By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen.
Job 37:10 (NKJV)

I was recently thinking about the most successful evangelistic effort I ever had. It wasn't really an evangelistic meeting in the ordinary sense of the word. It was a funeral. Here's the story behind the story.

Two boys were having a sort of Tom Sawyer afternoon fishing down by the river near Kalama, Washington. The thought occurred to them that, since they were having no success where they were, perhaps the fish would be biting on the other side. The easiest way to get there was obvious — the nearby railroad trestle that spanned over the water. So they climbed up the side of the trestle and started to gingerly walk across the rails to the other side. They were nearing the end of the crossing when the unthinkable happened. A suddenly growing vibration in the rails signaled an approaching Amtrak train traveling at full speed through this section of rural Southwest Washington.

The older boy leaped to safety. In vain he waited for the younger boy to follow. But the little lad was paralyzed by fear, frozen, unable to jump as the train rolled over him.

Local reports in the newspaper, on the radio and on television told and retold the tragic story. As the reports were still circulating, I received a phone call from one of our church members who informed me the grandparents of the boys were former members of our church. They suggested I might want to make a pastoral call. When I arrived at the home, I discovered the mother of the boys was there visiting her parents. What do you do or say at a time like that? I listened. I cried. I shared promises from God’s Word. I prayed. And through my imperfect efforts, the Holy Spirit somehow ministered to their urgent needs.

In fact, because they were not active in any other church, they requested I conduct the memorial service. I agreed.

And, because it takes time to heal after such a sudden and painful loss, I stayed in touch with the family. Often at the time of our greatest need, we are most open to understanding spiritual realities. Tragic circumstances can provide unique opportunities for new beginnings.

And so it was in this case. The entire family had an awakening, a renewal of spiritual commitment, a closer bonding with each other and with the Lord. Eventually 14 people were baptized and found comfort in the beautiful message of the Blessed Hope.

So, you see, it really was an evangelistic experience and another example of how God can bring good things from bad experiences. It's something from which we can all take courage, “while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed,” (Titus 2:13, NLT).
Society of Adventist Communicators Highlights Northwest Personnel

The Society of Adventist Communicators’ annual convention was held Oct. 14–16 in Rochester, N.Y., and highlighted several Northwest communication professionals among nearly 150 attendees. The SAC board members include: Steve Vistaunet, GLEANER editor; Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director; and Kevin Krueger, Positive Life Radio general manager. Jay Winternmeyer, Upper Columbia Conference communication director, gave a presentation on the conference’s “Share the Life” initiative. Becky St. Clair, Walla Walla University news and information coordinator, accepted the annual SAC Award of Excellence on behalf of the university’s project Called: Our Journey into Faith and Discovery. Jason Satterlund, Spokane, Wash.-based freelance filmmaker, also helped present a workshop on Adventist Health’s training film, God’s Fingerprints. Photos of the convention and other SAC information are available at www.adventistcommunicator.org. Next year’s SAC convention will be held Oct. 20–22 in Chicago, Ill.

Oops!

The October Adventist Health feature noted how nearly $3 million was provided in free and low-cost services to communities in 2009. While this is commendable, unfortunately two zeros were left off the equation. The actual figure is much, much higher ... and even more commendable — $300 million.

Additionally in the November issue, the Oregon Conference story “Baptisms Follow The Dalles Youth Park Evangelism,” in both the text and photo caption, Bruce Schmidt is identified as a teacher with the Mid-Columbia Adventist School. Schmidt is the head teacher at The Dalles Adventist School.

Also in the November issue, the Upper Columbia Conference story “WWVA Graduate Accepted into West Point,” mislabeled and misspelled Kathy McMorris Rogers. Her first name is Cathy, and she is a Washington State representative for the fifth district, not a state senator.

We encourage all story authors and submitters to please double check names and places for accuracy.

Knowles Steps in as Montana President

The Montana Conference executive committee, met Monday, Oct. 18, in Bozeman, Mont., and elected Merlin L. Knowles as conference president. Knowles comes to the position from his role as executive secretary for the Northern New England Conference. He fills the administrative role left open by president John Loor Jr. who assumed the position of North Pacific Union Conference executive secretary earlier this year.

Knowles has a rich Northwest history, attending schools in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. He obtained a bachelor’s degree in Theology from Walla Walla College (Wash.) in 1979 and a Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., where he also hopes to complete a Doctor of Ministry degree in family ministry by the end of this year.

After beginning pastoral work in Mountain Home, Idaho, in 1979, Knowles went on to minister within Idaho in the Gooding, Jerome and Caldwell churches through the mid-1980s. He has spent the last two decades in New England, leading churches in both Maine and New Hampshire. He began his role in the Northern New England Conference as executive secretary and trust services director in January 2005. He and his wife, Cheryl, have co-directed conference family ministries.

His new responsibility brings Knowles back to the roots of his original calling in the Northwest where he first felt the call of gospel ministry in the primary division of the Oregon camp meeting. The Knowles have two grown sons and are expecting their second grandchild in February.
A Christmas Resolution

Another year is almost history. In one more month we’ll be putting up new calendars — at least the few of us who still tack paper calendars on the wall. What sort of year does your 2010 calendar reflect?

“The best year yet,” say some. “Good riddance!” exclaim others. What have you learned through the past 11 months that gives you reason to look forward to 2011?

Those who are overwhelmed with blessings might consider this month’s feature on the NPUC Revolving Fund: “A Gift That Keeps on Giving.” For years this investment channel has enabled Northwest members to provide loans to churches and schools that would otherwise be difficult or expensive to obtain. Through this avenue, your blessings can be paid forward in ways that multiply like the proverbial loaves and fishes to our children, our members and the entire mission of our church. It’s like Christmas all year ‘round.

And, when you think about it, the yuletide carols speak not only of that long ago Baby in a manger, but of a present Savior. He wanted to be with us so we could be with Him — for eternity.

No matter what the year has handed you, that’s Good News. It’s the news we’re privileged to share — not just this season, but all year ‘round. We’ll make it our Christmas resolution.

Merry Christmas from the GLEANER staff,
Steve Vistaunet, Cindy Chamberlin and Desiree Lockwood
Christmas past are littered with the husks of broken toys, never-worn ties and over-the-top feasts. But beyond those forgotten attempts are the treasured “pay-it-forward” gifts that are truly priceless. They can never be compensated — only passed on at the next opportunity or challenge.

The North Pacific Union Revolving Fund is one such gift. Many Northwest Adventists have never heard of it, yet this well-kept secret is a Christmas gift to us all — and it keeps on giving, all year long.

A Simple Formula

The Revolving Fund matches the willing resources of many with critical Northwest needs. And how important those needs are — the gymnasiums, classrooms, sanctuaries and fellowship halls of our Northwest churches and schools. While our church does not glibly encourage debt, many projects require some financing beyond other monies raised. Within the North Pacific Union Conference, some of these financial needs are met by a simple formula: Adventist members invest their money in the Revolving Fund, which is in turn available for low-interest loans.

Think of a local church or school building project near you. Chances are a portion of the financing has come via the Revolving Fund. The reason: Commercial loans, which churches and schools require, are more costly and often more difficult to acquire than the typical home mortgage loan. The Revolving Fund creates a simple avenue to supply the needed funds at a rate — currently six percent — generally lower than commercial loans and with no upfront fees.

Hundreds of Projects Helped

One of the largest recent projects was completed last year: the Columbia Adventist Academy’s administrative building in Battle Ground, Washington, required significant financing from the Revolving Fund. A similar amount went to the Puyallup (Washington) Church. A Revolving Fund loan to Walla Walla University has enabled its master plan to move forward. Loans for new construction or the purchase of existing buildings are allowed up to a 20-year term for repayment. Loans for building updates or renovation and land acquisition have a maximum term of 10 years. Loan amounts vary with the project — from thousands to millions of dollars. They enable the Adventist mission to move ahead in all local conferences throughout the Northwest. Currently the Revolving Fund is financing 9 projects in Alaska, 14 in Idaho, 7 in Montana, 37 in Oregon, 26 in Upper Columbia and 39 in Washington.

How much do these loans total? Currently more than $41 million is on loan from the Revolving Fund to Northwest churches and schools. That’s a lot of money. But it’s abundantly covered by members from the Northwest who currently have a total of nearly $62 million invested in the fund.

Members Make It Happen

Make no mistake. While those who choose to invest in this Revolving Fund do so with the altruistic knowledge they are helping “the cause,” they also receive an average return on their investment — currently 3.25 percent — greater than they could get from the average bank CD. The rates, both for outgoing loans and incoming investors, are carefully monitored, not only to ensure thrifty loan rates and adequate investor returns, but also to protect a margin of safety between income and outgo.

In addition, the Revolving Fund follows world church and North American Division policies that define how much debt is allowed. For example, a local church can typically borrow up to 400 percent of its annual tithe or 65 percent of the total project cost — whichever is less. The local conference must co-sign on a church’s loan and may, at times, impose tighter restrictions.

The Columbia Adventist Academy administration building project was aided by a Revolving Fund loan while making construction deadlines.
The North Pacific Union Conference Revolving Fund is not just a ledger sheet. All the financial figures represent people who are helping churches and schools accomplish their individual and collective missions. Here are a few illustrative facts.

- There are 757 Revolving Fund investment accounts — these have more than doubled since 2004.
- More than 120 church and school loans are currently being served through the Revolving Fund.
- Since January 2001, $12.5 million in interest has been paid to Revolving Fund investors.
- Since January 2001, nearly $64 million in loans have been issued to institutions through the Revolving Fund.

Are you interested in becoming an investor? Does your church or school have an upcoming project to fund? For more information about the Revolving Fund, call your local conference treasurer, or contact the NPUC Association at 360-857-7020. You can also read Revolving Fund forms online at http://www.npuc.org/article.php?id=380.

**THE REVOLVING FUND**

It’s Not Just Dollars and Cents

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It’s Carefully and Prayerfully Managed

The Revolving Fund has been with us since 1978 when the NPUC Association officially began administering this special fund that allows members to provide for the needs of Northwest churches and schools. It is registered with the state of Oregon, which requires annual reporting, and the Association board of trustees reviews its activity once each quarter. Those who invest in the Revolving Fund do so with a measure of faith. Invested funds are not insured as are deposits in a bank or credit union. But according to Robert Hastings, Association treasurer, no Revolving Fund depositor has ever lost money. It is carefully and prayerfully managed.

This wonderful resource is truly a gift that keeps on giving — month after month, far beyond the Christmas season. It’s all because of the generosity of Northwest Adventist members who pool their resources for the good of the Adventist mission. One individual could not do it; one conference could not match it. But together members from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington create a mighty force for good.

The strength of many provides what a few could not. The individual investments flow out in building loans for churches and schools; the institutions in turn pay back the loans, replenishing the fund and providing interest for the investors. It’s a healthy cycle. It’s the essence of the Revolving Fund.

*Steve Vistaunet, NPUC assistant to the president*
Este fue el tema del Retiro de Damas de la Conferencia de Oregón que se celebró el fin de semana de Septiembre 10 al 12. Asistieron hermanas de Idaho, California, Washington y Nevada. Las de Nevada vinieron por primera vez y expresaron lo felices que se sentían por las bendiciones recibidas. Por supuesto las damas de la conferencia anfitriona de Oregón, como siempre se hicieron presentes. Dios nos bendijo con una asistencia de 225 mujeres, entre ellas 20 eran visitantes. Todas juntas nos gozamos en el Señor. La oradora principal para este retiro fue, Yudelín Valerio, quien con sus ricas experiencias nos ayudó a alcanzar la llave que nos lleva a encontrar esa fe que solo proviene de Dios.

La que fue nuestra oradora, Yudelín Valerio de República Dominicana, en la presentación de uno de sus temas.

Como apertura el Viernes, tuvimos un hermoso programa. “Los Oscares Celestiales”, Damaris Lebrón como animadora, Kathy Hernandez entregando los premios y al animar sus talento decoro la plataforma y representó a Elías, mencionando a las mujeres de la Biblia ganadoras.

Drama de apertura “Los Oscares Celestiales”, Damaris Lebrón como animadora, Kathy Hernandez entregando los premios y Gabriel Mondaca, quien, usando su talento decoró la plataforma y representó a Elías, mencionando a las mujeres de la Biblia ganadoras.

De Fe de la Biblia después de pasar por la alfombra roja. Cada mujer presente también recibió una estrella iluminada, haciéndoles partícipes del premio, mujeres modernas de fe. Damaris Lebrón presentó los seminarios “Belleza interior y exterior” y fue de gran interés para las hermanas pues ella con su carisma nos llevó a tener una belleza extrema con Dios, y realizó la estima, la cual todas salimos de allí amándonos más a nosotras mismas para servir mejor a Dios y a nuestros semejantes. Nuestras hermanas fueron beneficiadas con orientación individual por las hermanas Ruth Collins de la Unión del Pacífico y la Dr. Juanita Triviño de nuestra conferencia. Además, las jovencitas tuvieron un programa fabuloso. Su título era “Cantando bajo la lluvia”, presentado por Kathy Hernández. El Oasis de Oración fue un lugar que experimentamos por primera vez en nuestro retiro donde las hermanas iban a orar, leer o a meditar. Daba un ambiente de paz, que invitaba a tener un encuentro personal con Dios. La música fue un complemento importátilísimo, preparaba el ambiente para recibir el pan espiritual, estuvo dirigida por Lourdes Chazarreta quien su pasión es cantar, proyectaba ese entusiasmo al hacernos participar. El Sábado tuvimos una feria con diferentes actividades como una película llamada, “Faith like Potatoes”, una clínica de salud, taller de floristería, juegos organizados, la Tiendita, Oasis de Oración y Piscina. Donde las hermanas pudieron asistir al de su preferencia. Doy gracias a Dios por habernos permitido tener otro encuentro de Damas tan bendecido, que aun tuvimos un bautismo, y en especial por permitirme trabajar con un equipo de hermanas tan eficientes y bien organizadas.

Escrito por Alina Careaga,
Directora del Ministerio de Mujeres en la Conferencia de Oregón.
New Bible Workers for Gambell

Mike and Fran Hansen spent more than 25 years in the Springfield, Mo., area serving as Pathfinder leaders, directors and area coordinators. They had been on mission trips to La Vida Mission and the Bristol Bay area of Alaska and fell in love with the people and their culture.

After a move to the Yakima, Wash., area with their son, Eric, and his family, they received the opportunity to serve the community of Gambell, Alaska. After much consideration and prayer, they decided to make the move to work with the Alaska Conference in the Suicide Prevention Initiative on St. Lawrence Island.

Arriving in June, the Hansens met with church and community members, co-sponsored a Vacation Bible School with the Presbyterian Church, and received a grant from the Kawerek Wellness Program to expand programs for youth in Gambell. Along with story hours, movie nights and other fun activities, the Hansens are planning to bring Navajo youth from Holbrook, Ariz., to Gambell next summer for a two-week day camp. During the camp, they will work again with the Presbyterian Church on a VBS, have a basketball tournament, go berry picking and watch native Yupik dancing. They hope this will be the beginning of a cultural exchange between Gambell and the different groups in the lower 48.

The community has been receptive to the Hansen’s presence and many residents are willing to participate with any event or activity that will help their youth. The Alaska Conference has been blessed with their willingness to become a part of the Arctic Mission Adventure.

Ken Crawford, Alaska Conference president

Ghetto Preacher engages Youth with GPS

“God ... People ... Service ... GPS. Your journey as a youth will be more meaningful if you will allow God to make you more compassionate to your neighbors and serve your communities with enthusiasm.” Willy Ramos, a.k.a. the “Ghetto Preacher,” broke the house down with his modern approach to engage youth in participating in the witnessing function of the church.

The Alaska youth ministries sponsored the second statewide Youth Summit Sept. 24–26 at the Pioneer Adventist Campgrounds in Palmer, Alaska. Hundreds of youth from Nome, Alaska, to Homer, Alaska, participated in the weekend-long event. Serious themes, such as abusive dating, teen romance, substance abuse and secular issues challenging youth in their early Christian lives, were discussed. Cheri Gatton, Idaho Conference women’s ministries director, facilitated modules about teen and young adult issues concerning forming values and healthy relationships.

Another highlight of the summit was the question and answer forum led by teen and young adult panelists moderated by Leandro Robinson, pastor. Several theme questions, such as “Why does God allow bad things happen to good people?” and other serious concerns that baffle youth, were discussed. Audience responses were encouraged to bring depth and reflection to these issues. Paulette Smith, a youth from Hillside O’Malley (Alaska) Church told leaders, “We are grateful that you guys are listening to us.”

Ephraim Palmero, Alaska youth ministries director
The dream of one man, Merriman “Woody” Woodhall, has resulted in a sandstone chapel handmade out of locally quarried stone, in Dayville, Ore.

On the western edge of the Idaho Conference, the town of Dayville, Ore., enjoys a church plant valued at a replacement cost of more than $281,000. Average attendance is 12, with 15 members officially on the books. Their new fellowship hall, built during 2009, is just the latest in a string of miracles for the Dayville Church.

The dream of one man, Merriman “Woody” Woodhall, resulted in the chapel being handmade out of locally quarried stone. The walls are two-feet thick, built as a labor of love by Woodhall because he dreamed of an Adventist church in Dayville, population 138. The Sandstone Chapel lay vacant until after his death in 1989. Some local church members asked conference leaders for permission to start a church using Woodhall’s building. A yard sale of his possessions netted more than $1,000, which, along with uncashed Social Security checks brought the proceeds to more than $5,000. The money was used to help start the church. The conference, which was managing Woodhall’s estate, allocated the proceeds to the small Dayville group to refurbish the chapel.

From two families, the church grew to its present 15 members and the need to expand the facilities began to grow in the members’ minds. They believed they needed a building 24’ by 40’, which potentially would cost $70,000, for multiple outreach activities in the community. They decided to begin a saving’s account in the North Pacific Union Conference Revolving Fund. Every time the church funds reached $4,000, they would send $2,000 to the Revolving Fund account. They were determined at all costs to avoid any debt.

By 2008, there was $45,000 in their account. The potential cost of $70,000 seemed daunting until a Maranatha builder, Francis Browning, and fellow builders David and Allen Thompson decided to become involved.

The new Dayville Fellowship Hall was finished by the end of 2009. The first use was a Christmas celebration. The total cost was $40,000. The members, justifiably proud and happy at what the Lord has done, now plan outreach events in their community. Scripture asks, “Who has despised the day of small things?” (Zechariah 4:10).

Stephen L. McPherson, Idaho Conference president

On the western edge of the Idaho Conference, the town of Dayville, Ore., enjoys a church plant valued at a replacement cost of more than $281,000.
Youth have a small-group prayer in the evening during the second-annual Montana Youth Conference.

Attendees are encouraged to open their Bibles and study for themselves during the second-annual Montana Youth Conference.

in order to be better witnesses for Christ.

The MTYC exists to inspire and equip an “army of Northwest youth,” to make God their ultimate authority, and passionately proclaim the Three Angels’ Message to the world. MTYC not only wants to train youth to spread the Gospel, but also to invigorate young people to live the Gospel and be vessels prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Some of the audio from the conference is available at www.mtycweb.org and will also be on www.AudioVerse.com. Information about next year’s conference will be posted early next year.

Kristina Wright, Montana Youth Conference president

What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You

In response to requests from women in Montana, Ruth Fish, Montana Conference women’s ministry coordinator, arranged for a health seminar. She invited Michelle and Larry Lesher from the Black Hills Health and Education Center near Rapid City, S.D. Michelle is a registered nurse and dietitian; Larry is a Bible student and an expert in organic gardening.

The Lesher's emphasized that good health not only improves how you feel and how long you may live, but also increases mental clearness, which is essential for a closer walk with God.

Michelle presented results of some of the newest health research studies and discussed how the food supply has become adulterated by use of antibiotics, hormones, genetic engineering, additives for longer shelf life, pesticides and other chemicals, emphasizing the importance of eating foods that are not highly processed.

Having your own garden can improve your diet immensely.

Larry talked about the laws of health as they are presented in the Bible, showing how they are designed to help us achieve our full potential.

Both Lesher’s emphasized that a healthy lifestyle is a process and that the rewards are worth the effort.

Ruth Stanton, Montana Conference administrative assistant
First MinistryFest Draws a Crowd

The concept of a MinistryFest generated a lot of questions, the most frequent one being: “What’s that?” And it’s a fair question, since we had never done anything like this before in the Oregon Conference. So we described it this way: “Discovering ministry has never been so much fun!”

The Sabbath afternoon event on Sept. 25, sponsored by the conference member ministry department, featured 28 interactive ministry displays and booths, drawings, ice cream, popcorn, corndogs and “Info-Blitzes.”

The booths highlighted local church ministries, such as women’s, singles’, men’s, marriage and member ministries. “Big Events” evangelism from the Kelso-Longview (Wash.) Church; Discover Bible Truth from the Beaverton (Ore.) Church; GLOW — Giving Light to Our World; Oregon Youth for Christ from several Portland, Ore.,-area churches; Communicating In Your Community; CHIP; Kingdom Assignments from the Meadow Glade (Wash.) Church; elder care; an Idea-Exchange booth; using the Internet to reach your community from the Ohana (Ore.) Church; and P.E.T.A.L. (Preparing, Educating, Teaching and Learning) from the Sharon (Ore.) Church. Our goal was to give members ideas to take back to their congregations.

So what’s an Info-Blitz? It’s a 25-minute mini-seminar, packed with just enough information to leave the attendees asking, “Where can I get more information or training on this?” The event featured 18 Info-Blitzes in four hours. Several of the booth operators presented Info-Blitzes based on their ministries, and others included Love and Respect from the Pleasant Valley (Ore.) Church, Recreational Evangelism from the Spokane Linwood (Wash.) Church, Divorce Care and Family Night from the Rockwood (Ore.) Church, Community Gardens from the Newberg (Ore.) Church, and the “Uncomfy Church: Ten Hot Spots.”

The sundown wrap-up and devotional featured a time to share ideas from the Idea-Exchange booth. At this booth, people wrote out their creative, out-of-the-box dreams of what they would love to do for ministry in their communities.

As the first event of its kind, MinistryFest 2010 was a trial to see if anyone would be interested enough to attend something like this. We got our answer — one of the staff estimated the crowd was nearly 500 people. It looks like there will indeed be a MinistryFest 2011.

Chuck Burkeen, Oregon Conference member ministries director
better life Goes live in Portland

Portland, Ore.; Vancouver, Wash.; and Salem, Ore., tune your televisions to digital Channel 36 KEVE! As of 1:45 p.m. Wed., Oct. 20, Adventists now have a TV presence in the greater Portland and Salem areas. The Oregon Conference and Better Life Broadcasting Network have partnered in bringing Adventist programming to Portland.

The series of events leading to this miracle are many. The owners of KEVE contacted Better Life Broadcasting Network. They felt that Better Life’s ministry fit what they wanted to see happen with the station. So they offered to sell the station for the price of $750,000. The sellers later reduced the price to $700,000 and then donated back $100,000 so that the actual final price was $600,000.

Miraculously, a brand new, still-in-the-box antenna that had been in storage for the past 10 years was discovered for sale. Amazingly, it was already tuned to broadcast on Channel 36. The station sellers purchased the antenna, worth $20,000, for $500 and donated it to Better Life.

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist gave the Oregon Conference $500,000 and the North Pacific Union Conference gave $100,000 to help with the station purchase to get Adventist programming on the air. The Oregon Conference will own the station and Better Life Broadcasting Network will manage programming. Even following the purchase, the sellers were so supportive of the ministry they did some reengineering, allowing the station to reach down to Salem.

At the short ribbon-cutting ceremony that accompanied the “flipping of the switch,” Al Reimche, Oregon Conference president, gave a prayer of dedication: “Holy Spirit, work in this area, use this equipment and signal to glorify God … And we look forward to working with all the individuals that you send to us … Now take this and use it to Your glory.”

Gary McLain, Oregon Conference communication director

What about the potential for additional channels?

Better Life is planning on multicasting. Because the channel is digital, up to four channels can be fit on the bandwidth. The channel will start by broadcasting the 3ABN Channel that Better Life currently has access to. In the near future, however, they also plan to add the Hope Channel and a Spanish Channel in all of the areas that Better Life has broadcast abilities for. This would cover west of the Cascades from the Vancouver, Wash., area down into Northern California.

Gary McLain, Oregon Conference Communication director
Rogue Valley’s Living Stones
Reveal Eternal Choices

You’ll see the Rock Pile as soon as you drive onto the Rogue Valley Adventist Academy’s campus in Medford, Ore. Surrounded by a bench, it is much more than it appears. According to the engraved plaque situated at the site, each stone represents a moment in time when a student made a decision to follow Jesus Christ.

Spearheaded by Allison Cool, Student Association president, and Randy Hill, pastor, the Rock Pile was modeled after a similar rock pile at the Washington Family Ranch, where the Oregon Conference holds its annual Bible conference. It was funded by the SA and RVAA’s class of 2010 and dedicated in the spring of 2010. Cool, now a student at Southern Adventist University in Tennessee, says, “It is a place of comfort that draws students to pray, talk about God and just hang out.”

Grace Emori, RVAA GLEANER correspondent

Messiah’s Mansion Creates New Connections

In September, the Sunnyside Church in Portland, Ore., held a special and unique outreach event with a follow up in October. The presentation of Messiah’s Mansion Tabernacle and a follow-up series called “Messiah’s Mansion — Next Step Group” were very successful following much work, planning and preparation. Tom Stafford coordinated both events and led out in the follow-up series.

Eight Sunnyside volunteers were joined by 26 members from other area churches to help erect Messiah’s Mansion on the campus of Portland Adventist Academy. Between Sept. 4–12, nearly 8,000 people took the tour and 500 requested more information.

The outdoor exhibit moved on to Florence, Ore., after the week-long stay in Portland.

Guests to Messiah’s Mansion see a lifesize replica of the interior of the Mosaic sanctuary.

The follow-up series concluded on Wednesday evening, Oct. 13. The series featured a scale model of the Sanctuary. The model was built by an Indian craftsmen during the 1940s, who followed detailed drawings by L. L. Huntington, a missionary to South India and long-time pastor in the Oregon Conference.

A dozen families from the Sunnyside Church neighborhood viewed the mansion and requested further information. Many of them have been visited and provided with a DVD on the sanctuary story by Shawn Boonstra. The church next hopes to survey the DVD recipients to learn more about their interest and answer as many questions as possible. One pastor from another denomination expressed an interest in having Stafford present the scale-model sanctuary to his parishioners.

Phyllis Foster Woods, Sunnyside Church communication director
GPAS Welcomes New Team Members

Thomas C. Kennedy Jr. has accepted the position as principal for the Grants Pass (Ore.) Seventh-day Adventist School, and fifth- and sixth-grade teacher.

Kennedy joins a creative and dedicated group of teachers: Judi Clark, vice principal and third- and fourth-grade teacher; Angela White seventh- and eighth-grade teacher; Sheryl Shewmake first- and second-grade teacher; Becky Kruger school secretary/treasurer; and Lois Rowe librarian.

Kennedy and his wife, Shirley, relocated from the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, area.

Kim Miller, Milo Assembly supervisor, says, “God is truly blessing. In spite of the dreary economy that surrounds us daily, we have a very bright future.”

Carol Bovee, Milo Adventist Academy teacher

Milo’s New Industry Keeps Growing

When Ed Wagner of Wagner Electronics from Rogue River, Ore., heard of the need for an industry at Milo Adventist Academy, in Days Creek, Ore., he thought of a possible answer. While waiting for production bids from China for Wagner’s new concrete sensors, he encouraged Milo to submit a bid.

The successful bid spawned Milo Assembly, the most recent campus industry, which started in April 2008. The industry assembles and packages sensors that measure the temperature and humidity of new concrete installations. Production began at around 1,000 sensors per month and quadrupled by the summer of 2010.

Jeff Miller, Milo Assembly coordinator, is excited about the continued growth and potential of the industry. He likes the real-world work responsibilities and deadlines the students learn as well as the opportunity for positive interactions with each other and their work supervisors.

The industry has also shown enough profit to contribute to the general operation funds at MAA. Projected business plans indicate the potential to employ more students and even adults in the future. Kim Miller, Milo Assembly supervisor, says, “God is truly blessing. In spite of the dreary economy that surrounds us daily, we have a very bright future.”

Carol Bovee, Milo Adventist Academy teacher

Susan Kergil, GPAS GLEANER correspondent

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Whipple Creek Concert Helps Fund Youth Mission Trip

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Ritzville Cooking School
Attracts Community

Members of the Ritzville (Wash.) Church were excited to see a big turnout at their Healthy Helper cooking school. They’ve held cooking schools in the past, but have never seen the community come out in such force.

The town of Ritzville has a population of about 1,700 and 26 people from the community (1.5 percent) came out to the cooking school. To put that into perspective, if 1.5 percent of Spokane, Wash., came to a local church that would be 3,033 people.

“It filled up our church,” says Shane Hochstetler, Ritzville Church’s Bible worker coordinator, who teams with his wife, Amy. They were happy to see a general interest out there for health and a willingness to come to the Adventist church.

Melody Prettyman came from Ohio to hold the Healthy Helper cooking school. On the first night, she talked about health and natural remedies. The second night was a demonstration of a full meal with participants enjoying both the preparation and the consumption.

The whole Ritzville Church became involved in the preparation and advertising for the cooking school. They hand delivered many posters and flyers, and even the local newspaper covered their event.

Following the cooking school, church members held a booth at their local fair and heard many comments of appreciation for what the Adventist Church is doing for the health of the community.

“One activity we are doing to follow up the cooking school is to hold a monthly community vegetarian potluck and recipe exchange,” says Hochstetler. “We invited those who came to our cooking school.” Even though only a few came, this has been exciting for the church members. They hope this event will grow with time.

One lady attending the cooking school was greatly encouraged and is hoping a change in her lifestyle will reap positive results. Hochstetler says, “We should be healthy people and we can share this knowledge with our community.”

The Ritzville Church has nearly 30 members. Other health-oriented events they offer include an exercise group that meets for one hour Monday through Thursday and, in the future, they plan to hold a stop-smoking clinic.

Kathy Marson, Upper Columbia Conference communication administrative assistant

Twenty-six people from the Ritzville, Wash., community attend the cooking class presented by the Ritzville Church.

The presenter, Melody Prettyman, also hosts cooking shows on 3ABN.

Ritzville cooking school participants are able to enjoy samples of tasty and healthy food.
Pathfinders Endure Showers at Camp Fife

More than 700 Pathfinders from all parts of the Upper Columbia Conference attended the annual Pathfinder Camporee Sept. 17–19. During the event, hundreds of young people made commitments to follow Jesus and 91 Pathfinders requested Bible studies to prepare for baptism.

This year’s camporee was held at Camp Fife, a Boy Scout camp in the Cascade Mountains just west of Yakima, Wash. Though the rain forced scheduled meetings into the camp lodge rather than outdoors, it didn’t stop the Pathfinder clubs from pitching their tents and enjoying the weekend activities.

In addition to worships, music and flag ceremonies, Pathfinders also participated in outdoor activities such as hiking, building debris shelters, doing community service projects, playing stalking and concealment games, and exploring the largest eroded-basalt cave in the Northwest.

“We had a great weekend and it seemed to be extra-special this year,” says LeAnn Paredes of the Goldendale (Wash.) Pathfinder club. “Maybe it was the rain, I don’t know, but the music was wonderful. Bob Folkenberg did an awesome job keeping our attention. And the relaxed free-time on Sabbath afternoon made Sabbath special.”

Bob Folkenberg Jr., Upper Columbia Conference president, was the keynote speaker for this year’s camporee. Folkenberg told stories from his many adventures overseas as a missionary to address the camporee’s theme, “Jesus, what can I do this day for you?”

Bridget Anderson, a parent and staff member of the Wheatland Coyotes Pathfinder Club, who attended the camporee for the first time this year, says, “I was ready to cancel this trip when I found out it would be raining all weekend, but we survived and not only did the kids have a lot of fun, it was a very spiritual weekend as well. I can see, now, why you do this every year.”

As a way to say thank you to Camp Fife and the Boy Scouts for the use of their camp, the Pathfinders spent Sunday morning chopping firewood, adding wood chips to trails and cleaning up debris around the grounds of the 60-acre camp.

“I didn’t expect them to get half this much work done,” says Clint House, Camp Fife camp ranger. “A lot of kids that come here seem to work harder at trying to get out of work than actually working, but these Pathfinders work like ants.”

Jon Dalrymple, Upper Columbia Conference communication associate

Nearly 700 Pathfinders attend the annual Upper Columbia Conference Pathfinder Camporee at Camp Fife in Goose Prairie, Wash., from Sept. 17–19.

Pathfinders pose for a victory photo after finishing their improvements to the path leading to the original homestead cabin built by Tom Fife. Fife donated the land to the Boy Scouts in 1923.
Where in the world can you enjoy a first-class meal with a dash of soprano and a side of a men’s quartet? For two years now, Barry and Shelley Bacon have hosted in their Colville, Wash., home an event called “Music on the Menu.” With the help of church youth, family and other friends, they have developed this unique and fun event as a way to involve the community in blessing others around the world. “We wanted to think of a creative way to make fundraising fun and appropriate for the Sabbath hours and involve our community in outreach at the same time,” says Shelley. “So last year, about six weeks before the UCA Choraliers were scheduled to perform at our church, we came up with the idea of having them perform that evening for a fundraiser as well. We decided to make the meal free and ask guests to give a donation for each song they chose from the menu.”

Several weeks before this year’s event, invitations were handed out in the community, an ad was run in the local newspaper, and announcements were made in churches inviting people to make reservations for the special meal. To accommodate all the guests, the living areas in the house were cleared of furniture. Tables and chairs, donated from Sun Rental, were brought in. Decorations were loaned to the cause by a local florist, and different portions of the meal were prepared by various church members and friends.

Once the guests were seated and served, the musical menu was available. Each participant was invited to place money in an envelope passed around the table. When the envelope total reached $100, a guest could order a song from the menu which was then performed for all the guests.

Last year $1,700 was raised at the event and used to replace the worn out mattresses in Mwami Adventist Hospital in Zambia, Africa. This year more than $2,000 was raised to support the Somaly Mam Foundation, which is working to stop human trafficking.

More than 110 people attended this year’s event, including servers and musicians. Nearly 85 people were guests, 65 of whom were community members and not Seventh-day Adventists.

“I see this as a ministry and an outreach to the community just as much as it is a fundraiser,” says Shelley. “To me it is all about making friends for Jesus.”

Jon Dalrymple, Upper Columbia Conference communication associate
The Longest Table
University Church Celebrates Community in a Biblical Way

At 6:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2, a team of 18 people set up folding tables on 4th St., covered them with plastic tablecloths, put up numbers and placed settings for more than 176 tables stretched two blocks, and with seats for 1,408 people. The crew finished in only two hours and twenty minutes.

After the second service at Walla Walla University Church, a flood of people exited the building and filled the street. Friends called out to friends as the aroma of good home-cooked food filled the air.

“We wanted the event to be a celebration of community and a foretaste of Heaven,” explains Alex Bryan, University Church senior pastor.

More than 1,600 people ate; additional tables piled high with plates and baskets of forks were made available to those who came late and couldn’t find a chair. Some stood, some sat in the shade on the grass and others dined on office steps.

Food was provided by the University Church members. Nearly 145 people and families signed on to sponsor a table or two. One family sponsored six tables.

“Sabbath lunch is a holy moment,” says Bryan. “It was in Biblical times and it certainly is for Seventh-day Adventists. To be able to celebrate this holy meal in such a fashion really captured the Biblical vision of community.”

The food was as varied as the attendees. One table enjoyed lasagna, salad, green beans, corn and apples. Another served vegetarian meatloaf, a potato dish and tomatoes with basil. Some tables served water, others punch, some sparkling cider and others juice. Desserts ranged from cookies and lemon cake to nectarine cobbler.

“I walked around the table — about a half-mile journey — with my six-week-old son,” says Bryan. “I talked with college students and 80-year-olds and everybody in between. It was phenomenal.”

Will they do it again? Bryan smiles and says, “Absolutely.”
Ministry Retreats Foster Community and Leadership

The Washington Conference uses ministry retreats as a time for community building, spiritual development and training — for people of all ages. Here are a few highlights from those offered this fall.

Introducing a New Director

The annual women's and teens' retreat in Ocean Shores, Wash., provided an opportunity to officially introduce Eileen States, incoming ministry director.

States brings a rich background of pastoral ministry and leadership to this department. In this part-time role, she replaces Wilma Bing, who is now a full-time associate pastor at the Auburn Academy (Wash.) Church.

Training Ministry Leaders

Ministry leaders who attended the Impact Your World spring weekend retreat met with Gayle Lasher, Washington Conference Bible worker/trainer, for a one-day fall training session in four Washington locations — Burlington, Federal Way, Olympia and Poulsbo — to further equip them to give Bible studies, pray with power and share their faith.

A Coronary Health Improvement Project leadership training weekend was held in October at Sunset Lake Camp, in Wilkeson, Wash., to train local health-ministry teams to present 30-day, 16-session video-based curriculums. Sixty individuals from 17 churches participated. These represented 13 churches from Washington, two churches from Idaho and one church each from Oregon and Hawaii.

Another leadership retreat for youth, Pathfinder and Adventurer leaders was held at Sunset Lake Camp in early November providing a weekend of training and inspiration, including more than 40 breakout sessions, expert presenters and networking.

Fostering Family and Community

Beyond training, retreats foster a sense of family and community. For example, Hispanic women fellowshiped together at the Spanish women's ministry retreat in Gig Harbor, Wash., where they learned they were God's precious gems.

Additionally, families with children ages 4–9 attended the 15th-annual Adventurer Family Campout at Sunset Lake Camp where they explored God's amazing creation.

More than 50 people attended the annual Celebration of Family Recovery retreat at Fort Flagler in mid-October. Participants learned about accountability in recovery, surrendering impossibilities to Jesus and renewing a relationship with God.

Sunset Lake Camp held a father-son retreat in mid-October where 18 fathers and sons enjoyed hands-on interaction with the camp's herd of horses. They experienced valuable life lessons as, they learned to win the horses' hearts through servant leadership.

“God does amazing things when we step away from the ordinary and pause to focus on Him,” says David Yeagley, Washington Conference youth director, and organizer of many of the retreats. “This fall I've seen young people give their lives to Christ, families reconnect and leaders be inspired to greater service. That's the power of retreats.”

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director

The Coronary Health Improvement Project leadership training retreat, attracts participants from other conferences and allows for great ministry interaction.
Students Impact Orcas Island

More than two hundred and sixty junior high and high school students from six Adventist schools located across Western Washington arrived on Orcas Island in late September for the first-ever school community impact service event.

Service event leaders designed the community service day to create an impact in the Orcas Island community, create greater public exposure to Adventist Christian education and foster greater unity among academy students in western Washington.

Volunteers worked on 17 different projects, including conservation work, affordable housing, caring for the elderly, road safety and community beautification. In all, 11 different local agencies benefited from the students’ work. Organization leaders appreciated the volunteers’ willingness to help with community building and the opportunity to share a mutual love of the island.

“Those students did more in half a day than our staff could do in several months, including weed whacking the entire perimeter, waxing all six of our engines and helping us clean the apparatus bays in Eastsound,” says Mike Harris, fire chief, in an Islands’ Sounder newspaper article. “Their enthusiasm, teamwork and overall attitude were as good as I’ve ever seen.”


Heidi Martella

AAA Students Select New Vision, Mission Statements

Auburn Adventist Academy students, faculty and parents, along with Washington Conference pastors and leaders, met in Auburn, Wash., for a vision and mission day in mid-October.

“Vision propels us and pushes us to keep working,” says Samir Berbawy, AAA principal. “It is the basis for our mission. We want our students to own and understand the school’s vision and mission.”

Praying for God’s guidance, 17 breakout groups discussed a vision for the school. Each group started with about 10 minutes of prayer before dialoguing for 45 minutes about potential vision statements.

“I enjoyed watching the interaction of pastors, students and teachers and the sharing of ideas,” says John Spano, history teacher and Associated Student Body lead sponsor. “There was good dialogue.”

The student body voted for student leaders to narrow 20 suggestions to three options before an all-school vote. The school’s vision, as voted by students, is “United in passion for Christ.”

“I liked the meeting where we were evaluating the vision options,” says Kelsey Gratias, a senior from Auburn, Wash., who is a student leader. “We had a common goal and we worked together well.”

Students are still considering four mission statement options.

For the latest AAA news, go to www.facebook.com/auburnacademy.

Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director

The AAA student body votes for student leaders to evaluate the lengthy list of proposed vision statements and come back with three options.
Church Cheers ‘Pink’ Walkers

At 6 a.m. sharp on Sabbath morning in late September, a group of members from the Everett Forest Park (Wash.) Church set up refreshment tables, a prayer tent and a large pink balloon arch over Federal Avenue.

Two hours later, the first of more than 2,500 walkers in the Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure walked by the church. From distributing cookies, fruit and vegetables to cheering on the walkers, who were in their second day of walking 20 of the 60 miles, church members of all ages were outside interacting with the community.

“Thank you ... for the best comfort/welcome station on the entire 3-Day [walk],” writes Linda Stanley, who participated in the walk, in a note to the church. “I loved meeting everyone.”

After the last of the walkers went by, the Everett congregation cleaned up and then held the church service, ending with a communion service and a special time of prayer for all the requests left at the prayer tent.

This is Everett Forest Park’s second year hosting a refreshment station in front of the church for breast cancer walkers.

Sandra Clay, Everett Forest Park Church member

Former Smoker Helps Others Breathe Free

For several years, Lui Teulilo was a heavy smoker. Now smoke-free for 20 years, Teulilo shares his experience and encourages others with a tobacco addiction to break free.

Recently, Teulilo, a member at the Bonney Lake (Wash.) Church, worked with the church’s personal ministries’ team to host a five-day Stop Smoking, Breathe Free Seminar.

Each session provided support, accountability, mentoring, healthy-living resources and time to praise God for daily victories over tobacco. As a result, two community women signed a commitment to live smoke-free lives.

Weekly follow-up meetings continue to provide support and encouragement. A second stop-smoking seminar is planned for January 2011 — and both community women plan to serve as volunteers.

Carol Burnham and Ruth Matson, Bonney Lake Church communication leaders

Winlock Hosts Mini Camp Meeting

The Winlock (Wash.) Church opens their vast property each August to host a mini camp meeting.

This year, Lincoln Steed, Liberty Magazine editor; Stephanie Carter, attorney; and Eric Williams, pastor; spoke about “Religious Liberty: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.”

The speakers spoke about the importance of religious liberty, where it is heading and how the absence of religious liberty is affecting people around the world.

The mini camp meeting allows for local Adventists and non-Adventists to worship and fellowship together in a beautiful setting.

Jennifer Merrill, Winlock Church communication leader
Andrea Stanley is a single mom with a passion for piano. While attending Walla Walla University in 2002, she successfully auditioned for music major status, but ended up leaving shortly after.

During a visit to her sister and brother-in-law in August, she took a walk with her 2-year-old daughter.

“I needed some quiet time to think about the direction my life should go,” says Stanley. “I found myself in the Fine Arts Center, playing the piano. At that moment I realized I was missing a piece of myself. I needed to come back to WWU and get the music degree I’d started.”

It wasn’t an easy process. There was paperwork to fill out, including not only an application but a request for financial aid, which Stanley knew may not be readily available, since it was so late in the year. Fall quarter was only a month away. She also had the added responsibility of finding daycare for her daughter.

“Everything that shouldn’t have happened so quickly, did,” says Stanley. “I finished everything in three days, including finding a place to live and a daycare for Felicity. God blessed me in a big way.”

Through scholarships, grants and loans, in addition to an on-campus job, Stanley was able to make her passion come to life.

“I feel like I’m part of a big family here,” she says. “It even feels like family when I come to work. I feel incredibly supported here and I’m definitely at a time in my life when I need that.”

When she graduates with her music degree, Stanley plans to pursue both a master’s degree and a doctorate in music. Her dream job is to teach piano at WWU.

“I want Dr. Richter’s job,” Stanley says with a grin, speaking of her piano professor who is currently on sabbatical. “When he comes back, I’m going to tell him that and I’m going to ask him how I can get there.”

Becky St. Clair, WWU GLEANER correspondent
What would bring hundreds of people from around the country together for a Sabbath at Mount Ellis Academy in the middle of October? It wasn’t camp meeting or alumni weekend. It was a miracle — the miracle of a little Adventist academy winning a $500,000 grant from Kohl’s department stores by finishing ninth out of all the schools in the nation on a Facebook contest. Oct. 16 was not only a day of celebration but also one of recommitment to young people and to Adventist schools everywhere.

You see, the failing water and sewer system at MEA was under scrutiny by state authorities, and $600,000 was needed to repair it. So when Gwen Emmerson, Montana constituent, alerted the school that Kohl’s was going to give away $500,000 to each of the top 20 schools in a Facebook vote, school officials decided to go for it. With every school in the nation eligible to compete for the grant, it seemed improbable a small Adventist academy in Montana would have a chance. But the skeletal summer staff at the school ignored the odds and launched an all-out effort to spread the word. The phenomenon that followed could fill several books with stories. Here’s the highly condensed version:

Despite entering the contest a month late, Mt. Ellis vaulted into the top 100 schools in less than three days. Cracking the top 100 captured the attention of the local media in Montana, and the school began receiving almost daily radio, newspaper and TV coverage all over the state. Dozens of local businesses came on board, promoting the school’s cause to all of their customers. Volunteers across the country contributed hundreds of hours, passing out fliers and canvassing university students. Mount Ellis started receiving votes from places like Pakistan, England, Italy, Denmark and Bahrain as foreign student alumni worked to gain votes in their home countries. Students on campus began making daily video sketches for posting on YouTube and Facebook, suggesting ways to get more votes. They even asked Oprah to vote.

Heading into the final week, MEA was still in the top 20 schools, but just barely. At the point when it seemed like the school had peaked and was in danger of falling out of contention, the worldwide Adventist Church rallied like a family for one of its own. Adventist universities asked their students and staff to vote. Churches, large and small, made appeals. Ministries like ADRA, 3ABN and the HOPE Channel spread the word. North American Division administrators sent out communiques asking all churches and schools to vote for MEA.

The response was overwhelming. Votes rolled in by the thousands. Sister academies dropped walls of provincialism and competition with many, not only encouraging their students to vote, but also appealing to their alumni. MEA students and faculty marveled at the massive wave of support for their little school. Other top schools were...
Mount Ellis Academy staff Kevin Emmerson and Darren Wilkins celebrate the arrival of the $500,000 Kohl's Cares check.

riding a wave as well. On the final day of voting the outcome was still very much in question with schools closing fast from behind. With five hours to go, an impromptu prayer meeting took place in the school chapel. Students, staff and parents put the results in God’s hands and vowed to be grateful in victory or defeat.

In those closing hours, a deluge of votes poured in. As voting closed, MEA had jumped from 17th place to 10th. Interestingly, the school received its 144,000th vote at the very moment voting was to end.

Shortly after voting concluded, Barry Curtis, Mount Ellis pastor, posted this on his Facebook wall: “What can we agree on next?” Indeed, think of what can happen in our churches and schools — from the smallest to the largest — when we agree and pursue impossible things with passion. Mount Ellis never could have accomplished this on its own. This was a family thing. A family that included, but was not limited to, our worldwide church.

After a long process of validating votes and project approval, MEA was officially declared the ninth-place school and a $500,000 grant recipient. Work will begin on the new water and sewer infrastructure in the spring. In light of this unprecedented windfall, the Montana Conference executive committee called a special session to discuss the tithing ramifications and voted unanimously that the conference should pay a tithe from non-tithe discretionary funds.

It was amazing to see people from all walks of life — from the governor’s office to next-door neighbors — coming together for this contest. MEA is grateful to all who voted and for God’s goodness in allowing this unforeseen blessing, but the story doesn’t end there. Multiple North Pacific Union Adventist schools not only supported the MEA effort but, as noted on this page, they also did very well in their own right.

Darren Wilkins, MEA principal

NW Schools Scored High in Kohl’s Contest

Northwest Adventist schools placed high in the Kohl’s Cares Contest compared to other schools in their respective states. Here’s how they placed:

**ALASKA**

#4 Nome Adventist School  
#5 Fairhill Christian School  
#6 Anchorage Junior Academy  
#10 Mat Valley Adventist School

**IDAHO**

#1 Gem State Adventist Academy  
#5 Caldwell Adventist Elementary  
#9 Lake City Jr. Academy  
#10 Boise Valley Adventist School  
#17 Sandpoint Jr. Academy

**MONTANA**

#1 Mount Ellis Academy  
#2 Mount Ellis Elementary School  
#3 Five Falls Christian School

**OREGON**

#1 Milo Adventist Academy  
#2 Portland Adventist Academy  
#8 Rivergate Adventist Elementary

**WASHINGTON**

#1 Upper Columbia Academy  
#3 Auburn Adventist Academy  
#4 Walla Walla Valley Academy  
#6 Upper Columbia Academy Elementary  
#7 Columbia Adventist Academy  
#13 Roger Adventist School  
#16 Cascade Christian Academy  
#20 Palisades Christian Academy
Imagine living in a small town and not having convenient access to health care — in this case cardiac care — that could save your life. This was the issue for residents in the rural, seaside community of Tillamook, Ore.

Hospital leadership at Tillamook County General Hospital recognized the need for a higher level of cardiac care close to home for residents in the community. The idea of collaborating with Portland, Ore., Adventist Medical Center’s nationally accredited chest pain center, Northwest Regional Heart Center was a natural one since both TCGH and AMC are part of Adventist Health.

“We want to bring services into our community so people can stay close to home,” says Gina Seufert, TCGH medical clinics director. “Because we are both part of Adventist Health, TCGH can share resources and collaborate with AMC to offer patients a higher level of service that they might only be able to find in a larger community.”

Through this collaboration, Mark Hart, M.D., and Ron Chelsky, M.D., both from AMC, offer their services to patients in Tillamook five days a month and see approximately 7–10 new patients every day they are there.

“The Northwest Regional Heart Center offers TCGH a whole gamut of services, such as treadmill tests, consults, ER visits and cardiology,” says Jim Pelch, AMC cardiovascular services executive director. “This is what we are in the business to do — provide a high level of health care and quality services that otherwise would not exist.”

Collaborations like this are common throughout Adventist Health. Being a part of a system that offers support and resources between hospitals is beneficial to patients at smaller facilities like TCGH. And even though it’s extra work for the physicians, who have to commute more than 70 miles each way to get from Portland to Tillamook, it is all worth it when a life is saved. Take this story for example:

When a patient visited a clinic north of Tillamook with chest pains, clinic staff knew they needed to get him to the hospital fast. He was rushed to TCGH by ambulance, where the Life-Flight helicopter was ready and waiting to take him to AMC’s Northwest Regional Heart Center. When he arrived, the cardiac cath lab team was already prepared for him. It took only 22 minutes to get him from TCGH to the cath lab at AMC. The quick response of Hart and his team saved the patient from permanent heart muscle tissue damage.

“This type of nearly seamless service is very important for patients living in a rural community,” says Pelch. “Communication is the key; in this case, everyone was ready throughout the whole system. That is what the strength of this collaboration can accomplish.”

Brittany Russell, Adventist Health GLEANER correspondent
**Fisher 70th**

Charles and Betty Fisher celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Aug. 23, 2009, with an outdoor reception in Coquille, Ore.

During the late 1930s, Charles’ mother listened to the Voice of Prophecy on the radio and felt impressed to share what she had learned with her family. A short time later, Charles Edgar Fisher and Betty Louise Lewis were baptized and married in a camp-meeting tent by H.M.S. Richards.

Charles and Betty have enjoyed traveling from the time their children were small. They have visited nearly every state in the U.S., Central and South America, China, and Europe. During the summer months, they traveled to spend time with their children and grandchildren. They both love the outdoors, camping and hiking. The Fishers have also climbed several mountains with smaller peaks. In 1990, while both in their 70s, they reached the summit of Mt. Whitney.


**Fowler 60th**

Harris and Colleen Fowler celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a family gathering. Then they took a few days and visited the Crater Lake, Ore., area.

In 1948, Harris got out of the Air Force. He started dating Colleen Wood during her senior year of high school. She graduated in 1950, and they were married July 9, 1950, in Wenatchee, Wash. Their first home was in Montana. Harris graduated from Walla Walla College in 1955 with a major in industrial education and a minor in business administration. He then took a teaching position in Leavenworth, Wash. In 1962, Harris accepted a teaching position in the Upper Columbia Conference, teaching in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; Hermiston, Ore.; Spokane, Wash.; and Wenatchee over a 23-year period.

While living in Hermiston, Colleen worked as a homemaker and nurse at the Interlake Medical Center. She continued to do so until they moved to Wenatchee. Harris worked as a truck driver for Midland Trucking and Nestles, and semi-retired at age 72.

They bought the family farm in 1986, farming cherries and gardening. They still work the farm and help their grandson, who took it over.

The Fowler family includes Phil and Christine Crase of Wenatchee; Stephen Fowler of Wenatchee; Katie Marie Byrd of Denver, Colo.; John and Diane Fowler of College Place, Wash.; 9 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**Harchenko 60th**

Jerral and Myraleen Harchenko of Salem, Ore., celebrated their 60th anniversary on Aug. 18, 2010. Jerral met Myraleen Irons during their senior year at Sheyenne River Academy, near Harvey, N.D. They married on Aug. 18, 1950, at the home of Vernon Burgeson, the Bible teacher at Sheyenne River Academy.

They are founders of Industrial Aviation Service Inc., a firm operating airplanes and helicopters. The firm was established in 1970 and is located near Salem. Jerral is still an active pilot in the business. They are members of the Salem Central Church.

Their family includes Jerral and Jim Hoggatt of Keizer, Ore.; Terry and Vicki Harchenko of Salem; 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

**Sylvester 60th**

Wilbur and Lola Sylvester were married 60 years ago in the Village Church in College Place, Wash. Their anniversary....
weekend included a special breakfast for family and friends hosted by their daughters.

Wilbur and Lola Kennedy met at Walla Walla College hosted by their daughters.

breakfast for family and friends weekend included a special

Lola and Wilbur Sylvester

Their marriage took place on Sept. 18, 1950, after Wilbur’s return from Elgin, Ill., where he completed training as a watchmaker. His parents owned Sylvester’s Watch Service in College Place and he became their watch repairman.

Wilbur was drafted in 1952 during the Korean War. Lola joined him during basic training and Medical Field Service School, also accompanying him to Fort Hood, Texas. A year after his discharge, the family moved to Days Creek, Ore., and in May 1956, he began working at Milo Adventist Academy doing construction. In 1962, he became the maintenance man at Forest Glen Hospital in Canyonville, Ore. In a few weeks, he transferred to Forest Glen Senior Residence as an engineer and maintenance person, working there until July 1976. On July 12, 1976, he obtained employment at Walla Walla College Plant Services in the carpentry department, in College Place. He retired from WWC in September 2001.

Lola worked at Forest Glen Hospital in Canyonville as a purchasing agent from July 1957 until 1976. After their move to College Place, Lola worked at The College Store as a textbook manager. Later she did bookkeeping and accounting, retiring in March 1999.

In their retirement, Wilbur grows a beautiful garden and does maintenance for friends. Lola enjoys her African-Violet collection and volunteering part-time at Gospel Outreach. They enjoy trips to their children’s homes and visiting their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Sylvester family includes Denise and Doug Johnson of Spangle, Wash.; Dolly and Kevin Willey of Deer Park, Wash.; 5 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and 2 step-great-grandchildren.

**Milestones**

**BIRTHS**

**BENNETT** — Grace Jayne was born Sept. 18, 2010, to John and Stephanie (Wagner) Bennett, Camas, Wash.

**BENNETT** — Mason Jack was born Sept. 18, 2010, to John and Stephanie (Wagner) Bennett, Camas, Wash.

**BROWN** — Alison Brooke was born Oct. 10, 2010, to David and LeAnn (States) Brown, Cocolalla, Idaho.

**COLEMAN** — Bryson Lukas was born Aug. 18, 2010, to Don and Jeanette (Betlnski) Coleman, Tillamook, Ore.

**GRATTAN** — Leilani Yumi was born Aug. 27, 2010, to Brian and Robin (Vance) Grattan, Fairview, Ore.

**GROSSMANN** — Spencer N. was born July 12, 2010, to Jamie and Kristen (Greiner) Grossman, Spanaway, Wash.

**HANING** — Ava Kay was born Oct. 2, 2010, to Christopher and Erica (Aaltonen) Haning, Surprise, Ariz.

**HANING** — Kate Audrey was born Oct. 2, 2010, to Christopher and Erica (Aaltonen) Haning, Surprise, Ariz.

**HOPPER** — Gabriel Eric was born July 6, 2010, to Dale and Daniela (Alves de Castro) Hopper, Medford, Ore.

**HUNT** — Nya B. was born Sept. 15, 2010, to Nicholas Hunt and Kali Blank, Medford, Ore.

**KING** — Braden Scott Loewen was born Sept. 22, 2010, to Brad and Michelle (Loewen) King, Medford, Ore.

**KRAUSE** — Isaac Kirby was born June 4, 2010, to Kirby and Kristi (Bowlsby) Krause, Spokane Valley, Wash.

**MCDAVIEL** — Cassidy Faith was born April 20, 2010, to Darren and Amy (Clendenon) McDaniel, Des Moines, Iowa.

**NILES** — Katelynn Marie was born Sept. 18, 2010, to Michael and Tara L. (Matthews) Niles, Portland, Ore.

**REANEY** — Kaden William was born Sept. 5, 2010, to KC and Chrisstiana (Montgomery) Reaney, Newberg, Ore.

**ROXAS** — Tabitha Eva was born Sept. 29, 2010, to Jon and Ellen (McKinney) Roxas, Wilsonville, Ore.

**SHERMAN** — Amelia Elizabeth was born May 21, 2010, to Lonnie Sherman and Carrie Knittel, Everett, Wash.

**SHERMAN** — Reese Andrew was born May 21, 2010, to Lonnie Sherman and Carrie Knittel, Everett, Wash.

**SOUTHARD** — Vivian Marga ret was born Sept. 10, 2010, to Bryan and Shanna (Greene) Southard, Gresham, Ore.

**WHARTON** — Bennett James was born Sept. 7, 2010, to Beau and Sarah (Webster) Wharton, Cheney, Wash.

**WHEELING** — Ryan Scott was born June 2, 2010, to Robert and Janelle (Janssen) Wheeling, Bellevue, Wash.

**WILSON** — Dawson Race Grant was born June 11, 2010, to Jonathan and Dawn (Belding) Wilson, Boise, Idaho.

**YOUNER** — Simon Lee was born Aug. 20, 2010, to Jeff and Jennifer (Chittenden) Youker, Portland, Ore.

**Weddings**

**CASPER-BROUILLETTE** — Ashlee Casper and David Brouillette were married June 25, 2010, in Hillsboro, Ore. They are making their home in Forest Grove, Ore. Ashlee is the daughter of Randy and Debbie Casper. David is the son of Dan Brouillette.

**SPREADBROURGH-LORENZ** — Miriam Spreadborough and Cody Lorenz were married Sept. 12, 2010, in Battle Ground, Wash. They are making their home in College Place, Wash. Miriam is the daughter of Allan and Gail (Karlsen) Spreadborough. Cody is the son of Jeff and Cheryl Lorenz and Keith and Mardee (Russell) Stirling.

**SPREADBROURGH-RICHARDS** — Jessica Spreadborough and Bill Richards were married July 18, 2010, in Hockinson, Wash. They are making their home in Loma Linda, Calif. Jessica is the daughter of Allan and Gail (Karlsen) Spreadborough. Bill is the son of William and Shirley Richards.


BOYD — Florence L. (Smith), 91; born March 17, 1919, Fruitland, Colo.; died Sept. 23, 2010, College Place, Wash. Surviving: son, Norman, Superior, Mont.; 3 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.


HANSCOM — Ouida (Sprague), 87; born Jan. 16, 1923, Astoria, Ore.; died Sept. 6, 2010, South Lancaster, Mass. Surviving: sons, Bruce L. and Russell L., both of Kent, Wash.; daughters, Joyce Hanscom, Atlanta, Ga.; Christine McCarthy, South Lancaster; Carol Wall, Lake Forest, Ill.; Gail Reiner, Imperial Beach, Calif.; brother, Clyde Sprague, Chehalis, Wash.; 19 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.


HAZEN — Stanley K., 58; born Oct. 6, 1951, Yakima, Wash.; died Sept. 12, 2010, College Place, Wash. Surviving: wife, Kathy (Wolcott); brother, Bruce, West Linn, Ore.; and sister, Jani Koenig, Gresham, Ore.


LAWSON — Louise (Haih), 86; born May 29, 1924, Loma Linda, Calif.; died Sept. 11, 2010, Battle Ground, Wash. Surviving: son, Gary, Wenatchee, Wash.; daughters, Carol Dodge, Battle Ground; Sandra Rodman, Auburn, Wash.; 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.


**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**North Pacific Union Conference**

**Offering**
- **Dec. 4** — Local Church Budget;
- **Dec. 11** — NAD: Inner City;
- **Dec. 18** — Local Church Budget;
- **Dec. 25** — Local Conference Advance;
- **Dec. 25** — Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings; West-Central Africa Division.
* Special materials provided.
+ This denotes a special project development.

**Special Days**

Curriculum Focus for the Month — Christian Hospitality.
- **Dec. 4** — Bible Sabbath.
+ Curriculum resource materials are published in NAD church resource journals — Sabbath School Leadership, Celebración, Célébration, Kids’ Ministry Ideas and Cornerstone Youth Resource Journal.
* Special materials provided.

**Walla Walla University**

- **Dec. 10** — The annual Christmas concert by the WWU Music Department at the University Church, will be performed twice: 6 and 8 p.m.
- **Dec. 16**— Jan. 2 — Christmas Break;
- **Jan. 3** — Winter quarter begins.

**Oregon**

**“An Evening in December” Concert**
- **Dec. 4** — The North Pacific Union Conference GLEANER presents “An Evening in December,” a concert featuring the Heritage Singers and 90 percent of the original Rose City Singers in reunion at New Hope Community Church in Portland, OR, at 7 p.m. This free concert blends traditional Christmas selections along with religious favorites, since their formation out of the City of Roses. Further concert information, giveaways, stories and more will be in the weekly GleanerNOW e-newsletters.

**Musical Vespers**
- **Dec. 4** — Featuring Carl Parker, Craig King and Waworoodeng, an instrumental trio from California. They have appeared on Hope TV and other media outlets. Come enjoy some inspirational music. A free-will offering will be taken. The musical vespers starts at 4 p.m. at Stone Tower Church, 3010 N.E. Holladay St., Portland, OR.

**Dr. Swift Coming to South Salem Church**
- **Dec. 11** — Dr. Dennis Swift will be at South Salem Church, 6994 Sunnyside Road S.E., Salem, OR. Swift is an archaeologist, adventurer and cryptozoologist. He has traveled the world and is considered to be the leading authority on dinosaurs and man living together and technology in ancient civilizations. His fact-filled and humorous presentation will be from 2-5 p.m. DVDs and books will be for sale afterwards.

**Missing Members**

The Tabernacle Church, in Portland, is looking for the following missing members: Antonio Bagang Sr.; David, Lana, Joseph and Carmen Beale; Timothy Beale; Natasha Belaeva; Diana Benetti; Gwendolyn Cook; Galaine Dolidze; Melray Fitzgerald; Raymond Hall; Janet Howell; Trevis Johnson; Alexandr Kapustianov; Johnwin Kiahd; Wesley Lawson; Stacie Lloyd; John S. Loewen; Tonya Lorenz; Aleksander and Dina Lukyanov; Sergey Lukyanov; Vladimir and Alexandra Nikitin; Lillian Pakos; Marnie Quillen; Roger and Kathryn Rudyk; Terry and Andrea Shupe; Rowland and Roberta Smith; Jessica and Michele Stinson; James Stout; Betty Thompson; Christine Trott; Michael J. Trott; Wayne D. Wallace; and Alan Wilson. If you know or could provide contact information for these missing members, we would gladly follow up in finding them. Please contact the church office and leave a message for Gloria at 503-223-0623.

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Fairfield Adventist Church invites you to consider joining our church and community. We are located 13 miles east of Upper Columbia Academy and 22 miles south of Spokane Valley. We’re ideally situated for young families looking for a more rural atmosphere. There are a number of houses in the area for sale or rent. Come out for a visit. For more information, call 509-283-2326.

**Washington**

**Missing Members**

Breath of Life Church, in Seattle, is looking for the following missing members: Henrique Ramson Sr., Lynne M. Ratliffe, Elijah Richardson, Herbert Richardson, Joquoya Richardson, Lynn Richardson, Marva Richardson, Terence Richardson Sr., Tiffany M. Richardson, Sandra Riggins Sr., Betty Rood, Amy Royster, Angenette Royster, Christian Sankey, Leonard Sankey, Vanessa Sankey, Frank B. Sawyer, Sandra D. Sawyer, Raya Scott, Lishan Shfrawe-Bishop, Robert Shoemaker, Latifah Siller, Reynaldo Siu-Chang, Lisa Smith, Ranliegh Snipes, David Stein, Rebecca Stein, Phyllis I. Stephenson, Kenneth E. Stevenson and Rita Swann. If you have any contact information about these people, please e-mail Shirley Mathieu at tangode@juno.com or call the church and leave a message at 206-762-0333.
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UNION COLLEGE seeks academic director for its master of physician assistant studies program. Responsibilities include curricular analysis, teaching and evaluation. Graduate degree, NCCPA certification, and 3 years’ clinical experience required. Contact Michael Huckabee, PhD, PA-C, program director, paprog@ucollege.edu.

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Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center
1375 Highland Avenue, Loma Linda, California 92354

SEEKING: Live-in nanny for Montana family of five, one child with special needs. $1,500, females only, send resume and references to: jdixson@centralvalleyfire.com.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Ph.D. prepared Biologists for Spring 2011. Looking for talented, committed Adventist creationist who is able to inspire students in classroom and in research. Teaching assignments are negotiable in a five-person department. Contact Dr. Suzanne Phillips, chair, Biology. SWAU, Keene, TX, 817-202-6274 or suzannephillips@swau.edu.

UNION COLLEGE seeks chair/director of BS Nursing program. Responsibilities include strategic planning, curricular assessment, faculty development and support of college activities. Nebraska state licensure, teaching experience, and doctoral degree or ongoing study required. Contact Charlotte Schober, interim chair, chschobe@ucollege.edu.

PROJECT PATCH is seeking outstanding committed Christian staff. For more information or to apply, go to www.projectpatch.org/jobs. Open positions: Assistant Development Director, Vancouver, WA; Therapist/Administrator, Garden Valley, ID; Therapist/Program Director, Goldendale, WA; Hospitality Director, Goldendale, WA.

THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT of Andrews University is seeking a part-time faculty, Assistant Professor of Family Studies, to lead and develop a family studies program. Candidate must have Master’s degree in social science and teaching experience at the college level. For information and to apply, please visit: www.andrews.edu/hr/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi.

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Nurse Practitioner faculty member to join our progressive, mission-focused, graduate team. Candidate must hold current family or adult NP certification, and have current clinical experience. Successful candidate must be a Seventh-day Adventist Church member in good standing. Educational requirements include earned doctorate; MSN may be considered. Immediate opening (winter 2011). Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Holly Gadd, Graduate Program Coordinator, hgadd@southern.edu. SAU School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks half-time professor to teach freshman writing. A top candidate will hold at least a master’s degree in writing, will demonstrate a commitment to integrating faith and learning, and be a Seventh-day Adventist Church member in good standing. Each applicant should provide a CV and a statement of how he/she integrates teaching and Christian faith. Send materials to Jan Haluska, English Department Chair, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370, or haluska@southern.edu. Application deadline is Jan. 1, 2011.

THE BLUE MOUNTAIN CREDIT UNION, located in College Place, WA, is seeking a Loan Officer. Real estate lending experience is desired. A bachelor’s degree with 3+ years of lending experience is preferred. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are essential. The credit union, founded in 1959 by members of the Walla Walla College faculty, has approximately $27 million...
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Ken Crawford, president; Ed Dunn, secretary; Sharon Staddon, treasurer; Linda LaMuryn Road, Anchorage, AK 99507-7200; (907) 346-1004; www.alaskaconference.org.

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The Rude Remnant

She didn't know me that Friday afternoon. I was just a college kid, stocking the shelves, doing my job. But I was the first one she lined up in her crosshairs, so I got it with both barrels.

Perhaps she was overly rushed, trying to squeeze in some shopping without marring the edges of the Sabbath. Whatever the reason, she saw I had mislabeled a product and her words came fast and furious — demeaning, cutting words. I was left speechless and about a foot shorter as she swept off down the aisle, muttering not quite under her breath.

The next morning, I gratefully slipped into a back pew at church just as special music began — one of my favorites: “How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings.” Far up in front on the platform, a soprano was emoting beautifully. I looked and looked again to be certain. It was her — the lady from the store.

Adventists can be insufferably odious! A friend from a service-oriented company confided recently Adventists are some of the most obnoxious customers — especially over the phone. It's hard, I know, for those of us who are always impeccably kind, loving and gracious, to understand these temperamental pew-mates of ours. While some Adventists may automatically assume the role of The Remnant Church, how can the remnant be so rude? When others watch, do they wonder if we have been mislabeled?

As a matter of fact, we're not the only ones who have ever taken on the title.

Here's a quotation that could easily be ascribed to an Adventist pioneer: “As the Laodiceans flee into a spiritual wilderness, God would raise up a final church which would keep the Commandments of God, have the testimony of Jesus, and war with Satan. We believe we are the part of that remnant and that the return of our Savior is near, (even at the door).”

It's not from your friends, the Adventists. It's from the Remnant Church of God in Stonesboro, Pennsylvania. There's also the Remnant Church located in Lufkin, Texas, and wait — even The Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Before we place the “remnant” mantle upon our own shoulders, let us individually let God prove the pudding with His ongoing work in our own characters. Anything less consigns us to the “remnant barrel” — definitely not preferred seating.

C.S. Lewis describes the process this way: “It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird: it would be a jolly sight harder for it to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad.”

Some Adventists have stayed too long in the shell. Run across any Adventist “bad eggs” lately or any who are “hardboiled,” perhaps a bit “cracked” or rotten to the core? Don't fret. Instead, tend to your own garden.

The true remnant of God may be the last to know it. They're too busy walking with Him to worry about labels.

You may respond to any Gleaner topic by sending an e-mail to: talk@gleaneronline.org
The North Pacific Union Conference Gleaner Presents

“An Evening in December”

Concert

Saturday, December 4 at 7 p.m.
New Hope Community Church
Portland, Oregon

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Wednesday, February 2, 7 pm
Gem State Academy
Saturday, February 5, 6:30 pm
Livingstone Adventist Academy
Tuesday, January 25, 7 pm
Milo Adventist Academy
Saturday, January 15, 5:30 pm
Mount Ellis Academy
Saturday, November 13, 6 pm
Portland Adventist Academy
Monday, January 31, 7 pm
Puget Sound Academy
Monday, February 7, 7 pm
Rogue Valley Adventist School
Sunday, January 30, 10 am
Skagit Adventist School
Monday, February 7, 7 pm
Upper Columbia Academy
Saturday, February 26, 6 pm
Walla Walla Valley Academy
Wednesday, February 23, 7 pm

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