“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth...”

Isaiah 40:28 (NIV)

“Painted Hills” by Mary Lane Anderson of Forest Grove, Oregon.
Remote AND Necessary

No one would ever have mistaken Harvey, North Dakota, for a great United States metropolis. Nor would they have imagined the corner room in the Jamestown Church basement in North Dakota to be a school. But there in those tiny schools I spent three of my elementary school years. They were remote, but necessary for me. These two schools could have benefited greatly from a subsidy which has for some years been a unique vision of the North Pacific Union Conference — our remote and necessary schools fund.

Lana, Leroy, Mary Kay and I were the four first-graders in the Jamestown one-room school. We had the most students in our grade and kept our teacher, Mrs. Esther Rau, busy teaching us how to read and write while she also taught 17 other students in assorted grades up through the eighth. I wonder how in the world she kept it all organized and us under control without losing her mind or at least her patience. But we learned to read and write and do arithmetic, and we also had Bible class every day. We learned memory verses and listened to character-building stories while we rested after the noon recess. Most importantly we had a teacher who modeled Christ-like qualities and Adventist values while we wiggled and squirmed in her classroom.

In the Harvey school there was just one girl in my class — Roberta. I was in that stage of life when girls held little interest to me and I don't think I was always very nice to Roberta. There were just eight students in our school, but a berm had been graded around a space the size of a gymnasium. In winter the fire hydrant was used to flood the area, creating an ice skating rink that provided great fun. Recess was my favorite subject. Yes, I walked to school every day through the snow — but it was not uphill both ways. It was fairly level.

The Cognitive Genesis study has proven young people in Seventh-day Adventist church schools out perform peers in public schools in every subject and every grade level. There is no measurable difference between those in small, one-room schools and those in bigger Adventist schools. As Adventists, we have always intuitively known it was true, but now we can say we have proved it. The best place for every boy and girl to go to school is at a church school, even if it is one of the remote and necessary ones.

I hope you agree with me that it is a great investment for the North Pacific Union Conference to provide subsidies from the funds you provide, to give a little extra financial help to the remote and necessary schools in the Northwest. I think it is a valuable investment — even an eternal one. And by the way, Lana, Leroy, Mary Kay and Roberta are all still members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church — even though we have to reluctantly admit we now qualify as senior citizens, and we are still waiting expectantly for Jesus to come.

Regional Convocation Draws Hundreds

Nearly 2,000 people from all parts of the Northwest and beyond attended the 34th-Annual Regional Convocation held May 13–16 in Auburn, Washington. It was organized and sponsored by the North Pacific Union Conference office of regional affairs with a theme of “Giving Hope to a World in Need.” The event featured a host of keynote speakers and musicians, including Jesse Wilson, Oakwood University associate professor of religion, who spoke Sabbath morning, and Alan Woodson, who directs the award-winning Mt. Rubideaux Church Choir. Special programs were designed for children and youth. This was also the second year with a unique program track for young adults — with nearly 200 attending. Watch for a more complete report with photos in next month’s GLEANER.

Project PATCH Dedicates Family Growth Center

Dozens of guests traveled from points throughout the Northwest on Sunday, May 16, for the dedication of a new Project PATCH Family Growth Center in Goldendale, Washington. This new retreat, on 437 acres of land donated by Clarence and Elsie Tupper and Margie Wentland, will provide short-term educational and experiential counseling to families. It is the latest venture for the non-profit ministry, which continues to serve troubled youth from its main facility in Idaho. Carlyle Mason, former caretaker for the Oregon Conference’s Gladstone property, provided much of the Goldendale facility construction expertise. Watch a video of the event at gleaneronline.org.

Tri-Cities Teacher Wins Teaching Award

Verna Canaday, Tri-Cities Junior Academy first- and second-grade teacher, is the proud recipient of a 2010 Excellence in Teaching Award. She is part of a select group of outstanding teachers from around North America to receive the award this year from the Alumni Awards Foundation.

Canaday was cited for running a regularly updated Web site for parents, community outreach projects, and her ability to stay abreast of current events — all qualities enhancing the educational experience of her students.

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Thank You for Remote and Necessary Schools

April 27, 2010

Lanny Harbert
Vice President for Education North Pacific Conference
5789 N. 20th Street
Ridgefield, WA. 98642-7724

Elder Harbert:

Just a few lines to express our appreciation for all you have done for our little school. Because of you we have been able to keep our doors open and meet our obligation.

There are two families that have been able to keep their children in our school. And they have noticed a difference in the attitude their children present to the world about them. A change for the better.

Again thank you and GOD bless you.

Sincerely,
Arthur W. Rolls
Peaceful Valley Christian School

Arthur W. Rolls

Dear Mr. Harbert,

The Valley View Christian School would like to sincerely thank you for helping us so magnanimously with the Remote Necessary Fund for next school year! Without this generous contribution little country schools like ours would probably not exist. When I think of all the families who are growing closer to Him in a safe environment with quality academics my heart poems with gladness! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

May God deeply bless you as you look for Him!

Sincerely,

Valley View Christian School

Cylar Andrew
Jade, Elizabeth
Jaclyn
Alex
Cabry

Hannah

PS When you need a little break at the office, have a water balloon game!
A 1955 Gleaner article discusses the mounting costs of education — $65 or $70 a month.

**REMOTE & NECESSARY ADVENTIST A UNIQUE NORTHWEST**

**Education Costs Then and Now**

Sometimes we hear the observation made that education is being priced out of the reach of the average young person; that we cannot afford to send our children to one of our schools. With a basic charge of $65 or $70 per month it might appear on first thought that there is some truth to this assertion, but, when one considers the cost of education in terms of man hours of the 120 Adventist schools within the Northwest, fully 40 percent are designated as remote and necessary. These small schools receive additional funding from the North Pacific Union Conference according to a process set in motion more than three decades ago by a visionary NPUC leader.

T.W. Walter, NPUC education director from 1969–1981, realized many smaller churches were struggling to keep their local Adventist schools afloat. In cooperation with local conference leaders, he designed a plan to help these remote and necessary schools remain viable. Walter’s successor, Gilbert Plubell, and other leaders since have adapted and carried forward this process — unique to the Northwest.

A remote and necessary institution is a one- or two-teacher school at least 30 miles from an existing sister school. It must also serve a constituency...
not reasonably served by another Adventist school.

Remote and necessary funds are voted each year by the NPUC board of education based on the previous year’s tithe. The NPUC office of education determines how much each school is entitled to with a complex formula including local church tithe, student-teacher ratios and the percentage of the local church budget earmarked for the school. These funds are then sent each year to the local conference to directly benefit these schools.

In 2009, in addition to the direct annual assistance to Northwest academies, the NPUC spent more than 32 percent of its education K–12 budget for these remote and necessary school funds, a total of more than $550,000.

These funds are the difference between life or death for many small, rural Adventist schools. In Montana, every currently operating Adventist school is designated as remote and necessary. Archie Harris, Montana Conference education director says, “Our schools average about $745 per month in remote and necessary funding. That’s like having three additional paying students in school. It’s a make it or break it proposition — at least half of our schools would be gone without this support through the NPUC.”

“In these increasingly challenging economic times, the NPUC is committed to continue this vision for remote and necessary schools,” says Lanny Hurlbert, vice president for education. It’s a miracle that continues to reap dividends in schools and congregations around the Northwest. You’ll find three unique examples, testimonies if you will, in the pages ahead.

Lanny Hurlbert, NPUC vice president of education, and GLEANER editors
Glendive, Montana

- Nearest Adventist School: Billings, Montana, about a three-hour drive from Glendive.
- Enrollment: 9 in grades: K, 1, 3 and 5.
- Staff: One teacher, one aid, one parent volunteer.

- Remote Value: In a smaller school setting, a teacher gets to know her students and their families intimately. We get to spend time together outside of school, which actually helps increase the student/teacher bond while in school. This also helps me develop a deeper Christian relationship with them, as well as helps me understand how to meet students’ needs because of a more fully developed sense of their backgrounds.

- Remote and Necessary Fund Recipient: Without conference monies and the remote and necessary fund, our school would not exist. My answer about the benefits of conference aid would not be complete without speaking about the aid given by Archie Harris, my superintendent. In eleven years of teaching, I’ve never seen someone who is so completely into the students who attend his schools.

- Local Community Impact: We live somewhat close to a Native American reservation, and two of our students are Native American. Recently, I had the opportunity during a Native American camp meeting to make connections.

- Remote Goals/Needs: I’d like to do more community outreach. Next year I want to visit the local VA hospital bi-monthly, adopt a business each month where we will visit and pray for them, continue ringing bells for the Salvation Army, and get together with non-Adventist home-schooled families and try some activities together.

- Necessary Gem: God created me to be a teacher. I sometimes ask Him why He made me for this purpose. Yes, teaching in a one-teacher Adventist school is very difficult, but I really wouldn’t have it any other way. I taught in public schools for six years, being limited in what I could say, watching incorrect ideas like evolution being taught and being unable to hug a child who needed hugging. Here we can discuss openly the differences between the world and what we demonstrate in the community.

I can teach what God teaches in His word; I can freely give a student a hug when needed; I get to watch my students grow over the years and be an influence on them; and most important, I can help guide their loving relationship with Jesus.

Sharon Nguyen, Head teacher

The Glendive (Montana) School is a remote and necessary school within the North Pacific Union Conference and is taught by one teacher, Sharon Nguyen.

Remote and Necessary Schools Within the Northwest

- **Alaska**
  - Amazing Grace
  - Dillingham
  - Golden Heart
  - Juneau
  - Sitka

- **Oregon**
  - Canyonville
  - Countryside
  - Gold Coast
  - Klamath Falls
  - Madras
  - Madrone
  - Milo Elementary
  - Shady Point
  - Pelham
  - Wahiakau
  - West Valley

- **Idaho**
  - Baker Valley
  - Desert View
  - Enterprise
  - Hilltop
  - La Grande
  - McCall
  - Salmon
  - Timberline
  - Treasure Valley

- **Upper Columbia**
  - Cornerstone
  - Farmington
  - Goldendale
  - Grandview
  - Omak
  - Palouse Hills
  - Peaceful Valley
  - Pend Oreille Valley
  - Saint Maries
  - Upper Columbia Elementary

- **Montana**
  - Blodgett View
  - Central Acres
  - Five Falls
  - Helena
  - Libby
  - Mount Ellis Elementary
  - Valley
  - Valley View

- **Washington**
  - Baker View
  - Cedarbrook
  - Grays Harbor
  - Mountain View
  - Shelton Valley
  - Whidbey
Shelton, Washington

- **NEAREST ADVENTIST SCHOOL:** Olympia, Washington, 25 miles.
- **CURRENT ENROLLMENT:** 34
  - **CLASSROOMS:** 3
  - **TEACHERS:** 2
  - **VOLUNTEERS:** Many.
- **REMOTE VALUE:** Six years ago, the Shelton Valley Christian School in Shelton Washington, considered closing its doors because enrollment was down to four — without hope of rallying. Rather than seek burial, members and staff stood behind their school. They bought additional property, launched a coordinating childcare center (providing SVCS with additional funding), sought higher academic excellence, used marketing, and employed teachers in it for the duration. Today SVCS has 34 students and is growing.

  The 25 acre-campus incorporates a full-day kindergarten, summer camps, before and after school care (childcare is across the street and is operated under a different license), and community programs for campus families including “free market” style midweek programs.

- **REMOTE AND NECESSARY FUND RECIPIENT:** “The North Pacific Union Remote and Necessary fund has been vital to our growth at SVCS,” says Jennifer Scott, Shelton Adventist Church pastor. Scott describes her congregation as “passionate and faithful” and the campus as “a vehicle for significant community outreach and service.” She says “while SVCS is a small and remote school — our church believes its school is vital to its ministry, its growth, its survival and health.”

- **LOCAL COMMUNITY IMPACT:** Their growth, to a large measure, is consistent with the school’s commitment to higher quality academics and consistent teachers, along with redefining their mission. SVCS is drawing a high percentage of church children and is increasing its reputation within the community, drawing students both unchurched and from other religions. Their dedication to mission has now resulted in a school-related baptism every year.

- **REMOTE GOALS/NEEDS:** “Parents want their child in a school that has values and morals both taught and practiced,” says Judy McCain, SVCS principal and head teacher. “Parents see the program and tell their friends because they like the program.”

  The school annually involves students and families in Samaritan’s Purse, a shoe-box outreach. The outreach brought families together and provided 160 boxes this year. “Our non-Adventist parents were so excited about it,” says McCain.

  SVCS mission statement is: “Educating tomorrow’s leaders today, through excellent academics, active service, and Christian nurture.”

- **NECESSARY GEM:** “A great blessing as a teacher is the satisfaction of helping students and seeing their excitement and enthusiasm in learning,” says McCain, who is herself a student-convert from attending an Adventist School.

  Cindy Chamberlin, GLEANER managing editor

See the video stream “Auburn Miracle Kids” [http://www.motionbox.com/videos/1c98dab41b1edca94](http://www.motionbox.com/videos/1c98dab41b1edca94) produced by Todd Gessele for Washington Conference by the NPUC.
Juneau, Alaska Adventist School is a North Pacific Union remote and necessary school and operates with one teacher, Nickie Linder, and one volunteer.

**NEAREST ADVENTIST SCHOOL:** Sitka, Alaska, 171.66 miles away, accessible by boat or airplane.

**ENROLLMENT:** 10, expecting 12–13 next year. **GRADES:** 1–8.

**STAFF:** One teacher, one volunteer.

**REMOTE VALUE:** Our students really have few options other than public schools. Many parents have been so grateful to know their children have a place free from drugs, alcohol, pressure to smoke and other devastating behaviors. I have a former student, now a college junior nursing student working as a health intern, who has told me several times she would have dropped out had she not had this chance. Though a Christian of another denomination, she said the school changed her life.

**LOCAL COMMUNITY IMPACT:** We go to the Bartlett House (Ronald McDonald House) and collect items for them at stores. We sing at the Pioneer Home and pass out Bibles. The children do car washes, wash windows and leave tags showing Jesus’ love, along with making cookies for the police, firemen and state troopers. We have been sending Bibles to Africa and just received pictures from the baptisms (see GLEANER June 2010) those Bibles helped bring about.

**REMO Te AND NECESSARY FUND RECIPIENT:** Every year we begin our budget in the red — so every year is a journey in faith. We never figure in the remote fund, but it ALWAYS comes right when we need it most. We wouldn’t make it without the remote fund. With costly fuel oil bills, what we get makes the difference between whether we pay the electricity and making sure our maintenance gets done.

**NECESSARY GEM:** When I finished my degree, I didn’t know if I would teach again. God took me, kicking and screaming, and showed me how to love and teach his kids. Through teaching, I’ve learned a bit of what it must be for the Lord to be our Parent and Teacher, as well as mine personally. It has deepened my understanding of His love, compassion, sacrifice and lessons He has to teach me and humankind as I try to extend to my kids not just lessons of reading, math, and science, but of a whole universe He has prepared for us all.

**REMOTE GOALS/NEEDS:**

- **BY FAITH** – God made it possible to redo our bathrooms to code.
- **BY FAITH** – God made it possible to re-carpet our classrooms, hallway, library and office.
- **BY FAITH** – God provided new-to-us computers and software.
- **BY FAITH** – God provided new-to-us library shelving.
- **BY FAITH** – God made it possible to have our building painted.
- **BY FAITH** – God provided new playground equipment.
- **BY FAITH** – God provided a way for us to have a new boiler system.

None of these projects had money in the budget... God has provided it ALL, through the sacrifice, love and caring of faithful people who serve Him.

**Nickie Linder, head teacher**
Necessary Brotherly Love

BJ Colvin, a 2009 Walla Walla Valley Academy graduate and former Caring Heart award* recipient, walked through the Upper Columbia Academy registration doors firmly, yet humbly — declaring himself the “responsible party.”

Colvin’s parents are disabled, and he and younger brother Bradley prayed earnestly about where the Lord wanted Bradley to be this fall. It was important that his daily needs could be met, and he could get a solid Adventist education...

As the boys filled out a prayer guardian form (every student at UCA has at least one), Linnea Torkelsen, UCA alumni/development director and Prayer Patch coordinator, learned the boys’ church family had gathered supplies to help stock the young Colvin’s dorm room: from paper clips to bedding. The older Colvin signed all forms, assuring the school he would be responsible, even if it took him 10 years to work it off and said, “I will do it — I want my brother here.”

Colvin is no stranger to responsibility. He served as an IT tech for his school annual staff, volunteered in WWVA’s IT department, served as a Pathfinder counselor, was part of the UCC Pathfinder teen mission, participated at the Mountain Leadership NW Institute, and volunteers with the sound system at his home church.

A UCA prayer partner settled the younger Colvin in with a complimentary haircut. For now, both brothers are getting a Christian education: Colvin is attending Walla Walla University pursuing a master’s degree in library science and working to pay for two. Want to add to “brotherly love?” Go to www.ucaa.org and click on “Give a Gift” or contact alumni@ucaa.org.

*Colvin’s Caring Heart award was for “exemplary willingness to help regardless of the task.”

Cindy Chamberlin, GLEANER managing editor
CARING HEART AWARD WINNERS FOR 2010

Fourteen Northwest academy students were recipients of the Caring Heart Award made possible through funding from a private foundation and the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. Students were selected by their schools for exemplifying the spirit of the Caring Heart — a willingness to serve others. Each student received a plaque, an engraved Bible and a $500 scholarship that may be used toward tuition at an Adventist school or on a short-term mission trip.

Rachel Coon
AUBURN ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Rachel Coon is the spiritual vice president at Auburn Adventist Academy. She is involved with mission trips and worship services and has a passion to share Jesus with others. She is a senior at AAA and plans to attend Walla Walla University to major in education and minor in theology. She wants to become either an English teacher or a campus chaplain. Her parents are Roger and Stephanie Coon.

Andrew Ezpeleta
COLUMBIA ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Andrew Ezpeleta is a senior at Columbia Adventist Academy. He is involved in using his many talents for the Lord, such as preaching, singing, acting, community service and playing instrumental music. His enthusiasm, positive spirituality and generous spirit spreads to those around him. He plans to attend Walla Walla University to major in pre-med. His parents are Elmer Ezpeleta and Tina Batchelder.

Joshua Hester
GEM STATE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Baptized just last year, Joshua Hester is viewed by his classmates and peers as a leader and role model at Gem State Adventist Academy. A junior at GSAA, he has exhibited consistent spiritual and social commitment on campus. He loved serving as a youth pastor last summer at the Caldwell (Idaho) Church, and the Caldwell pastor continues to mentor him. He plans to attend Walla Walla University or Southern Adventist University and major in theology to become a youth pastor.
Clarissa Constantinescu
LIVINGSTONE ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Clarissa Constantinescu is the pastor for her junior class at Livingstone Adventist Academy. She is active in her church and LAA’s outreach group. She has also preached a ShareHim sermon at her church. Her positive attitude lifts all those around her. Her parents are Corneliu and Sandica Constantinescu.

Amber Spoon
MILO ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Amber Spoon is both a good student and good example at Milo Adventist Academy. She participated in the North Pacific Union Conference mission trip to Peru and has held leadership positions including peer counselor, dorm tutor, Gap worship leader and basketball captain. She has also led in MAA community service days. A senior, Amber plans to attend Pacific Union College and spend a year as a student missionary during college. Her parents are Raymond and Dawn Spoon.

Katy Meharry
MT. ELLIS ACADEMY

Katy Meharry assists struggling students at Mt. Ellis Academy by helping them organize and prioritize while teaching them study skills. She has attended several mission trips and has held class offices. She also assists students who are struggling in their class office positions. A senior at MEA, her future plans include attending either Union College or Southwestern Adventist University and major in nursing or marketing. Her parents are Doug and Becky Meharry.
Connor Brassington
SKAGIT ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Connor Brassington is the student campus chaplain at Skagit Adventist Academy and has proved to be a great spiritual leader. He has participated in the Nicaragua Mission trip, as well as helped and initiated several community service projects. A junior at SAA, his future interests include attending Walla Walla University and pursuing a career in computer graphics or a youth pastor.

Stephen Baker
ORCAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Stephen Baker is an active leader in the Orcas Christian School worship bands, which provide music for weekly chapels and Weeks of Prayer. He also shares his musical ability at multiple churches. He has been on four mission trips to Mexico, Costa Rica, and Kentucky. A senior at OCS, Stephen plans to attend Berkley School of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. His parents are Stuart and Gerri Baker.

Chantel Mote
PORTLAND ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Chantel Mote has assisted in Hurricane Katrina cleanup efforts; participated in an African mission trip; helped feed the homeless in downtown Portland, Oregon; and recently began a small Bible-study group at Portland Adventist Academy. A senior at PAA, Chantel's future plans include attending Walla Walla University. Her parents are Terrance and Dawn Baltazar.

Anna Nizovtseva
PUGET SOUND ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Anna Nizovtseva is a junior at Puget Sound Adventist Academy. She demonstrates exemplary traits in caring and empathy toward others and has a positive attitude that brightens those around her. She is the first to volunteer at service opportunities and is a leader in her church’s youth department. Next year she will go on the Belize mission trip. Her future interests are in journalism, law and music. Her parents are Nikhael and Olga Nizovtseva.
Allison Cool is a senior and student body president at Rogue Valley Adventist Academy. She has participated in mission trips to India, New Orleans, Kauai and Holbrook Indian School in the U.S. She also participated in the secret angel project at RVAA. She plans to attend Southern Adventist University and major in nursing or physicians assistant. Her parents are Steve and Maria Cool.

Andrea Anderson is always willing to share her faith at Upper Columbia Academy. She has been a speaker at many conference churches, and they always express the blessings they receive from hearing her. She’s an excellent resident assistant and organizes many activities, including small-group Bible studies in the dorm with adult females to lead out. She regularly volunteers at a local women and children’s shelter. A senior at UCA, she plans to attend Southern Adventist University, take a year off to be a missionary in a Spanish-speaking country and major in nursing. Her parents are James and Julie Anderson.

Nancy Patino is a senior at Walla Walla Valley Academy. She is the vice president for the student association and secretary for her class. In the words of her peers, she is “dependable, level-headed, intelligent, responsible, goes beyond the expected, cares about others, friendly, an encourager, a hard worker, defender of others, and easy to work with.” She is involved at her church and is known as a spiritual leader at WWVA. She recently participated in the Peru mission trip. She is a hard worker, always going beyond the call of duty, and is a vital and contributing team player. Her future plans are to attend Walla Walla University and major in psychology or social work. Her parents are Manuel and Guadalupe Patino.
All Seventh-day Adventist schools in the North Pacific Union Conference, including Walla Walla University, admit students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school and make no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs.
## Alaska Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists

6100 O’Malley Rd • Anchorage, AK 99507 • (907) 346-1004  
Superintendent – Tom Maher (Interim)

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<td>Amazing Grace Academy</td>
<td>PO Box 3229, Palmer, AK 99645</td>
<td>(907) 745-2691</td>
<td>Dane Bailey</td>
<td>K–9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anchorage Junior Academy</td>
<td>5511 O’Malley Rd, Anchorage, AK 99507</td>
<td>(907) 346-2164</td>
<td>Aaron Woehler</td>
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<td>Dillingham Adventist School</td>
<td>PO Box 182, Dillingham, AK 99576</td>
<td>(907) 842-2496</td>
<td>Rod Rau</td>
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<td>Golden Heart Christian School</td>
<td>PO Box 82997, Fairbanks, AK 99708</td>
<td>(907) 479-2904</td>
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<td>Juneau Adventist School</td>
<td>4890 Glacier Hwy, Juneau, AK 99801</td>
<td>(907) 780-4336</td>
<td>Nancy Linder</td>
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<td>Sitka Adventist School</td>
<td>1613 Halibut Point Rd, Sitka, AK 99835</td>
<td>(907) 747-8855</td>
<td>Holly Dysart</td>
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## Idaho Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists

7777 Fairview Ave • Boise, ID 83704 • (208) 375-7524  
Superintendent – Paulette Jackson

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<td>16115 S Montana Ave, Caldwell, ID 83607</td>
<td>(208) 459-1627</td>
<td>Peter McPherson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adventist Christian Academy</td>
<td>PO Box 50156, Idaho Falls, ID 83405</td>
<td>(208) 528-8582</td>
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<td>Baker Valley Adventist School</td>
<td>42171 Chico Rd, Baker City, OR 97814</td>
<td>(541) 523-4165</td>
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<td>Boise Valley Adventist School</td>
<td>925 N Cloverdale Rd, Boise, ID 83713</td>
<td>(208) 376-7141</td>
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<td>2317 Wisconsin, Caldwell, ID 83607</td>
<td>(208) 459-4313</td>
<td>Judith Shaner</td>
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<td>PO Box 124, Mountain Home, ID 83647</td>
<td>(208) 580-0512</td>
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<td>Eagle Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>538 W State St, Eagle, ID 83616</td>
<td>(208) 938-0093</td>
<td>Jordan Lindsay</td>
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<td>Enterprise Adventist School</td>
<td>PO Box N, Enterprise, OR 97828</td>
<td>(541) 426-8339</td>
<td>Dan Webster</td>
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<td>Hilltop Adventist School</td>
<td>131 Grandview Dr, Twin Falls, ID 83301</td>
<td>(208) 733-0799</td>
<td>Andy Roy</td>
<td>K–8</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Grande Adventist School</td>
<td>PO Box 1025, La Grande, OR 97850</td>
<td>(541) 963-6203</td>
<td>Cheryl De La Rosa</td>
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<td>McCall Adventist Christian School</td>
<td>3592 Longview Rd, McCall, ID 83638</td>
<td>(208) 634-0053</td>
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<td>Salmon Adventist School</td>
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<td>(208) 756-4439</td>
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<td>Timberline Adventist School</td>
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<td>(541) 473-9661</td>
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<td>Treasure Valley Adventist School</td>
<td>PO Box 396, Payette, ID 83661</td>
<td>(208) 642-2410</td>
<td>Valerie Iwasa</td>
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## Montana Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists

175 Canyon View Rd • Bozeman, MT 59715 • (406) 587-3101  
Superintendent – Archie Harris

<table>
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<th>SCHOOL NAME</th>
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<td>Mount Ellis Academy</td>
<td>3641 Bozeman Trail Rd, Bozeman, MT 59715</td>
<td>(406) 587-5178</td>
<td>Darren Wilkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blodgett View Christian School</td>
<td>119 Westbridge Rd, Hamilton, MT 59840</td>
<td>(406) 375-0733</td>
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<td>Central Acres Christian School</td>
<td>3204 Broadway Ave, Billings, MT 59102</td>
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<td>Five Falls Christian School</td>
<td>3102 Flood Rd, Great Falls, MT 59404</td>
<td>(406) 452-8883</td>
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<td>Helena Adventist School</td>
<td>2410 Belt View Dr, Helena, MT 59601</td>
<td>(406) 443-1414</td>
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<td>Highland View Adventist School</td>
<td>2500 Grand Ave, Butte, MT 59701</td>
<td>(406) 221-7044</td>
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<td>Libby Adventist Christian School</td>
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<td>Mount Ellis Adventist Elementary</td>
<td>3835 Bozeman Trail Rd, Bozeman, MT 59715</td>
<td>(406) 587-5430</td>
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<td>Mountain View Adventist School</td>
<td>1010 Clements Rd, Missoula, MT 59804</td>
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<td>Valley View Adventist School</td>
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<td>(406) 687-3472</td>
<td>Sharon Nguyen</td>
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<td>Columbia Adventist Academy</td>
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<td>Livingstone Adventist Academy</td>
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“No me gustaba la obra misionera,” decía Sonia. “De hecho, cada vez que el director de obra misionera se paraba al frente para hablar de obra misionera yo tomaba a mi hija de la mano y me iba para el baño.” Me interesó mucho la historia de Sonia porque su iglesia se ha convertido en un modelo de una iglesia cuyo estilo de vida es evangelístico. Hace poco tuve la oportunidad de visitar la iglesia Hispana de Federal Way y quedé impresionado con el entusiasmo evangelístico que tienen sus miembros guiados por el pastor Samuel Pagán y la directora de Obra Misionera, Sonia Landaverde. Cuando le pregunté a Sonia cuál es la estrategia que usa para ganar almas en esta comunidad, me dijo, “es muy sencillo.” He aquí la estrategia en sus propias palabras:

1. PREPARACION: “Comenzamos a plantar la semilla seis meses antes del comienzo de una campaña evangelística. Por ejemplo, para la campaña evangelística del pastor Canals que comenzaría en Abril del año 2010, empezamos a preparar el terreno desde Octubre del año 2009 con la campaña satelital Secretos de la Vida.”

2. BLANCO: “Nos ponemos un blanco de estudios bíblicos y también un blanco de almas.”

3. “Nos organizamos en grupos misioneros y cada grupo tiene una tarea y un nombre. Por ejemplo, JERUSALEM: Este equipo trabaja en la Iglesia con las almas que llegan al templo. Gracias a este método hemos obtenido 34 estudios bíblicos.”

4. VALIENTES DE JUDA: “Este equipo salen a tocar puertas con la invitación del programa radial La Voz de la Esperanza. Con este método hemos conseguido 20 estudios bíblicos.”

5. SAMARITANOS: “Este equipo es el que trabaja con nuestras amistades y con proyectos a la comunidad. Tenemos una tarjetita especial de oración en la cual escribimos el nombre de nuestros amigos y vecinos. Una vez que esas tarjetitas llegan a la mano de la Directora de la Obra Misionera, oramos por esas personas por 21 días 4 veces al día. Ademas, tenemos soldados de oración. Estas son personas que nos ayudan a orar, como mi abuela que vive en El Salvador y tiene 95 años de edad. Yo le paso los nombres a ella y junto con otros hermanos nos ayudan a orar por los nombres en las tarjetas. Luego los visitamos. Con este plan hemos conseguido 21 estudios bíblicos.”

6. GRUPOS PEQUEÑOS, “estos grupos funcionan por 3 meses. Cerramos un ciclo y abrimos otro ciclo con nuevas lecciones. En estos grupos pequeños también tenemos personas no adventistas que están estudiando la Biblia. Algunas de las lecciones que estamos estudiando son, La Fe de Jesús, Secretos de la Vida y Milagros.”

Sonia le da gracias a Dios porque en su gran misericordia El le permite trabajar en la obra misionera, actividad que ella tanto odiaba pero que ahora ama con todo su corazón. Ella concluye diciendo: “Doy gracias a Dios porque me da este privilegio, es como si me hubiese ganado la lotería.”

El pastor Samuel Pagán bautiza a Fidencio Romero de la iglesia de Auburn. El hermano Romero vino a quedarse con su primo Fernando y se encontró con un pequeño grupo en la casa. Comenzó asistir al grupo y luego a la iglesia. Y en la campaña Secretos de la Vida entregó su vida al Señor Jesús.

La hermana Sonia Landaverde, directora de Actividades Laicas de la iglesia de Federal Way, introduce con gozo a los hermanos que tomaron la decisión de ser bautizados.
Joshua Dubois, special assistant to President Obama and White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships executive director, handed the prestigious award to Joe Watts, Adventist Community Services Disaster Response national director, on behalf of Ephraim Palmero, Adventist Community Services of Alaska executive director, during the National Convention of Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters in Orlando, Fla., on May 11. Palmero was cited for exemplary leadership in volunteer service and community participation.

In May 2009, the rapid melting of arctic ice resulted in huge chunks of ice floating in the rising waters of the Alaska Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers. This resulted in massive ice-jams flooding river villages along the Middle and Lower Yukon including Eagle, Fort Yukon, Grayling, Holy Cross, Nulato, Akiak, Steven's Village and Upper and Lower Kalskag.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency declared a major state disaster, which activated ACS of Alaska, a designated first responder. Palmero, on behalf of ACS of Alaska, signed a memorandum of agreement with the Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to operate the disaster relief donations operations. Under his leadership, ACS of Alaska, along with Alaska VOAD, coordinated a support system in response to the catastrophe.

Joe Watts and Doug Venn, North Pacific Union Conference ACS disaster relief director, became involved in supporting Alaska in its planning stages of donations operation and multiagency warehousing management.

ACS of Alaska and Alaska VOAD officers coordinated transportation of disaster goods to places inaccessible by road. The Alaska chapter of the Civil Air Patrol collaborated with ACS of Alaska and offered their flight hangar to operate as a staging warehouse. CAP fixed-wing aircrafts flew hundreds of hours delivering disaster commodities to flooded villages in Western Alaska. Carol Gordon and Verdie Culpepper, both Adventists serving FEMA as voluntary agency liaisons, provided technical support and federal assistance to this operation.

ACS of Alaska also partners with the Alaska Suicide Prevention Council and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in advocating a statewide suicide prevention initiative. ACS of Alaska has suicide prevention satellite programs in Savoonga, Gambell, Bethel and Selawik supported by the ACS social ministry fund and the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services’ Behavioral Health Division.

Palmero also serves the Alaska Conference as director for health ministries. He lives in Anchorage with his wife, Melba, and their two sons. To learn more about ACS of Alaska, visit www.acs-alaska.org.

Brenda Johnson, Alaska Conference communication administrative assistant.

Joshua Dubois (left), special assistant to President Obama and White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships executive director, hands the President’s Gold Award to Joe Watts, Adventist Community Services Disaster Response national director, on behalf of Ephraim Palmero, ACS of Alaska executive director.
Adventist education is a treasure that needs to be cherished, nurtured and esteemed. The stories and the long-lasting positive impact need to be told and retold. To assure this happens, the alumni association at Gem State Adventist Academy recently appointed a new subcommittee called the Heritage Connection.

This year the Heritage Connection uncovered a story of extraordinary loyalty to Adventist education. The States family, whose ancestry connects directly with President Abraham Lincoln, joined the Advent movement shortly after its inception. Two members of the family served our church as pioneer ministers — Frank States and George O. States, who became a General Conference vice president.

Herbert Lincoln States (1869–1926) was a nephew of George and Frank. When Herbert was 15, his family decided to leave Michigan, and they joined a wagon train heading West. The family settled in Colorado where Herbert met Hattie Castle and married her in 1887.

In 1901, Herbert, his wife and five children packed up their things and headed Northwest. They had five wagons, a dog cart, one saddle horse and three burros. When they got to Hells Canyon, a 10-mile wide ravine located along the border of eastern Oregon and western Idaho, they established a homestead. Herbert traded a 30-30 rifle for lumber to build a 14-by-16-foot house.

The family grew in that remote area, which eventually became known as Advent Gulch. An Adventist school was begun. When the children became teenagers, the States family began sending their teens to GSAA. Their children’s children went to GSAA, too. When the Heritage Connection conducted the research, they found that, in all, 74 States family members have attended GSAA!

At homecoming on April 3, GSAA recognized this extraordinary loyalty by giving the States family the “Family Loyalty Award.” Eighty-two States family members were present to receive the award, reconnect with one another and celebrate the legacy of Adventist education.

Linda Klinger, GSAA GLEANER correspondent
In a decision publicly announced on May 24, the Idaho Conference executive committee named Brian Yeager the new general manager of radio stations KTSY and KTFY. Fondly known as Chaplain Brian for the past seven years, Yeager assumed his new duties immediately.

“Brian has a heart for ministry,” says Don Klinger, Media Ministries board chairman. “The board has an aggressive agenda for expanding the ministry and we believe Yeager can make it happen.” One of his first challenges has been to prepare a new Treasure Valley station called The Oasis to go on the air at 88.7 FM.

Yeager is an ordained minister who comes to the radio ministry with varied experience. For five years, he was the director of the eXtreme Team, a national touring youth ministry presenting the gospel throughout the United States and Canada. For the past seven years, he has been the pastor/coach for The Experience, a church plant he founded in Meridian, Idaho, encouraging unchurched KTSY listeners to become part of a body of believers.

KTSY, with its contemporary Christian format, will celebrate 20 years of broadcasting in the Treasure Valley on Oct. 14. The station is fully community funded and raises more than $700,000 annually from its listening audience. Mike Agee, founding general manager, left in April to teach communication and rebuild the radio station at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas. Yeager is married to Michelle and they are the proud parents of four daughters: Gabrielle, Victoria, Jocelyn and Addison.

Don Klinger, Idaho Conference communication director

On May 24, the Idaho Conference executive committee named Brian Yeager the new general manager of radio stations KTSY and KTFY.
Chinese Treasure Discovered at Mount Ellis Academy

It is a long way from urban China to rural Montana, literally and figuratively. Seventeen-year-old junior Jiyao Li made that journey this year and found a home at the heart of the Mount Ellis Academy family. He arrived with a huge smile and anticipation in his eyes. His adventures began almost immediately with a 50-mile canoe trip following the path of Lewis and Clark on the Upper Missouri River. Since his first day on campus, Li has thrown himself into all of the unique learning and recreational opportunities MEA offers, including a venture onto the school’s private ski area with some very slick boards on his feet.

While it was clear from his application that Li would be a strong student, nobody could have predicted what a treasure he would be to the school. He excels academically while taking a rigorous course load and is taking every music class the school offers. As it turns out, he is a world-class talent on the piano. He has committed himself to use that talent to bless others and benefit his school. He has performed full-length concerts in Montana and Washington, D.C., to raise money for various school projects. Other students are able to witness the hard work that leads to excellence as Li practices three hours every day in the school chapel.

For all the ways Li has benefited MEA, he sees himself as the one who is blessed to be able to study at a Seventh-day Adventist school in Montana. He says in his words: “Mount Ellis Academy is the open door for me to the whole Christian and Western world. At MEA, I am living and studying with real American Seventh-day Adventists, experiencing and learning their beliefs and lifestyle. Through this kind of experience, I improved my own understanding of Americans and Christians, especially Adventists. I am so glad that I have had the chance to come here. During this whole school year, not only did I study schoolwork and learn about this new world, but I also widened my heart and mind. ‘A great person is not he who has a great knowledge but he who has an amount of knowledge and knows to use it wisely!’ This is one of those many things that I have learned and discovered during this school year. I believe the Lord sent me here and I’m so glad He has opened the way for me to return next year. After all, I fell in love with MEA.”

Darren Wilkins, MEA principal

Jiyao Li attends Mount Ellis Academy and practices the piano three hours every day in the school chapel.
Montana Conference 2010 Educational Festival

Fifty-seven fifth- through eighth-grade students from around Montana descended upon Mount Ellis Academy in Bozeman, Mont., from May 10–12, for the 22nd-annual Educational Festival. Monday afternoon included get-to-know-you games, basketball and soccer clinics, along with a spelling bee. The evening began with worship by Darren Wilkins, MEA principal, and then the group headed out to the Bozeman Swim Center for two hours of water fun. Tuesday morning’s worship was followed by track and field activities, including foot races, a softball throw, long jump, shot put and crazy games. The afternoon was filled with games for the brain and body. Ed-Fest style “Who Wants to Be A Millionaire?” and “Family Feud” preceded basketball and soccer games. The evening occupied the students with viewing their judged art and social studies projects, playing Capture the Flag, and demonstrating their music skills and Lego robotics endeavors. The grand finale of Ed-Fest occurred Wednesday morning with worship, an awards ceremony and a slideshow of the happenings of Ed-Fest 2010.

Archie Harris, Montana Conference education superintendent

Mt. Ellis Students Go To Court

As part of their ongoing efforts to inform the public of the role of the judicial arm of state government, the Supreme Court for Montana left their normal courtroom to hear oral arguments for a case in Bozeman, Mont. The junior and senior classes of Mount Ellis Academy attended the hearings. The arguments revolved around whether citizens should have an expectation of privacy while making calls on cell phones. Matthew Cochenour, assistant state attorney general, argued the case for the state and brought extra interest to the case for MEA attendees because he is an alumnus of MEA from the class of 1990. The proceedings lasted for nearly two hours, with the justices interrupting both sides frequently for clarification on the finer points of the arguments.

At the conclusion of the arguments, students were impressed. While several expressed surprise at the generally relaxed nature of the proceedings, they also said watching the judicial branch at work was enlightening. Wade Wilson, a junior, says he was reminded that “there are lots of different viewpoints to any issue.” That’s a lesson he plans to remember for life.

Kevin Emmerson, MEA development director
This school year, Portland Adventist Academy in Portland, Ore., celebrated its 100th anniversary and a century-long mission to lead young people to Christ.

Missionary Volunteer workers and were sought after by evangelists who taught them to minister to the people of Portland. These activities continue decades later.

In the fall of 1929, DUS moved to a new building to accommodate its growth. More than 200 first- through tenth-grade students were attending the newly named Portland Junior Academy. During that year, the school’s first student association was formed, the first school newspaper was printed and the very first annual, The Trillium, was published.

The Trillium reveals much about life as an Adventist youth then. Students attended social banquets, had dress-up days for school spirit, played sports and had the choice of an orchestra or choir. Domestic science and woodworking classes were introduced in the 1929–30 school year to help students with life skills necessary in this era. Girls wore a modest uniform, which included a wool skirt with white middies and detachable blue collars and cuffs. Boys wore sport jackets, sweaters and ties.

In 1938, the school became a senior academy and changed its name to Portland Union Academy. That year students raised $800 toward the construction of a gymnasium. Roller skating, ice skating, skiing, football, baseball and basketball became popular.

Throughout the school’s history, spirituality remained a core element. Just like students in the 21st century, students throughout the decades enjoyed weekly chapels, quarterly Week of Prayer events, Ingathering, missionary volunteer activities, prayer bands and eventually mission trips and youth conferences.

The elementary and secondary schools split in 1942, and the first- through eighth-grade portion later became known as Portland Adventist Elementary School.

In 1963, PUA moved to what was then a rural community in East Portland and built a new facility at the school’s current location. It was renamed Portland Adventist Academy in 1975.
Present

Modern-day PAA has come a long way. Smart boards and computers grace the classrooms. Top-of-the-line microscopes give students better learning opportunities. Impressive Mac and PC labs equip students with current skills that have replaced the sewing and woodworking classes of the past.

PAA sends more than 90 percent of its students to college, and many go on to graduate schools. They are not only becoming pastors, teachers, nurses and doctors, but they are now venturing into modern careers of forensic science, environmental law, movie making and animation.

By far, the most important extracurricular activity at PAA is service. Throughout the last decade, mission trips have become so popular that PAA added an additional week to spring break to accommodate the large number of students missing classes.

The campus is no longer in a rural neighborhood. An Interstate highway was built to the west, a hospital to the east, a mall to the north and a suburb to the south. Although most students come to school by car, many ride to school on the light-rail train, thanks to Portland's growing mass transit system.

Yet PAA's "Christ Centered, Character Driven" motto is a reflection of a powerful history. It is not only printed on pens and publications, but it is written on the hearts of the students, staff, administration and board of directors.

Future

As PAA's facility ages, plans for a new school, constructed on the same property, are making progress. So far, $3 million dollars have been donated for the first phase of the new school. Another $2 million is needed before ground breaking.

One thing that is certain is the long-lasting theme that pervades history and all forward visioning. “Our true reason for having a school based on being Christ-centered and character-driven,” said Gayle Crosby, PAA principal at the centennial celebration, “is to make sure that we make reservations for the greatest reunion of all time.”

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA GLEANER correspondent

Bean Auction Raises Money for Worthy Student Fund

The constituent churches of Junction City, Veneta and Santa Clara, Ore., held a soup supper and auction at the Junction City Family Life Center to support Countryside Christian School's worthy-student fund. The March 6 event was organized by Angela Walters with the help of the students of the school. The auctioneer was Carolyn Fields.

Participants brought three or more items for the auction. They received 100 dried pinto beans in a ziplock bag from one of the students and a little sign on a stick that said “Countryside Christian School Bean Auction Supporter.” They used these little signs for bidding.

Those who came for supper were able to peruse the merchandise. Some items were hot, and the bids were as high as 75 beans. Many things went for 10–20 beans. People pooled and shared their beans to help someone else get what they wanted. The energy was fun. There were about 50 participants so it took nearly two hours to auction everything off. It was especially fun to watch the students bid on items they wanted.

Suggested donations for the soup supper was $5 for adults and $3 for children 12 and younger. The event brought in $300 in donations for the worthy-student fund.

Sherleen Head, Veneta Church communication leader

Christine Smith, Barbara and Dale Waggoner, Linda Hall and Rosemary Koch enjoy the auction action.

Pictured here are: Linda Hall, Colton Beerman, Joy Foster and Peter Sumner.

The Portland Union Academy student body is pictured here in 1939.
Putting the ‘Teeth’ into Experiential Learning at CAA

Most schools pride themselves on classroom learning and on their great faculty and student body. Columbia Adventist Academy is no different. However, the education isn’t always confined to the classroom. Significant learning opportunities have happened outside the classroom setting this year. Some of the nontraditional learning experiences include: physics class rocket launching; varsity golf sending freshman Jaci Allison to the state tournament; Washington State history field trip to Olympia and Seattle; English IV class experiencing the play The Chosen, based on Chaim Potok’s novel, then returning and writing play reviews; and the annual biology field trip to the Walla Walla University Marine Station at Rosario Beach, Wash., to observe intertidal organisms and collect data for state and federal government agencies. Each of these activities took students out of the familiar classroom environment and provided opportunities for experiential learning.

Community outreach opportunities have included mission trips to Kentucky, in conjunction with the Meadow Glade (Wash.) Church, and to an orphanage in Mexico, in partnership with International Children’s Care.

One student in particular has taken her learning experience outside the classroom to a new level. In chemistry class, students develop their own independent research projects to match their personal interests with science. Marissa Harris, a junior, says, “I’ve always enjoyed the medical aspect and decided that doing an experiment with teeth would not only be educational but enjoyable because of my interest.” With the help of a family friend, Steve Hokett, a local periodontist, Harris obtained extracted teeth and made a connection with Harry Davis, Oregon Health and Science University researcher. Harris then spent time preparing the teeth to begin her research on “The Effects of Acidity on the Microhardness of Dental Enamel.”

However, she says that when Davis looked at the teeth, he stated bluntly that they weren’t “prepared properly” and in order to obtain accurate, useful data, Harris would need to begin all over again. Many hours later “what seemed to be the biggest nightmare became one of the greatest, invaluable experiences of my life,” Harris says. “Through the experience, I became more educated about how research is conducted and I really got a feel for what being a researcher is like. The longer I continued my research, the more excited and willing Davis became to help me succeed, suggesting I enter my research in a science fair.” As a result of her research, Harris has received awards from both CAA and the American Chemical Society.

CAA teachers offer opportunities both inside and out of the classroom, but students agree nontraditional methods often provide the most enjoyable and memorable learning of the entire academic year.

Larry Hiday, CAA GLEANER correspondent
The Oregon Conference chose to have the 2010 Pathfinder Fair as its first major event streamed live via the Internet. More than 350 cyber viewers from all over the country accumulated nearly 10,000 minutes of viewing as they enjoyed the event from afar.

The 2010 Oregon Conference Pathfinder Fair, held May 16 at the Albany Events Center, began with the sound of marching feet passing before Tracy Wood, Oregon Conference director of Pathfinders; Monte Torkelsen, youth director; Al Reimche, president; and a host of proud parents. The marching clubs pulled floats displaying honors such as horsemanship, engine repair, shells, electronics, rockets, sewing and camping.

“Attention!” shouted the drill sergeant. Next was the drill down. Drill teams showed their ability to work together, follow instructions and discipline themselves to do their very best.

“At Ease!” Lunch options were plentiful. Many of the clubs had food stands to raise money for their club. There were veggie burgers, corn dogs, pizza, pies, fruit smoothies, mangos and much more.

Following afternoon relay races and activities, the day wound down with the awards ceremony, as ribbons, trophies and congratulations were awarded to individuals and clubs. Those there and watching via the Internet were impressed again with the ongoing Pathfinder theme “Courage to Stand.”

Gary McLain, Oregon Conference communication director
An Extraordinary Volunteer at LAA

All Seventh-day Adventist schools rely heavily on volunteers to make the operation of the school possible. Livingstone Adventist Academy, a K–12 school in Salem, Ore., is no exception. Few volunteers, however, can exceed the dedication of Wayne Torson. Torson has spent countless hours doing odd jobs around the school and helping his “family” next door at East Salem Church. That may not seem extraordinary, but Torson is no ordinary man.

Born on April 30, 1941, Torson was a very active child until a high fever largely incapacitated him. After his mother died, Torson became a ward of the state for 23 years, then worked at manual labor and other odd jobs until he could collect a meager Social Security benefit. Most people in Torson’s shoes might see benevolence as someone else’s responsibility, but Torson believes everything he has is a gift from God and he isn’t about to withhold any blessing he has from others. Despite owning a ’95 Ford pickup, Torson usually walks everywhere in order to use his gas money for the school. When the school needed a new tractor, Torson was a substantial contributor. When it was decided that a finish mower was needed, Torson purchased one and even provided the diesel whenever he could.

Torson truly raises the bar for the rest of us in so many ways. His faith in Jesus Christ (of whom he often speaks) is proudly lived in action. As Jesus said, “He who is least among you all — he is the greatest,” Luke 9:48 (NIV).

Jon Dickerson, LAA principal

Three Sisters School Donates Baby Blankets

Mother’s Day was a special treat for students from the Three Sisters Adventist Christian School in Bend, Ore. Students in Mrs. Neil’s and Mrs. Joubert’s classes made baby blankets to give to Grandma’s House, a charity home for teen moms and moms-to-be. Each student participated in tying the fleece blankets together, then delivering them to Grandma’s House on the Friday before Mother’s Day. It was a special, hands-on way to express love and care to moms in need.

Jennifer Neil, Three Sisters School teacher
Pathfinder Shares Faith and Funds

When I heard about the work of International Children’s Care, I decided I wanted to do something to help. I was impressed with how they place broken children in loving and caring families. Instead of putting a large group of children into an orphanage, ICC puts them in a house with a mother and father, and they begin their new life from there.

I thought this would also be a good project to possibly be eligible for the Pathfinder-of-the-Year award, since one of the new requirements is to do a special Share-Your-Faith project.

So after talking with ICC, I decided to help as much as I could to raise money and sponsor as many children as possible. I wrote letters to family, friends and church members. A bowl-a-thon was held by my church’s Pathfinder club and I visited Sabbath School classrooms at my church to talk to them about sponsoring a child.

When all was said and done, I had raised $2,000, sponsored two children and learned a lot!

I really enjoyed doing this project. I’m going to do more of these kinds of things in the future. I’m more grateful for what I have than I used to be. I’m glad I could help some of the children that are poor and have way less than I do!

NOTE: As a result of her efforts on this project, Rosa Smith was honored as Pathfinder-of-the-Year by her Meadow Glade (Wash.) Pathfinder Club.

Rosa Smith, Meadow Glade (Wash.) Pathfinder, participated in the Share-Your-Faith project and worked to raise funds and awareness for International Children’s Care.

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Milo Changes a Student’s Life

If you ask me how Milo Adventist Academy has changed my life, the story that you would get wouldn’t start out to be a happy one.

When I came to Milo, I didn’t want anything to do with responsibility, yet desired to be in control of everything. Milo has taught me that with any power or control comes great responsibility; that no matter what you do, you must take responsibility for your actions. Now I have had the privilege of becoming the head resident assistant for my dorm. I loved the responsibility and the opportunity I had to change lives around me.

When I came to Milo, I didn’t know what it meant to have really good friends. After four years here, I understand friends are a constant source of support. My friends may be spread throughout the states, but I know if I ever needed any of them, they would stop and help me out. I now realize time moves faster than anything else, and I have learned to enjoy every second of life with people who love me.

Don’t get me wrong. Milo isn’t a magic cure-all, but it does offer the chance to start over. The staff helped me so much, especially early on as I struggled to find myself. Chaplain “P.J.” Deming made me come talk to him once a week and helped me stand on my own two feet much better.

There are teachers who come in on Sunday to help you make up your work or get up at five in the morning to open the school and listen to you complain for the hundredth time that they gave you too much homework. We have coaches for every sport, deans who give you unfailing support and people behind-the-scenes who you rarely remember but when you see them, they never forget your name.

This is what Milo is to me: a place devoted to showing me God is in everything that the staff does; a safe place that teaches me how to deal with the world. Milo is home. Milo has changed my life completely, and I wouldn’t change one day of the past four years for anything this world has to offer. The most important thing Milo has taught me, though, is to look forward to Jesus coming back and taking me home with Him. That is the family I was designed to have.

Kim Bartholomew, Milo Academy student
Students Lead Cheney Reaping Event

Upper Columbia Academy students proved Ellen G. White correct when she wrote, “We have an army of youth today who can do much if they are properly directed and encouraged.” UCA students participated in an evangelism series in Cheney, Wash., April 30–May 15.

The students organized and executed each of the meetings. From music to child care and preaching the Gospel, UCA students took an active role in sharing the Three Angels’ Message to an average group of nearly 50 people.

“The goal of these meetings is to give our students the opportunity to see the cycle of evangelism and to be actively involved in sharing Jesus with their community,” says Ken Wetmore, UCA pastor and Cheney Church senior pastor.

It was evident the devil was not supportive of this idea. The Wednesday before the truth about the Sabbath was shared, the student speaker for that topic broke his ankle playing soccer. At the last minute, someone stepped in and several people accepted the truth of the Sabbath for the first time.

God also showed His power during the last Friday evening meeting. Some noise was heard coming from outside of the church. Three community children were playing on the church’s storage container. They were invited to come into the meetings and join the children’s program.

“Awesome!” one of the boys yelled, “let me go ask my mom!” Ten minutes later they returned, and brought their mom. The next morning they were in church right on time.

After hearing the sermon on hell, the mother said to one church member, “Do you guys really believe this? This is the best presentation on hell I’ve heard. I like it! If you guys believe this, I’m going to start coming to your church!”

Seeing young people taking each night’s messages and making them their own was priceless. The Holy Spirit took that gift and multiplied it. By the end of the meetings, four people had committed their lives to Christ and wanted to be baptized. But more than that, the teenagers were changed.

Jordan Wagner, a freshman, says, “Because of sharing in these meetings, I see that I can be used by God, and I want him to continue using me the rest of my life!”

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Come. Be transformed at WWVA.
WWVA Mission Trip to Peru

This past March, more than 20 Walla Walla Valley Academy students traveled to Iquitos, Peru, the largest city in the world with no roads leading to it. The trip focused on evangelism, health presentations and children’s ministries.

Several hours each evening were spent with children in what was aptly labeled “mosquito alley.” A mile before reaching the destination, tiny children jumped on the back of the bus or ran along beside — with more joining each night. In a one-room, unadorned Seventh-day Adventist Church, comfort zones were sometimes invaded as students took unfamiliar leadership roles, became up-front people, bridged language barriers and communicated the Gospel.

One student told how nervous she had been as they drove to the church the first night. She wondered if she was the right person to be telling people about Jesus. As she prayed silently on the bus, God led her to think, “I'm not just telling stories or just putting felts on a board.” She realized that no matter how insignificant her task, she was becoming the love of God.

During the day, students visited public and Adventist schools around the city and gave health and Bible presentations. On the next-to-last day in Iquitos, students visited a special-needs school run by the city where they shared about Jesus and the Gospel. WWVA students’ energy was low, and because of the local students’ special needs, the audience was difficult to engage. At one point, WWVA students told and acted out the story of Daniel in the lions’ den. What they didn’t see was a boy and girl, not from the school, had climbed the exterior courtyard wall and were perched on top. They listened intently to the stories and songs, and laughed as the students played up the dramatically exaggerated characters with facial expressions, actions and theatrical voices.

Those children on the wall reminded all God’s plans are mightier than our expectations. When we feel God’s message is limited, it is taking an unmarked road to the back door of a home we do not see. If we feel our task is insignificant, we must still be faithful because God is at work through us at all times.

WWVA students returned with a deeper commitment to share the Gospel at all times and with all people, whether far or near. They experienced the breadth of the worldwide family of God, the depth of the needs in that family, and the scope and power of the Gospel.

Daniel Perrin, WWVA Bible teacher

More than 20 Walla Walla Valley Academy students visit Peru.

More than 20 Walla Walla Valley Academy students visit Peru.
Lake City Junior Academy Celebrates Centennial

Lake City Junior Academy celebrated its 100th anniversary on May 1, in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. The centennial celebration weekend featured a Sabbath worship service conducted by eight former principals, a historic presentation, tours of former and future campuses, a music vespers, and a reminiscing story time.

“At an event like this is reassuring because it tells us our mission is alive,” says Ray Cummings, a teacher and former principal who has worked at LCJA for a total of 23 years. “We see it well in the students when they come back because of how they have grown in their spirituality and bonded with the church. The Christian friendships they form, in their teen years especially, are so important for this.”

The century-old Seventh-day Adventist school has been through a depression, wars, a fire and many other challenges in its North Idaho community. “But it comes out stronger each time,” says Alan Sather, current LCJA principal. “Hearing how the Lord has led in the past is a real blessing because you realize He will continue to lead in the future.”

The 10-grade school began operating in the fall of 1909 just two years after the first Seventh-day Adventist church was founded in Coeur d’Alene. Classes began in the back of the church and since then have been conducted in four different buildings in Coeur d’Alene.

“We had no playing field,” says Helen Boyes, who began attending in 1929. “When we played volleyball, one team stood on the sidewalk on one side of the net, and the other team stood in the street. But going to a Christian school is important. You see the difference in some of the ones my age who didn’t attend a Christian school.”

Currently 140 students attend classes in a facility that was purchased in the 1950s and added onto in 1978. Planning is underway for a new campus on a 40-acre site the school has purchased for the next generation of LCJA students.

“What makes LCJA really special is the people who support the school,” says Twyla Brown, who was principal of the school from 2002 to 2006 and also attended LCJA from second- through ninth-grade. “These people have a passion for Christian education. When challenges come up, they press together and work through it. They believe Jesus is coming again. That’s what drives people to keep supporting this school.”

Jon Dalrymple, UCC GLEANER correspondent
Children Ditch Classrooms for Outdoor Learning

Every year, hundreds of children ditch classrooms in Upper Columbia Conference schools to get a different kind of education at Camp MiVoden. Their teachers are happy for them to attend this unique, week-long learning experience that the conference has provided for the last 12 years.

Outdoor School is more than just a fun week for youth. Sandy Mason, UCC Outdoor School coordinator, says, “Nature is God’s second book, and you can’t experience nature in a classroom. We teach the kids important skills that you learn best outdoors.”

Outdoor School subjects include camp cooking, fire building, orienteering, outdoor survival, boating safety and a number of other outdoor skills.

“I love Outdoor School. It’s awesome,” says Amalia, a student from Moscow, Idaho, who has attended for three years in a row. “I just learned yesterday three blasts on a whistle or horn is a signal for help. That could be really important to know when you go camping or if you get stranded someplace.”

In addition to skills training, there are many opportunities for students to develop their leadership and teamwork abilities. Whether they are completing a rope obstacle course or building a model rocket, students learn to work together and accomplish things they never thought possible.

“I’ve had kids come up to me after climbing the ropes course and say, ‘I didn’t know I could do that,’” says Mason. “The most important part of Outdoor School is the spiritual aspect,” says Mike Lambert, Stateline (Ore.) Church pastor. “Working with children in God’s creation helps point them to Christ. Out of all the programs we have for children in the Upper Columbia Conference, Outdoor School is the best thing going.”

“I get really excited about Outdoor School,” says Kenny Campbell, Outdoor School pastor for the last six years. “My job is primarily to hold morning and evening worships. But I love spending time with them during the day too and getting to know them better each year. It is a thrill to see them grow up learning to love Jesus.”

“I’d definitely rather be here than at school,” says Amalia. “Not only do you get to meet people from other schools and make new friends, but I think being here gets you closer to God.”

Jon Dalrymple, UCC GLEANER correspondent
Join the Service

Who we are is about Whom we serve. It’s about our desire for Jesus to be a real part of every class period, every event, every tour—and, simply, every “thing.”

At UCA, we tend to stand out because we want to stand up for Jesus. We’re likely to go against the grain because we want to live Jesus’ way. Why? Well, we’re having a blast with Him—and mostly because He is the Powerhouse that shines throughout our campus life.

Join us as we go beyond Adventist education and discover an even closer Christian walk with Jesus. You’ll find that UCA is more than just an education—it’s about experiencing a growing commitment to serving Christ. And in today’s world, who doesn’t want that?

- Relationship With Christ
- Christian Community
- Student Leadership
- Academic Diversity

Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God. 
Romans 15:17 (NIV)

The law of love calls for the devotion of body, mind, and soul to the service of God and our fellow men. . . . Unselfishness underlies all true development. Through unselfish service we receive the highest culture of every faculty.

—Education, page 16

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It’s How You Play the Game

During Walla Walla University’s annual Friendship Tournament, the Upper Columbia Academy men’s and women’s basketball teams demonstrated that it’s not just about the final score.

Along with teams from 10 other academies, UCA’s basketball teams spent some time on the court instead of enjoying home leave, an extended weekend break enabling UCA students from further distances to go home. According to John Willis, women’s basketball coach, the value of participating in this event is learning to compete in a positive environment. “Making friends, learning how to be a good sport, and exemplifying a Christ-like behavior on and off the court are the focus at the tournament,” he says.

Demonstrating their understanding of treating other people with care and respect, UCA students decided to be the cheering section for the teams from Forest Lake Academy in Florida. Due to the distance they traveled, Forest Lake didn’t have the number of supporters most teams had at the tournament. UCA students took note and filled in the gap, offering their support to people they had just recently met.

Proving that it’s not about winning or losing but how you play the game, both UCA teams were awarded the Sportsmanship Award for the tournament. In fact, in the last eight years, UCA has brought home the award five times. John Soule, men’s basketball coach, says, “As a Christian coach, these awards are the highest praise. The game should never be more important than people. And receiving these awards speaks to the quality students we’re privileged to work with.”

Willis concurs, “I’m very proud our students have embraced the idea that sportsmanship is an important, and integral part of who they are as a person,” he says. “Sportsmanship and giving your best is the most important aspect of why we play.”

UCA is committed to providing opportunities for their students to fully develop their minds, their talents and their characters. And this year’s Friendship Tournament was one of those opportunities. So what was the lesson learned? That you always try your best; that you play fairly; that you respect the game, the officials and the other team. When you do that, you can leave with your head held high, regardless of the outcome. It turns out that’s an excellent life lesson as well.

Katie Torkelsen Spoo, UCA GLEANER correspondent
Locals Serving Locals
Missions in the Yakama Nation

This year during spring break, the Walla Walla (Wash.) City Church, joined by the Upper Columbia Academy, returned to the All Nations Center located on the Yakama Indian Reservation. The number of hours and projects were higher this year than last year. In total, there were 37 separate projects worked on with a price tag of more than $26,000.

Members worked in cooperation with Tom Blackeagle, Volunteer Chore Services coordinator, for the elderly in the community.

One aspect of the week was the salmon bake. “I believe that this event may have been the most significant function held at All Nations Center in the 10 years of its existence,” says George Sutton, All Nations Center treasurer. There were nearly 80 volunteers who had worked on the various projects, nearly 20 community business people and nearly 100 community members present at the meal.

A student from UCA says, “My favorite part about it was giving to the people without expectations of anything in return. I think mission trips are the best way to praise God and bring joy to both God and yourself. A lot of the time I just want to stay in my comfort zone, but staying in my own world doesn’t allow God to work through me.”

Participants say each time a mission group goes to the All Nations Center, God works miracles. Sometimes they see them and sometimes they don’t, but God has been working through the cooperation of all the people and organizations. They look forward to being witnesses to God’s power and continuing to work there on the Yakama Indian Reservation.

To see the full article, check out GleanerOnline.org. To see the article with a slide show, go to allnationscenter.org.

Eric Hansen, participant

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• Kim Kjaer
Retired pastor, Amazing Facts

Eric Hansen, participant
Growing Great Schools
Washington Conference Schools Committed to Adventist Christian Education

Enrollment trends in Seventh-day Adventist schools across the nation caused the Washington Conference to specifically focus on how to grow great schools in a multi-year effort to increase enrollment.

“We saw the downward movement of enrollment and wanted to do something about it,” says Lon Gruesbeck, Washington Conference vice president for education. “We are investing in discovering how to grow great schools through leadership, academics, spiritual growth, marketing and teacher development.”

In recent years, a significant number of principals, teachers and school board chairs attended the North American Division’s education marketing summits and participated in multiple training sessions. School boards continue to explore new and creative ways to build enrollment, increase visibility and reinforce community support.

Northwest Christian School in Puyallup, Wash.; Lewis County Adventist School in Chehalis, Wash.; and other schools host a fair booth twice a year as an opportunity for community networking.

“We now have families enrolled in our school who saw us at the fair,” says Marshall Merklin, Northwest Christian School principal. “Our booth allows us to create a fun atmosphere for kids and gives us an opportunity to tell their parents what we’re all about.”

In addition, many schools — including Northwest Christian School, Shelton Valley Christian School, Kirkland Adventist School, Olympia Christian School, Puget Sound Adventist Academy and Skagit Adventist Academy — host frequent open houses where prospective students and their parents can visit the educational campus.

Cypress Adventist School in Lynnwood, Wash., hosts Christian Education Sabbaths in constituent churches where school leaders give little bear baskets with a miniature bear in a school shirt, an Adventist education brochure and a certificate for a free first month of tuition to church families with prospective students.

Buena Vista Adventist School in Auburn, Wash., presents a $100 tuition certificate to families in constituent churches when they dedicate their new baby.

“Our school understands that it takes a lot of individuals to nurture a child,” says Ron Trautwein, Buena Vista Adventist School principal. “The school wants to partner with parents to prepare their children for life and eternity, spiritually, physically, mentally and socially.”

Whether schools are improving their facilities, engaging in creative marketing, investing in professional development for leaders and teachers, focusing on community service, or developing campus witnessing plans, the schools in the Washington Conference are committed to growing great schools.

“We are committed to addressing the spiritual and academic culture and climate of our schools by strengthening relationships, providing excellence and improving service,” says Gruesbeck. “This is what we’re all about.”

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director
AAA Students Serve God Abroad

Each year, a large contingent of Auburn Adventist Academy students and staff depart for a spring-break mission trip to serve God abroad.

This year, 105 students and staff headed to Fiji to build a dormitory and a classroom, provide medical care, and present four evangelistic meetings (resulting in 50 baptisms) and children’s programming.

A tropical storm over Fiji however, stranded the spring-break missionaries in Los Angeles, Calif., for 24 hours while new flight arrangements were made. A grocery store and a local Adventist church provided enough food for the missionaries during the unexpected delay.

Once in Fiji, local church members greeted each missionary with leis. Pre-assigned crews — for construction, hydration, laundry, medical work, outreach ministry and more — immediately set up and got to work.

“It’s been the best experience of my life,” says Krista Reseck, a junior from Port Townsend, Wash., about her time in Fiji. “The people are really nice.”

Between manual labor, community service projects and cultural outings, students learned about Fijian culture and interacted with the people they served. Many local members expressed appreciation for AAA’s students setting an example of how young people can respect their elders and still be involved and active in ministry.

“I pray that this great adventure begins to instill into every heart and life the importance of service and the understanding that individuals can make a huge difference,” says Mark Weir, AAA chaplain.

Read Fiji journal entries at washingtonconference.org.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director

Cedarbrook Students Help a Neighbor

When students participate in community service, they learn to recognize different ways to serve people in their community.

In late April, students at Cedarbrook Adventist Christian School in Port Hadlock, Wash., helped a lady in the community who had moss and algae growing on her vinyl fence. The fence needed washing, and the upper-grade students stepped in to help their elderly neighbor.

For the 17 students, it seemed like an impossible task when they saw how much fence there was to clean, but they persevered, and two-and-a-half hours later, the fence was sparkling white again.

The neighbor was so thankful for the Cedarbrook students who took time to help her. “This is wonderful, thank you,” she said when the students finished their task.

Greg Reseck, Cedarbrook Adventist Christian School principal/teacher
Kinder School Demonstrates Giving Spirit

Enthusiasm, energy and joy — these are some of the youthful qualities that the Kinder School class of Skagit Adventist Academy in Burlington, Wash., have been sharing with the residents of Country Meadow Village in Sedro Woolley, Wash.

Students visited the retirement village four times this school year to sing; to share hats, candy canes, jelly bean treasure boxes or flowers; and to give hugs. The residents especially seem to enjoy the interactive songs where they get to clap their hands. The local weekly newspaper once featured the class on the front page after a visit.

Again in the spirit of giving, the class collected money at Thanksgiving to buy pumpkin pies, cookies and oranges for the Sedro Woolley Community Thanksgiving dinner.

At Christmastime, the class of 15 preschool and kindergarten students gathered gifts, wrapped presents and delivered them to a single mom with three small children.

The children always get excited about giving to others and making Jesus glad. One parent tells how her child said, “I can't be sick today. We are going to visit the old people and make them happy.”

Throughout the school year, these young students learn lifelong habits of being generous. Students also don’t mind the cookies they receive after their programs at the retirement home.

Lucille Nelson, SAA Kinder School teacher

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Adventist Health News Notes

Top-notch Pneumonia Care in Walla Walla

Walla Walla General Hospital was recently named a top-performing hospital for pneumonia care according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The hospital achieved top status for providing treatment known to get the best results.

As a result of consistently high marks, WWGH was featured in a study by The Commonwealth Fund entitled, “Walla Walla General Hospital: Setting Staff Up for Success in Pneumonia Care.”

The study describes the strategies and factors contributing to the hospital's consistent 99th-percentile ranking. Read it here: www.WhyNotTheBest.org.

Kiosks Streamline Cardiac Care Access in Portland, Ore.

Getting ready for cardiac care just got easier at Adventist Medical Center. The hospital recently implemented self-service registration kiosks in its Pavilion lobby. The confidential, self-registration system is designed to improve the patient experience by reducing registration wait times and enhancing confidentiality. The system also provides patients with the autonomy and empowerment they desire in maintaining personal information. User-friendly kiosks are currently being used for all outpatient cardiology patients. The next phase of the rollout will include outpatient radiology and surgical patients.

Tillamook Community Commemorates Hospital Week

Hospitals across the country celebrated National Hospital Week May 9–15, with in-house festivities for employees and staff. But Tillamook County General Hospital took a different tactic by opening its doors for the community. Local residents joined TCGH in celebrating the week by participating in Community Health Day on May 12. Community members accessed wellness screenings, including cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure checks. A free Lunch and Lecture featured a presentation by Scott A. Doherty, podiatrist.

Anderson to Lead Physician Services at WWGH

Brian Anderson is the new vice president of Physician Services for Walla Walla General Hospital, according to Monty Knittel, WWGH president and CEO. Anderson began his tenure at the hospital in 2008 via Adventist Health’s two-year administrative resident program. With previous experience in administrative roles, Anderson served as vice president and CFO of Capitol Medical Center in Olympia, Wash. He was also the controller at Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore., and held positions at Florida Hospital in Orlando, Fla.

AMC Stroke Services are Solid Gold

Adventist Medical Center is celebrating acquisition of the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines® Stroke Gold Plus Performance Achievement Award. It recognizes the facility’s commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care by ensuring stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations. To receive the award, AMC was required to maintain 85 percent compliance to core standard levels as outlined by the AHA/ASA for 24 consecutive months. These requirements include aggressive use of acute-care therapies and secondary prevention tools.

Shawna Malvini, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent
At 12 years old, Amber Mitchell already knew how to use complex engineering software and had drawn designs for the renovation of her family’s home. Now a senior civil engineering major at Walla Walla University, Mitchell is seeing the international impact of her skills.

As the lead of a project design team working on designing classrooms for an overflowing school in Luis Garcia, Honduras, Mitchell played a large part in Hope for Honduras, a long-term project adopted by the Walla Walla University chapter of Engineers Without Borders. The three-phase project will improve and expand the Honduras school’s facilities.

“We had to present our project to a board of certified professional engineers,” says Mitchell, “and had to defend our design.”

Contrary to what they had heard might happen, the design passed the first time.

“For this project, I relied heavily on the structural engineering and soils classes I took at WWU,” says Mitchell. “But some things we had to do were not taught in class, and gave us the opportunity to develop our research skills and rely on mentors, much as we will once we graduate.”

It wasn’t just engineering skills that were required to complete this project.

“It was very important to know how to work with people,” says Mitchell. “Much of the work was done through e-mail and Internet phone calls, and sometimes we worked with people we’d never met.”

John Hawkins, president of EWB-WWU, fellow senior civil engineering major and fluent in Spanish, was a huge asset for Mitchell and her team. He did much of the on-site coordinating with contacts in Honduras.

EBW asks that projects follow local building practices, so the team was restricted to using local materials. Because Honduras has no building codes, the classrooms were built to American standards, requiring nearly four times as much steel as typical Honduran buildings.

Though this pushed the costs up, the team was convinced the resulting classrooms could withstand the earthquakes and hurricanes they may one day experience.

“It’s not our goal to go in and build something in a totally new way, just because it’s how we’d do it back home,” Mitchell explains. “We want the community to take ownership of the building and be proud of what they’ve done.”

To this end, EWB-WWU did very little of the actual building, only pitching in when they were absolutely needed.
“Just before we left, I ran up to the work site for one last look,” recalls Mitchell. “As I stood there, I realized that standing in front of me was a building I had helped design, and one day soon there would be students sitting under the beams I had specified, learning the same basic math and science that started me on this journey.”

Mitchell notes that working with EWB not only exposes students to third-world cultures, it also helps form their world views and shape them into the engineers they’ll be for the rest of their lives.

“It gives us experience we can’t get from any class,” she says. “We get to see a project through from its visionary stages to completion, and that’s huge.”

Because of Mitchell, her team of designers, and the support of the WWU community, 250 more students can attend school in the little village of Luis Garcia, Honduras. To learn about the next phase of the Hope for Honduras project, as well as other EWB-WWU projects, and to see photos and video footage from their recent trip, visit ewb-wwu.org.

Becky St. Clair, WWU GLEANER correspondent

In order to finish the classrooms in 12 days before the WWU group left, community members sometimes worked through the night.
Cornell 90th
Blanche Cornell celebrated her 90th year with a potluck dinner and party organized by her family and her Springfield (Ore.) Church family. A photo slide montage of her colorful life engaged nearly 250 attendees in the fellowship hall. The tables were decorated with white tablecloths, silk flowers and mementos of Blanche’s life. Vintage shoes and hats nestled among many family photos pointed to “Mother’s tendency to dress up and act the part of a starlet” says her son, Lonnie. Photos of her wearing dresses and heels at picnics testified to that. Keith told a story of how his great-grandmother gave socks at all birthdays, Christmas and other holidays. Weston and Cody brought in the birthday cake in little antique hay wagons and received hugs from “GG,” or Great Grandma.

Blanche was born in Granger, Wash., Feb. 29, 1920, a leap year. Her claim of being only 22 1/2 years old could be one of the reasons she remains so full of life. Her diligent exercise regime, healthy cooking and trust in God contribute, too.

Blanche graduated from Granger High School in 1938. She attended Ellendale Business College the next year. In 1941, she married Duane Cornell in Woodland, Wash. They spent 66 years together, including 36 years in the Pendleton, Ore., area. The marriage ended in 1977. Blanche married Rudy Johnson in 1979. They were married from 1983–1997 until Rudy’s death. Rudy was pastor of the Springfield Church, and they remained members after his retirement. Blanche’s church membership at the Springfield Church is hitting the 20-year mark. Through the years she has served her church as greeter, hospitality hostess, Sabbath School secretary, and more. Rudy and Blanche started an in-home small-group Bible and prayer group, and Blanche continued to host them for 16 years. Many members of the group have chosen to be baptized through their contact in her home. Blanche married Duane Cornell in 2002. They are happily enjoying retirement and have kept active, including going on a Maranatha mission trip to India in 2006. Blanche’s family includes Lonnie Robinson, a builder; Sheryl Robinson, a nurse; Jerry Robinson, in trucking; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Haynes 65th
Don and Marie (Hansen) Haynes celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in September 2009, at their home in Camas, Wash. Marie spent her youth in Cedar Creek, Wash., and Don in Battle Ground, Wash. They met while attending Columbia Adventist Academy. Don sat in front of Marie in classes, and she loved to tease him. Don served in the U.S. Army during World War II and while on furlough, he and Marie were married by the Justice of the Peace in Clark County on Sept. 20, 1944. Don served overseas as an ambulance driver in France. Following his military service, Don worked in Clark County as a truck driver for more than 30 years. Marie was a homemaker with a passion for sewing. Many new families at her church have received a quilt welcoming a baby. Over the years, she has personalized a memory quilt for each grandchild and is currently working on her last. Together Don and Marie deliver a weekly community newspaper, The Reflector, and have been doing so for more than 20 years, rarely missing a day.

Don and Marie have lived their entire married life in Clark County. They have a passion for their church and helped plant two churches in Clark County — Orchards and Hockinson Heights churches.

The Haynes family includes Wes and Donna (Burden) Haynes, Battle Ground; Gary and Madelyn (Grignon) Haynes, Gresham, Ore.; Wes and Mareatta (Haynes) Kandoll, Vancouver, Wash.; 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Miller 90th
Willard W. Miller celebrated his 90th birthday in August 2009 in Minnesota. Willard was born July 12, 1919, in Ellendale, Wash. He served as personnel sergeant major for the sixth cavalry in Europe during World War II. He graduated from Oregon State University with a master’s of science in education. Willard moved to Oregon in 1947 to work as a high school teacher in Gold Beach and Monroe, and then he worked in Woodland, Calif., public schools until 1974. He then worked as a field representative for Christian Record for Northern California until 1985. In 1990, Willard moved to Florence, Ore., and then to Sutherlin, Ore., in 1999. Willard’s family includes his wife, Jean Miller, Sutherlin.

Milestones
Cornell 90th
Moor-Thorman — Trisha Moor and Marlin Thomaran were married May 30, 2010, in Battle Ground, Wash. They are making their home in Collegedale, Tenn. Trisha is the daughter of Jim and Lynae Moor. Marlin is the son of Marvin and Lisa Thomaran.

Sullivan-Matiko — Tara Sullivan and Jon Matiko were married May 20, 2010, in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. They are making their home in Woodinville, Wash. Tara is the daughter of John and Kim Sullivan. Jon is the son of Rob and Pamela Matiko.
BEIERLE — Evan Joseph James was born March 2, 2010, to Ben and Heather Beierle.

BOWER — Jonathan Clark Yiwei was born March 2, 2008, adopted March 10, 2010, by Brent and Jody Bower, Bothell, Wash.

DEALY — Hadasah Harmony was born April 3, 2010, to Matt and Deidre Dealy, Gold Bar, Wash.

DODGE — Samuel Cooper was born April 28, 2010, to Brendan and Vesna (Ostojc) Dodge, Tillamook, Ore.

MCGILL — Campbell Denold was born April 13, 2010, to James and Christina (Bond) McGill, Days Creek, Ore.

PESTES — Caroline Sofia was born April 2, 2010, to Larry L. and Lorena (Sarría Paniagua) Pestes, Boring, Ore.

SANTO — Jasmine Vienna was born March 25, 2010, to Roger and Camille Santo, Everett, Wash.

SHAWLER — Bianc Amera was born Feb. 27, 2010, to Bill and Carrera (Lizzi) Shawler, Ridgefield, Wash.

VINCENT — Connor Matthew James was born March 2, 2010, to Josh and Tina Vincent.

WILLIAMS — Emma Elizabeth was born May 3, 2010, to Brian and Jenny (Stewart) Williams, Walla Walla, Wash.

ARROYO — Jose G., 87; born June 22, 1922, Las Canoas, Michoacán, Mexico; died April 27, 2010, Pendleton, Ore. Surviving: wife, Donna (Brittain); sons, Javier and Frank, both of Pendleton; Rigberto, Obed, Arturo and Carlos, all of Mexico; daughters, Marina Hernandez and Olga Arroyo, both of Pendleton; brothers, Nazario and Roberto, both of Mexico; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

BAKER — Irene Marguerite (Barrows), 89; born July 12, 1920, Shanghai, China; died March 16, 2010, Corvallis, Ore. Surviving: husband, Prince, Monroe, Ore.; son, David, Monroe; daughters, Virginia Baker, Sacramento, Calif.; Marguerite Burrill, Marysville, Wash.; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.


BOWMAN — Lois M. (Jordan), 78; born Aug. 8, 1931, Winona, Wash.; died March 16, 2010, Pendleton, Ore. Surviving: husband, Arnie; stepson, Mike Bowman; stepdaughters, Nancy Gonzales; Cindy Tinoco; brother, Virgil Jordan; sisters, Caryl Jacobson; Jeanne Gaugh; 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

BULLOCK — Betty June (Hansen), 84; born June 17, 1925, Cloquet, Minn.; died March 7, 2010, Medford, Ore. Surviving: husband, William; sons, Daniel, Mt. Shasta, Calif.; Joseph, Antananarivo, Madagascar; daughters, Margery James, San Antonio, Texas; Jeanne Hildebrand, Loma Linda, Calif.; and 5 grandchildren.


Roseburg; 4 grandchildren, a step-grandchild and 3 great-grandchildren.


**FLEMMER** — Leah "Lily" (Graf), 92; born March 20, 1917, Napoleon, Ariz.; died March 9, 2010, McMinnville, Ore. Surviving: sons, Clarence, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Elmer, San Antonio, Texas; Harry, College Place, Wash.; daughters, Hilda McClure, Lorraine Ferguson and Karen Flemmer, all of College Place; Gladys Barnes, Portland, Ore.; Elsie Flemmer, Walla Walla; Sharon Welch, Olathe, Kan.; and 10 grandchildren.


**GRANZOW** — Leith K., 83; born Feb. 21, 1927, Thompson, Iowa; died March 9, 2010, Bremerton, Wash. Surviving: stepsons, Donald Johnston, Salt Lake City, Utah; David Johnston, Billings, Mont.; daughter, Kim Sorensen; sisters, Mayme Mann, Billings, Mont.; daughter, Kim Gilbreth, Walla Walla, Wash.; and 8 grandchildren.

**HUTSON** — Elwood J., 89; born Jan. 4, 1921, Hood River, Ore.; died March 11, 2010, Hood River. Surviving: wife, Berniece (Wart); sons, Brad, Steven, Wash.; Don, Hood River; daughters, Karen Hutson, Seattle, Wash.; Sandy Warzynski, Wilsonville, Ore.; 5 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

**JAMES** — Danella Hope (Clement), 76; born April 21, 1933, Seattle, Wash.; died Feb. 22, 2010, McMinnville, Ore. Surviving: sons, Benjamin Jr., Marysville, Wash.; David, McMinnville; daughters, Chrysilla James, Marysville; Betty Moore, Sitka, Alaska; Tammy Wynn, McMinnville; and 8 grandchildren.

**JORGENSEN** — Mae ( Olson) Greer, 89; born May 6, 1920, Chicago, Ill.; died April 21, 2010, Grants Pass, Ore. Surviving: sons, Bruce Greer, Oceanside, Ore.; Dennis Greer, Spokane, Wash.; Larry Greer, Grants Pass; James Greer, Silverton, Ore.; Stewart Greer, Grants Falls, Mont.; daughter, Linda ( Greer) Medcalf, Arlington, Texas; 14 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.


**MAGNEY** — Dean R., 66; born Dec. 22, 1943, Minneapolis, Minn.; died Feb. 19, 2010, Nampa, Idaho. Surviving: wife, Jewel (Long); son, Brad, Reno, Nev.; daughter, Kim Magney, Center City, Minn.; parents, Harry and Christine (Jones) Magney, Bainerd, Minn.; brothers, Richard Jones, of Florida; Jim Jones, Glendora, Calif.; Jon Jones, Minneapolis, Minn.; Gary Jones and David Jones, both of Minnesota; sisters, Loretta Finden, Marion DeLuny and Rosie Winterber, all of Minnesota.


**PALEY** — Michael, 78; born Aug. 28, 1931, Myrnam, Alberta, Canada; died Feb. 18, 2010, Roseburg, Ore. Surviving: wife, Geraldine “Geri” (Hanson), Winchester, Ore.; sons, Marion, Redlands, Calif.; Darren, Loma Linda, Calif.; daughters, Lauren McGilchrist, Marietta, Ga.; Heather Brown, Fallbrook, Calif.; sister, Marge Haluschak, Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada; 4 grandchildren and 4 step-grandchildren.


**PYKE** — Fern (Wise), 89; born Dec. 3, 1920, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; died Feb. 18, 2010, Mount Vernon, Wash. Surviving: daughters, Sally Turner and Nancy Topham, both of Mount Vernon; 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**RILEY** — Hugh Marshall, 89; born March 17, 1920, Charleston, S.C.; died Jan. 12, 2010, Hamilton, Mont. Surviving: wife, Sophie (Roosenberg); daughters, JoAnn McKey, Nampa, Idaho; Janet Riley, Hamilton; sister,
Mary King, Colleagedale, Tenn.; 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.


**SANDERS** — Deloris E. “Dee” (Clark), 83; born Aug. 13, 1926, Glendale, Calif.; died Jan. 13, 2010, Jacksonville, Ore. Surviving: sons, Dennis, White City; daughters, Bob, Canby, Ore.; daugthers, Peggy Register, Murphy, Ore.; Diane Roth, College Place, Wash.; Beverly Glasgow, White City; 14 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.


**SMITH** — Richard A. Sr., 68; born April 18, 1941, Providence, R.I.; died March 8, 2010, Lake Stevens, Wash. Surviving: wife, Rosalie (Moss); son, Richard A. Jr., Peoria, Ariz.; daughter, Deborah Heurion, Marysville, Wash.; Loris Martin, Lynden, Wash.; Tracy Lawrence, Lake Stevens; Edith Hamm, Granite Falls, Wash.; mother, Ruth V. Smith, Port Angeles, Wash.; brother, Steven L., Port Angeles; and 13 grandchildren.


**TAPLEY** — Linda Karan (Robinson), 66; born March 28, 1943, Pendleton, Ore.; died March 26, 2010, Pendleton. Surviving: husband, William; son, Billy, Pendleton; daughters, Connie Swales, Pendleton; Kim Palmer, Salt Lake City, Utah; Debbie Albury, Pendleton; Traci Carothers, Wasilla, Alaska; 14 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.


**TAYLOR** — Ival, 87; born Sept. 19, 1922, Klamath Falls, Ore.; died April 3, 2010, Malin, Ore. Surviving: wife, Mary (Elzner), Klamath Falls; sons, Jerry, Dayton, Ohio; Douglass, College Place, Wash.; Roger, Malin; sisters, Maxine Ramsland, McMinnville, Ore.; Jean Brown and Dorothy Roberts, both of Klamath Falls; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.


**WALTERS** — Glenn A., 84; born June 6, 1925, Portland, Ore.; died March 22, 2010, Newberg, Ore. Surviving: wife, Viola R. (Dodge); son, Cliff, Redland, Calif.; daughter, Shirley Leek, Sherwood, Ore.; brother, Dean, Hillsboro, Ore.; sister, Betty Unterseher, Forest Grove, Ore.; 9 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**WEBB** — Raymond Thomas, 64; born Sept. 7, 1945, Pasco, Wash.; died March 3, 2010, Richland, Wash. Surviving: wife, Jeanie (Santo), Kennewick, Wash.; daughter, Bobby Jo Engeberg, Pasco; brother, Everett, Kennewick; and 2 grandchildren.


**WHITE** — Clara (Choban), 95; born Dec. 16, 1914, Trux, Saskatchewan, Canada; died April 15, 2010, Boise, Idaho. Surviving: son, Don, Colombia; Md.; daughter, Esther Kannenberg, Meridian, Idaho; brothers, Alex Choban, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada; Dan Choban, Rock Stream, N.Y.; sister, Ruth Wicker, Bahama, N.C.; 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

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Offering
July 3 — Local Church Budget; July 10 — NAD: Women’s Ministries*; July 17 — Local Church Budget; July 24 — Local Conference Advance; July 31 — Union Conference Designated:
Alaska Conference
Special materials provided.

Special Days
Curriculum Focus for the Month — Adventist Lifestyle+
July 10 — Home Study International Promotional Day
Curriculum resource materials are published in NAD church resource journals — Sabbath School Leadership, Celebración, Célébration, Kids’ Ministry Ideas and Cornerstone Youth Resource Journal.

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Idaho
WWU Graduates Alumni Event in the Boise Area
July 18 — Join fellow Walla Walla University alumni for a Boise Hawks baseball game on Sunday at 7:15 p.m. when they play the Spokane Indians at the Hawks Memorial Stadium. Limited seats are available. Register online at alumni.wallawalla.edu or call the alumni department at 509-527-2644.

Oregon
Oregon Conference Church Missing Members
The Oregon Conference Church is looking for the following people: Rhonda J. Dashon, Jonathan Davidson, Ricky and Vicky Davie, Richard Dickerson, Donald J. Dominique, Timothy Duncan, Timothy J. Duncan, Allison Dunn, Angela M. Duto, Ted Edgren, Joshua Engel, Allan A. Fleenor, Lori Ford and Carol Forsman. Please call 503-850-3571 if you have any information about these people or e-mail maryjane.zollbrecht@oc.npuc.org.

Washington
Car and Bike Show
Aug. 15 — Car and bike enthusiasts are invited to the sixth annual Shelton Valley Christian Show N’ Shine held from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. on the Shelton Valley Christian Campus, 201 W. Shelton Valley Rd., Shelton, WA. This is a family event with kids’ bounce house, door prizes, great food, a raffle and trophies. To register or for more information, call 360-426-2474 or see our Web site at www.sheltonshowandshine.com.

World Church
Adventist Heritage Tour
Oct. 12-20 — In the Footsteps of the Pioneers tour with Jim Nix, EGW Estate director. See New England, New York and Michigan. Check it out at www.npuc.org or e-mail sue.patzer@nw.npuc.org.

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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Milton-Freewater</td>
<td>5191 E. Euclid Ave, Spokane Valley, WA 99216-1815</td>
<td>509-386-6293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Rochelein</td>
<td>3605 S. Division Ave, Spokane Valley, WA 99018</td>
<td>509-684-2345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>College Place/Walla Walla</td>
<td>505 S. College Ave, College Place WA 99324-1226</td>
<td>509-684-2345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Medford Branch</td>
<td>632 Crater Lake Ave, Medford, OR 97504-8014</td>
<td>541-734-0567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Upper Columbia</td>
<td>1900 S. College Ave, College Place, WA 99324-1226</td>
<td>509-386-6293</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Nampa Branch</td>
<td>1350 N. Kings Rd, Nampa, ID 83687-3193</td>
<td>208-665-2352</td>
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<td>19700 Oatfield Rd, Gladstone, OR 97027-5020</td>
<td>503-850-3300</td>
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<td>777 Fairview, Boise, ID 83704-8418</td>
<td>208-375-7525</td>
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<td>Portland Branch</td>
<td>2201 W. Burnside St, Portland, OR 97209</td>
<td>503-223-1660</td>
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<td>505 S. College Ave, College Place WA 99324-1226</td>
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PLANNING YOUR FALL EVANGELISM? Sunnyside Church in Portland worked with SermonView for their evangelistic campaign earlier this year, and saw 130 non-Adventist guests the first night. It’s another example of why SermonView has become the fastest growing provider of Adventist handbills in North America. Visit www.sermonview.com/handbills or call 800-525-5791 to learn more.

PURCHASE ONLINE at www.internationalbibles.com, a secure, fully functioning online Christian bookstore available 24/7 for your convenience. Provides Church supplies, Bible reference books and foreign-language Bibles. We also offer Adventist publications, SS quarterlies, study guides, the latest in Gospel music and much more. You may also order by phone: 402-502-0883.

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Here I Stand

Half a Millenium
The Protestant Reformation
The 95 Theses – Diet of Worms – Diet of Augsburg
Oct. 31, 1517
Apr. 18, 1521
Jun. 25, 1530

Camp Meeting Revival Weekend
McMinnville Seventh-day Adventist Church
July 16 – 18, 2010

The People of Israel rejected her Messiah after 490 years of probationary time. May we not let the light of the Reformation die out and as Adventist Remnant Protestants steer clear of repeating history.

❖ A call for renewal
❖ A time to remember
❖ Prayer to be sealed in Christ
❖ A Commitment on the part of the Remnant

Featured Presenters

Lynn Bryson
McMinnville Pastor

John Sutton & Aaron Auer
“Reviving Oregon’s Amazing Roots”

John Reeve
Church History
Andrews University

Jim John
River’s Edge SDA Company

Weekend Schedule

Fri. July 16–7:00 pm
Sat. July 17–9:30 am
Sat. July 17–16:45 am
Sat. Potluck Lunch–12:15 pm
Sat. Outing to State Capitol Grounds w Aaron Auer to see Jason Lee & Circuit Rider Statues and recount a righteous history–3:00 pm
Sat. “Sanctuary Message in 2010”–3:00 pm
Sat. Report from Church in South Africa–4:00 pm
Sat. Potluck Light Supper–6:00 pm
Sat. Evening–7:00 pm
Sun. July 18–10:30 am
Sun. July 18–ABC Book Sale & vege~Burger Feed–12:00 pm

Location Address: 1500 SW Old Sheridan Road, McMinnville, Oregon. Overflow parking in near by parking lots with shuttle bus to the church auditorium. For more information about area lodging and other questions call (503) 472-7841

This event will be filmed for broadcast
The Case for the Investigative Judgment

Could It Really Happen?
From the beginning of our church, we have held the strong conviction that God has called us to warn the world of what lies ahead. But what if our prophetic understanding is wrong? On the other hand, if it is correct, don’t we have an enormous responsibility to tell the world what we believe?
English. 0-8163-2185-X. US$16.99
Spanish. 0-8163-9353-2. US$13.99

Challenges to the Remnant
On July 10, 2007, Pope Benedict XVI reasserted the absolute authority of the Roman Catholic Church when he approved a document stating that Protestant churches were not “true churches” and therefore did not have the “means of salvation.” Not surprisingly, this created a stir among other Christians including Seventh-day Adventists.
English. 0-8163-2273-2. US$16.99

The Case for the Investigative Judgment
Ultimately, the doctrine of the investigative judgment tells us about God—that He’s reasonable, He’s fair, and He’s on our side in the judgment. It tells us about ourselves, too—who we are and why we’re here. Can you afford not to be able “to exercise the faith which is essential at this time”?
Sometimes I Don’t Feel Like Praying!
As you read this book you will find tools to handle the worst that life can throw at you—addictions, unfair treatment, failing relationships, health problems, and death. How? By becoming a new you. Don’t wait. Start today!

Help, Lord, I Blew It Again
“When you’re being beaten up by temptation and feel depressed for having blown it again—look to Jesus. . . . He will become the great passion of your life.” This book is crammed full of inspiring stories and practical suggestions which will irrevocably change your life.

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Winlock Campmeeting 2010
Religious Liberty Today, Yesterday & Tomorrow
August 12–15

Please join us for Campmeeting—a time of renewal and spiritual refreshment. Key speaker is Lincoln Steed, Liberty Magazine editor.

Meetings start Thursday evening at 7 p.m. with song service before that. Friday and Sabbath meetings are: 9:30–10:30; 11–12; 2:30–3:30; 4–5; 7–8. Sunday: 9:30–10:30 Devotional; and 11–12 Clean up/Lunch. Meals: Breakfast 8–9:30; Lunch 12–2; Dinner 5–6:30.

Health Fair Booth will be open between meetings starting on Friday.

Join us at 2660 Hwy 603, Winlock, WA 98596
Please RSVP to 360-864-4144 or 360-266-0347 or e-mail kelownabc@aol.com with RSVP in subject line.
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On Sabbath, July 10, Give a Gift to the Women of the Church.

Be a Part of the North American Division Women’s Ministries Offering

Your generous gift on Sabbath, July 10, 2010, will provide resources to equip women for service in the Church and in the community.

Mark your tithe envelope “NAD Women’s Ministries Offering.”

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“Two roads diverged in a yellow wood ... And I — I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.”
— Robert Frost

Faced with two options leading into the uncertain territory of our senior year in high school, I and a few free spirits selected English Seminar for our senior language track. While most of our classmates took the path of least resistance into the standard English IV regimen, our choice of the “road less traveled” proved to be a watershed experience.

Understand, this was not without some initial trepidation. Our course of study took us deep into literary thought down through the ages. The iconic minds from the annals of history were far from my ken, even though I was a voracious reader. My book teeth had been cut on a more benevolent menu of Uncle Arthur, Sam Campbell, Ruth Wheeler and Eric B. Hare. This classical stuff was complex. It made my brain tired — gave me journalistic indigestion. I longed for the leeks and garlic of Spotted Boy and the Comanches.

But our wise instructor encouraged us to chew more thoroughly. We circled the wagons, er, chairs during class and talked about what we had read. In those small-group discussions, I found that understanding requires good listening. I had often read with a preconceived notion or foregone conclusion. Here I was confronted with other backgrounds and perspectives. To admit I did not have all the answers was a crucial step in critical thinking — and, remarkably, of faith itself.

We wrapped up our semester with the Bible. I had often before felt spiritual themes were spoon-fed to us — “Here, this is good for you, open up.” But here within our circle of chairs we were blessed with a veteran teacher who wisely gave us time to think and pray and write and discuss and ... listen.

Listening: Is there a dearth of it these days? I hear loud and angry voices raised against real or imagined wrongs. I hear them in the media and sometimes even in Sabbath School classes.

It all reminds me of the belligerent crowd pressing its way through torchlit streets to shout down Pilate’s last weak words of reason and convict the Prince of Peace.

We would modulate both our voices and our minds if we would but listen before speaking. After all, as William Congreve, early English writer, observed, “He who closes his ears to the views of others shows little confidence in the integrity of his own views.”

Driving toward home recently, I was doing my Adventist best to obey the speed limit when I noticed a pickup truck rapidly gaining in my rear view mirror. It was a ghastly vehicle, paint peeling, front bumper canted off to one side. Music blaring, it roared around me and then swerved abruptly back in front, close enough for me to observe two ironic bumper stickers. One said: “In Guns We Trust;” the other: “Honk if you love Jesus.”

I resisted the urge to honk. I figured the driver wouldn’t really be listening.

1. Excerpted from Robert Frost, “The Road Not Taken.”

You may respond to any Gleaner topic by sending an e-mail to: talk@gleaneronline.org
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