Dear Diane,

The school year is off and running with great success. Students have settled into the new schedule, have begun making friends, and even begun participating in different ministry opportunities in the surrounding community.

It is our hope that as you read this months Appalachian that you will be inspired by the work your school is doing for today’s student. As always, our goal is that “they shall all be taught of God”.

Appalachian Staff

Find Out More!
There is a lot more you can learn about Blue Mountain Academy by simply visiting our website at www.bma.us. Swing by and see what you’ve been missing!

In This Issue

How Can We Say No?

Meet the New Recruiter
Tracy Enochs is new full time recruiter.

I became a Seventh-day Adventist 20 years ago. I married the man that introduced me to the beliefs of the SDA church. In 2005 we were called into the ministry as part of the staff at Enterprise Academy. While at Enterprise, I learned that the Lord doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called. For three years I was development director/recruiter, and my husband was the boys' dean.

In 2008 my husband got a call from Blue
Aerial Aires
The Mission of Aerial Aires is to promote a healthy and well-balanced life that is free of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. This commitment comes through personal dedication and a love for Christ Jesus our Savior. As Aerial Aires we understand that with every interaction, whether short or long, or through word or action, we have the opportunity to share God's redeeming love and forgiveness to those around us.

We Belong
by SA President Anna Bugbee
On August 12, 2012 Blue Mountain Academy's School year began. The students rushed into the gym and sat with their individual classes. Pastor Shawnessy started welcoming everyone in with some unique knock knock jokes.

Handshake is a BMA tradition held every year on Registration day. But before that all began our new Student Association was introduced to the entire student body as well as this year’s theme, "I Belong," the theme song of the year, Chosen Generation, by Chris Tomlin, and bible verse 1 Peter 2:9.

After they were introduced our SA pastor Abigail Opoku gave a devotional thought explaining the theme and verse of this year. And finally our school banner was presented to the student body before heading down to the field for the moment we were all waiting for. We took a picture of the whole student body, and following that we all lined up to introduce ourselves.

Learning everyone's name was a little overwhelming but it was really exciting seeing all the new students. To end the exciting day off we all enjoyed some ice cream. This year provides a chance for opportunity to find your place in not only BMA, but in your walk with Christ. Not only do I belong, or you belong, but WE all belong.

For most of my life I didn't really belong, not to friends, family, and especially not to God. I would always ask myself, where am I supposed to be? Where do I fit in? My journey to find the answer began three years ago.

Regardless of my role, I have found that it is a blessing to share the gospel with our students and to let everyone know what a great school BMA is.

I realize that the Lord has blessed me every step of the way. With each position I have held, I have learned something valuable to assist me in the next job.

About Us
The mission of Blue Mountain Academy is to provide a Seventh-day Adventist education that leads students into lives of service for Jesus.

Appalachian is a monthly newsletter of happenings on campus for students and alumni alike. Please feel free to forward this e-mail to anyone that would benefit from knowing more about Christian education.

Appalachian Staff
Blue Mountain Academy

Core Values at Blue Mountain Academy
Relationship with Christ. Seeking a relationship with Christ through prayer, Bible study, service and evangelism.

Mission Focus. Joining Jesus and His
I was going through a rough patch in my life when I discovered a pamphlet for an evangelistic series. After discussion with my mom, we decided to go. We went to several meetings and couldn't believe what we were hearing. I couldn't go on not knowing what church this was, it felt like the right fit for me. So when I did ask what they called themselves, a member answered, "We are Seventh Day Adventist." After more private studies with Pastor Buttery, I was baptized on March 27th of 2010. It was a choice I have never regretted. I finally belonged to God.

I found a new family, and a new church that I belonged to, now all I needed was a new school. In the past schools that I attended, I was ferociously bullied. I was told about a school called Blue Mt. Academy. I went for an Academy Days' that the school holds every year, and here I am!

It has been sixteen years on this journey of life, and I, Laura Joann Baut, have finally found where I belong, Blue Mountain Academy.

**PRINCIPAL'S APPEAL**

Principal Dave Morgan appeals to Alumni to help cover the cost of repairing the Blue Mountain Academy sign along I-78. The sign, constructed in 1993, will cost about $2,000 to repair.

**Second Home**

This summer we hosted a work-bee in Ellis Hall and were joined by students, parents, BMAC and Hamburg church members, staff and community friends. With the generous support of these individuals we were able to accomplish needed repairs and projects in our dorm. We painted the rooms on three of our halls.

**BITS AND PIECES**

Chen paints a line on a basketball court in Tilden Township during service explosion. The day was full of students going out into the community and lending a helping hand by cleaning, painting, picking up garbage, and spreading good feelings throughout the community:

This may not seem like much to you, but it is a subtle clue to the change in culture at BMA. Staff have been challenged to focus...
painted the doors on South Hall, covered all the windows above our doors for privacy and light reduction, added a stained glass film to our chapel windows, stenciled Bible verses, rewired and replaced over 20 ceiling lights, repaired/replaced countless drawers, knobs, and dresser cabinets.

Two of our girl’s families spent over 8 hours sanding, striping and then painting all the cabinets and drawers in their daughter’s room during our work-bee this summer. They added a ceiling fan, then replaced the knobs and added drawer liners. All our girl’s families are welcome to add personal touches to their child’s room.

The girls have been actively involved in the process of making Ellis Hall their home away from home. They have participated in picking the theme color, which is purple. They have helped in designing the breakfast room and six of our summer girls even chose to stay and help during our work-bee instead of going to a water park. These girls are such an inspiration to me and a true testament to their families and Christian education. Below is a quote from a letter the girls wrote.

“We really appreciate all the hard work and dedication you put into the dorm. We never knew how much potential it had and we are so excited to start this year. We are FINALLY proud to call this a home.”

~Quoted from a letter given by summer girls and RA’s

They have also shared their thoughts about which projects to tackle first, such as the desperate need to update their exercise/rec room. During our work-bee this summer we had to throw out all of our equipment, due to damage and disrepair.

on the “BMA experience” for our students. In the cafe, Food service director Matt Anderson has provided rice for each meal, a staple for our Asian students. Just a little touch that says “We get you” and a message to our students that, “you belong”!

It’s quiet, unassuming, but totally what makes the BMA staff so crucial to the BMA experience; without fanfare, teachers regularly give additional time outside of class to ensure that those students that need help get it.

Here, Mr. Solomon Lazar spends time with a student that wanted to ensure he stayed on top of things and sought help on a Sunday afternoon. This scene is repeated on a regular basis on our campus. Thank you BMA teachers for caring, and for BMA students for wanting to do your best!
This last Home Leave we began the first step in transforming the recreation room by painting it. The second step we hope to make is ripping out our damaged carpet and replacing it with vinyl flooring, the third step will be furnishing the room with comfortable sofas, exercise equipment, work-out DVD's, motivational posters, and hand weights.

It is only through the dedication and support of our church, community, friends, families and the grace of God that we have been able to accomplish what we have this Summer. Please continue to keep Ellis Hall and our girls in your thoughts and prayers and if you are interested in helping, please contact us at girlsdorm@bma.us or (484) 332-7970