INTERNATIONAL PATHFINDER CAMPOREE

FOREVER FAITHFUL
As water reflects the face, so one’s life reflects the heart.
Prov. 27:19

“Great Blue Reflection” in Ridgefield, Wash., by Lynne McClure, of Vancouver, Wash.
PIFHER NEW VP FOR MEDIA AT NAD

Gordon Pifher, who has most recently served as North Pacific Union Conference director of innovation, leadership and stewardship, is now filling a new role as North American Division vice president for media. Pifher, who also served for years as a pastor and administrator within the Upper Columbia Conference, will be responsible for developing and implementing a media ministry strategy for all such ministries across a territory that includes the United States, Canada, Bermuda, Guam and Micronesia. He will work closely with the Hope Channel and coordinate new approaches for urban-center programming with the existing “legacy” ministries such as Voice of Prophecy and It Is Written.
‘Ditches’ Misses the Mark
[Regarding “Ditches,” Let’s Talk, July 2014] “What saith the Lord?” should ever be our question when any issue of controversy arises in the church. Where we stand on such issues as adornment, worship styles, the human nature of Christ or ministerial ordination should be based solely on the Bible and the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy, not on superficial notions of “balance” or whether an issue is thought to be “major” or “minor.” I find it somewhat amusing when people talk of certain folks “majoring in minors.” When you have a medical problem, you want to arrest its growth while it is still minor. You don’t want to wait to see the doctor once it gets major. The lifestyle standards of Seventh-day Adventism, as set forth in Scripture and the writings of Ellen White, are designed to address spiritual problems at their roots, which may appear small at first but which can prove seriously destructive if permitted to develop further. After all, it was Jesus Himself — not some Pharisee — who said, “He that is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much” (Luke 16:10). — Linda Brehm, La Pine, Ore.

‘Ditches’ Hits the Mark
[Regarding “Ditches,” Let’s Talk, July 2014] I have the final paragraph posted on the bulletin board above my desk at work. Thank you for a delightful reminder of what our behavior should be. — Sue Fansworth, Anacortes, Wash.

Eyes on Jesus
[Regarding “Ditches,” Let’s Talk, July 2014] I get tired of the paranoia, I suppose I can call it. It may all be true enough, things wrong with the church. But I see our job is not to bring attention to all that but to drive forward, hold our nose and drive straight through. Right. Keep our eyes on Jesus. It is hard enough in these days to do just that. We must have Him in our sights all the time. Thanks for a sensible Let’s Talk. — Velma Collins, Gold Bar, Wash.

Terminology Is Important
In Martin Weber’s Perspective entitled “Spiritual AIDS” in the July issue of the NPUC Gleaner, the author uses coded language that is designed to elicit a certain picture about who LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender] people are, and it leaves no doubt that the LGBT community is “other” in his eyes. He congratulates himself for his openness while using the term “homosexual” to describe a gay man. If he really tried to understand the LGBT community he would have easily found resources … that explain why calling someone a “homosexual” is offensive. That term is also coded language that is a favorite [of] the anti-LGBT commentators because they know it is offensive. Though the author describes the church members and himself as loving people, his words tell a completely different story. Seth Pierce says it well on another page in the same issue of Gleaner: “Yes, we can all agree on the necessity to impress upon today’s children the need for mature adults, especially those following Jesus, to conduct themselves respectfully, and to communicate their thoughts and feelings in ways that build people up.” — Carolyn Parsons, Albany, Ore.

A Refreshing Reminder
How refreshing to see a church honoring our Judeo-Christian heritage [“Springfield Members Experience Seder Meal,” August 2014]! Christ’s Lord’s Supper as shown in the Gospels (Luke 22:7–30, Mark 14:12–26) was a Passover Seder into which He infused messianic meaning. The Seder meal celebrates the plan of redemption, including anticipation of the coming kingdom. We look forward to the heavenly celebration of the Passover Seder as promised by Jesus in Luke 22:16. — Connie Dahlke, Walla Walla, Wash.
Upper Columbia Academy is growing good health.

SEE PAGE 23

Summer camp baptisms are what Adventist camps are all about.

SEE PAGE 27

What is this and why is it in the Gleaner?

SEE PAGE 29

Is being offended a helpful Christian attitude?

SEE PAGE 42
Newly baptized Pathfinders release balloons at the Forever Faithful International Camporee.
For five days in August, 46,000 Pathfinders from around the world converged on the Experimental Aircraft Association’s AirVenture Campgrounds in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Clubs traveled by plane, train and bus, and some even came by bicycle, for the 2014 Forever Faithful International Camporee.
THE WEEK started with rain, and many clubs had to deal with mud and water in their tents. However, sun came back the next day, and the rain held off for the rest of the event.

Each day, campers spent their time working on honors, participating in activities and helping in community service projects. Honors classes were offered in everything from cooking with a Dutch oven and early Adventist history to juggling and the life of Jesus.

The evening programs were a highlight. The camporee’s theme was “Forever Faithful,” and each evening focused on telling a portion of Daniel’s story through theatrical performances and spiritual messages from Sam Lenore, camporee keynote speaker and chaplain for La Sierra University in Riverside, California.

Many attendees felt Lenore’s talks were a highlight of each day. “It’s short, but it’s right to the point. It’s deep,” said Irma Tabarez, 16, from the Hermiston Spanish Church in Oregon.

Before the evening programs, four large swimming pools were opened for baptisms, with 35 Northwest Pathfinders making that public vow. In all, more than 600 attendees from around the world chose to be baptized.

View more pictures and read more online:
glnr.in/2014ffic.
The drill team from Facing the Giants, the Renton (Washington) Spanish Church’s Pathfinder Club, shows off their marching skills during the Drill Team competition. Clubs from around North America were given time to compete each day showing their marching skills.

ONLINE GALLERY

More photos of the camporee can be found online.
La Biblia nos enseña que debemos amarnos, indicándonos que es un mandamiento que debemos cumplir (1 Jn. 3:11). Además nos dice que es amándonos unos a otros como se conocerá que somos discípulos de Jesús (Jn. 15:35); este amor debe ser hacia todos aquellos que son parte del cuerpo de Cristo sin hacer distinción de ningún tipo, siendo amigos y amando a los más ancianos como a padres, a los jóvenes como a hermanos, a las ancianas como a madres y a las jóvenes como a hermanas con toda pureza (1 Ti. 5:12).

Uno de los aspectos fundamentales en tu camino hacia el crecimiento y la madurez cristiana es la práctica del amor fraternal en la congregación de los santos. Ni tú, ni yo, ni nadie, puede decir que ha llegado a la madurez cristiana si no es capaz de amar a sus hermanos, aceptándolos tal y como son.

Nuestro crecimiento espiritual no es cuestión de cuántos años tengamos en la vida cristiana, sino de la manera en que vamos asimilando los principios espirituales, y éstos llegan a ser parte de nuestro carácter y rectores de nuestra conducta a partir del nuevo nacimiento.

La madurez cristiana es descrita por la Palabra de Dios de varias maneras, usando varios conceptos equivalentes: es el crecimiento de “Cristo en nosotros”; es la rendición del “yo” carnal y egoísta; es el “andar en el Espíritu”; es el ir alcanzando la “estatura de la plenitud de Cristo”; es la santificación; es avanzar en el camino a la perfección.

En la vida eclesiástica se puede ver el crecimiento de muchas iglesias como fruto de una unidad en el amor cristiano. Uno de los mayores ejemplos que he podido ver es el de la Iglesia Hispana de Bothell-Kenmore, esta congregación ha experimentado un crecimiento extraordinario en los últimos dos años. Dicho crecimiento ha sido el resultado del trabajo con un espíritu amoroso con el que se ha acogido a cada persona que ha llegado a dicha iglesia.

La iglesia Hispana de Bothell–Kenmore es un nuevo grupo, pero es un grupo peculiar, con una fuerza de atracción donde todos, tantos ancianos como niños son un solo cuerpo, porque en ellos se mueve una atmósfera de amor fraternal. No es que hayan alcanzado el crecimiento máximo del cristiano, pero progresan a la meta todos unidos en amor hasta alcanzar el blanco en el amor del Espíritu de Dios.

Pastor Pedro Pozo, Washington Conference, Iglesia Hispana de Bothell
ears, laughter, songs and activities mixed with a host of children at this summer’s Alaska Camps.

More than 150 children experienced the joy of summer camp at Camp Tuk near Flat Lake (June 22–July 6), Camp Polaris near Dillingham (July 13–20) and Camp Lorraine on Vank Island (Aug. 3–10).

Many campers return year after year to these special places. One who did not return this year to Camp Polaris was Kinka Active, who passed away recently. Camp staff joined Active’s siblings in tears of remembrance of the girl who at the camp had learned to play the guitar and challenge the cold waters of Lake Aleknagik. But the lesson for all was in remembering she had given her life to Jesus at Camp Polaris. There were tears but also a reminder that the camp stands for a bright and eternal future for every young person in attendance.

On Sabbath, while campers and staff were on a hike, a large rock fell down, damaging a staff member’s leg. This type of injury can be a problem in remote areas. It is extremely important to activate emergency services early when in the bush. It takes about an hour and a half to get services. There is the phone call (a challenge in itself), the drive to the landing, the boat trip across the lake, retrieving the victim, the boat ride back, and the ambulance from the landing to the hospital, which all must happen before things get worse.

While emergency services were on the way, a cold front moved in with high winds, which created 6- to 8-foot waves on the lake, making travel difficult for the EMTs. One of the smaller campers began to experience the beginning stages of hypothermia. When emergency services arrived they determined that it would be better if camp staff carried the injured member off the mountain. The staff did a fantastic job. Everyone did what they were told, and each was brought to safety.

God sustained everyone through all this activity. No lasting damage was done, and both staff and campers gained respect for each other and a lot of memories of pulling together to struggle through challenges.

Alaska can be a challenging environment at the best of times. But challenges teach character, and that is part of the mission during these camp experiences. It wasn’t all fun and games this summer. Everyone experienced Jesus on a whole new level, and isn’t that what camp is all about?

Laurie Hosey, Alaska Camps director
Seven Pathfinder leaders were invested as master guides at the 2014 Oshkosh Forever Faithful International Camporee. Two Pathfinders were baptized as well.

2014 Baptism Goal: 270. As of Aug. 22, there were 54 baptisms and professions of faith.

A recent baptism at the Caldwell Church came through a contact from the local Adventist Community Services. That contact also brought a student to Gem State Adventist Academy (GSAA) in Caldwell, and the student is able to attend because he worked at the GSAA Gardens during the summer.

Gem State Adventist Academy has enhanced the safety of its students by securing the lobbies to minimize access to classroom areas.

The church at Gem State Adventist Academy is now a year-round church, with an emphasis on being a church for youth.

NEWS NOTES

ESTATE PLANNING QUIZ

1. Because you do not own your home, you do not need an estate plan.
   □ True □ False

2. Which of the following statements is true?

   A. A young family with children has just purchased their first home. Because they do not have a large net worth, they should wait to establish an estate plan until they have more equity in their home.

   B. A senior couple just sold their home and moved into retirement housing, which they rent. They have no children and want to give their assets to their church and to a local community nonprofit organization for which they volunteer. They need an estate plan.

ANSWERS:

1. False. Whether you own a home or other property, you still have an estate. Your estate is made up of all the things you own (car, personal property, home, investments, etc.) including possible settlements that your estate may receive if your death was the result of someone’s negligence. A will is one way to allow you to determine how your assets cared for, and also names an individual (your personal representative) who can legally represent your estate and your family.

2A. False. A young family, especially with minor children, would benefit by having an estate plan so that the parents can choose who will care for their children if the parents have passed away. The state may not make the same choice the parents want.

2B. True. You don’t have to have children to need an estate plan. Especially if you want to leave all or part of your estate to charity, you need an estate plan. If you passed away without a plan, the state of your residence has statutes that determine how your assets would be dispersed. They do not include charitable organizations in their formulas.

If you would like to know more about creating or updating an estate plan, contact Eve Rusk, Idaho Conference planned giving and trust services director, at 208-375-7524 or plannedgiving@idconf.org. The Idaho Conference has Level A accreditation with the Seventh-day Adventist Church and uses professional legal counsel to prepare all estate planning documents. The information above is not intended to be used as legal advice and is shared as information only.
BOISE VALLEY GETS NEW PLAYGROUND

“It’s so cool. I love it,” says a Boise Valley Adventist School fifth-grader of the new playground.

“It’s so cool. I love it!” says a fifth-grader.

“It looks newer and fresher, and I like that some of the stations are educational,” adds an eighth-grader.

“I like that a lot of the parts are plastic so I don’t get burned on the hot metal,” notes a sixth-grader.

“It has a variety of activities for the kids to play with and accommodates more students so more of my friends can be included,” explains another eighth-grader.

These are just a few of the comments heard from Boise Valley Adventist School (BVAS) students regarding their new school playground.

BVAS has many features of which to be proud: a well-kept facility, a state-of-the-art gym, an updated computer lab and a large playground. But closer examination of the playground revealed a lot of the structures were outdated and out of code. Therefore, when the school held its eighth annual fundraiser gala, the proceeds from the event were used to purchase shade trees and a new playground structure to replace the outdated equipment.

The new play structure not only adds color to the playground but “is also handicap user-friendly and contains structures that will aid the students in completing their yearly Physical Challenge,” observes Verna Reinbold, BVAS first- and second-grade teacher.

The purchase of the structure was made possible through donations of area businesses, the church and the school family. “I believe the donors will appreciate their efforts when they see and hear the students using the equipment,” says Tom Sherwood, sixth- through eighth-grade teacher.

“It’s always touching to see others step up to support the school, and the completion of this playground is just one more reminder of how blessed we are,” states Melanie Lawson, BVAS head teacher. The structure is a much-needed addition to the school and something the students will enjoy for years to come.

Melanie Lawson, Boise Valley Adventist School head teacher

PATHFINDER ANOINTING LEADS TO BAPTISM

Elizabeth Condie says her four years in Pathfinders allowed her to meet “some pretty amazing people.”

When her Pathfinder club went to Astoria, Ore., in 2012, she was so excited. In addition to a fun time, her anointing made it really special. After she was anointed, she started to think seriously about being baptized. Condie says this decision has changed her life forever. Grace Coneff studied the Bible with her and helped her through the process.

Chris Evenson, Nampa Church pastor, baptized her on June 7 in the presence of the church family and her Pathfinder friends. The baptism was celebrated with a potluck, sponsored by her fellow Pathfinders. Her church family welcomed her with open arms.

Shirley Maxwell, Nampa Church communication leader

Susan Gilbert gives Elizabeth Condie her baptism pin, while Bill Legg, Caldwell Flames Pathfinder director, looks on.
The weekend of July 18–20 found the Havre Church members enjoying God’s created beauty in Beaver Creek Park in the Bears Paw Mountains just south of town.

Several musicians provided accompaniment during the church’s annual campout.

Friday evening vespers was led by Francy Beardsley. Leo Beardsley taught Sabbath School, and Phillip Neuharth, pastor, continued his series on the book of Ruth, taking his listeners through chapter 2.

Several musicians provided accompaniment for the congregation on guitars, banjo, mandolin, hammered dulcimer and dobro. They also enjoyed an afternoon jam session after a delicious potluck lunch.

After an afternoon of fellowship, Loredana Neuharth shared some thoughts on faith as the Sabbath closed. Then more goodies and music were enjoyed around a campfire.

Havre Church members look forward to heaven when time-less fellowship and praise will define their existence.

Oshkosh, Wis., was invaded by more than 48,000 people (depending which source you are quoting) as Pathfinders gathered for the Forever Faithful International Camporee (FFIC), held once every five years.

The event had an atmosphere of the largest camp meeting ever. It was and is an incredible experience for Pathfinders to be a part of a youth organization that has been mentoring young people for decades. Watching so many Pathfinders, club directors, leaders, parents and sponsors interact with their peers from all over the world was truly spectacular.

Montana Conference was represented by 80 people from groups in Billings, Bozeman, Hamilton, Kalispell and Missoula.

James Black, North American Division youth ministries director, provided great morning worships. The speakers made the camporee special as they shared stories of their experiences from their youth.

Montana Pathfinders marched in a parade with more than 7,000 Pathfinders. Through pin-collecting and pin-trading, Pathfinders met people from all over the world.

One Montana Pathfinder, Svea Smith from Missoula, got baptized, and her peers were happy to witness as she publicly gave her heart to Jesus.

The Pathfinders also earned honors, tried obstacle courses, and walked miles and miles every day. They watched the story of Daniel come to life as each night they learned being faithful is not just a part-time thing but something they strive to do forever. They sang, fought through the rain at times, got to know each other better and, most importantly, drew closer to Jesus.

The hard work and dedication of Montana directors, club leaders, sponsors, chap- erones, cooks and volunteers made it possible for Pathfinders to experience this life-changing event.

If you have never attended one of these International camporees, make sure you do. Oshkosh 2019: Chosen, featuring the story of David, is five years away, but it’s never too early to start planning.

Phil Hudema, Montana Conference youth director
Canvasback Missions Inc. sent three medical specialty teams to Majuro, part of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), in May and June 2014, including an orthopedic surgery team and two dental teams.

The orthopedic team consisted of three orthopedic surgeons, two operating room nurses, two recovery nurses, one physical therapist, one clinic coordinator, one biomedical technician, and three clinic office assistants. The team ran clinics for two weeks at the government-operated Majuro Hospital.

John Anderson organizes artificial joints in preparation for surgeries at Majuro Hospital.

Alexander Hirata, Canvasback Missions project intern

Rick Henderson leads the Canvasback orthopedic team during a meeting in Majuro.

The team ran clinics for two weeks at the government-operated Majuro Hospital.

“The resources in Majuro are pretty limited,” explains Richard Henderson, the orthopedic surgeon who assembled the team. He saw patients who had lived with joint problems for years, which had limited their mobility and productivity.

This is Henderson’s fifth medical mission to the islands. He practices at Providence St. Mary Medical Center and Walla Walla General Hospital, both in Walla Walla, Wash. His wife, Kay, also a doctor, triaged and counseled patients at the clinic.

The Canvasback orthopedic team examined 323 patients and performed 34 surgeries, including 12 total or partial knee replacements and one hip replacement. “It was hard work,” says John Anderson, a doctor who participated for his first time, “but it was very rewarding.”

While Anderson operated on orthopedic cases, his wife, Jeannette, and their children helped in the clinic during the morning and ran community children’s programs in the afternoon. Anderson practices medicine at Adventist Medical Center in Portland.

Henderson was glad to have a number of pediatric cases. Correcting children’s orthopedic problems is important because it prevents future problems and limitations. “We fixed at least four or five kids’ arms, allowing them to work normally in the future,” Henderson says. “Without treatment, they would have been left with deformed arms.”

After the team left, Robert Wells, another orthopedic surgeon from Portland, stayed a few extra days to make sure all post-op patients were infection-free until discharge. His wife, Susan, and grandson Jakob Voorhies accompanied him on this mission, working in the clinic and at Canvasback’s Wellness Center.

Canvasback Missions operates in the Micronesian islands with two goals: to reverse the epidemic of diabetes in Micronesia and to provide specialty medical teams otherwise unavailable to these people.

Although Canvasback’s work is largely medical, all are welcome to be a part of the mission.

“I think there’s a role for everyone,” says Anderson. “You don’t have to have medical training to contribute. It really gives perspective on the world and causes you to grow. Just because you’re not a surgeon doesn’t mean you can’t come out and help.”

Alexander Hirata, Canvasback Missions project intern
Nick Jones, Gateway (Grants Pass) and SonRise (Eagle Point) churches pastor, was deeply missed at the Gladstone Camp Meeting this year. The recently ordained pastor was at home in Medford undergoing a grueling series of chemotherapy treatments. Cancer had returned in his body.

Pastors throughout the Oregon Conference and beyond rallied at Gladstone Camp Meeting and were “Nicked for Nick” as they had their heads shaved to match the effect chemotherapy was having on Jones’ hair. All told, more than 40 pastors and friends participated.

A huge crowd gathered to lend support, pray with the pastors and show love for the Jones family, which includes his wife, Julie, and a baby girl due in October. The video of this event was captured on YouTube and shared on several Facebook walls.

After watching the video, Jones posted on Facebook, “I am so humbled and amazed. Thank you so much for your support and prayers and beautiful bald heads!”

The spirit of solidarity was carried from Gladstone to Grants Pass as many others were inspired to have their heads shaved. One such group met on July 24 at the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School.

Christian Martin, Grants Pass Church pastor, gathered with Phil Ermshar, Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School principal, and several others on the school grounds to shave their heads and pray for Jones. For them, it was personal as each knew of someone else who had battled cancer. In that moment, it was a meaningful show of support for their friend and colleague in the Grants Pass community.

Jones has been open and honest about his cancer battle, describing his first round of chemotherapy and its effects. He has noted several times in his blog, pastornick.com, that the support of family, friends and beyond — along with a close walk with Jesus — has helped him stay positive during this fight.

Jennifer Burkes, Grants Pass Church communication leader, with Christian Martin, Grants Pass Church pastor

(From left) James Burkes, Phil Ermshar, Michael Rae and Marcus Bryner sport shaved heads in support for a local pastor facing cancer.
After eight long months, the McMinnville Church celebrated the reopening of its kitchen and Friendship Hall on Sabbath, Aug. 2. The congregation gathered to acknowledge God’s blessings with a special luncheon following a message by guest speaker Steve Arrington.

On the evening of Dec. 9, 2013, the church’s elders and pastor arrived at the church to find the whole annex ankle-deep with water and saturated ceiling tiles. The scheduled elders’ meeting turned into an emergency work bee to try and contain the damage. The culprit? A pressure surge in the city’s water supply created a thumbprint-size hole in an overhead PVC pipe.

Months of hard work and countless hours of volunteer labor and expertise followed. Thanks to the insurance settlement and the members’ efforts, the McMinnville Church is now enjoying improved facilities and increased storage, all debt-free.

Michelle McMillen, McMinnville Church communication leader

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The McMinnville Church celebrated the reopening of its kitchen and Friendship Hall on Sabbath, Aug. 2.
Help is on the way for disadvantaged east Portlanders needing dental care.

Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS) is launching a dental program for low-income individuals in 2015.

PACS has long known of the great need for dental care among low-income populations, but the resources have not been there to add the new program. That changed in 2012 when an anonymous donor handed a $50,000 check to Paul Cole, PACS executive director. The donor asked Cole to use the funds as seed money to launch a dental clinic.

“IT became very clear, very quickly, that God was leading us in this direction,” says Cole.

That check sparked the beginning of a $700,000 campaign to add dental care to PACS’s existing health clinic.

Several dentists have already signed on as volunteers to provide dental care when the program is launched. PACS has purchased a house in a mixed-use city zone directly behind PACS’s current facilities to develop the clinic. Once adequate funds have been raised, the house will be remodeled into a clinic facility.

Dental care remains a significant gap in the social safety net for low-income families. The need has been most evident in PACS’s own health clinic.

“We often see our own patients struggling with severe pain,” says Dianne Glovatsky, PACS clinic manager. “But if it’s a dental issue, we can only treat the pain, not the root of the problem because we have no dental infrastructure. This project will change that.”

Patient Carla Linquist has made the need evident. She has struggled with ongoing dental issues for years due to being in a severe car accident when she was young. Her many missing teeth have severely impacted her life, including her ability to present a professional appearance in job interviews.

“You have to get a referral from a regular dentist to get dentures,” she says, “but I can’t even find a regular dentist who will take me.”

The Dental Project is receiving major support from dental equipment company A-dec, the Oregon Community Foundation, Generations Retirement Communities and John Jones construction. The North American Division, Oregon Conference and North Pacific Union Conference have also invested in the effort.

Brian Vistaunet, Portland Adventist Community Services development associate

Every year in August Gladstone Park Church members head to Les Shirley Park at Cannon Beach for Haystacks at Haystack Rock. While some members head for the beach in the morning and stay all day, many more drive over after church for an afternoon of fun at the beach, food (haystacks) and sunset vespers around a fire.

This year Haystacks at Haystack Rock, held Aug. 16, was extra-special with two baptisms. Bethany Wyman and Elizabeth (Liz) Mcleod responded to the call of the Holy Spirit, surrendering their hearts to Jesus and following His example in baptism.

In the evening the sun set on a perfect Sabbath as Gladstone Park welcomed two new members to the family of God.

Wesley Clark, Gladstone Park Church men’s ministries leader
Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) welcomed new staff members Mechelle Peinado and Jason Bibb this fall.

Mechelle Peinado joins PAA as the school guidance counselor and as teacher of advanced placement psychology, advanced placement U.S. history, senior project and personal finance. Peinado and her husband have been teaching in the Montana Conference.

Dan Nicola, PAA principal, says, “Mechelle brings a wealth of experience to our staff. She’s had a previous career as an attorney, a counselor advising HIV-positive and AIDS patients, and several years of teaching experience to validate her master’s degree in education.” Peinado has three children with her husband, Ric, who is the new principal at nearby Meadow Glade Adventist Elementary School in Battle Ground, Wash.

Jason Bibb will serve PAA as vice principal of finance. After graduating from PAA in 2002, Bibb went to Walla Walla University where he earned his degree in business administration with a concentration in personal finance.

Bibb comes to PAA from Milo Adventist Academy in Days Creek, where he was vice principal of finance. Previous to that, he has worked with accounts and billing in the business department of Adventist Medical Center in Portland.

“Jason’s broad experience, covering both hospital and school finance, is a great blessing to PAA,” says Nicola. “Jason told me that he had such a positive spiritual and academic experience here as a student that he wanted to come back to PAA and help other students to enjoy a similar experience.” Bibb and his wife, Sarah, have three children.

Liesl Vistaunet, PAA Gleaner correspondent

The Portland Adventist Academy (PAA) campus is being prepared for a new school building. Construction vehicles were busy this summer on the south side of PAA’s campus. The activity was largely focused on bringing water, electrical and sewer upgrades through the property to provide for the needs of the future school building. The parking lot and field upgrades will be complete this fall.

“In the long term,” says Dan Nicola, PAA principal, “the result will be a first-class educational facility. It will enhance our community and ensure our students get a quality, Christ-centered, 21st-century education.”

Liesl Vistaunet
Partway through her experience at Youth Rush, Ina received a phone call from a young lady who lives in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. The lady, only 22 years old, had donated for *The Great Controversy* several weeks before. “I’ve been reading that book, and I’m more than halfway through” she began to explain. “I went to all the neighbors on my street and told them how powerful this book is. Then I said that next year when you guys come around, they need to get this book.”

Ina was baptized shortly before her Youth Rush summer began. “It’s a way to help me better my relationship with Christ,” she explains. “Even through rejection, it’s an example of what Christ went through for us.”

Ina was one of more than 15 young people who participated this year in Youth Rush, a student literature ministry program reaching communities through books left on a donation basis. This year students received more than $55,000 in total earnings and distributed more than 9,600 books, in addition to thousands of GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts and flyers for evangelistic meetings in Spokane, Wash.

Chamberlen, a student from north Idaho, knocked and knocked on his last door of the day, but nobody responded. As he started to leave, he felt impressed to knock again. A guy in his late 20s opened the door, and Chamberlen began sharing the *Theodicy* DVD. A theodicy is an explanation of how a God who is good can allow all the evil we see in the world. After explaining this to him, the man said, “This is unbelievable! We were just talking about this before you knocked on the door.”

For more stories showing how God was greater than the enemy this summer and to apply for the 2015 Youth Rush program (beginning June 7), visit uccsda.org/youthrush.

Robert Koorenny, Upper Columbia Conference literature ministries coordinator

2014 MARKS A SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR YOUTH RUSH

 enfants Church of Yakima, Wash., hosted a Vacation Bible School July 7–11 with the help of His Travelers, a group of traveling VBS leaders from the Upper Columbia Conference. The theme, “Wilderness Escape,” focused on God’s loving provision for His people Israel after leaving Egypt and how we can trust Him to care for us too.

The first night’s opening time of 6 p.m. came, but children didn’t. The leaders gathered to pray for little ones to come. Within moments, children started to trickle in, including many from the community.

Most of the Youth Rush team enjoys a Friday afternoon relaxing and having fun.
There has been talk on and off at Upper Columbia Academy (UCA) in Spangle, Wash., about putting up a greenhouse. It is no longer just talk as UCA began putting up a greenhouse 24 feet wide by 96 feet long.

“Having the greenhouse up is great,” says John Winslow, UCA principal. “The amazing thing is that it was all volunteer help that put up the greenhouse.”

After the greenhouse was constructed at the beginning of the summer, volunteers began planting vegetables in July. Marvin Gee, a volunteer who has taken a leadership and consultant role, is excited about providing the academy cafeteria with fresh vegetables. “Anything we supply to the cafeteria that they don’t have to buy cuts overhead costs,” Gee explains.

Although in small portions, the greenhouse had already provided the cafeteria with some vegetables. In the short term, the goal is to increase the amount of fresh vegetables given to the cafeteria. In the long term, UCA is exploring the opportunity for an agriculture class to add another avenue for education. In addition, anyone who has a passion for youth and knowledge of gardening and orchards is invited to contact UCA if interested in volunteering.

“There is no end to life’s lessons out of gardening and agriculture,” Gee says.

Joe Hess, UCA Gleaner correspondent

The new greenhouse will provide students with additional learning opportunities as well as providing fresh produce for the cafeteria.

UCA VOLUNTEERS PUT UP GREENHOUSE

Vacation Bible School is always a fun time for Sunnyside (Wash.) Church members and the kids who attend.

This year VBS focused on the story of Joseph and included the usual events of singing, lesson time, crafts, healthy snacks and games.

Joseph was played by one of the young men in the church who had a beard. He really got into character and shocked both staff and kids when he came to VBS with a shaved beard and head for the day the lesson taught about Joseph getting out of prison.

Much work goes into VBS, and many Sunnyside Church members volunteered to help under the leadership of Lydia Moreno and Jose Ochoa.

Cherelyn Strickland, Sunnyside (Wash.) Church communication leader

Children learning about Jesus is what VBS is all about.

SUNNYSIDE MEMBER BRINGS JOSEPH TO LIFE DURING VBS

The theme for the Spirit Lake, Idaho, Vacation Bible School was “Jesus Is My Friend.”

Children came from as far as 25 miles away to enjoy the Bible stories about Jesus, to participate in crafts, to engage in water games, and to enjoy petting the goat and the lamb that VBS friends had brought.

The program was planned and directed by Romilda Davis and Janeen Mason. Shannon Stout was in charge of crafts, and Tim Rodenbough and Daniel Triebwasser supervised outdoor activities. The entire church prayed for the program and financed it through a weekly offering collected by the children.

Ruth Edwards, Spirit Lake Church communication leader

Children learning about Jesus is what VBS is all about.
At about five minutes to the hour the lobby is already filing up. Little voices filled with excitement announce their arrival like royal trumpets. Smiles are abundant as children are whisked away and seated. And then there’s silence as children wait patiently for what they have come to see: someone reading a book. Although this may sound like a teacher’s dream come true, it is the reality of what God is doing in Pasco, Wash., through the Reading Corner.

The Reading Corner is a creative outreach program seeking to develop a love for books in children and teens by reading to them and providing free books to help develop their own personal libraries. Each week kids who attend the program have several award-winning books read to them in groups, followed by an activity or craft related to the theme of books selected. They also receive a healthy snack to take home with them and, most importantly, a free book to take home and read. Although the program is still developing, doors have already been opening to have an even greater impact throughout the city.

The genesis of the Reading Corner is truly a miracle led by the Holy Spirit. Members of the two local churches in Pasco began independently praying for ways to workcollaboratively to support the community in addressing issues specifically with children living in an urban environment.

As the word began to spread about the possibility of a collaborative project centered around reading, volunteers began to respond, and in a few weeks a team of about 22 people began to come together. The team is blessed to have a number of educators, community workers, librarians, church leaders and more.

The Reading Corner has also created an opportunity to work collaboratively with other organizations with similar interests. The Children’s Reading Foundation has provided the majority of the books that are given away, and Upper Columbia Conference Adventist Community Services gave a grant to help the program get started. Volunteers from Mid-Columbia Libraries have also come to sign up kids for library cards.

If you would like more information or would like to help, send an email to readingcorner.pasco@gmail.com or follow ReadingCorner on Facebook.

Terrance Taylor, Pasco Ephesus and The Reach churches pastor

Sabbath, July 26, was a high point for the Sunnyside (Wash.) Church family as two new members were added. Alicia Angelique Martinez and Jocelynne “Josie” Martinez are active Pathfinders. Larry Mays, Sunnyside Church pastor, had been studying with them to prepare them for the special day. When a Pathfinder is baptized, the district director comes for the event and a special dress pin is added to his or her uniform. June Cross pinned the new members and told them their decision is a lasting decision for all eternity.

Cherelyn Strickland, Sunnyside (Wash.) Church communication leader
WHAT SMALL SCHOOLS GET RIGHT

I’m writing this during back-to-school week at many Adventist schools. By now, parents have made decisions like, “Is my school academically sound? Does it offer enough electives, enough academic rigor, to position my child for success?”

My Wesleyan Methodist parents made decisions too. When I was 5, they departed their church and literally moved their household near a tiny, one-room Adventist church school, where they enrolled us one by one. For eight years I was always the only one in my grade.

Our little school wasn’t perfect. But even apart from a supremely important Seventh-day Adventist Christian education, that little school offered me something the town public schools never could.

It let me be my own person.

At the public school in town I could have run with a pack my own age and let them do my thinking. In town I could have peeked at someone else’s test answers. In town I could have settled indolently into the C-plus, B-minus range and watched the talented kids excel.

In my tiny school, there was nobody else to blame but me — and almost as scarce were those who put me down and told me I was stupid.

And out of my little prairie school came a number of other kids who’d escaped the peer-pressure shackles. My best school friend rose so high in the ranks of anesthesiologists that he was, and maybe still is, on the committee that writes qualifying exams for others in the field. Another classmate is in her dream job — she’s a brilliantly creative activities director at a retirement center. Another classmate and her husband operate a visitors’ chalet in the far north. Another helped found a world-shaking Adventist missions organization. Another, like me, is a pastor. And those are just the ones I know about.

Kids eventually have to think for themselves and to realize that, whatever the world says about them, God thinks they’re worthwhile. This helps immeasurably when you’re trying to shrug off the bullies or exercise your creative dreams ... or set your heart toward heaven.

That’s what my small school got right.

Maylan Schurch, Bellevue Church pastor

BIG PICTURE OF MINISTRY

OSHKOSH STATISTICS FOR WASHINGTON CONFERENCE PATHFINDERS

» More than 450 Pathfinder and staff participants from western Washington;
» Saved, fundraised and prepared five years for five days of the camporee experience;
» Modes of transportation included planes, buses and vans (plus one conference-wide semitruck with supplies);
» Joined more than 46,000 Pathfinders from around the world;
» Bonney Lake Ocelots received a first place award in the march and drill competition;
» Burlington Cascade Eagle Bailey Schmidt was featured one night during the international prayer time on the main stage;
» Jeremy Schmidt and the Cascade Eagles club created a new decorative entrance to the Washington Conference’s camporee camping area;
» During the camporee, 12 Pathfinders from western Washington were baptized on Friday night and Sabbath morning;
» One week of seeing miracles with weather, attitudes, safety in travel, baptism celebrations and young people committing to be “Forever Faithful” to Jesus.
While students enjoy a summer break, many teachers go back to school in summer months to pursue professional growth.

Washington Conference teachers Dawn Campanello, Jorge Gandara, Connie Mitzelfelt, Greg Reseck and Monte Saxby participated in the EXSEED (Excellence in STEM Experimental Education) conference held at Loma Linda University Health. This five-day conference in June helped 100 teachers explore strategies to help students succeed in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

In a particularly memorable keynote presentation, Charles F. McMillan, nuclear physicist and Los Alamos National Laboratory director, shared with teachers about the role they play in sparking students’ interest in math and science.

“He told us about the importance of engaging students in hands-on math and science in first and second grade,” Mitzelfelt remembers. McMillan shared research about how children who haven’t developed a foundation in math and science by fifth grade have a lessened likelihood of having an interest in these subjects in high school and college.

“One of the most exciting parts for me was pairing up for projects,” says Greg Reseck, principal and teacher at Cedarbrook Adventist School in Port Hadlock. Reseck and his students will be participating in a collaborative fish study with EXSEED partners in Auburn, Jamaica and Keene, Texas.

Port Hadlock. Reseck and his students will be participating in a collaborative fish study with EXSEED partners in Auburn, Jamaica and Keene, Texas.

“Thanks to connections made at the EXSEED conference, four teachers in Auburn, Port Hadlock, Jamaica and Keene, Texas, will be leading their students in a collaborative study of fish.

Anthony Schmidt, graduate student; Dawn Campanello, Kirkland Adventist School teacher; and Monte Saxby, Skagit Adventist Academy teacher, participate in a demonstration using an iPad and a Pasco force sensor with Ivan Rouse, La Sierra University physics department chair (far right). The demonstration measured the force exerted by a spring as it is stretched.

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director
Washington Adventist educators went back to school early for a time of training in mid-August. Marking the beginning of another school year, these meetings created an opportunity for educators to corporately foster an intentional attitude of excellence.

The overarching emphasis of this school year sets high standards for teachers. They are encouraged to focus on creating an atmosphere of success through exemplary customer service, solid church relationships and active community-building.

Keynote speaker Ken Aiolupotea, a local customer-service trainer, gave advice on excellence in customer service, saying, “The key to great customer service is a positive attitude, exceeding expectations and developing a habit of consistency by setting high standards and living them out every day.”

With these goals in mind, teachers attended classes designed to educate them on new technology and inspire them with new resources.

The two-day event ended with a message from Kevin Wilfley, Washington Conference prayer and spiritual growth coordinator, about the importance of confidence. He challenged teachers to daily place their confidence in Christ and to “be people who encourage confidence in those around them.”

Adventist teachers exist to inspire this Christ-confidence in their students. Archie Harris, Washington Conference vice president for education, put their purpose this way: “We want to make sure each student has the opportunity to choose Jesus as their Savior. That is our No. 1 goal.”

Alix Harris, Washington Conference communication intern

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Jordain Webber is choosing to not be defined by sadness in life as she looks forward to a hope-filled future in Jesus and in fellowship with her church family in Maple Valley.

Webber’s baptism is an illustration of the life-changing experience young people have at Sunset Lake Camp. In all, more than 200 campers made a decision this summer to follow Jesus and prepare for baptism.

Heidi Baumgartner, Washington Conference communication director
TWO CHURCHES COME TOGETHER FOR BAPTISMS

Volunteer Park Church of Seattle and Bonney Lake Church celebrated two new baptisms at Sunset Lake Camp in Wilkeson on June 7.

Friends, family and deaf visitors from Bellingham and Portland, Ore., gathered along the shores of Sunset Lake Camp to witness this special occasion as Ariana Jarnes and Rosemary Salazar dedicated their lives to Jesus.

Jarnes, 10, had been studying for baptism several months prior to her baptism and was excited to be baptized by Vince Saunders, Bonney Lake Church pastor. She was joined by Salazar from the Volunteer Park Church.

Salazar is deaf and had been studying with Paul Vivier, Volunteer Park Church pastor, through Nohelani Jarnes, sign language interpreter. Following her baptism, Salazar expressed her joy through tears and signs as she announced to all, “I am so happy because I know Jesus has washed away my sins.”

Nohelani Jarnes, Bonney Lake Church member and sign language interpreter

(From left) Paul Vivier, Volunteer Park Church pastor; Rosemary Salazar; Ariana Jarnes; and Vince Saunders, Bonney Lake Church pastor, pray beside Sunset Lake after these two ladies were baptized in June.

THRIFT SHOP MINISTRY STILL THRIVES AFTER 18 YEARS

Prominently located on the main street of downtown Burlington, the Spruced Up Thrift Shop cruises into its 19th year as an Adventist Community Services ministry of the North Cascade Church.

Eighteen years ago, church members envisioned helping people in Skagit Valley through the ministry of a thrift store. In October 1996, the Spruced Up Thrift Shop opened its doors to the community.

Depending entirely on donations and volunteer cashiers allows the Spruced Up Thrift Shop to donate its profits to charitable organizations. Over the past 18 years, recipients have included Meals on Wheels, Children’s Hospital, Community Action Agency, Helping Hand Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity and various Red Cross chapters.

Wes Paul, North Cascade Church member and current Spruced Up coordinator, reports, “Last year we donated over $11,000 to local agencies.”

Thrift shop volunteers receive frequent compliments on the well-organized, clean and friendly atmosphere of the store, and many customers return on a regular basis. “Chris Petersen, our store manager, does an outstanding job keeping the place in order and making sure our prices and stock are appropriate,” Paul says.

In addition to offering inexpensive shopping for the community and helping to fund charities through profits, the store contributes leftover clothing and household donations to other agencies. “Nothing goes to waste,” Paul explains. “What we cannot use is sent on to other agencies who can use it. Every year we give close to 275 bags of clothing to support the homeless.”

Sharon Wilson, North Cascade Church communication leader

Thrift shop signage prominently welcomes shoppers traveling along Fairhaven Avenue in downtown Burlington.
PROFESSOR PROVIDES GLIMPSE INTO ATOMIC WORLD

Tom Ekkens, Walla Walla University Physics Department chairman, has built an instrument that examines things as detailed as 7 nanometers by using a handful of basic, everyday materials. Usually a device with this capability is commercially available for thousands of dollars. This instrument is called a scanning tunneling microscope, and Ekkens has found a way, for under $100, to achieve results similar to those of commercial models.

The physics professor was walking by PVC pipes at The Home Depot one day and suddenly had an idea: “I can use these to see atoms.”

He uses the pipes and a handful of other easily obtained items, like hot glue, a battery pack, a guitar amplifier pickup, a tiny metal tip, a small motor with a controller, a computer with a data processing card and two software programs he wrote, to build a functioning scanning tunneling microscope.

Ekkens has his students build their own microscopes in three laboratory sessions spanning about nine hours. The best student microscope imaging rendered a small bump that was 160 atoms wide.

“It is my goal in this class to help my students realize that they can build something that does extraordinary things out of common parts,” Ekkens states.

Rachel Wood, Walla Walla University’s Office of University Relations writer

SUMMER CONSTRUCTION UPDATES SMITH HALL

Walla Walla University’s Smith Hall, home to the Education and Psychology Department, Discovery Preschool and Pathways to Change (Center for Counseling and Training), is under construction.

The project entails building upgrades including a three-story, four-stop elevator; accessible restrooms on each floor; and an accessible front entry with gathering plaza. Additionally, other details will enhance the presentation of the building with new spandrel glass exposures and window vestibules into the lecture hall and classrooms.

Even more important than the visual presentation of Smith Hall is the accessibility for all. With these upgrades the building will be Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant and offer students, faculty, staff and visitors full access to all parts of the building.

Construction workers ran into some delays, specifically hard-soil challenges. Classes are not scheduled in the building for fall quarter, so this minor interruption has not hindered progress. This project is scheduled for completion in late November, allowing plenty of time for classes to resume in winter quarter.

The small inconvenience of construction redirecting traffic on College Avenue for several days during the summer is creating a more efficient and beautiful building on campus.

Holley Bryant, Walla Walla University marketing and university relations director
raig Russell, medical director of inpatient palliative care services at Adventist Medical Center (AMC) in Portland, Ore., remembers a pivotal moment during his medical residency at the University of Cincinnati more than 10 years ago.

“Several of my patients, who were not the healthiest, were not compliant with their medications,” he says. “The only way I knew to help them was to encourage them to take their medications and to fit them into the model of health care I was being taught. It was frustrating on both sides. Then I decided I would sit back and simply ask them how they were doing. I got to know them as individuals. I got to know their life experiences and what made them human. And my patients brightened up. They became more interested in participating in their health care and more compliant with their prescribed treatments. I knew there must be a holistic approach to health care that would fit into this paradigm of healing I had found. And that’s when I discovered palliative care.”

Palliative care is, at its core, the fulfillment of Adventist Health’s mission to share God’s love through physical, mental and spiritual healing. Often confused with hospice, palliative care brings physical, emotional and spiritual relief to patients and families not just at the end of life but also when they need supportive, comforting care during a chronic or advanced illness. It’s one of the most rapidly evolving medical specialties in the United States.

“We have many patients with illnesses like COPD [chronic obstructive pulmonary disease], heart failure, Parkinson’s disease or cancer, which can’t be cured but can be managed, often for a long time,” says Karen Johnson, a certified hospice and palliative care nurse at AMC. “Patients may have pain and need emotional and spiritual support. We help them in a very holistic way, demonstrating the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.”

“Step one is to find out what bothers a patient the most,” Russell says. “Do they have pain? What’s their priority in life? What’s their value system? One of the most important things is having a doctor who will sit down and really listen to what their needs are and then help talk through different treatment options and resources.”

Russell remembered one patient with cancer. “He was in terrible pain,” Russell says. “We were able to get his pain under much better control so he could actually undergo the procedure of receiving the biopsy.”

A key component of palliative care is ensuring the family also understands their loved one’s wishes, Johnson explains. “In many cases they’ve never talked about what they would want if something devastating happened. They don’t even know where to start,” she says. “We’ll have a family meeting to discuss what’s going on, and the goals of care.”

“We’re blessed,” Johnson continues, “in being able to support these patients and families during very difficult times.”

Beth Martin, Adventist Health Gleaner correspondent
Aaron 50th
Tom and Mary (Richards) Aaron celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 24, 2014, with a reception given by their children in their honor at the Spring Road Chapel in Shelton, Wash.

Tom Aaron met Mary Richards in 1960 at Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University), where they were both students. Tom was studying industrial education, while Mary focused on elementary education. Mary graduated in 1961. They met again in 1963 at a church outing and were married May 24, 1964, in the Grays Harbor Church in Hoquiam, Wash., and have made their home in Shelton, Wash.

Tom taught traffic safety education at Shelton High School for 22 years, and Mary taught elementary school full-time for three years.

Their family includes Rob Aaron of Shelton; Ann Barrios-Ruiz of Lacey, Wash.; Marilyn Aaron of Shelton; and 4 grandchildren.

Creitz 50th
Jim and Shirley Creitz met Shirley Ann Stanton in high school and fell instantly, deeply in love just like in any movie involving Prince Charming. They were married on Feb. 8, 1964, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Their dedication to each other and their relationship with Jesus helped them overcome the huge obstacles that marriage and life brings. They raised four boys and a daughter, Jim and Shirley live in Pullman, Wash.

The Creitz family includes James Alan and Randi Creitz of Billings, Mont.; Anne and Fidel Carpio of Denver, Colo.; Steve and Dawn Creitz of Caldwell, Idaho; Scott and Hope Creitz of Lewiston, Idaho; Kristie and Randy Bilbo of Caldwell; 14 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Engelhart 60th
Ardell and Margaret Engelhart celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 25, 2014. Their children and other family members had a special gathering together in honor of this milestone.

Ardell Calvin Engelhart and Margaret Ann Peterson were married in the Walla Walla Church on July 25, 1954. June Martin was Margaret’s maid of honor, and Darrel Martin was Ardell’s best man. Margaret borrowed June’s wedding dress for her wedding. They were married by C.L. Vories.

Four children were born to the Engelharts: Mark, Kevin, Linda and Andrew. Mark passed away in 2003 and is dearly missed. They have 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Family events and gatherings are treasured by the Engelharts, and they are thankful to be surrounded by family and friends in Hermiston, Ore.

Prohaska 90th
Elsie Albertsen Prohaska celebrated her 90th birthday on Feb. 11, 2014. The following weekend more than 75 family and friends gathered to celebrate, laugh and reminisce. Elsie’s children Ken Albertsen, Mary Jane Zollbrecht, Carol Ann St. Clair and Linda Gault, along with their spouses, children and grandchildren, came from Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Utah and Colorado to honor her. They’re already planning an even bigger celebration for 2024.

Van and Joan Smith

Smith 50th
Vanoy “Van” and Joan (Dietrich) Smith celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 11, 2013, while at their annual Dietrich reunion in Troutlake, Wash. They were honored earlier by their children at a family gathering.

Van and Joan met at the college dairy farm in College Place, Wash., when Joan taught Van how to feed the calves. They married Aug. 11, 1963, and lived in College Place while Van completed his biology degree at Walla Walla College. Joan taught elementary school at the Stateline and Rogers schools in the Walla Walla Valley then at Loma Linda Elementary in California. Van graduated from Loma Linda University as a family physician in 1970. After an internship in Spokane, Wash., Van and his young family moved to Hong Kong, where Van worked as a doctor at Tsuen Wan Hospital in the New Territories.

Bringing up children in the city was not their dream. They returned to the U.S. in 1974, settling in Burlington, Wash., on a five-acre farm where they could teach their growing family good work ethics and love for God, for the land and nature.

Van joined a medical practice with Joan’s cousin, Dean Dietrich. Joan kept up the home front raising six children, managing the garden and caring for a multitude of animals on the farm. Both have been and still are very active in church tasks, particularly in the children’s divisions. Joan has led beginners Sabbath School for more than 50 years. Van retired in 2011 and has joined his wife in her passion for gardening and maintaining the farm, but mountain biking still receives most of his enthusiasm.

The Smith family includes Velona “Loni” and Kevin Carambot of Burlington, Wash.; Vaughn and Charlene Smith of Oroville, Calif.; Vicki and Danny Fontoura of Loma Linda, Calif.; Voree and Kami Smith of Burlington; Valden and Ashley Smith of Lynden, Wash.; Vonni Jo and Chris Webb of Burlington; and 12 grandchildren.

Van Vianen 90th
Louise Van Vianen celebrated her 90th birthday with cake and punch on Feb. 12, 2014. She was born on Feb. 15, 1924.

Louise recently moved to the Eagle (Idaho) Church family, and her church family is so happy to have her. She was previously a member at the Beaumont (Calif.) Church.
FERNANDEZ — Alexander Javier was born June 20, 2014, to Luis Javier and Belinda (Van Staden) Fernandez, Portland, Ore.

FOWLER — Austin Alexander was born July 1, 2014, to Alexander S. and Allison H. (Waters) Fowler, Wenatchee, Wash.

JACKSON — Jaala Rian was born June 1, 2014, to Greg and Melissa (Hosey) Jackson, Battle Ground, Wash.

MELENDEZ — Violet Angel Rae was born July 23, 2014, to Ray and Christina (Back) Melendez, Vancouver, Wash.

OSTER — Aria Eden was born July 10, 2014, to Mark and Rebecca (Peterson) Oster, Brush Prairie, Wash.

RICHARDS — William Liam Allan was born June 13, 2014, to Billy and Jessy (Spreadborough) Richards, Battle Ground, Wash.

SALISBURY — Kurtis Josiah was born May 25, 2014, to Ken and Janel (Looastool) Salisbury, Battleground, Wash.

SILVA — Kaylynn Luna was born April 24, 2014, to Jose Luis and Karen Silva, Seattle, Wash.

WAYMIRE — Lili Lynn was born April 11, 2014, to Michael and Courtney (Madsen) Waymire, Yakima, Wash.

FAMILY WEDDINGS

JONES-BECKNER

Kari Jones and Kevin Beckner were married July 13, 2014, in Sweet Home, Ore., where they are making their home.

PINKNEY-CHAVEZ-VALDEZ

Stephanie Pinkney and Moy Chavez-Valdez were married May 28, 2014, in Forest Grove, Ore. They are making their home in Beaverton, Ore. Stephanie is the daughter of Dan and Holly Pinkney. Moy is the son of Mosies and Rosa Chavez-Valdez.

SPREADBOROUGH-HOckett

Peta Spreadborough and Zachary Hokett were married Aug. 3, 2014, in Battle Ground, Wash. They are making their home in Seattle, Wash. Peta is the daughter of Allan and Gail (Karlsen) Spreadborough. Zachary is the son of Steven and Melissa (Kullin) Hokett.

FAMILY AT REST


DLOGY — Brian E., 66; born Nov. 15, 1946, Henderson, Nev.; died Oct. 16, 2013, Los Angeles, Calif. Surviving: wife, Dale (Fletcher), Glendora, Calif.; son, Brian K., Glendora; daughter, Alena Hofkins, Boise, Idaho; and a grandchild.


HEFT — Carl R., 90; born Sept. 26, 1923, Atwood, Colo.; died March 27, 2014, Gresham, Ore. Surviving: wife, Dorothy (Winn), Portland, Ore.; son, Wally, Springfield, Ore.; brother, John Heft; sisters, Carol Killion; Mary Kelly; Millicent Raeboldt; Diane Owens; and 5 grandchildren.


HUEY — Clarence Allen, 86; born March 7, 1928, Springfield, Mo.; died May 26, 2014, Sandy, Ore. Surviving: wife, Barbara (Conrad); son, Ron; daughter, Jan Zwick; brothers, Maurice and Jerry; 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.


KELLER — Calvin Curt, 60; born April 20, 1954, Indianapolis, Ind.;


ORTIZ — Lola Faye (Demorest), 76; born July 20, 1937, Altoona, Kan.; died Dec. 22, 2013, La Grande, Ore. Surviving: husband, George; sons, James G.; daughters, Laurie Hoosey, Anchorage, Alaska; Alicia Jean Pearson, Loma Linda, Calif.; 5 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.


North Pacific Union Conference

Offering
Oct. 4 — Local Church Budget;
Oct. 11 — Voice of Prophecy;
Oct. 18 — Local Church Budget;
Oct. 25 — Local Conference Advance.

More events listed at GleanerNow.com/events.

North Pacific Union Conference Association
Official Notice
Official notice is hereby given that a Regular Membership Meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists is called for 2 p.m., on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2014, at Walla Walla University in College Place, Wash. The membership is comprised of the members of the North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee. The purpose of the Regular Membership Meeting is to hear reports and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.
Max Torkelsen II, president
Kimberley Schroeder, secretary

Walla Walla University

Family Weekend
Oct 24–26 — Families of current Walla Walla University students are invited to the main campus for Family Weekend. Come participate in class visits, Friday ice cream, student missions vespers, Sabbath seminars and music events. Families are also invited to join the WWU administration for a special complimentary Sabbath lunch with John and Pam McVay. In addition, Parent Sabbath on the Portland, Ore., campus is scheduled for Nov. 8 in connection with the Nurses Dedication. A complete schedule of both weekends is available at wallawalla.edu/family-weekend, or you may call the Office of Advancement at 800-377-2586.

Oregon

Neil Nedley Depression Seminar
Oct. 10—11 — Dr. Neil Nedley, Weimar Institute president, will be making four presentations about treating depression. The seminar is at Village Church, 715 SE 12th St., College Place, WA 99324. Topics include Depression and Anxiety, Friday at 7 p.m.; It’s Your Life, Make it Count, Sabbath morning service; Emotional Intelligence, Sabbath at 4 p.m.; Nutrition and the Brain, Sabbath at 7 p.m. All meetings are open to the public and free of charge.

Laurelwood Academy Class of 1974 Reunion
Oct. 11 — Laurelwood Academy Class of 1974 is invited to a reunion to be held at Laurelwood Elementary, from 12 to 4 p.m. All are encouraged to come to the church for early church at 9:30 a.m. and Bible study at 11 a.m. A potluck will follow at the grade school at 1 p.m., with visiting and walking through the academy grounds. Friends and family welcome.

Heart Health Cooking Class
Oct. 12 — Are you looking for healthy holiday recipes, diabetic-friendly options and dairy-free replacements? Please join us for a whole food, plant-based meal. Special guest presenter will be Philip Paden, a doctor at Paden Eye Care. Hosted by health educator Josie Wilmot on Sunday, at 1 p.m., at Valley View Church, 3677 S. Stage Rd., Medford, OR 95701. For more information, call 541-773-6097 or visit VVSDA.org. This is a free event; however, donations would be appreciated.

Rockwood Church 40th Anniversary Reunion
Oct. 18 — Rockwood Church is planning a 40th anniversary reunion. We invite former members and friends of Rockwood to join us as we use the memories of God’s working in our past to launch us into an exciting future. For more information, call 503-661-4100 or email RockwoodAdventist@gmail.com.

Weekend Seminar at Albany Church
Oct. 24–25 — Steve Wohlberg will hold a weekend seminar, “America, the Beast and the Devil’s Deadly Mark,” at the Albany Church, 3036 Grand Prairie Rd. SE, Albany, Ore. Meetings start Friday at 7 p.m. and continue through Sabbath. Sabbath lunch will be provided. Contact 541-968-9555 or albanyadventist.org.

Thousands already know. Why not you?

Stay in touch with the latest news, video links, calendar events, photo galleries, past issues and more at gleanernow.com.
Images of Creation
Photo Contest

The Gleaner needs your images of creation for the inside front cover of the magazine, as well as an online Photo of the Week at GleanerNow.com and the Gleaner’s social media.

The Gleaner’s 2015 Images of Creation nature photo contest rules:

**Vertical photos** (up to 15 digital entries) may be submitted for consideration to be featured on page two of the Gleaner magazine. Winning entries for the print edition of the Gleaner will receive $200 per photo. Each winning photo will also appear online within the corresponding archived issue of the magazine.

**Horizontal photos** (up to 15 digital entries) may be submitted for consideration to be featured as Photo of the Week on GleanerNow.com, and used on Gleaner’s social media. The photographer’s name and a link to his/her website (optional) will be displayed with the Photo of the Week. After the photo is featured, a version of the image will be archived on GleanerNow.com.

- Only images of nature scenes taken within the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington will be considered.
- Winning entries from past years are no longer eligible for submission.
- Photo dimensions and file requirements available online.
- Include a title and photo location for each photo entry.

Submit your entries by going online to gleanernow.com/photocontest

Or mail in a CD/DVD to 5709 N. 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642. Clearly label the disk “2015 Images of Creation Photo Contest” and the photographer’s name. Disks will be destroyed once the contest is complete unless indicated they should be returned.

The deadline for entries is 5 p.m., Wednesday, **Nov. 12, 2014.**
ADULT CARE

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I once used social media to ask my colleagues to share with me some of their craziest stories of offended members. They did not disappoint.

One of my friends shared, “I was in church one day when the pastor looked down from the pulpit, paused his message, and asked some young people to stop whispering back and forth. It was distracting him. He suggested they sit with their parents.”

My friend went on to relate that one parent did not take this too well. He stormed out of church and waited outside until the service was over. When the pastor came outside, the member physically grabbed him, ready to punch his lights out.

Thankfully, other parishioners restrained the member, but the police were called.

I feel that pastor’s pain. I’m still working with my 3-year-old on not hitting when she’s angry.

Another friend of mine, a classmate from elementary school, gave the general comment, “The worst thing I’ve ever personally witnessed is shouting, pounding the table and profuse weeping at board meetings. Parishioners tend to save the violence for when I’m away at another church, on vacation, etc. ... Then I hear stories.”

Sounds like a daycare that skipped naptime.

Finally, and this is one of my favorites that was submitted, someone recalled, “In our very first assignment, my wife and I were invited to a member’s home, only to find several other members there who were unhappy. We listened until they moved into the realm of personal attack, complaining that my wife was fat and unattractive and an embarrassment to them; also that my car was old.”

Children often have a hard time communicating scary feelings like fear, anger and feeling worthless.

Parishioners also experience the temper tantrums of the offended. All it takes is someone bringing the wrong potluck dish, not replying in a timely manner to an email, messing up the sacred-hymn-to-praise-song ratio or forgetting to smile at the wrong person in the foyer, and the spirit of passive aggressive angst, or explosive anger, is released like the kraken.
Scripture is painfully clear that being “offended” belongs to the spiritually immature.

In the Old Testament, the word *peh*-shah is used to describe being “offended.” It occurs in places like Ps. 119:165, where the person grounded in God’s Word doesn’t get “offended.” In Prov. 18:19 it describes a stubborn person trapped and separated from a loved one because of hurt feelings. The word on its own means rebellion and disrupting a relationship.¹

The New Testament doesn’t have a cheery view either.

Jesus tells a story about the Word of God falling on a “rocky” group of people who get excited but fall away after being “offended” by persecution or troubles (Mark 4:16–17). Why? They have no root system — they are immature and can’t handle not getting their way.

Like kids when they are told “no.”

In Matt. 18:6, Jesus uses the same word to describe causing “little ones” to be “offended.” The Greek word is *skandalon* (from which we get “scandal”), and its etymology comes from the part of an animal snare that acted as the trigger.²

The picture is a group of people acting in a way to “trap” immature people into being “offended,” which leads to sin. While Jesus suggests being intentionally offensive deserves a pair of “concrete shoes” (Matt. 18:6), the implication is that the “offended” person is the “little one” — not the mature one.

Possibly both are immature based on what Paul says in numerous places (see Rom.14:1–2 and 15:1; 1 Cor. 8:7–12; etc.).

Overall, the Bible uses “offended” to describe weaker/immature believers who can’t manage their emotions when they don’t get their way or experience trouble. The Bible also seems to indicate being offended is not a feeling but a state of being.

In other words, you don’t “feel offended,” you “are offended.”

And here is the problem — when you say, “I’m offended,” I can’t help you. You are declaring a relationship to be broken, separated and stuck.

However, if you cool down and say, “I feel sad” or “I feel frustrated” or “I feel misunderstood,” you have given me a starting place to heal the relationship. I can listen to why you feel a certain emotion and help you feel better and strengthen our relationship.

2. Ibid.

Seth Pierce, Puyallup Church lead pastor

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The Bible uses “offended” to describe weaker/immature believers who can’t manage their emotions when they don’t get their way or experience trouble.
JOY IS A CORE CHARACTER QUALITY

Is joy a questionable amusement or a quality of character that facilitates revival and reformation? Last month we recognized joy at the core of the fruit of the Spirit, along with love and peace. Now let’s witness how the joy of the Lord offers strength to transform our lives.

Remember the woman at the well, imprisoned in shame and guilt. Jesus surprised her with joy. She ran back to town, shouting, “Come see a Man who told me everything I’ve ever done — is He not the Christ?” Her joy generated revival and reformation among her formerly resistant neighbors.

“The disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 13:52). Such joy not only sparks enthusiasm for evangelism but also the radical financial generosity it will take to finish our gospel mission. The wise men traveling to Bethlehem saw the Savior’s star and “rejoiced exceedingly with great joy” (Matt. 2:10). Such joy unleashed their lavish generosity.

Zacchaeus was up a tree, entangled in greed, when Jesus came along and extended His gracious acceptance. “So he hurried down and received him joyfully” (Luke 19:6). Joy in the Spirit stimulated victory over the sin that had enslaved his life — just as with David, who said in Psalm 51, “Restore to me the joy of salvation, and I’ll sacrifice bullocks on your altar.”

The work of God will never be finished by the turtle-doves of tithe. We need to willingly sacrifice our bullocks — that is, indulge ourselves in radical generosity. This happens spontaneously in the Spirit — only and always — when we discover God’s altar of joy.

Do you see the connection between joy and generosity, and also how joy spurs evangelistic zeal? So why are so many afraid of it?

I’m glad we don’t have to choose between the extremes of getting drunk with joy or getting dehydrated without it. The Spirit of joy is also the Spirit of truth. Christ’s death and resurrection are the foundational truths to which we bear witness. When we keep focus on those historic events, we need not fear the joy it inevitably generates.

“But, what about the judgment going on in heaven?” we may wonder. “Aren’t we living in the antitypical Day of Atonement, when we should be afflicting our souls in agonized preparation for Earth’s final time of trouble?”

No doubt colossal trouble looms before America as it descends into moral darkness. But we don’t need to inflict fear upon each other in another vain attempt to revive the church for the latter rain.

The book of Hebrews explains the doctrine of heaven’s sanctuary under the new covenant. It contrasts old covenant uncertainty regarding the Day of Atonement with the joyous confidence we have and our constant access to God through Jesus — in the specific...
timeframe of seeing “the Day drawing near” of Christ’s coming (see Heb. 10:19–25). Christ’s victory turned the Old Testament mercy seat into a throne — the throne of grace where He reigns as our royal high priest.

Endless warnings will not fortify us to face Earth’s final conflict with confidence. Yet some of what we are hearing and reading these days about revival and reformation resurrects and reinforces the dread under which too many of us were raised. What sincere believers in Jesus really need — now more than ever — is the joy of the Lord to be our strength. Nobody who has forsaken sin to embrace the Savior needs to fear trouble of any kind, present or future.

Jesus said, “In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). He compared Earth’s final tribulation to a woman’s birth pangs and assured us that the birth of a baby will overshadow all her pain. So it will be at the end of time, when thousands will be converted in a day through the joyous witness of a Spirit-filled church. This evangelism explosion will stimulate within us even greater joy — despite persecution — just as it did for the first-century church.

Consider Mary when she visited Christ’s tomb to mourn his loss. There she discovered her Lord had risen indeed. What happened with her? She ran with “great joy” (Matt. 28:8) to testify about Christ’s resurrection.

Years of somber exhortations and admonitions about revival and reformation cannot produce the change that happens in one moment of Spirit-filled joy.

Martin Weber, Adventist product manager at Logos Bible Software

Many devout Seventh-day Adventists shun God’s Spirit of joy because they fear it can be fermented into something dangerously intoxicating.
I remember little about the song, but I will never forget the look on his face. You see, our high school choir director had included something unique in the repertoire for the spring concert — a song about “Silence.” We had practiced its poetic words and music to perfection. But spare time and mischief got the better of our fertile minds. We laid a secret plan to be hatched only on the night of the concert itself.

That evening, all went according to the program until the fateful moments arrived. Turning his score to the “Silence” song, our beloved leader looked at us, smiled and raised his baton expectantly.

We were ready, with barely suppressed mirth. The baton swept down, and we began silently mouthing the words of the first stanza. We were silence personified. Not a peep came forth.

His jaw dropped. The baton sagged and then stopped in midair. We could hold back the grins no longer. Gales of giggles poured forth, as the audience and (fortunately) our conductor caught the joke and joined in the cathartic moment. We made amends by singing it through the normal way, but those who remember that night recall the silent “Silence” the best.

Silence is a complex thing. It can be awkward or appropriate. It can mean disagreement or consent. John the Baptist was beheaded because those who knew better remained silent. Yet, because of silence, Elijah heard the still small voice of God.

To be sure, silence can seem like a void, an empty pitcher that needs to be filled. The uncomfortable pauses of a first date, the question “why” that hangs unmitigated in the cancer ward, the echoing emptiness to the lost hiker in a vast forest — these are times when we long for the perfect phrase, the right word, an answering call.

Silence can feel like a punishment. Is it just me, or are there others who can recall being granted “quiet time” alone in their rooms for some childish infraction? Is this how we relate to perceived silence from God? A punishment? A time for penance? Perhaps.

But from my childhood Sam Campbell books I learned to perceive the quiet peace of nature as a gift. In repeated hiking and camping forays into the forest, I learned the luxury of standing in a verdant glen or on top of a mountain ridge or underneath the star-studded canopy of the Milky Way. There the strident quandaries of my busy little world were diminished in the vastness of creation.

The silence of God may not be a void or a heavenly refusal to answer, but rather an invitation to a deeper, richer walk — an opportunity to understand his counsel to “be still and know that I am God.” Barbara Brown Taylor observes the possibility that, “Silence is as much a sign of God’s presence as of God’s absence — that divine silence is not a vacuum to be filled but a mystery to be entered into, unarmed with words and undistracted by noise — a holy of holies in which we too may be struck dumb by the power of the unsayable God.”

In the deepest relationships, not a word need be spoken.

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

— Habakkuk 2:20

AUTHOR
Steve Vistaunet, Gleaner editor

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Sun., Oct. 26, 10:00 a.m.

Registration: $20 (includes Saturday lunch)

Register two ways:
Scan the QR code at left or visit

Sponsored by the Oregon Conference and
North Pacific Union Conference

Breakout Sessions include:
- Reaching Missing Members
  Chuck Burkeen
- Small Groups
  Daniel Linrud
- Health Evangelism
  Rico Hill
- 21st-Century Evangelism
  Jason Worf
- Church Marketing 101
  Larry Witzel
- Making Sabbath School More Evangelistic
  Stan Beerman
- You Can’t Do It Alone: Accessing Holy Spirit Power for Witnessing
  Paul & Corleen Johnson
- Youth Evangelism & GLOW Tracts
  Jeff Kimmell
Images of Creation

Photo Contest

Submit your entries by going online to gleanernow.com/photocontest
More details on page 35.