Geddis Receives NAD Award
Self-proclaimed medical missionary to the asphalt jungles of the North American Division (NAD), Molly Geddis (pictured here, center), received an award for Excellence in Ministry, Saturday, Jan. 28, during the Awards and InStep for Life Celebration at the NAD Health Summit in Lake Mary, Fla. The award presented by Chris VanDenburgh (left), Adventist Association of Faith Community Nurses president, and Katia Reinert (right), NAD Health Ministries director, recognized Geddis’ organization of the Healthy Heart Team of Portland, Ore. She has expanded the team’s reach throughout the North Pacific Union Conference to include 27 partner churches. Geddis, an energetic 85 year old senior, says, “You’re never too old to work for the Lord. I started the Healthy Heart Team in 2007, when I was 80. My secretary, Vi Huntington, is 88.”

Washington Adjusts Management Structure
The Washington Conference Executive Committee has voted to create a new leadership position with Bill McClendon (pictured here) as vice president for church growth, evangelism and ministerial. The conference already has a vice president overseeing the educational ministry of the conference and will now have a vice president to support all conference churches, church growth and evangelistic ministries. Two pastors in the field will assist McClendon with ministerial duties. This new designation of responsibilities will allow conference officers to focus on the spiritual growth of churches and schools. Read the full statement from John Freedman, conference president HERE.

Idaho Adventist Church Takes Over Theater
The Post Falls (Idaho) Theater showed its last movies this past weekend. It has been sold to Summit Northwest Ministries, a Seventh-day Adventist church in the Upper Columbia Conference, which plans to use the site as its new church home. Ron Hessel, Summit Northwest Ministries pastor, says the church made an offer on the property two years ago that was turned down. “Then last fall they came back to us, wanting us to make another offer,” Hessel says. “They were obviously motivated to sell.” Summit started in 2004 and originally met at the
factory outlets in Post Falls before renting a building in Newman Lake, Wash. The church, which averages a weekly attendance of 150, plans to move in this summer after a renovation. Read more from the Coeur d'Alene Press HERE.

Account Clerk Position Opens at NPUC
Resumes for North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) account clerk are being accepted until March 1. This half-time, hourly position issues receipts and checks, does general ledger data entry, prepares bank deposits, posts transactions and provides general filing support. Required skills include: keyboard and ten key data entry, and a working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel for spreadsheets and Access. Knowledge of accounting is recommended, but not required. Work schedule of 20 hours per week is flexible but must be conducted at the NPUC office in Ridgefield, Wash., and fit within the regularly scheduled office hours. For more information, contact Robert Sundin, NPUC undertreasurer, at 360-857-7014, or robert.sundin@nw.npuc.org.

Auburn Promotes Kind Campaign
Auburn Adventist Academy is proactively making an effort to raise awareness and teach girls about the negative effects of bullying. The Kind Campaign is an internationally recognized movement, documentary and school program based upon the powerful belief in KINDness that brings awareness and healing to the negative and lasting effects of girl-against-girl ‘crime.’ Auburn’s Campus Ministries sponsored the screening of the documentary, Finding Kind. The event was open to Auburn’s female students and Buena Vista Elementary School’s seventh- and eighth-graders, as well as moms, female staff, guardians and community females. More information about the Kind Campaign is available HERE.

This Week in Adventist History
Watch and learn as David Trim, General Conference director of archives, highlights several important events that correspond to this week in Adventist history. This video segment is available HERE as part of the Adventist News Network’s weekly video report.
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Washington Conference Adjusts Management Style

A statement from John Freedman, Washington Conference president

Federal Way, Wash. (February 1, 2012) – As Washington Conference continues to grow, we find ourselves needing to adapt our management style.

In order to better serve our constituency of 22,100 members, the Washington Conference Executive Committee voted to experiment with a new leadership position and named Bill McClendon as vice president for church growth, evangelism and ministerial.

We currently have a vice president overseeing the educational ministry of our conference and we will now have a vice president overseeing our churches, church growth and evangelistic ministries of our conference.

McClendon is a gifted leader and has the skills we need to attempt this change. Two pastors in the field will assist McClendon with ministerial (pastors’ pastor) duties. This new designation of responsibilities will allow conference officers to focus on spiritual growth of churches and schools.

We will continue to evaluate the process and seek God’s guidance as we move together into the future. God is not limited to any one model of leadership. Our only desire is to be faithful to Jesus and the mission He calls us to fulfill.

Our conference vision is “Every member, church and school reflecting the image of Jesus and working together to proclaim the everlasting Gospel of Jesus Christ and His soon return.” We see our leaders, our ministries, our churches, or members awakening with new life to share the Gospel message in western Washington and beyond.

Full Administrative Team

President: John Freedman
VP Administration: Doug Bing
VP Finance: Jerry Russell
VP Education: Kelly Bock
VP Ministerial: Bill McClendon
POST FALLS - This weekend marks the final chapter of Post Falls Theater.

The 17-year-old, locally-owned theater will close after its showings on Sunday, less than two months after it converted to a discount cinema from a "first-run" format.

The building has been sold to Summit Northwest Ministries, a Seventh-day Adventist Church that plans to use the site as its new church home.

"The discount format was doing well, but the people who own the vast majority of the business had an opportunity to sell, and I don't blame them," said Julius Vichinsky, who co-owns the business with Jodie and Michel Gahard and has managed the theater for several years.

"We were only using four out of the six screens under the discount format and there's additional space on the property not being utilized that taxes are being paid on."

Vichinsky said it would be easy to blame the closure on the economy, but he believes there are other factors.

"Our community that we have so generously supported throughout the years failed to support us in return," he wrote in a letter. "With the population of Post Falls alone, our business should have flourished."

Vichinsky said the Gahards spent more than $250,000 over the years in upgrades and the business offered special rates and programs to groups in hopes of a turnaround. The building has also been leased to multiple churches, but not Summit Northwest Ministries, over the years for services.

The theater employs three full time and 12 part time.

Vichinsky said the theater's attendance under the discount format increased "dramatically," including with seniors and families, but that didn't outweigh the opportunity to sell. He said a smaller location with better access is needed to make a discount theater fly.

He said he plans to open such a business later this year in the area.

"I definitely want to stay in the movie business and I wouldn't be thinking about opening (a discount theater) if I didn't think it could be successful," Vichinsky said.

Some residents said they'll miss the convenience of having a theater in Post Falls and the lower prices.

Charles Sloan called the closure a "major bummer."

"It was a lot easier for me with it being here in town instead of having to go to Coeur d'Alene," he said. "I was hoping things would turn out for them, but I'm sure competition and the video industry hasn't helped."
Christie Beamish said she went to the theater every weekend since it changed to a discount format.

"I stopped going to theaters several years ago because of the cost and when this location went to a discounted facility, I took full advantage of it," she said.

Vichinsky said he was aware the church was looking at the property when the theater went to a discount format, but he didn't realize how serious the interest was.

"(The sale) happened relatively quickly," he said.

Terms of the sale were not disclosed.

Ron Hessel, pastor of Summit Northwest Ministries, said the church made an offer on the property two years ago that was turned down.

"Then last fall they came back to us, wanting us to make another offer," Hessel said. "They were obviously motivated to sell."

Summit started in 2004 and originally met at the factory outlets in Post Falls before renting a building in Newman Lake.

The church, which averages weekly attendance of 150, will take possession of the building on Feb. 2 and plans to move in this summer after a renovation.

"We needed more space, especially for children's ministries and community outreach," Hessel said.

Hessel said the church considered building on property it owns on Poleline where its community garden is, but buying the 20,000-square-foot theater on 3.8 acres made better sense.

"We feel that it will give us a great opportunity to support the community with the many community service projects and charity events that we host," Hessel said.