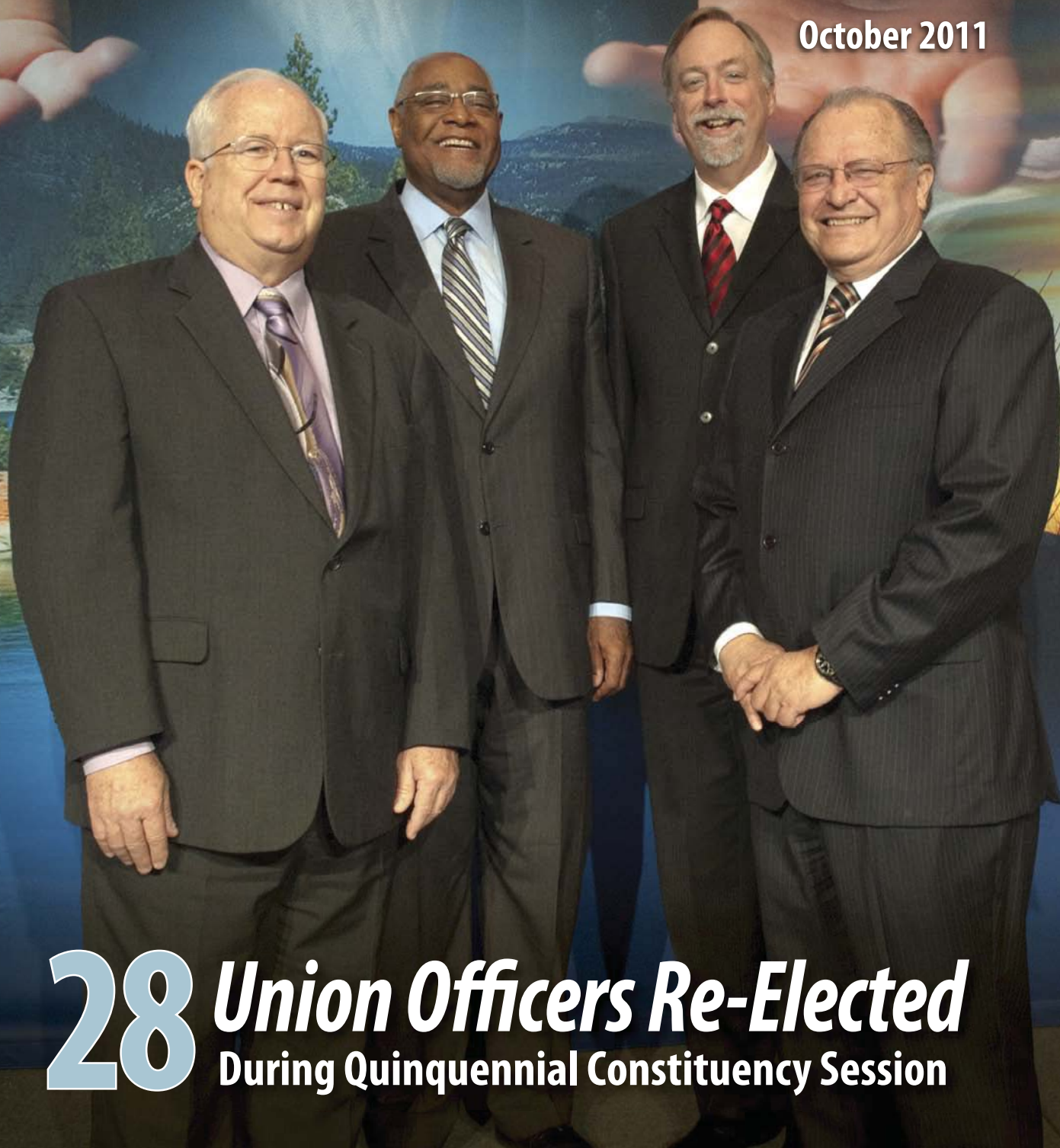


Connecting the Pacific Union Adventist Family

# Recorder

October 2011



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"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."  
— Exodus 20:8

	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28
Alturas	6:32	6:21	6:10	6:01
Angwin	6:42	6:31	6:22	6:13
Calexico	6:17	6:09	6:01	5:54
Chico	6:38	6:28	6:18	6:09
Eureka	6:47	6:36	6:26	6:16
Fresno	6:32	6:22	6:13	6:05
Hilo	6:03	5:57	5:52	5:48
Honolulu	6:12	6:06	6:01	5:57
Las Vegas	6:14	6:04	5:55	5:47
Lodi	6:37	6:27	6:18	6:09
Loma Linda	6:24	6:15	6:06	5:59
Los Angeles	6:28	6:19	6:11	6:03
Moab	6:49	6:39	6:29	6:20
Oakland	6:41	6:31	6:22	6:13
Phoenix	6:05	5:56	5:48	5:39
Reno	6:31	6:20	6:10	6:01
Riverside	6:24	6:15	6:07	6:00
Sacramento	6:38	6:27	6:18	6:09
Salt Lake City	6:58	6:47	6:36	6:27
San Diego	6:24	6:15	6:07	6:00
San Francisco	6:42	6:32	6:23	6:14
San Jose	6:40	6:30	6:21	6:12
Tucson	6:01	5:53	5:45	5:38

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Our mission is to inform, educate and inspire our readers to action in all areas of ministry.

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## About the Cover

The four officers of the Pacific Union pose after their re-election. From left: Theodore Benson, treasurer; Ricardo Graham, president; Bradford Newton, executive secretary; Arnold Trujillo, vice president. Photo by Gerry Chudleigh.





# Pre-Approved!

*Ricardo Graham*



I frequently hear about people joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church throughout the Pacific Union. That thrills my heart. I love that our church doors are open, welcoming new believers.

The open doors of the church remind me of the “pre-approved” credit card applications that turn up in my mailbox and inbox regularly.

I like to think that God has “pre-approved” people to be His children, join His family and accept the message of redemption and restoration that Adventists have been called to share. (Of course, I am not equating this with some type of predestination that violates the free will of individuals — people always have the last say with God about their salvation).

God’s “You’ve been pre-approved!” message is a total, life-changing invitation, leaving no area of a person’s life untouched. I am personally convinced that the message we bear, including the Sabbath, the judgment and the second coming, is rooted in Scripture, attested to by the gift of prophecy and bathed in the love of Jesus.

As we approach the return of our righteous Redeemer, two significant things are happening. First, the Holy Spirit is being withdrawn from those who refuse to accept the loving, gentle, persistent appeals of God, and continue in rebellion.

The horrific details of criminal and immoral activity reported in the news indicate that many people’s hearts are being sealed against God. How else do we account for people displaying such corrupt and fallen characteristics? There may be other ways to explain the increasing depravity in the world, but I am not convinced they are correct.

But at the same time there are a growing number of people around the world who are responding to the appeal of the Spirit — to admit Christ into their hearts, receive the gift of His righteousness, and obey all His commandments.

Reports of people joining the church remind me of what happened when Peter preached on the day of Pentecost: “Then they that gladly received his word were

baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls” (Acts 2:41).

Perhaps we are witnessing the fulfillment of Ellen White’s statement that, “More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications” (*Review and Herald*, Nov. 10, 1885).

There are people all around us who are seriously searching for truth. They are honest of mind, and they want something better than a secular life or a shallow religious experience. The Adventist understanding of God’s creative and re-creative power, the Sabbath, the judgment and the second coming of Jesus, in the context of the everlasting gospel, offers that “something better.”

So, what is our role? There may be many. There are people around us who are “ripe” for the invitation to come and join a family totally committed to following Jesus everywhere he leads. God is always willing to use church members who are willing to encourage a soul to consider the claims of God as understood by Adventists.

In the gracious spirit of Christ, we may pray for people, invite people to a Bible study, guide a casual conversation in a spiritual direction, or even give a gift subscription to an evangelistic magazine or a copy of a GLOW tract. Or we may meet a physical or relational need. Any of these things, and more, can lead someone to a saving knowledge of God.

Of course, there are challenges along the way. Many people don’t know who Seventh-day Adventists are. Some confuse Adventists with other religious groups. Many have never heard the church name. Lack of accurate information often creates a prejudice against our message.

Despite these and other challenges, God has people He wants us to invite to join us on our faith journey, leaving the results to Him. While some may not be ready to hear or read our witness about God, others are ready to accept their “pre-approval” offer to accept Jesus as Savior and join the Christian family.



# Students Open Doors in Southern California

Heidi Bryant

“This is the best experience I’ve ever had opening my door,” the man, with tears in his eyes, said to SCC student literature evangelist Joseph Cruz. Cruz smiled with satisfaction as he stepped away from the life-changing experience he had just witnessed.

The man’s family was struggling to make ends meet on the East Coast, and he had just lost his job. Alone and in need of encouragement, he had settled in for a long night in front of the TV when Cruz knocked on his door. After connecting on surface-level conversation, the man’s story unfolded. Cruz offered a prayer and left him with a *Steps to Christ*, knowing it would change his life.

Dillon Valadez didn’t feel as if apartments had any potential for literature evangelism, but when asked to work a complex, he did so. At the first door, a tall, tough-looking man answered. Valadez shared

Jenny Coceres



Youth Rush students were also active in SCC churches during the summer. (L. to r.) Danny Luevano, Heidi Bryant, Dillon Valadez, Emely Garcia, Luis Monge.

*The Great Controversy* with him, thinking it would be interesting for him to read. To Valadez’s surprise, the man donated \$10 and accepted the book. As Valadez was leaving, the man called after him and said, “Hey! Please pray for me.”

Dumbfounded, Valadez responded, “What would you like me to pray for?”

The man said, “Well, I do bad things. I cheat on my wife sometimes. I sell drugs and do a little cocaine here and there, but I want to be good.” At the end of the prayer, Valadez could tell that the man had been crying.

Southern California Conference sponsors Youth Rush programs each summer to benefit and touch lives through literature. This

summer, from the high desert area of Lancaster and the coastal streets of Santa Barbara, to metro Los Angeles, close to 50 student literature evangelists knocked on doors with truth-filled literature.

The student L.E.s have seen the truth of a statement in *Colporteur Ministry*: “By the canvassing work, the truth is presented to thousands who otherwise would never hear it.” They left nearly 32,000 “silent preachers” in homes, found more than 350 Bible study interests and distributed thousands of Bible study interest cards. Students received more than \$104,000 for their high school or college education. For information on literature evangelism, call 818-546-8435.

Jenny Coceres



Youth Rush leader Emely Garcia prepares to leave for a day in the field.



# Hollywood II Spanish Congregation Inaugurates New Building

*Franklin Grant*

In late 2003, several members of the Hollywood Spanish church in Los Angeles decided to venture out in order to reach a wider demographic of the Los Angeles community.

They established a congregation, renting at a location at Pico and Arlington in Los Angeles, which was later named the Hollywood II Spanish group, after its mother church.

“We started with 35 members,” said Daniel Flores, a local elder and founding member. “The task of getting our own church building seemed impossible, but I had the vision that it could be done.

“The first Thanksgiving, we were worshipping as a group, we collected \$15,000. By God’s grace, we continued until we had half a million dollars, which was used as a down payment,” Flores added. The inauguration of the new building, located at 1900 West 48th Street in Los Angeles, was held Aug. 5-7. “My vision now is to work so this temple will be filled with new members,” said Flores, “and train the young people so they can finish the work of the gospel right here.”

The inauguration weekend was packed with activities and speakers, including SCC leaders James Lee, SCC vice president; Luis Peña,



L.A. City Councilmember Bernard C. Parks presents a medallion to Erick Cardozo, who led the church work force in repairing and readying the church for the inauguration.

Hispanic Region director; and Velino Salazar, executive secretary. Praise in song filled Sabbath afternoon, with many local singing groups on the program and featuring recording artist Stephanie Pinnock Lawrence from Costa Rica.

Sunday’s program was highlighted by the participation and congratulations of Los Angeles community

pastors and City Councilmember Bernard C. Parks, of Los Angeles’ Eighth District. “We are also the sanctuary of God,” Salazar said in his message, “and we should show that by the lives we live in the community.”

Four new members were baptized shortly after the Hollywood II group began worshipping in their own building. Ana Lucero Vargas, 14, was the first young woman to join the church family there. “This temple has brought great joy to me,” she said, “and it is my hope to work in this community so that many other young people can come to know Jesus and experience the joy that I am experiencing.”

In addition to house-to-house visitation, members’ outreach plans include bimonthly revival meetings, beginning in October. Also beginning this month, the church will offer 7 a.m. exercise classes in the church parking lot on Sundays.



Volunteers, mostly young adults, are active in the church neighborhood, handing out flyers announcing their willingness to help those needing help with lawns and painting houses.



# Genesis Praise Team Sings at County Fair

*Iki Taimi and Betty Cooney*



The Genesis praise team ([seventhgenesis.com](http://seventhgenesis.com)).

County fair crowds typically mill around booths that offer specials and stages highlighting the latest on the contemporary entertainment scene. At the Orange County Fair in August, the fair audience listened to a praise team and men's chorus from Genesis, an L.A. Metro church plant of primarily young adults meeting in Gardena.

"We sang on a center stage, and it was such an awesome outreach tool," said Iki Taimi, Genesis pastor and coordinator of the SCC Pheron Committee for young adult outreach. "We were scheduled for 45 minutes at a high traffic hour, and when we were done they asked for a couple more songs!"

The music drew the audience, who filled the tables and stood around in the middle of the fair as the Genesis praise team and band

were bringing praise and worship. "We had people come up afterward, sharing their testimony and asking for church information," Taimi reported.

"I've been fighting a lot inside," one man acknowledged, "and was recently thinking that maybe I should go try church. Then you guys came to me. I really can relate to your worship style."

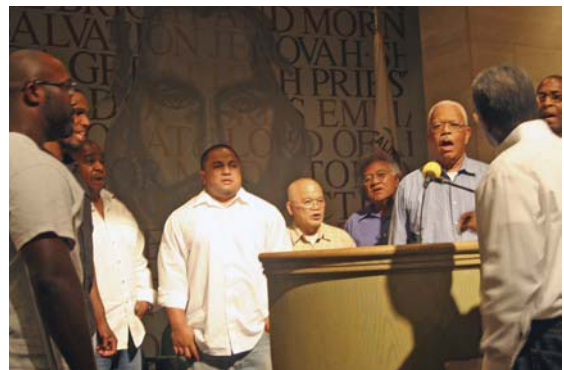
The Genesis praise team did a set with about eight songs from Hillsong, Israel and New Breed, Kirk Franklin and a few other artists that are part of the normal praise music at Genesis, and the men's chorus did a couple of songs as well.

"The OC fair was an amazing experience!"

said Genesis praise leader Chris Mack. "It was rewarding to see people's smiles and to see them enjoying and participating in praise music. It showed us that worship experience is not only for inside a church or just for Adventist people. This was true witnessing. Seeing faces that are 'out of the ordinary' praising, singing to and for one God was absolutely an amazing experience."

"Our business cards were in high demand that day," said Taimi. "This wasn't only about the fishing for people for our church, though; it was about taking Jesus to the masses!"

The Genesis team also goes to the L.A. Mission once a month, on invitation. The mission's large chapel seats about 250 people. "They don't invite in many groups," noted Taimi, "but after they experienced one of our worships, they really liked our message and praise, so we are now a fixture there. The L.A. Mission's outreach is massive."



The Genesis Men's Chorus performs.



# Hawthorne Mission Team Completes Project Tonga

*Felicia Tonga*

In July, 31 missionaries from the Hawthorne church journeyed to the Kingdom of Tonga, with the goal of painting the exterior of Beulah College, an Adventist school; leading a week of prayer, a women's ministry camp meeting and a number of social events for students and locals.

Since more than half of the college enrollment of 270 students are not Adventists, the mission team saw their project as a great opportunity to witness to the community while improving the facilities. Under the leadership of Pastor Keith Hassinger, head elder Setaleki Fehoko, mission project leader Tevita Valele and work leader Fonua Tonga, the team raised more than \$14,000 for the project; including paint, equipment and shipping fees. In addition, the team paid for their own plane tickets.

Upon arriving in Tonga, the group began experiencing difficulties, beginning with a delay in retrieving the shipping container, circuit problems and stormy weather. With 38 buildings to paint in about 11 days, the team had to fight against time. "It was discouraging at first," said Valele, "but we kept pushing forward with lots of prayer. God was faithful to see the mission completed."

Students, alumni and village men volunteered daily to help paint, which made the project move along smoothly. However, weather patterns were still a problem. The team

continued praying for sunny skies in order to complete the project. "God answered our prayers!" said Nora Fehoko. "It only rained at night."

The islanders' hospitality amazed the team. Daily, the missionaries were invited to a feast prepared by local churches. After each hard day's work, the team was greeted with an array of delicious food stretching from one side of their campsite to the other. "It felt like I was going to a banquet every day for brunch and dinner. They treated us like royalty," said Jose Flores.

The team chose *Steps to Christ* as their week of prayer theme, with different members focusing on a chapter each day, preaching the message of God's love. As the week progressed, more and more students requested copies of the book. "We ran out of books," said Justin Tonga, "but God provided. Ending with an agape feast, students testified of the blessings they received



During the day the sun came out, giving the team enough time to allow the paint to set and dry and for other work to be accomplished.

from the messages, the fellowship and their newly refurbished school.

"The school looks bright and beautiful now," said Principal Saia Vaihola in his farewell speech. "The paint colors chosen represent Beulah College perfectly. The white walls represent purity and the pillars draped with red represent Christ's blood shed on Calvary. Thank you for making our home shine."



# Grand Avenue Youth Give and Receive Blessings in Puerto Rico

*Julie Lorenz*

**M**ission trips are physically draining. Ask the 30 youth and sponsors from the Oakland-Grand Avenue church who spent eight days this summer in humid Puerto Rico working on a number of labor-intensive jobs. However, mission trips are also spiritually rewarding. Ask those same 30 people.

“You think you’re going to go to help others, but in the end they’re helping you. As cliché as that sounds, it’s so true,” said high school senior Alexandra Harris, a church member who went on the trip.

“Everywhere we turned there was a Christian that was on fire for God,” said high school senior Eric Holness. “That’s pretty encouraging.”

The group tackled a number of physically demanding tasks to clean and repair buildings, as well as tame the bushes and weeds that grow on the tropical grounds. They spent several days working to fix up



Eric Garcia

“Mission trips open up the kids’ eyes to see how big the world is, how many opportunities there are and how big God is,” said Mark Ishikawa, who coordinated the trip.

a former convent (where they were staying). The Adventists in that area purchased the 15-room convent — situated on a beautiful three-acre property in the mountains — to lodge mission groups.

On other days the group did extensive work to prepare an academy for a new school year and labored at a church, where they built a pastor’s office, in addition to painting, cleaning and gardening. One day, part of the team cleaned the home of a church member with a very sick husband. In addition to working on the physical plant at an ADRA regional office, they sorted through a large trailer full of donated food and clothing and helped distribute some of it.

The youth and their sponsors had a positive spirit throughout. “A lot of the work was really fun. The people set the tone, and it didn’t feel like hard work,” said Harris. “We got things done very fast.”

After working all day, the team split up in the evenings to help

with evangelistic seminars at four churches. The group sang, welcomed people and presented sermons. One day, they were able to sing and speak over the Adventist radio station to invite people to attend the meetings. “The majority of our youth are pretty fluent in Spanish,” said pastoral assistant Mark Ishikawa, who led the trip.

Not only did the Adventist work in Puerto Rico get a boost from all the energy provided by the youth, the kids experienced the blessings of being united in service. Ishikawa wanted the group to come closer to God and to each other, so there was a strict rule to eliminate distractions: no cell phones, iPods, computers, etc.

“We wanted it to be an experience where they were literally unplugged from everything around them, to serve and grow as a family,” said Ishikawa. “We bonded in a way that only a mission trip can bring you together.”



Kevin Velazquez

Eric Holness and Alexandra Harris paint a fence in Puerto Rico. Holness highly recommends the experience of a mission trip: “If you’re ready to see God move in your life and the lives of others, then go,” he said.





# Jon Terry Ordination Affirms Ministry

*Julie Lorenz*

**A**fter a journey that began in childhood, Roseville church pastor Jon Terry was recently ordained to the ministry in a program filled with friends, family and fellow pastors.

“The ordination service was a beautiful acknowledgement of Jon’s call to the gospel ministry,” said Northern California Conference President Jim Pedersen, who attended the Aug. 27 service in the Roseville sanctuary. “God has clearly been leading Jon’s life up to this point, and I believe He will do great things through Jon’s ministry in the future.”

Terry’s ordination was the result of a path that started at age 2, when his mother began attending an Adventist church in Central Oregon. She became a member, as did Terry’s older brother. The family moved to Hawaii when Terry was in the eighth grade. There, as a result

of a warm church and accepting friends, Terry and his father were baptized on April 18, 1992.

Soon after, the family returned to Oregon. Terry enrolled at a small Adventist academy where his senior class was preparing to conduct an evangelistic series. Three weeks after his arrival, Terry was slotted to preach one of the nightly meetings — only the second presentation he had ever given in his life. Experiencing a deep sense of purpose throughout this experience, Terry wondered what it could mean. His classmates and the school staff were quick to offer an interpretation: “Maybe God is calling you to the ministry.”

Terry spent the next three years avoiding this message — throwing himself into the family business and dabbling in community college — but after a providential conversation with a friend, he enrolled at Weimar College. Following his junior year, he served as a student missionary with Adventist Frontier Missions in Albania.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in religion with an emphasis in pastoral ministry,

Terry became a Bible worker at the Woodland church, where he had done his undergraduate practicum. When the pastor took another call, Terry became interim pastor, serving the newly-formed two-church district. Only two months later, he was called to the Lodi-Fairmont church, where he served as assistant pastor for a year and a half. During that time, he met and married Clara, a pastor’s daughter.

Soon after their wedding, the couple moved to Andrews University where Terry earned a Master of Divinity degree at the seminary. Clara finished her master’s in English, French, and German linguistics, and then taught in the university’s English department. Upon completing his education, Terry was called to serve as the associate pastor at the Roseville church, where he has been for almost three years.

“We think that we have to arrive at a place before God can use us,” he said. “I’ve discovered that as I’m willing to go wherever God wants, and do whatever He asks, He accomplishes things. It’s a process He’s taking us on.”

Cabe Arruda



Jon and Clara Terry serve as a pastoral couple at the Roseville church.

Ed Terry



Terry’s fellow pastors pray for him during his ordination. Terry has discovered that his favorite parts of ministry are preaching and interacting with people. “I really want to connect people with the God of the Scriptures — really bring them back to who He is and how He feels about them,” he said.



# Two New Leaders Join NCC Team

*Stephanie Leal and Julie Lorenz*

Two new leaders have recently joined the team at the Northern California Conference headquarters: Walt Groff as ministerial director, and Bill Keresoma as superintendent of schools. Both men bring strong levels of commitment and years of experience to their new roles.

The position of ministerial director has often been called the “pastors’ pastor,” and this idea is central to Groff’s vision for his new role. “Pastors need care. They are often the most neglected people in the church, spiritually,” said Groff. “The job can be quite isolating.” The ideal ministerial director would be “part counselor, mentor, friend, colleague and advocate.”

Before Groff came on board in May, NCC administrators — realizing the difficulty for one person



NCC Ministerial Director Walt Groff will continue to serve as senior pastor of the Gracepoint church in Rocklin.

to reach the many pastors spread throughout the large conference — decided to restructure the role of ministerial director. In his new position, Groff continues to serve as senior pastor of the Gracepoint church in Rocklin, and he, along with administration, is putting together a team of working pastors to serve as associate ministerial directors distributed throughout the conference.

“We want to provide pastors with someone who is actively involved nearby whom they know and can trust, who is there for their support and development,” said Groff.

“We believe there is great value in having this kind of field-based position,” said NCC President Jim Pedersen. “It provides a team of people who are actively involved in pastoral ministry, while also

providing mentoring and support for our pastors.”

As one of his goals, Groff wants his team to help and guide pastors as they go through the conference evaluation process. “An evaluation is only useful for people if they get a chance to use it for their personal growth. Otherwise, it is simply a record about them, not a tool for them.” Groff believes that if pastors learn ways to grow and improve, their congregations will benefit, as well. “One of the greatest things the conference can do to help produce healthy churches is to help the pastors be the best they can be,” he said.

Groff has served as a pastor in the NCC since graduating from Pacific Union College in 1983. He worked for a short time at the Paradise and Lodi-English Oaks churches



Walt Groff



before going to the seminary, where he earned his Master of Divinity degree in 1987. He served briefly at the Lodi-English Oaks church before becoming pastor of the Cloverdale church, where he was ordained in 1990. After serving in Cloverdale for about six years, Groff became pastor of the Rocklin-Sunset Oaks church (now Gracepoint) in 1994 and senior pastor in 2008 when Associate Pastor Greg Webster joined the pastoral staff.

Groff and his wife LaBrenda live in Rocklin where LaBrenda works as an IT analyst for Adventist Health. Their family consists of five adult children — Justin, Jason, Karissa, Kirchsti and Spencer, three of whom attend Andrews University.

The other new leader in the NCC, Superintendent of Schools Bill Keresoma, began his new role in July. He enjoys working with the teachers and principals at the 39 schools across the conference. “I am impressed with the level of academic excellence that NCC educators provide,” he said. “I am incredibly grateful and blessed to be able to work with this team.”

Keresoma strongly advocates Spirit-led cooperation — between school, church and home — to

win young people at NCC schools for the Kingdom of God. “Parents, pastors and educators, we need you more now than ever before!” he said.

Keresoma has long emphasized the special partnership between educators and pastors in order for denominational schools and churches to succeed. He hopes to continue on a tradition of TEAM, an acronym he adopted in his early ministry, which signifies: “Together educators and ministers collaborating to build children into spiritual champions.”

“Educators and pastors are two gifted teams that should be playing on the same team, with God as our captain,” he said. “I look forward to collaborating with our pastors because of their influence in their churches and schools.”

Keresoma encourages administrators and teachers to become intentional in their prayer lives as they focus on their journey with God and with their students. “Without a doubt, all of our denominational employees love the Lord,” he said, but he wants them to ask: “How do we ramp it up and not be satisfied with the status quo?” Meeting with NCC’s educators just before the

beginning of the school year, Keresoma gave each person a piece of towel to symbolize the one that Jesus used when He washed His disciples’ feet. “It was a reminder to ask themselves: what are you going to do



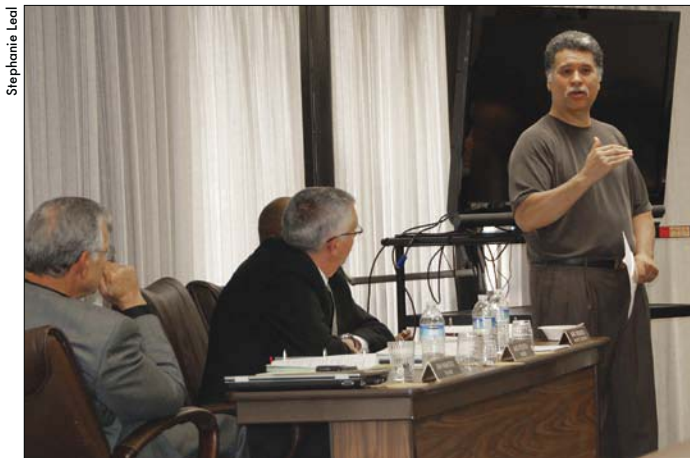
Bill Keresoma

to commit to building the Kingdom of God for your students?”

Keresoma came to his new position with a wide variety of experience. Since 2005, he served as associate superintendent for schools in the Southeastern California Conference. Prior to that he was principal of Monterey Bay Academy for 10 years, after working as that academy’s senior pastor for two years. Earlier in his career, Keresoma served as Napa Community church youth pastor (where he was ordained in 1989) and as dean of men at Pacific Union College. Previously, he was a teacher, counselor and vice principal at San Diego Academy. He holds a Master of Arts degree in counselor education and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Loma Linda University.

Keresoma and his wife Judy have three children, Jared, Joshua and Daniela, a daughter-in-law, Christina, and one granddaughter, Aubrey.

“Bill and Walt are both talented, committed and open to God’s leading,” said Pedersen. “We look forward to seeing the many ways the Lord will use them to further His work.”



Bill Keresoma, new NCC superintendent of schools, speaks to the conference executive committee.

Stephanie Leal



# Hispanic Prayer Convocation Revitalizes Attendees

*Phil Draper*

“We are in the middle of the great controversy — but nothing is impossible for Jesus,” said Cinthia Riffel, keynote speaker for the Hispanic Prayer Convocation. “When Jesus healed the boy possessed by an evil spirit, the disciples asked why they were unable to do such a miracle. Jesus told them that this miracle was a result of much prayer. The father of the tormented boy was scared, humiliated, and frustrated, but he trusted in Jesus and asked for His help. Faith links us to heaven and brings power for solving problems that are humanly impossible.”

The fourth annual Hispanic Prayer Convocation was held at South Mountain High School in Phoenix on Aug. 13. Pastor Adelfo Huerta, prayer coordinator, worked closely with Jose Marin, Hispanic coordinator, to facilitate the meetings.

“Prayer is alive and well in Arizona, thanks to Pastor Huerta and

his leadership,” commends Marin. “This was a powerful, Spirit-filled meeting.”

Isabel Fritzler, director of Hispanic television for the Phoenix area, MAS TV, shared the story of viewer Esperanza Arellano, who began recording the sermons of Pastor Alejandro Bullón and prayed for a way to share this message with her daughters. As they watched Bullón’s presentations, their hearts were touched, and they gave their lives to Jesus. Arellano was recently baptized at the Monte Vista Spanish church.

Rogelio Saucedo and his wife, Maria, were unable to have children. They earnestly prayed for a miracle. One day, an elderly member from the Adventist church came to their home and prayed that they would be blessed with children — if this was God’s will. She encouraged them to believe.



Phil Draper

Cinthia Riffel was featured speaker for the Hispanic Prayer Convocation in Phoenix.

Soon, Maria gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. The Saucedos were ecstatic. Two years later, Maria became pregnant with another child. Prenatal testing showed the baby was likely to have Down Syndrome.

They prayed again, asking that God perform a miracle on their unborn child, and promised to love and accept the child — no matter what the circumstances. They chose the name Josiah, which means “Jesus heals.” Josiah was born without any illness — a direct answer, they believe, to prayer.

“We praise God,” says Marin, “for these three hours of heavenly music, inspiring messages, encouraging testimonies, and for the prayers that were offered to God and ascended to His throne, and have been answered by Jesus, our great Intercessor. What a privilege to pray to the God of the universe!”



Jose Marin

Hispanic members from the Phoenix area were challenged to make prayer a vital part of their lives.



# School Doors Open Wide at Maricopa Village Christian School

*Shirley Chipman*

School resumed at Maricopa Village Christian School in Laveen, Ariz., on Monday, Aug. 15. Closed for a year due to funding and resource issues, the school has reopened with a new staff and contagious excitement about the future, says teacher Susan Suntag.

The history of this Native school goes back to the 1940s, when the Maricopa church and school were organized. It has served as an outreach in the community with the local Pima-Maricopa tribe since then.

"I have wonderful memories of my school days here," says Cynthia Elias, who attended in the early '50s. "We were introduced to Christ's love and the example of His life and how to live in this world."

"Many of the families in the area live in poverty conditions, often struggling with alcohol and drug abuse and with gang violence," adds Arnie Suntag, who works with his wife at the school. Our goal is to provide a good education for these students, as well as character development, as they each build a strong relationship with Jesus Christ."

"God has worked miracles in the re-opening of the school," says Pastor Ted Parks of the Maricopa Village church. "We have a wonderful new teacher, six students attending, five more registrants, and enthusiastic church members who are working hard in school preparations and donations. God has provided in



Arnie Suntag

These young Native American students — Xavier Calleros, Slade Notah and Ethyn Lewis — are happy to have the Maricopa Village Christian School reopen this year.

the past, and we know He will care for His children again."

Transportation is at the top of the list of needs at the school. Parents are unable to provide transportation to and from school, so a 15-passenger bus is a necessity if they are to accept new registrants.

A healthy breakfast and lunch are also provided each day, which means they need volunteer kitchen help and assistance with food. Maricopa Village Christian School is a mission field in Arizona. Anyone with an interest in helping with textbooks, play-ground equipment,

volunteer maintenance support and kitchen help, or groups looking for a mission trip, contact Arnie Suntag, Maricopa Village Christian School, P.O. Box 171, Laveen, AZ 85339; arniesuntag@maricopavillageschool.com; phone 520-430-6827.



Arnie Suntag

Susan Suntag teaches her students about Jesus at the Maricopa Village Christian School. Kids (l. to r.): Xavier Calleros, Esperanza Lisby-Garcia, Saul Calleros Jr.



# Loma Linda Korean Members Make Friends Through Health Expo

*Chul H. Koo*

**M**embers of the Loma Linda Korean church's outreach ministry recently partnered with the Korean Consulate and the White Memorial church to conduct a health expo for the Korean community in Los Angeles.

The expo offered free blood work (testing for more than 50 key items), healthy meals, a health lecture, and medical consultation by 12 physician volunteers.

Conducted at the White Memorial church gymnasium on June 12 and 26, the event had the full support of both the Korean Consulate and the Bright Future Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provided substantial funding to make the expo possible.

Within 24 hours of the publication of newspaper articles and advertisements of the event, more than 270 people registered. Because of space limitations for all of the planned services, Loma Linda Korean church officers had to make the difficult decision to stop the

registration. They chose to give quality service to a smaller number of people rather than registering more people than could be served adequately.

Choong H. Oh, Loma Linda Korean church pastor, and the members who participated in the event are grateful to White Memorial church members for providing the facility and supporting the event. More than 350 people, including the volunteers, shared the love of God.

On June 12, Cerritos and Loma Linda Korean church volunteers drew blood from 217 people. Then they served whole wheat and brown rice bread with jam, bananas and water to the people who had fasted overnight for the blood work.

On June 26, Joon Rhee, a faculty member of the Loma Linda University Schools of Medicine and Public Health and CEO of Insights for Health, spoke about chronic diseases and the most effective lifestyle intervention. The title of his presentation was "True Rest at the Edge of a Cliff!"

Volunteers from Insights for Health and the Loma Linda and Valley Korean churches served a luncheon that gave those who had



**Volunteers draw blood, which will be tested for over 50 key items.**

listened to Rhee's lecture an illustration of how to eat healthfully.

In the afternoon, 12 physician volunteers provided medical consultations to 205 people. Members of the outreach ministry of the Loma Linda Korean church also passed out copies of *Signs of the Times* and family and health journals.

Volunteer photographer Jin S. Kim gathered the following comments from expo participants: "I got to know what Christian service was all about." "When are you going to do this again? I can't wait." "If health food is this good, I want to order this kind of food every day." "I have never encountered Seventh-day Adventists in the past, but I am now in love!"

"Praise the Lord for the potential of the Seventh-day Adventist Church," stated the chair of the event, Keun S. Jang.



**Audience members are captivated during one of the many health presentations put on by the Loma Linda Korean church.**



# Trip to Thailand Impacts Church Members' Vision for Mission

*Kyle Allen*

**A**s a team of newly-arrived missionaries joined with students and faculty of Chiangmai Adventist Academy to welcome the Sabbath by singing together, it became clear that this was not just another Friday night vespers. This was the beginning of a beautiful week of service, ministry and making new friends.

projects, and medical ministry clinics in the surrounding villages.

Commenting on the building projects, Barbara Ricketts, an architect on the trip with her daughter Monica, said: "It's amazing what can happen in just a few days, but more amazingly the bonding of our hearts with others whose language we could not speak. My daughter

summed up our experience: 'Mom, we have to do this for the rest of our lives!'"

The team built two new faculty houses, in addition to helping with a building project at one of the village churches.

Most of the volunteers stayed at the academy church to assist with the evening week of prayer meetings led by Dan Smith, senior pastor

of the Garden Grove church. Not everyone stayed at the academy; five pastors and other volunteers journeyed to area churches to conduct evangelistic meetings.

The highlight of the trip was the Sabbath worship service. It was a hot day and there was standing room only, but no one was ready for the service to end. By the end of the day, 30 people had been baptized.

The trip was a life-changing experience, according to Christina

Cifuentes. "It was spiritually eye opening to see how the people are so humble even though their lives are very hard," she said. "I am so thankful for this awesome experience."

The team left with a desire to continue to support the work in Thailand with their prayers and means. Thousands of dollars was collected to help build up the area churches, provide Thai Bibles and help start a new media center to reach out to Southeast Asia.

Perhaps even more significant is the renewed fire it kindled to share God's love not only in Thailand, but back home as well.

"It changed my whole perspective on life. I want to serve more than ever now and use my gifts that God has given me," said Julia Rodriguez.

The missionaries left more committed and longing for the day when they could be back singing with their Thai friends.

Kyle Allen



**Nurse Carmen Gonzalez looks on as her translator gives instructions on medications to a village woman who came to the clinic for help.**

The group of 78 left Southern California for the tropical green hills of Thailand in June. They came from the Garden Grove, Garden Grove Korean, Mentone, Thai, San Marcos, and Santa Ana Spanish churches.

Each morning began with worship for the week of prayer meetings for the high school and elementary school students. During the day, volunteers participated in a wide range of ministries including a VBS, English classes, construction

Kyle Allen



**Eric Smith, Collin Monty and Alex Smith work with a villager swinging heavy bags of gravel to the top of a huge hill to mix cement for a church building project.**



# Youth Harvest Vegetables at Victoria's Community Garden

*Paul McMillan*

The Victoria church launched a community garden in January for the 2011 growing season, and invited church members and the community to participate. They hoped fresh produce from the garden would supplement the nutrition of participating families and provide opportunities for outdoor exercise and fellowship.

Many seedlings were lost to earwigs; nevertheless, the garden produced corn, tomatoes and potatoes,

as well as some chard and kale. For a fellowship dinner in July, church members devoured 50 ears of corn and a large platter of tomatoes. But that was just the beginning.

In July, a group gathered to organize Vacation Bible School materials when the doorbell rang. The visitor, Marti Baum Hardesty, director of pediatrics at the Social Action Community Health System clinic in San Bernardino, said, "I have heard that Victoria has a garden."

She thought exploring the garden would help inner city children participating in Operation Fit experience how food grows. For five years, students and residents from Loma Linda University have conducted the program for youth who are at risk for obesity. Operation Fit focuses on nutrition and exercise, and is linked to Body Works, a program for parents of teens, promoted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and taught by the same volunteers. Both of the programs are conducted under the auspices of SACHS.

At the peak of harvest, 35 youth and their counselors came to see the garden and share in its harvest. They saw how each row was filled with enriched compost and irrigated with a gravity flow system. Four at a time went into the tomato patch to pick a tomato while others searched for potatoes. From there, the group went to the corn patch and each child picked two or three ears of corn.

Paul McMillan, garden director, felt that the youth had an experience they would remember. One even asked, "Can I come back and volunteer to work in the garden?"



Paul McMillan stands next to inner city children, who show the vegetables they harvested from the Victoria community garden.





# Classmate's Death Brings Mother and Daughter to Church

*Enno Mueller with Itzel Rousseau*

**D**uring a recent Sabbath morning worship service, Itzel Rousseau, a student at Chula Vista High School, shared her story with the members of the Chula Vista church. Rousseau was baptized in March; she credits her conversion to the life of a former classmate.

Two years prior to her baptism, Rousseau had a conversation with her mother about finding a church. "We wanted one that would make us feel peaceful," remembers Rousseau. They decided to make it a matter of prayer.

Several weeks later, during an orchestra rehearsal at school, she and the other orchestra members were informed that Elias Felix, a classmate and orchestra member, was in the hospital.

"A few days later, we were stunned with the announcement that he had passed away the previous evening," said Rousseau. "After a couple more days, our orchestra director told us that we were invited to perform at his memorial service."

Felix was the section leader of the second violins, and Rousseau sat behind him. She relied on his leading for cues and entrances for performances.



Itzel Rousseau embraces her new friends the parents of Elias Felix. Pictured here from left to right are: Joel Felix, Itzel Rousseau and her mother, Laura Rousseau, and Blanca Felix.

The Saturday of Felix's memorial service came, and the orchestra set up in the church. "As the orchestra tuned instruments before the service began, I soon noted that from where I sat, I was able to see the slide show," Rousseau remembers. "As I saw his pictures, I realized that Elias was very loved by everyone who knew him.

"Throughout the service, I listened carefully to all the people who shared memories of experiences they had with him.

"That's when I understood why he was so different from other guys. He caught my attention because of his contagious smile and glow. Although I didn't talk to him much,

I noticed that he was nice to everyone. I started to understand that he reflected the love he had for God."

When the service was finished and Rousseau left the church, she told her mother that this was the type of church they were looking for.

"Since that day, my life has changed completely," explains Rousseau. "Elias touched the hearts and lives of so many people. For the people that had doubts, Elias cleared up their minds. People that were becoming

isolated from their relationship with God, Elias brought back to the church. Many believers were renewed and strengthened through Elias's witness. I now better understand how God can use young people like me to introduce others to His unconditional love. I thank God for bringing Elias into my life, because his witness brought me and my mother to the church.

"I still play my violin for the orchestra, but also for church. I just can't wait until I see Elias in heaven and tell him about the difference he made in my life. But if I must wait, then I pray that my life will have the impact on others that Elias's had."



# Literature Evangelists See God at Work

*Danielle Perez*

As Kristian Bylard walked up to the door, his hands were shaky and his stomach was in knots. It was the first day of Youth Rush, the 10-week summer literature evangelism program in Central California Conference.

“Hello?” A rough voice jolted Bylard as the door swung open and a man stepped out. He eyed the man’s tattoos, piercings and leather jacket and promptly gave him a *Great Controversy*. AJ Beltz, also with Bylard, opened the book and began to show the man the charts and chapters on Revelation. His rough demeanor dissolved as he told the two young men that he was a Christian himself.

“In fact,” he said, as he pulled out his wallet to give a donation, “I am teaching a Revelation class at my local church. I could really use this.”

Bylard, a recent graduate of Mountain View Academy in Mountain View, Calif., says it was experiences like this which “allowed me to develop a personal relationship with God. It made Christianity *my* religion — not my parents’. I can honestly say that I now know Jesus.”

Divine appointments were a daily experience as 79 student literature evangelists knocked on 302,000 doors this past summer.

## A Church Converted

“At first, I didn’t want to go canvassing,” says Christopher Lamb. “It wasn’t appealing to me. But after



Prayer begins the work day as students begin their door-to-door ministry.

seeing what people at the doors go through on a day-to-day basis, I began to see people differently. I now see people as souls who need to be saved for Christ.”

Lamb experienced this first-hand when he walked into a small Apostolic Christian church in Lindsay, Calif. The pastor bought *The Great Controversy* and asked Lamb to return later that evening. When Lamb arrived, he talked to a young lady standing outside.

“Oh, you’re the guy that my pastor was talking about!” she said. She told him that her pastor had quoted from *The Great Controversy* during his sermon, and had recommended it to each of his members.

As he entered the church, Lamb realized he was walking in on a meeting. The pastor saw him, held up *The Great Controversy*, and said, “There’s a young man in the back by the name of Chris, and all of you need to get one of these books.”

Wide-eyed, Lamb could only praise God as every single one of the families in the congregation bought *The Great Controversy*.

As Lamb was talking to the church members, a girl in her early teens approached him and asked to see *Steps to Christ*. A friend of hers had bought the book earlier in the week and was reading through it with a group of her friends. “It was



such a beautiful book, and I want one for me,” she said.

### Ready for the Harvest

A theology student at Weimar College, Michael Lombart, was working in San Jose when he met a woman who was a self-described “religion buff.” She had recently been studying with a Jehovah’s Witness and seemed very interested in what Michael had. He showed her *The Great Controversy*. “I pray every night that God will show me what the true religion is,” she said. She then asked if the Seventh-day Adventist church offered Bible studies, adding with a smile, “You better make sure that somebody comes!”

### From Canvassed to Canvasser

Two years ago, Jen Randall wasn’t a Christian. One rainy day,

Maverick Khongpan, a member of the Ceres church, went on a GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) literature outreach with his youth group. They went door-to-door, asking people if they would be interested in Bible studies.

Khongpan knocked on Randall’s door. “I thought they were crazy to be out in the rain,” said Randall, a devoted agnostic. She signed up for Bible studies and began studying with Amber Cotrone, the local Bible worker and SOULS West graduate.

On June 19, 2010, Randall was baptized. So in 2011, she decided to reach out in the same way she was reached. “I felt God calling me,” she said. “I was able to use my experience to share with people who didn’t care about God.”



Jen Randall, Pastor Anil Kanda, and Maverick Khongpan are all smiles as they share a Sabbath together at the Ceres church. Two years ago, Khongpan knocked on Randall’s door and offered Bible studies. She was baptized, and this past summer worked door-to-door sharing God with others.

# Youth Rush Summer Report

*Caron Oswald*

## Areas Worked

San Jose/Peninsula, Salinas, Santa Maria, Bakersfield, Tulare, Fresno, Merced, Modesto, surrounding towns up to 45 minutes away

## Homes Visited

- 302,000

## Literature Distributed

- 41,500 books and DVDs
- 78% message books (as opposed to kids’ or health books)
- Over 2,600 *Great Controversy*
- Over 4,700 DVDs, including “Forgotten Dream” and “Ultimate Timeline” of Anchor Point Films’ Scripture Mysteries series (Daniel 2 & Daniel 9 prophecies)
- 114,000 Bible-study interest cards

## Young People Working in Program

- 79

## Total Received

- \$373,948

## Earnings (before schools’ match)

- \$254,285

## Spiritual Interests

- 176 people requested Bible studies



# East Palo Alto Celebrates 50 Years

*Taneshia Farquharson*

Celebrating their 50th anniversary with the theme “Almost home: but until then...,” members of East Palo Alto church marked the occasion with a week-long evangelistic series, preached by former pastors, that culminated with the announcement of a new baptismal class to prepare 30 people for baptism.

“This is evangelism!” says Debra Watkins, local church elder. “It was Pastor Hudgens’ vision to make [the anniversary] evangelistic, to reach

out, but to also reconnect with our former members. That’s why we had the former pastors speak every night.”

Church members hand delivered invitations to each neighborhood home and made personal contacts with former members, friends and family. Invitations were also sent to nearby Sunday churches and four pastors and their choirs responded. Night after night, the congregation and guests were moved by powerful

sermons and music by several community choirs.

Marie Washington, a new member, invited the people closest to her. Each night she was joined by her husband, himself a Sunday preacher’s kid, her teenage granddaughter and a friend. All three signed up for Bible studies.

Washington shared her testimony on Sabbath morning. Although recently baptized, church members have been ministering to her for the past 30 years. On its 50th

Taneshia Farquharson



Monique Graves (l.) and Lana Wallace prepare a meal for the Maple Street Shelter. The third Sabbath of every month, the community services team volunteers take food, songs and prayers. There are no exceptions — even on a 50th year anniversary Sabbath.



Toneshia Farquharson



Ricardo Graham, president of the Pacific Union, gives greetings to the congregation on Sabbath morning. The sanctuary was filled with former members, pastors, neighbors, friends and community members, including pastors and choirs from nearby neighborhood Sunday churches.

anniversary, she shared how the church's mission to minister to the community until Christ's return has impacted her personally.

She first visited the East Palo Alto church in 1981 for the blessing of her grandson. "I loved how warm and welcoming everyone was. That's why I was always happy to come back," she says. Additionally, someone placed copies of the Sabbath School Quarterly in her mailbox each quarter. When her sister was baptized, Washington noticed the change and wanted to know more.

She began Bible studies in March 2010. One night she felt the Holy Spirit's call. "God said to me, 'Get right or be lost,'" she remembers. She immediately asked to be baptized. On Aug. 7, 2010, her 34th wedding anniversary, she answered the Spirit's call. "It can't get any better than this — finding God and finding that connection with Him. I want to be obedient now that I

know Him as my daddy." Washington now serves as a member of the hospitality team so that she can share the warmth that first drew her to the church.

It is that same love that drives the community services team. Three years ago, the team, which includes several young people, made a commitment to feed the homeless at the Maple Street Shelter in Redwood City, Calif., on the third Sabbath of each month, regardless of what else was happening at the church.

The 50th anniversary celebration was no exception. Immediately following lunch, the team gathered potluck leftovers, prepared a fresh salad and bread to take to the shelter.

"The church is here to serve the community. That's our mission," Lana Wallace explains. "Our community services director, Cezar Oravillo, relocated to San Diego earlier this year but travels back

every third Sabbath so that he can go with us to feed the homeless. If he can be that committed, then so can we." The team also sings and prays with those who request it.

Senior Pastor David Hudgens gave this charge in his anniversary statement: "Almost home: but until then ... we must continue to mingle with the men and women of this world as people who desire their good. Show them sympathy and love, minister to their needs and win their confidence. Then we must bid them to follow the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ. This is the work that we at the East Palo Alto church and all of God's children must not become weary in doing."

### Notice of Central California Conference Thirty-Second Constituency Meeting is called to convene as follows:

**Date:**

November 13, 2011

**Location:**

Fresno Adventist Academy  
5397 E. Olive Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727

**Time:**

Registration: 8 a.m.  
Session Begins: 10 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports, to elect a president, an executive secretary, a treasurer, an associate executive secretary, and a vice president for ministries; to elect such director(s) of ethnic ministries as deemed necessary by the delegates; to elect members of the Executive Committee and the Bylaws Committee; and to transact such other business as may come before the meeting. Each church is entitled to one (1) delegate for each fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof, with a minimum of no less than two (2) delegates.

*Ramiro Cano, president*

*Ronald Rasmussen, executive secretary*

# Presidential Scholars Winner Centers Life on Helping Others

*Darla Martin Tucker*

Luthia Chang received an e-mail the second week of August that startled her.

The message was an announcement from La Sierra University Enrollment Services Vice President David Lofthouse congratulating Chang on her selection as this year's Presidential Scholars winner, an award that provides a year's tuition, books, fees and other class expenses. At a value of approximately \$27,500, it is the university's single largest annual scholarship, and it is renewable each year based on the recipient's service activities and grade point average. "As I read through [the e-mail] I thought, 'Is this a joke?' It was a very nice surprise," said the 18-year-old incoming La Sierra University freshman and pre-medical major.

Chang was selected for the award for her commitment to serving her community and her family, and for her academic achievement. In May she was named a California Scholarship Federation Life Seal Bearer for maintaining a grade point average of 3.8 or higher for more than eight semesters. She was a California Scholarship Federation member all four years at Los Angeles Baptist High School in North Hills.

Her efforts to help those around her included volunteering at her family's church, the Church Everyday in Northridge and its Korean school, the Los Angeles Public Library in her hometown of Van Nuys, and the U.S. Veterans Hospital in North Hills. "I just loved seeing the

people smile and having a relationship with them," she said. While at La Sierra, she plans to volunteer as an emergency medical technician, for which she received training this summer.

Her desire to help others and her strong work ethic began at home. She worked for her father's businesses for two years in clerical roles while serving as an English-to-Korean translator for him. When her father's company, Maple Dyeing Inc., had to close in 2009, her mother began working long hours. Chang filled the void at home by helping to cook, clean, take care of her grandparents and aid her brother with his algebra and English homework.

"I would wake up with my biology homework on my face and the alarm clock on the floor. I would rush out the door with a Pop Tart in my mouth and my biology notes in my hand," she wrote in her scholarship application essay.

The Presidential Scholars award proved providential for the Changs. "It was so exciting. We were so happy," said Mimi Chang, Luthia's mother. "We're having difficulties right now."

Despite the hardships, the Chang family maintained their faith. Mimi and Chin Chang, Luthia's father, are from Pusan and Seoul, Korea, respectively. They raised Luthia and her younger brother, David, with an emphasis first on spiritual values and faith in God believing that "if you're spiritually strong, [achievement] will



**Luthia Chang received the 2011-2012 Presidential Scholar award from La Sierra University. The award includes a full year of tuition, books and other expenses.**

follow, because God will bless us," Luthia Chang said, translating for her mother.

"My parents inspired me, even through hard times they pulled me through," she continued. "They inspired me to accomplish as much as I possibly could."

Chang visited the La Sierra campus and researched its service opportunities. "The more I found out, the more I fell in love with La Sierra," she said. "I liked the fact that La Sierra has a very big focus on service. And everyone was so friendly; it felt like a family rather than a school."

In addition to Chang, there are currently six Presidential Scholars, all of whom have received award renewals for the 2011-2012 school year. The awardees are Ashlee Sumilat, Molly Jackson, Kendall Trood, Kelli Kam, Sterling Spence and Amanda Shultz.

"We're bringing in really top notch, service-oriented students who contribute to the campus and the local community," said Lofthouse. "They set an example."

# Young Students Experience College at PacificQuest

*Larry Peña*

**T**hirty outstanding students in grades seven, eight and nine earned advance college credits and had a preview of college life at Pacific Union College's annual PacificQuest, July 24-29. The program recruits high-performance students from schools across the Adventist system for a well-rounded and challenging academic and social experience. Students came from as close as the Bay Area and as far away as Colorado.

"All of the kids are exceptional — they are academically gifted, but also many are artistic," says PacificQuest academic director Aimee Wyrick, a PUC biology professor. "Our students are very athletic as well. Altogether, a well-rounded bunch."

This year's program included a core class presenting an overview of biology with an emphasis on exotic animals. Each student also chose between two elective courses in the humanities — a study of business and economics, or an exploration of creative writing that focused on personal narratives.

The program also offered many learning, social and spiritual opportunities outside of the classroom. PUC senior Mark Monterroso, last year's student association religious vice president, offered worship services every morning. One evening, a visiting professor from Solano College in Fairfield, Calif., offered a lecture on diversity, focusing on California's large Hispanic

community. On Tuesday, students competed in an annual Quiz Bowl competition, teaming up to answer college-level questions about topics such as math, science, geography and art.

Almost every student performed in a talent show that featured music, skits and a student completing a Rubik's Cube puzzle in a minute and 30 seconds. The week wrapped up with a luau pool party.

Many students are eager to encourage others to experience PacificQuest. "It's a great place and fun things will happen," says Matthew Mizuta, a sophomore from southern California who has attended PacificQuest all three years he has been eligible. "It's a fun way to broaden your horizons and get a feel for college life."

## WASC Renews PUC Accreditation

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the organization that accredits educational institutions in California and Hawaii, concluded a six-year review of Pacific Union College last month, awarding PUC uninterrupted accreditation through spring of 2018.

"This process, while long, was very helpful as we continue to improve student learning at PUC," said academic dean Nancy Lecourt. "We learned a lot and consider it a growing process."

That process included two visits by WASC evaluation teams, as well as three rigorous reports on the

Haley Wesley



Academy students learned about biology through interactions with creepy-crawly creatures at PUC's PacificQuest.

college's progress in several areas recommended at the beginning of the review, such as strategic planning, financial stability, and student enrollment and retention.

In a letter to the college administration, WASC applauded PUC's "effective and committed engagement with issues of continuous improvement." More specifically, the organization praised PUC's faculty for maintaining a strong system of self-review, and to the college in general for its "commitment to a culture of evidence" in evaluating best courses of action.



# Three Pastors' Calls to Ministry Confirmed

*Denny Krause*

Three Nevada-Utah Conference pastors were ordained/commissioned to the gospel ministry this summer.

## **Russell Lewars**

Russell Lewars, youth pastor of the Abundant Life church in Las Vegas, sat on the platform of his own church listening to Senior Pastor Calvin B. Rock deliver a stirring and inspirational ordination homily on June 25.

Lewars reflected on a previous aspiration to become an attorney in his native Jamaica, and explained how God intervened through an

evangelistic outreach that would change his life forever.

Lewars graduated from Northern Caribbean University in Jamaica with an undergraduate degree in pastoral ministry, and went on to complete his Master of Divinity degree at the Andrews University Theological Seminary in 2007. He began his official pastoral ministry a few months later at the church where he and his wife, Rosa, are currently assigned.

## **David Solomon Hall Sr.**

At an Aug. 13 ordination service at his own home church in Sparks, Nev., David Solomon Hall Sr. heard

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*“We are fortunate to have these dedicated pastors as part of our team,” said Larry Untersherer, Nevada-Utah Conference president. “We look forward to their continued future success as God leads them in ministry.”*

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a personalized homily by Dr. Bradford Newton, executive secretary of the Pacific Union.

A native of New Jersey, Hall attended Oakwood College, changing majors in his early college career several times. Finally, after settling on a major in social work, he graduated in 1993, and two weeks later married Connie Smith.

Hall's first assignment was assistant dean of men at Pine Forge Academy in Pennsylvania, where he also taught religion and health. While at the school, he preached at numerous churches in the Allegheny East Conference.

Denny Krause



Russell and Rosa Lewars listen as Calvin Rock delivers an ordination homily.





Connie Hall, Pastor David Solomon Hall Sr., and Pacific Union Executive Secretary Bradford Newton celebrate Hall's ordination.

Feeling the call of ministry, Hall and his family moved to Michigan where he attended the seminary. He earned a master's in youth ministry in 2000. After graduation, Hall stayed in the area, joining the staff of Andrews Academy as chaplain and Bible teacher.

In 2007, Hall accepted a call to join the Nevada-Utah Conference team as youth and church ministries director, a position he currently holds.

The Halls have a son, David Solomon Hall Jr.

### Tammy Losey

The Aug. 31 commissioning service for Tammy Losey took place at a Nevada-Utah Conference meeting of pastors at the DoubleTree Hotel in Ontario, Calif., following the Pacific Union Ministerial Council.

David Solomon Hall Sr. delivered the homily, which turned the mundane hotel conference room into a temporary sanctuary.

Growing up in a Christian home in her native Texas, Losey was baptized at age 12. During her early teens, she left God, family and church, dropped out of high school,

ran away from home, and sought to find meaning in a world far from church.

Later, Losey turned back to her Christian faith, got her GED, and enrolled at La Sierra University,

where she sensed a call from God to serve in pastoral ministry. In Greek class, she met Ken Losey, and they married in 1979.

After graduating from La Sierra University with a degree in theology, and later receiving a master's degree in pastoral ministry from the Andrews University Theological Seminary, Losey served in various pastoral capacities for more than 20 years. Her current assignment is pastor of Living Water Fellowship and the Boulder City church, both in the Las Vegas area.

The Loseys have two grown children, Jonathan and Jason.

"We are fortunate to have these dedicated pastors as part of our team," said Larry Untersherer, Nevada-Utah Conference president. "We look forward to their continued future success as God leads them in ministry."



Tammy Losey receives her Certificate of Commissioning from Nevada-Utah Conference President Larry Unterseher.



# Intercom Prayers Reach Out to Patients

*Brittany Russell Dobbs*

Prayer is a vital part of the daily Christian walk with God. We pray for food, family and just about anything else. God is a good listener. In the past several years, research has shown that prayer, from a scientific perspective, can actually help heal physical ailments. (Read next month's Recorder to find out more!) All of Adventist Health's hospitals reach out to patients through prayer.

## Pray at 8

For San Joaquin Community Hospital in Bakersfield, Calif., 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. are special times. Twice a day, prayers play over the speaker system to start and close each day. These prayers are part of the hospital's new "Pray at 8" campaign, which according to Sandy Johnson, executive director of Mission and Culture at the hospital,

will be an open invitation to the community to pray.

"The messages are meant to create an atmosphere of caring," said Jimmy Phillips, spokesperson at the hospital. "The prayers will show people that we take their emotional and spiritual needs as seriously as we do their physical needs."

He adds, "The prayers are Christian in nature, but the hospital hopes that everyone, regardless of faith, will derive comfort from the messages."

## Code-Prayer

At Castle Medical Center in Kailua, Hawaii, "Prayer on the Eights" is a similar program where a hospital chaplain calls in to the operator twice a day to offer a brief prayer over the PA system. Patients, families and associates have expressed their appreciation for this reminder of the hospital's underlying faith and, more importantly, for inviting God to support staff in their work and mission.

In addition, employees are invited to quietly offer a prayer when an emergency code is called overhead: for the person who is coding, their family, and the team working with the patient.

"On numerous occasions when a patient

experienced a life-threatening event and a code was called, I have been able to share with the family that staff throughout the hospital paused to pray for their loved one and for them as well," said Dave Rasmussen, director of Chaplain Services. "Knowing they are being prayed for has brought them a much-needed layer of support, for which these families have expressed deep appreciation."

## Spiritual Focus, Spiritual Support

Simi Valley Hospital in Southern California has a similar program where a prayer is offered twice a day throughout the hospital. Hallway intercoms serve as a vessel that brings a moment of calm and peace to an often active environment. According to Ron Hyrchuk, director of Spiritual Care at the hospital, it's not just about intercom prayer — it's about prayer. He says that it provides a spiritual focus and offers emotional and spiritual support.

"The patients and families in our hospital represent many different faith communities," said Hyrchuk. "The prayers I offer daily are done in such a way that as many people as possible can be involved."

Each month, Hyrchuk selects a spiritual theme that the prayers are focused on. October is kindness. He writes all his own prayers, and never repeats them. Prayers often focus on current issues and end with a message of healing.



# Loma Linda University Named Among Top 15 Institutions in Nation for Conferring Degrees to Minority Students

*Midori Yoshimura*

Loma Linda University scored high on the national list of “Top 100 Degree Producers,” which lists institutions by the number of degrees conferred to minority students.

The annual rankings were released in the June 9, 2011, issue of *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*.

Nationwide, Loma Linda University places among the top 15 institutions in the master’s, doctorate, and first professional degree categories. To determine an institution’s standing, the magazine uses the most recent data (from 2009-2010) reported by each institution.

“This type of national recognition regarding LLU’s efforts to increase the number of underrepresented minority students in the health professions deserves celebration and encouragement in our diversity efforts,” says Juan Carlos Belliard, Ph.D., M.P.H., director, Institute for Community Partnerships.

“We are beginning to see the fruits that are a result of the passion and hard work of faculty and administrators on this campus.”

For master’s degrees conferred, Loma Linda University is third for Asian-American graduates in health and medical administrative services. The university also ranks 10th for all minority graduates from health professions and related programs. Minority students made up 40 percent of the 2009-2010 graduating class, a 26 percent increase from 2008-2009’s statistics.



Loma Linda University was named among the top 15 educational institutions in the United States for conferring degrees to minority students.

Among institutions that grant doctoral degrees, LLU ranks third for Hispanic students, and 11th for all minority students graduating from health professions and related programs. Minority students made up almost a third of 2009-2010 graduates of health professions and related programs.

For first professional degrees awarded, Loma Linda University ranks ninth among Hispanic graduates. Across all minorities, Loma Linda University is 11th for graduates of rehabilitation and therapeutic professions programs.

This category composed 39 percent of the 2009-2010 graduating class.

Currently, students from more than 80 countries, and almost every state in the nation, are part of LLU’s student body. Programs such as *Sí Se Puede*, which gives

Hispanic teenagers a chance to explore health careers at LLU, demonstrate the university’s commitment to quality education for all.

Organizations such as Black Alumni of Loma Linda and Hispanic Alumni of Loma Linda serve as support systems for current minority students.

“We must use this as an impetus to continue increasing access into the health professions and our university, especially by those communities who do not find themselves represented in the health fields,” says Belliard. “There is still more work to be done, but this is very encouraging.”

Loma Linda University’s complete rankings can be found at [diverseeducation.com/top100](http://diverseeducation.com/top100) (select “Loma Linda University” as the institution).



# Union Officers Re-elected

*Gerry Chudleigh*

At its 2011 quinquennial constituency session, held Aug. 28-29, nearly 400 delegates from churches in the Pacific Union conference re-elected Ricardo Graham as president. Graham was first elected president by the Pacific Union Executive Committee in 2008. Delegates met at the Ontario Convention Center.

“Our priorities during the next five years will be Reaching Up — that’s revival and reformation,” says Graham, “and Reaching Out — community outreach and evangelism.”

The constituency session, chaired by North American Division president Dan Jackson, also returned Bradford Newton as executive secretary, Arnold Trujillo as vice president, and Theodore Benson as treasurer. Two ethnic ministry directors were also re-elected; Bobby Mitchell, Regional Ministries; and Jorge Soria, Hispanic Ministries.



Gerry Chudleigh

Officers and ethnic ministry directors pose after their re-election. Front row from left: Bobby Mitchell, Regional Ministries; VicLouis Arreola III, Asian/Pacific Ministries; and Jorge Soria, Hispanic Ministries. Back row: Ted Benson, treasurer; Ricardo Graham, president; Bradford Newton, executive secretary; and Arnold Trujillo, vice president.

Delegates elected VicLouis Arreola III as Asian/Pacific Ministries director, replacing George Atiga, who retired after 30 years of leadership in the Pacific Union.

In other business, the delegates approved a change in the 52-member nominating committee, which nominates the four officers and the three ethnic ministry coordinators. In the past, the nominating committee included 40 members of the Pacific Union executive committee plus 12 non-committee members. Under the

new bylaws, the committee will include only 18 executive committee members and 34 non-committee members. The percentage of lay members remains unchanged at 56 percent. “This change in the bylaws brings the Pacific Union closer to what most other Seventh-day Adventist organizations are doing,” said Newton.

“Much work remains to be done in the Pacific Union,” says Graham. “Our greatest need is spiritual revival in the local congregation — prayer is the key to revival. All God’s power is there for us, just a whisper away. That’s our plan of action.”



Gerry Chudleigh

Ricardo Graham prays with Pacific Union prayer ministries leader Karen Martell.



# 700 Pastors Study Together

*Gerry Chudleigh*

Preachers aren't noted for traveling long distances to listen to other preachers preach, but in August, nearly 700 Seventh-day Adventist pastors from Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah met in Ontario, Calif., for two days of studying, singing, praying — and listening enthusiastically to other preachers preach.

The Pacific Union Conference Ministerial Council, held every five years in conjunction with the union constituency session, featured five general presentations and 14 seminars.

In his keynote address Monday evening, Dan Jackson, North American Division president, urged pastors to rediscover their passion for ministry and evangelism. Tuesday morning and evening, Rogelio Paquini and Carlton Byrd (respectively) urged pastors to “Reach Out” and “Do Something.”



Dan Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, speaks at the Pacific Union Ministerial Council.

Tuesday noon, Jon Paulien, dean of the School of Religion at Loma Linda University, presented a scholarly study on the meaning of “Remnant” in the Bible. Paulien discussed the histori-



Chris Oberg, senior pastor of the La Sierra University church, speaks at the closing session of the 2011 Pacific Union Ministerial Council.

cal remnant, the faithful remnant and the eschatological (end-time) remnant, pointing out that in the Bible, the final remnant (which is still in the future) is “bigger and more international and unpredictable” than the other biblical remnants.

The workshops were held Tuesday morning and repeated in the afternoon. The largest number of pastors attended the seminars on “Words of Delight: The Blessing of Biblical Preaching” by John Brunt, Kendra Haloviak Valentine, Leo



Carylton Byrd, speaker/director of Breath of Life, speaks at the Pacific Union Ministerial Council.

Ranzolin and John Webster; “Is It All Righteousness by Faith” by Young-Chun Kim; “Contemporary Evangelism for the 21st Century” by Carylton Byrd; and “The Power of Willpower,” by Arlene Taylor.

In the final presentation Wednesday morning, La Sierra University senior pastor Chris Oberg spoke on Jesus' parable of the wheat and the tares (“Who Needs to Hear This Parable?”). “The church urgently needs pastors and leaders and congregations who hear the words of Jesus: the wheat and tares grow together until harvest. Yes, there is contamination in the field. But ours in not to purify the neighborhood. Attempting to purify will make matter worse. In the end, God will handle the contamination in the field, a field which belongs to God. Until then, ours is to point people to Jesus.”

As the result of generous donations, every local church pastor in the union was presented a free copy of the Andrews University Study Bible. “Wow! This is great,” said one pastor, with his new Bible in hand. “I have been given a lot of little things at church events, but never something this useful.”

The event closed with the Pacific Union Prayer Team asking God's blessing on every pastor, their families and their congregations.



# ADVERTISEMENTS

## CALENDARS

### Arizona

**ARIZONA CONFERENCE CONSTITUENCY SESSION** (Oct. 2) Info: Jacque, 480-991-6777, ext. 129.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT** (Oct. 7-9) 23rd Annual Arizona event. "Precious Jewels in God's Word." Camp Yavapines. Speaker Mary Richards King. Info: Shelli Marti, shellimarti@aol.com.

**HISPANIC YOUTH CAMP** Generation Joven (Oct. 14-16) Info: Cinthia, 480-991-6777, ext. 117.

**TEMPE CHURCH** 65th Anniversary (Oct. 21-23) Looking for pictures of the early Tempe school and also early church history, addresses, e-mail addresses and home numbers of former members. Info: Dottie Eddleman, 480-838-2701 (home) or 602-315-6605 (cell); Julie Silva, 480-215-7206 or naturewithgod@cox.net or julie3400r@yahoo.com.

**GLOW IN THE DARK** (Oct. 31) Info: Jason Carlson, 480-991-6777 ext. 107 or 269-325-2578.

### Central California

**HISPANIC SABBATH SCHOOL/Church Officers Training** (Oct. 8) Fresno Hispanic church. Info: Florina, 559-347-3150 or fmorales@cccsda.org.

**PARENTING SEMINAR** (Oct. 8) Milpitas church. Guest speaker: Rene Quispe. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**PATHFINDER CAMPOREE** (Oct. 14-16) Castle Air Force Base, Atwater, Calif. Info: Norma, 559-347-3174 or nwillarreal@cccsda.org.

**HISPANIC SABBATH SCHOOL/Church Officers Training** (Oct. 15) Bakersfield Spanish church. Info: Florina, 559-347-3150 or fmorales@cccsda.org.

**YOUTH PRAYER CONFERENCE** (Oct. 20-23) Central Valley Christian Academy. Pre-registration is required. Deadline: Oct. 6, 2011. Info: Joyce, 559-696-3692, or Bonnie, 559-347-3189 or bvillegas@cccsda.org.

**MEN'S RETREAT** (Oct. 21-23) Soquel Conference Center. Guest speaker: Peter Neri; pre-registration is required. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**YOUTH CONVENTION** (Oct. 29) Fresno Westside church. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**ADVENTURERS/CHILDREN'S LEADERSHIP** Training (Oct. 28-30) Camp Wawona.

Info: Rosa, 559-347-3183 or rgillham@cccsda.org.

**SENIOR CITIZEN SEMINAR** (Nov. 5) at the Mtn. View Central church. Guest speakers: Rene Quispe & Silvia Flores. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

### La Sierra University

**IMPROV TEAM PROGRAM** (Oct. 9) 8 p.m. Matheson Hall.

**INVITATIONAL BAND FESTIVAL** (Oct. 21) 7 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium.

**CONCERT** (Oct. 22) 4 p.m. La Sierra University church. Info: 951-785-2036.

**CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES** (Oct. 29) 7 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium.

**FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP.** Fridays at 8 p.m. La Sierra University church. Info: 951-785-2090.

### Nevada-Utah

**MARRIAGE RETREAT** (Oct. 21-23) Embassy Suites, South Lake Tahoe, Calif. Speakers - Claudio & Pamela Consuegra, NAD Family Ministries directors. Theme: Forever Will We Love! Info: PastorHallSDA30@yahoo.com or 775-322-6929.

**PRAYER & DEDICATION SERVICE** (Nov. 12) Las Vegas area married couples. Living Water, 2200 Robindale Road, Henderson. Presenters: David & Connie Hall. Info: PastorHallSDA30@yahoo.com or 775-322-6929.

### Northern California

**SUNDOWN PRAISES** (Sabbaths) Lodi-English Oaks church, 1260 W. Century Blvd. (Oct 1) 6 p.m. Len Barker: "Jesus Goes to the Congo"; (Oct 8) 5:45 p.m. "Bounty," Southern Gospel music; (Oct 15) 5:30 p.m. Bob Tan & students sing; (Oct 22) 6 p.m. "Worship at the Cross" with Teri & Ralph Bain; (Oct 29) 5:30 p.m. Venden DVD. Info: 209-369-1021.

**CRISIS CARE CERTIFICATION** (Oct. 2-5) Leoni Meadows. Info: Community Services Department, 925-605-5073.

**HISPANIC PRAYER SUMMIT** (Oct. 2) 10 a.m. NCC Headquarters, 401 Taylor Blvd., Pleasant Hill. Info: Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-605-5092.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** (Oct. 21-23) Sacramento-area hotel. You CAN have a better marriage! Info: Rob & Debbie Purvis, 530-622-4798 or purvis4@comcast.net.

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT** (Oct. 7-9, 14-16) Leoni Meadows. "Connected to

Abundant Life in the Vine." Speaker Barbara T. Marshall. Info: 209-836-2299.

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONVOCATION** (Oct. 7-8) Valley Community church, 2929 South B Street, Stockton, and Christian Life Center, 9025 West Lane, Stockton. Speakers: Calvin L. Watkins Sr., and Damian Chandler. Info: African-American Ministries Department, 925-603-5097.

**STUDENT LEADERSHIP RETREAT** (Oct. 21-23) Leoni Meadows. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**YOUTH WEEK OF PRAYER** (Oct. 25-29) 7-9 p.m. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Avenue. Info: Kwasi Donkor or Trevor Barnes, 916-381-5353.

**PATHFINDER CAVING** (Nov. 11-12) Lava Beds National Monument. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**MEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT** (Nov. 18-20) Leoni Meadows Camp. Guest speaker, Pastor Norman Knight, Ph.D. Sponsored by Leading the Way Men's Ministry. Info: Ramon Cooks, 916-271-4555 or visit www.ltwmensministry.com.

paintings of Janice Nakashima and James Perry. Opening reception at 7 p.m., exhibit runs through October 22.

**FINE ARTS SERIES:** Rimsky-Korsakov String Quartet (Oct. 2) 3 p.m. Paulin Hall Auditorium, Info: 707-965-6303.

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONCERT** (Oct. 22) 7:30 p.m. Featuring PUC's major ensembles. Paulin Hall Auditorium. Info: 707-965-6303.

**COLLOQUY SPEAKER SERIES** (Oct. 27) 10 a.m. PUC church. Tracy Kidder, Pulitzer Prize-winning author discusses his book Mountains Beyond Mountains, this year's PUC Reads selection. Info: 707-965-6303.

**FINE ARTS SERIES** (Oct. 29) 4 p.m. PUC church. Organist William Ness celebrating the 30th anniversary of PUC's famed Rieger Organ. Info: 707-965-6303.

**RASMUSSEN ART GALLERY** (Nov. 5) Clarity of Vision: Scanner Photography featuring innovative images by artist Tim Fleming. Opening reception at 7 p.m., exhibit runs through December 3.

### Southeastern California

**PATHFINDER TEEN INSTITUTE** (Sept. 30-Oct. 2) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: www.seccyouth.com or 951-509-2265.

### Pacific Union College

**RASMUSSEN ART GALLERY** (Oct. 1) Convergence and Divergence featuring the

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**NET 2011 SATELLITE EVANGELISM** Program (Sept. 30-Oct. 29) 7:15 p.m. nightly except Sundays and Thursdays. Host site: Del Rosa church, 1696 N. G St., San Bernardino. Info: 909-883-2400 or 909-801-1129.

**CONCERT VOICES ACAPELLA** (Oct. 1) 4 p.m. Paradise Valley church, 2701 E. 8th St., National City. Presented by vocal ensemble Voice Acapella and other vocal groups. Info: 619-475-0383.

**90X WORKOUT** (Tuesday-Thursday in the month of October) 9 a.m. Palm Springs church, 620 S Sunrise Way, Palm Springs. Info: 760-428-2068.

**SECC CHURCH TREASURERS WORKSHOP** (Oct. 9) 8:30 a.m.-noon, SECC

Office, 11330 Pierce St., Riverside. Info: 951-509-2243.

**FILIPINO CAMP MEETING** (Oct. 14-15) Loma Linda Filipino church gymnasium, 11180 New Jersey St., Redlands. Speaker: Jon Paulien, dean of School of Religion, Loma Linda University. Info: Elizer Sacay, 909-709-8448.

**IGNITE: YOUTH & CHILDREN'S** Leadership Training (Oct. 14-16) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: www.seccyouth.com, liz.adams@seccsda.org, or 951-509-2265.

**EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN** (Oct. 15-22) 7 p.m. Blythe Spanish/English church, 415 Barnard St., Blythe. Evangelist Sergio Balboa, former vice president at the Inter-American Division. Info: 760-922-0644.

**SECC HISPANIC PRAYER RETREAT** (Oct. 28-30) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: 951-797-0659 or 951-509-2333.

**HARVEST PARTY** (Oct. 30) 6 p.m., Palm Springs church, 620 S. Sunset Way, Palm Springs. Enjoy an evening of games, crafts and a water slide. Info: 760-428-2068.

**COMMUNITY FAITH AND JUSTICE SUMMIT** (Oct. 7-9) Berean church, 4211 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles. Fri., 7 p.m., Community Prayer Summit. All day Sabbath, starting 7 a.m.; Sun., 8:30 a.m. continental breakfast; 9:30 a.m. Prison Ministry Training; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Multi-faith Community Fair; specialized training. Info/registration: 323-735-0228; http://berean29.adventistchurchconnect.org; calendar.

**SECOND SATURDAY SERIES CONCERT** (Oct. 8) 4 p.m. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Featuring violinist Jaime Jorge. Free admission. Map and parking details, www.glendalecitysda.org. Info: 818-244-7241.

**WALNUT VALLEY FELLOWSHIP** Second Anniversary Celebration (Oct. 15) Starts at 10 a.m.; includes fellowship meal; 3:30 p.m. meeting. Featured speaker James Rafferty, co-founder, Light Bearers Ministry (LBM.org). Revival series title: The Gospel in Revelation. Location: 20601 La Puente Rd., Walnut. Info: 909-461-6159.

**L.A. FORUM** (Oct. 22) 3 p.m. "The Lost Seventh Day" Presenter, Sigve K. Tonstad, Ph.D., asst. prof. of religion and assoc. prof. of medicine, Loma Linda University. Chapel of the Good Shepherd at Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241.

**FOOD FOR LIFE** Nutrition/Cooking Classes (Oct. 24, 31) Learn how to gain control of your health through simple steps in the

kitchen. Instructor, Gloria Huerta. Samples of heart-healthy recipes. Also on Nov. 21, Dec. 19 In English and Spanish. Valley Crossroads church, 11350 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima. Info/Registration: 818-896-4488; details, www.cancerproject.org/classes.

**CLASES DE CONCINA Y NUTRICION** (Oct. 24, 31; Nov. 21 y Dic. 19) Aprenda a controlar su salud siguiendo algunos pasos sencillos en la cocina. Instructora: Gloria Huerta. Se ofrecerán muestras de recetas deliciosas y saludables. Las clases serán en inglés y en español, en la Iglesia Valley Crossroad, a las 7:00 p.m. Para información e inscripción, llame al 818-896-4488 o visite la página web: www.cancerproject.org/classes.

**PASSIONATE PRAYER.** Experience the difference! (Oct. 28-29) Fri., 6 p.m., Power of Prayer; all day Sabbath, including 6 p.m. vespers. Seminar featuring Brenda Walsh, author; producer, 3ABNs Kids' Time. (ABC available Sat. evening, Sun. book signing.) Hacienda Heights church, 2120 S. Stimson Ave. Info: 626-330-4356; hhsda@hhsda.org; www.hhsda.org.

**PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS** Women's Ministry Tea (Oct. 30) 2 p.m. Featuring Brenda Walsh, best-selling author and producer, 3ABNs Kids' Time. ABC will be available; book signing. Hacienda Heights church, 2120 S. Stimson Ave. Tickets available in advance and at the door. Info: 626-330-4356; e-mail, hhsda@hhsda.org; website, www.hhsda.org.

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Southern California

**STUDIES IN REVELATION** (Oct. 7-8; 14-15). 7 p.m. Fridays; 5:30 p.m. Sabbaths. Pasadena church, 1280 E. Washington Blvd. Info: 626-798-0544.

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SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE is an Adventist community in a rural Oklahoma setting but close to Oklahoma City medical facilities and shopping. Made up of mostly individual homes, the village

has a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, assisted living, nursing home and transportation as needed. Call Bill Norman, 405-208-1289.

Bulletin Board

AUTHORS WANTED. If you've written your life story, want to tell others of God's love, or desire to share your spiritual ideas and want it published, call TEACH Services at 800-367-1844, ext. 3, for a FREE manuscript review.

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Employment

ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM is seeking qualified candidates in clinical and non-clinical capacities to further its mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ. If you have a passion to be part of the Seventh-day Adventist health ministry, e-mail your résumé to David Gordon, AHS System Recruiter, at david.gordon@ahss.org.

BUSY, LONG-ESTABLISHED PRACTICE in scenic Chattanooga, Tenn., seeking full-time ophthalmologist to take over the founder's cataract, general and refractive volume. M.D./physician interested in comprehensive care, preferably with a subspecialty fellowship (e.g., cornea, Glaucoma, Peds, Plastic, etc.). Willing to sell or to arrange a transitional scheme as will be acceptable. Practice currently extremely busy, with strong surgical volume. Fully equipped state of the art (OCT, GDx, FA, VF, etc.). Office with multiple refracting lanes, including in office minor surgery. Please send CV to: 7405 Shallowford Rd., Suite 420, Chattanooga, TN 37421, 423-855-8522 ext. 214.

NURSING EXECUTIVES committed to mission. Adventist Health System (AHS) is seeking seasoned nursing executives and directors who have a passion for mission and a commitment to clinical leadership and excellence. If you are interested in exploring opportunities within one of the 43 hospitals within AHS, please e-mail your CV to susan.jamerson@ahss.org.

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**WILDWOOD 1-WEEK** Streamlined Weight Management Seminar (Oct. 23-30) An intense week of health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$370. Contact: Darlene Keith 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). E-mail: [darlenekeith@gmail.com](mailto:darlenekeith@gmail.com).

**WILDWOOD TOTAL VEGETARIAN** Cooking & Natural Remedies Seminar

(Nov. 27-Dec. 4) 7-day seminar focusing on whole foods cooking (hands-on), hydrotherapy, and herbal preparations. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$370 (Includes room, vegan meals). Contact: Darlene 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). E-mail: [darlenekeith@gmail.com](mailto:darlenekeith@gmail.com).

**WILDWOOD WEIGHT MANAGEMENT** Seminar (Nov. 6-20) 14-day program focusing on health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$740. Contact: Darlene Keith 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). E-mail: [darlenekeith@gmail.com](mailto:darlenekeith@gmail.com).

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**TWO SIDE-BY-SIDE PREMIUM** grave sites located in Belmont Memorial Park, Fresno, Calif. The sites are valued at \$1,350 each. The owner is willing to sell them for \$1,200 a piece or best offer. The memorial park staff has offered to assist in the transfer of title to assure everything is done correctly and in order. Contact: Carl, 909-838-2864 or [cljksrkj@roadrunner.com](mailto:cljksrkj@roadrunner.com).

Real Estate

**5.3 OAK AND PINE-STUDED** acres in Paradise, Calif., consisting of three separate but adjoining parcels. First has 2,400 sq. ft. home with attached garage, lovely yard, large two-story barn/shop. Second has 1,900 sq. ft. home with attached garage and a cute 1,000 sq. ft. cottage guest house/art studio and full RV hookup. Third is an undeveloped lot with city water and easy power access; zoned for horses. Beautiful country setting only minutes from city amenities. Paradise boasts a 100-bed Adventist hospital with large community clinic, and four year academy. For pictures and more information, call 530-877-8209.

**COUNTRY GENTLEMAN'S** southwest Santa Fe home. Views, mountains,

canyons, beautiful Oak Creek, extensive decks with commercial outdoor kitchen overlooking creek. Gorgeous landscaping, red rock terraces. Pine, fruit trees, raised garden area with garden room. Second family living area with kitchen, washer, dryer, private entrance. 5,450 sq. ft. on 1.9 acres. Near Sedona, Arizona. \$999,000. 602-628-6701 details.

**FOR SALE, 435 COLLEGE AVE.,** Angwin, Calif. Well-built, beautiful home on .75 acres. Attached apartment rents for \$600/mo.; 4-bdrms, 2-bath, 2,888 sq. ft. Entry, dining room and living room with lovely coped ceilings. Large kitchen with laundry area. Large sun room. 2-car garage. Lots of outside parking. Large amount of storage space on all three levels. Hardwood floors under carpet. Large hinged mirrors in bathroom. Build in vacuum system. Work benches in garage. Extra work shop behind garage. Drip system for yard/ roses. Walking distance to College and store. \$390,000. Call Beryl or Estelle Abbott, 707-965-2144, 509-675-6382, 509-722-3696. E-mail, [berylabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:berylabbott@hotmail.com).

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**ATCHLEY, DANITA L. (KIRK)** – b. July 23, 1958, Oroville, Calif.; d. July 9, 2011, Montague, Calif. Survivors: husband, Rick; sons, Dallas Benton, Garret Benton; stepson, Patrick Brennan; daughter, Adria Buckley; stepdaughters, Samantha Kautz, Amber Atchley, Tabitha Andrews; 10 grandchildren.

**BABER, THOMAS E.** – b. April 4, 1918, Santa Rosa, Calif.; d. Aug. 6, 2011, Chandler, Ariz. Survivors: granddaughter, Lori Burns; one grandson; two great-grandchildren.

**BARGER JR., CLARENCE LOWERY** – b. Sept. 12, 1934, Calif.; d. May 19, 2011, Yreka, Calif. Survivors: wife, Freida; sons, Clarence III, Theodore, Gaylord Rea, Bobbie Rea, Thomas Henderson; daughters, Zeronda Jackson, Sheila Super, Roylynn Tull, Jackie Angelo, Josephine Burselon, Veronica Steele, Kim Henderson; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

**BAUMBACH, MATTIE MAE LOIS (MORGAN)** – b. Jan. 27, 1941, Antlers, Okla.; d. Aug. 22, 2011, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: sons, Jim Arcelus, Donald; daughters, Denise Baumbach-Singer, Joan Witherow; four grandchildren.

**BERGH, HENRY T.** – b. May 24, 1918, Spokane, Wash.; d. July 15, 2011, Oakhurst, Calif. Survivors: wife, Miriam; daughters, Karen, Judi Guthrie, Della Nicola, Cyndi

Slack; nine grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren. Served as assistant treasurer for Oregon Conference, pastor of Milwaukee and St. Johns churches; as assistant manager of the Portland branch of PPPA; as advertising manager for the book department in Mt. View; as youth director for CCC where he organized 24 Pathfinder clubs, wrote the Pathfinder song and designed the Pathfinder flag. Also served as youth director, SCC; and as secretary-treasurer, Arizona Conference; hospital administrator, Hanford, Calif., as associate administrator, St. Helena Hospital, secretary-treasurer, NCC Association; and civilian chaplain in South Korea.

**BERRY, RUTH (MADERO)** – b. Feb. 1, 1928, National City, Calif.; d. May 1, 2011, Orange Cove, Calif. Survivors: son, Dennis; daughters, Gloria Wilson, Dee Dee Bender-nagel, Mary Toews; 12 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren. Among other things, Ruth worked as a cafeteria manager at San Diego Academy.

**BOGDANOVICH, MICHAEL** – b. Feb. 10, 1926, Omaha, Neb.; d. Aug. 11, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Berniece; daughter, Patti Larkins. Served as business operations manager at Atlantic Union College, Walla Walla University, Andrews University, and Loma Linda University.

**BRIGHAM, KENNETH R.** – b. March 12, 1923, Dinuba, Calif.; d. Dec. 23, 2010, Garden Grove, Calif. Survivors: wife, Charline; son, Ken; daughters, Carol, Jan

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Harris; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; brother, Floyd.

**COFFMAN JR., CARL** – b. May 12, 1922, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. July 4, 2011, Battle Ground, Wash. Survivors: wife, Virginia; daughters, Carol Christensen, Linda Fannon; five grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren. Served as pastor in the Northern California Conference, religion department professor at Pacific Union College, and religion department chairman and professor at Andrews University.

**COLE, JIM** – b. Sept. 17, 1933, Stigler, Okla.; d. Aug. 10, 2011, Bakersfield, Calif. Survivors: wife, LaVerne; sons, Scott, Patrick; daughter, Jenny Bishop; four grandchildren.

**FILLMAN, MILDRED VIRGINIA (WYRICK)** – b. July 26, 1916, Denver, Colo.; d. Aug. 4, 2011, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: sons, Robert, Donald Graham, Donald; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren. Taught in Adventist elementary schools for many years, beginning in Martinez, Calif., in 1948.

**GEORGESON, JUDY** – b. May 28, 1957, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. March 24, 2011, Caruthers, Calif. Survivors: husband, Ken; son, Dustin; daughter, Dana.

*Correction:* **GILLESPIE, GWENDOLYN MAE** – b. April 7, 1936, Chester, Pa.; d. April 1, 2011, Grand Terrace, Calif. Survivors: husband, Earl Gillespie; son,

Jimmy Seyle; daughter, Heather Seyle; five grandchildren.

**KOPKO, THOMAS M.** – b. Nov. 1, 1934, Newark, N.J.; d. Nov. 30, 2010, Roseville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Doris; son, Thomas L.; two grandchildren. Served as pastor in the Columbia, Atlantic, Southwestern, Southern and Pacific unions.

**LIBBY, DALE** – b. May 4, 1916, Colville, Wash.; d. Dec. 3, 2010, Hanford, Calif. Survivors: wife, Martha; sons, Daryl, Richard; daughter, Judy Beeler.

**MAY, THOMAS STANTON** – b. Jan. 11, 1948, San Fernando, Calif.; d. July 5, 2011, Anaheim, Calif. Survivors: sister, Julie Seltzer.

**MILLER, MARGIANN MARILYN (MUNSON)** – b. Nov. 16, 1934, Cleghorn, Iowa; d. July 22, 2011, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: husband, Charles; sons, Jay, Sid; four grandchildren.

**OLSON, CALVIN ARTHUR** – b. May 17, 1926, Mussoorie, India; d. Aug. 3, 2011, Sonora, Calif. Survivors: wife, Alyse; sons, Eric, Bob, Bill; daughters, Karen Johnson, Donna.

**PEREZ, CARMEN** – b. July 16, 1960, Mexico; d. Dec. 24, 2010, Hanford, Calif. Survivors: sons, Paulo Cervantes, Jose Lino, Moises Cervantes, Carlos; daughters, Monica Cervantes, Azucena Cervantes,

Marina Cervantes, Carmen Cervantes, Faviola.

**PEREZ, DANIEL ROBERT VASQUEZ** – b. June 7, 1955, Martinez, Calif.; d. April 28, 2011, Chico, Calif. Survivors: wife, Sandra; sons, Daniel Jr., Tony, Carlos; daughter, Rachel; five grandchildren.

**SHEPARD, ROBERT H.** – b. Sept. 21, 1921, Bangalore, India; d. Aug. 1, 2011, Redding, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Kathy O'Bannon, Carolyn Gottfried; four grandchildren. Served in SDA schools in India, San Gabriel and Loma Linda academies.

**SLEPNIKOFF, MICHAEL F.** – b. May 4, 1919, San Francisco, Calif.; d. June 8, 2011, St. Helena, Calif. Served as a teacher for almost 50 years in Northern California.

**SMITH, OLETA BESS (LUCAS)** – b. Nov. 25, 1920, Port, Okla.; d. July 15, 2011, Sonora, Calif. Survivors: son, Stan; two grandchildren.

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**THOMPSON, JANE** – b. March 27, 1916, Lake Charles, La.; d. July 25, 2011, Porterville, Calif. Survivors: sons, Ralph, Donald, Dennis; 11 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.

**WOLFE, LAWRENCE EDWARD** – b. Dec. 23, 1918, Hagerstown, Md.; d. Nov. 20, 2010, Thousand Oaks, Calif. Survivors: wife, Joanne "Jo"; son, Robert; daughter, Jeannie Sherman; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Served as teacher in Mt. Vernon, Lodi and Newbury Park academies; taught Medical Cadet Corps training in academies and nationwide at Grand Lodge, Mich., and Gladstone, Ore., facilities.



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