHINGTON CONFERENCE					
Bellingham	9:16	9:13	9:08	9:01	8:52
Seattle	9:11	9:08	8:03	8:56	8:48

Add one minute for each 13 miles west. Subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

SunnyCity - Free Community Event

Aug. 7 — Ventura Park, S.E. 115th Ave. and Stark St., Portland, OR, from 1-6 p.m., will be transformed into a miniature town, where children of all ages will be inspired to become great citizens through interacting with people who serve our community. A fun way to learn in a safe environment. Sponsored by the Sunnyside Church.

Silverton Centennial

Aug. 19-20 — The Silverton Community Church will be celebrating its centennial. Meetings begin Friday evening at 7 p.m. and continue Saturday at 9:30 a.m. A noon meal will be served with musical concert following. All members, former members and friends are warmly invited. RSVPs will be appreciated: 503-873-8568 or enidhands@gmail.com.

Lebanon Church's 100-year Homecoming Celebration

Sept. 17 — Members, pastors and friends are invited to Lebanon's 100th anniversary. 690 S. 10th, Lebanon, OR, 97355. Lunch will be provided. For more information, please call 541-451-2540.

Washington

Garden Tour

July 10 — Auburn Adventist Academy invites you to a Garden Tour fundraiser. Tour gardens. View art exhibits. Talk with garden experts. Purchase specialty nursery items. Tickets are \$35 each. Register at <http://pip.karmy.com/registration.php>.

Highline Church Grand Opening

July 16 — Highline Church invites you to celebrate their new facility at 21650 24th Ave. S., Des Moines, WA. Guest speaker: Dr. Ernest Furness. The afternoon dedication and mortgage burning ceremony will be followed by a concert by pianist Jee Wong and recording artist Steve Darmody. Lunch and supper will be served. Questions? Contact Pastor Bob Moore at 253-840-0730 or email bmorebobe@yahoo.com.

Sabbath Fly-In

Aug. 13 — Attend the Orcas Island Sabbath Fly-in at the Eastsound, Wash., airport. Drive or fly in for this special Sabbath. Please RSVP at 360-376-6683. For aviation information, contact Mike Parnell at 360-317-4026 or JC Laursen at 360-376-3003.

World Church

Ceres (Calif.) Church 50th year reunion

Sept. 3 — Morning worship message from Bob Mason, pastor; afternoon concert by "Praise," a men's choral group; and evening reception for sharing and visiting. For more information, call 209-538-1024.

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Street, Suite 200, Loma Linda, CA 92354 or by email cliffwalters@gmail.com.

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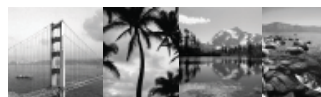
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Local Conference Directory

ALASKA

Ken Crawford, president; Quentin Purvis, v.p. secretariat; Sharon Staddon, v.p. of finance; 6100 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, AK 99507-7200; (907) 346-1004; www.alaskaconference.org.

IDAHO

David Prest Jr., president; Donald A. Klinger, v.p. for administration; 7777 Fairview, Boise, ID 83704-8418; (208) 375-7524; www.idahoadvertist.org.

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Merlin Knowles, president; Ray Jimenez III, v.p. for administration and finance; 175 Canyon View Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715; (406) 587-3101; www.montanaconference.org.

OREGON

Al Reimche, president; Dave Allen, v.p. for administration; 19800 Oatfield Road, Gladstone, OR 97027-2546; (503) 850-3500; www.oregonconference.org.

UPPER COLUMBIA

Robert Folkenberg Jr., president; Doug R. Johnson, v.p. for administration; Randall Terry, v.p. for finance; 15918 E. Euclid Ave., Spokane Valley, WA 99216-1815; P.O. Box 19039, Spokane, WA 99219-9039; (509) 838-2761; www.uccsda.org.

WASHINGTON

John Freedman, president; Doug Bing, v.p. for administration; Jerry S. Russell, v.p. for finance; 32229 Weyerhaeuser Way S., Federal Way, WA 98001; (253) 681-6008; www.washingtonconference.org.

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 Sun 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

EVENT

THE UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

Class of 1961's 50th reunion will be Oct. 7-8. We request your help in finding addresses for the following people: Linda Adkinson-McDowell, Sharon Bauman, David Bigger, Russell Bower, Judy Lockwood Bryan, Charles Canright, Helen Clyde, Judy Merth Davies, Linda Martin DeBolt, Leroy Duncan, Don Evans, Loretta Fauver Harrell, Gary Heddon, Jay Howland, Betty Hughes, Henry Hurlbert, Steve Jungblom, David Kagle, Joyce Millard, Ruth Chitwood Mustered, James Paschtat, Jim Perrine, Don Ramsey, Bernice Gardner Reidel, Darlene VanSickle Ruble, Charles Shook, Monica Hall Spenser, Ruth Thompson, Ron Walunga and John Wolf. Please send any contact information to, Jay Magnuson, PO Box 6, Quincy, WA 98848; or jmagнусon43@gmail.com.

LAURELWOOD ACADEMY'S

Class of 1961 50-year Reunion

will be Aug. 6, at the Oregon Conference Gladstone Campgrounds. The grounds will open at 10 a.m. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. We are still searching for: Weslie Bunn, Ray Christopherson, Gerald Colclasure, Carmen Emery, Shannon Goodwin, Terry Goodwin, JoAnn Herrick, Don Johnson, Ron (Casey) Kaye, Teresa E. Klein, Darlene T. Mowery, Jan Schuster and Judith Titherington. Please contact Nancy Bolden at 360-253-8679, garnabolden@aol.com, or Earlene Wohlers at earlenerw@comcast.net.

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“The most sought-after commodity today is someone’s undivided attention.”

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They were gathered around the restaurant table — husband, wife and two girls. Between bites of my own dinner, I observed their marked lack of interaction. There were no shared smiles or playful winks. Each was lost in a separate world, fiddling with their mobile devices. Were they playing games, texting, surfing the Web? I couldn’t tell. But I could see the bored expressions, the vacant eyes, the distant body language. I felt sadness for this family where the simple joy of sharing a meal together was lost. Surrounding that little table, they were miles apart.

Their unintended tableau reminded me of a quote from Christian media guru Phil Cooke: “The most sought-after commodity today is someone’s undivided attention.”

The plethora of mobile communication devices, including ever-present cell phones and iPads, mean many of us carry a billion streams of information with us wherever we go. Atlas mythologically carried the world on his shoulders. Hey, we carry it in our pockets.

Having immediate access to all this information is exhilarating. Got a question? Even an obscure one? Give me a couple minutes with Google and you’ll have your answer. Want to reach me immediately? Send me a text. I can answer that quietly, even in a meeting, or, ahem, in church.

But, this multitasking we’re getting used to is taking a toll. While we connect with the outside world, we are in danger of losing what’s nearest at hand. Talking with a friend recently, I noticed him repeatedly looking down at his cell phone as incoming text messages interrupted our conversation. “Sorry,” he said. “I’m addicted to this thing.”

He’s not too far off the mark. Our mobile devices are enabling us as information junkies, addicts in every sense of the word. FOMO is a new acronym coined to describe what many are experiencing with Twitter, Facebook and other social media networking — Fear Of Missing Out.

Flash mobs, hundreds of individuals prompted by the peer pressure of a Twitter message to do something in common at a given time and place, converge on shopping malls. Personal accounts of news and events blaze around the world, passing from one person to the next — as quick (and reliable, at times) as gossip.

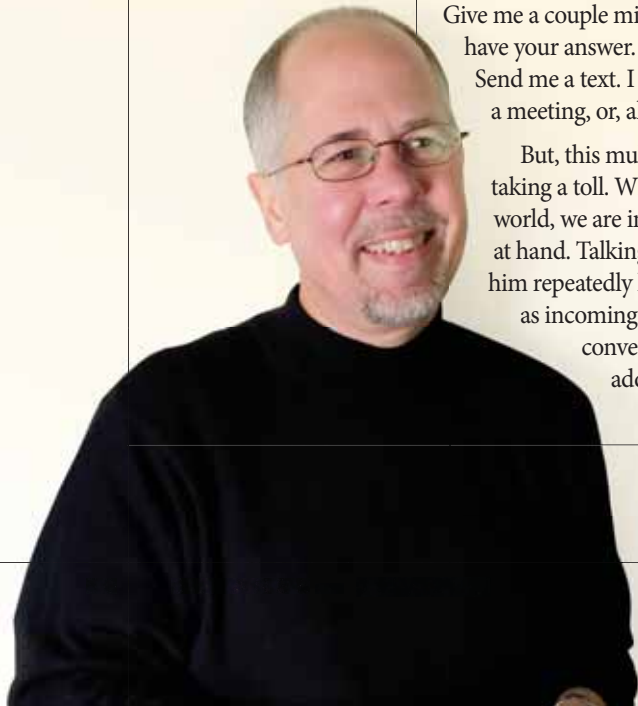
Now, I’m a fan of technology and mobile communication. But this headlong rush that so often absorbs us prompts two basic questions: Is quicker better? Because we can, should we?

I think not — at least, not without first taking stock of more basic and lasting values. The simple act of lending our undivided attention to a friend, giving respectful eye contact to a colleague, lets them know they matter. In spite of all our virtual “friends” on Facebook, the ones who really count are those right in front of us who search our faces for evidence we care.

There’s another Person who desires our attention. We were designed to walk with Him in the cool of the evening through a garden of another place and time. As we eagerly seek out the latest, coolest gadget, or provocative tweet, is He watching anxiously for a glimmer of eye contact with us?

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