School Theft Rallies Community in Puyallup

This Week: Community Rallies to Aid Puyallup School; Church Manual Revisions on Discipline and Guest Speakers; and more.

Community Rallies to Aid Puyallup School
Community support has rallied this week to the aid of Adventist education. Early Monday morning, teachers and students of Northwest Christian School in Puyallup, Wash., were shocked to discover that thieves had stolen most of the music equipment and instruments. Their plight quickly made the news. In response, two Seattle area radio stations, STAR 101.5 FM and Talk Radio 570 KVI, asked for donations during their morning shows, garnering a total of $14,000 for the school. Other people have dropped off musical instruments to help the school's music department continue its program. A Washington Conference Facebook posting noted that there was a spirit of awe and thankfulness at the school!

The Awards Just Keep Coming
Adventist Medical Center – Portland received the American College of Cardiology’s NCDR ACTION Registry-GWTG Platinum Performance Achievement Award for 2014. AMC-P is one of only 356 hospitals nationwide to receive the honor. The award recognizes the hospital’s commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of care for heart attack patients. Walla Walla General Hospital was selected as the 2014 Health & Wellness Award recipient at the Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Award Showcase.

The Writing's on the Wall
Writing on the wall as an assignment? What? It's happening at Walla Walla University (WWU) in the engineering department's new Re-Markable Room. There all of the classroom walls have been modified to be used as a giant white board. Rob Frohne, professor of engineering, says, "I realized I was having all the fun doing the derivations, and the students were bored. I needed to let them have the fun instead." The Re-Markable Room allows students to work together in teams as the instructor...
School Theft Rallies Community in Puyallup

watches and helps as needed. The room also provides a convenient review area for students. Read more from WWU online.

Women, Grab Your Bibles
The Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Women’s Ministries department this month released the Woman’s Bible, the first study Bible specifically designed for women by the Adventist Church. It is a New King James Version of the Bible that offers more than 100 commentaries, study materials and profiles on major and lesser-known female biblical characters. All articles were written by Adventist women members, biblical scholars and pastors. It also features original color art on women in the Bible and a series of Bible studies. Ted N. C. Wilson, world church president, prayed over a copy of the Woman’s Bible during this month’s Annual Council, saying the project would be a blessing for women worldwide. Read more from the Adventist News Network.

Wanted: Dentists, Hygienists
If you are a licensed dentist, dental hygienist or medical practitioner, your church needs you for a special event next April. Following the wildly successful Bridges to Health event in the San Francisco Bay Area this past year, the Adventist Church plans another similar project to precede the 2015 General Conference session in San Antonio, Texas. The project mission is to provide free medical services to at least 5,000 underserved residents. Called Pathway to Health, the event will take place Apr. 8–10 in San Antonio’s Alamodome. Go online for more information on how to volunteer.

Oregon Pastor Seeks Volunteers for Namibia
Edi Ciobanu, Oregon Conference pastor, is seeking additional volunteers and resources to help erect a dormitory for the God Cares Primary School in the Zambezi region of Namibia, Africa. It will help expand the capacity for Adventist Christian education in the area. Watch this video online for more information about the work at this school.

Do Young People Need More Than a Voice?
While reading about J.N. Loughborough and the early Adventist church leaders, Chad Stuart, a pastor from Central California Conference, was struck by how young the leaders of the early church were. From Ellen White, to J.N.
Andrews, many of them were in their early 20's. How does that relate to today? Are our young people ready to lead? Read Stuart's post for his full thoughts.

Each month, the Gleaner is pleased to share pictures from around the Northwest taken by local photographers. This year, the 2015 Images of Creation contest is open and looking for your contributions in both vertical and horizontal compositions. Winning images will be used in print and online but you have to submit your photos soon, as the contest ends Nov. 12, 2014. So go find your favorite images and enter the photo contest today.

Currently at

- Adventist Vets Take Honor Flight
- Ellen ... Beyond the Mirror
- Salmon Students Clean Up Community Garden
- Oregon Conference Educators Meet for Convention
- PAA's Class Challenges Teach Character

And More!

Looking Ahead

November

- 7–9: Voice of Prophecy
InPrint November
Adventist Health is launching a new emphasis on clinical pastoral education and restructuring its leadership team to reflect regional needs throughout the West. Read more in our November issue.

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Giant white board supports engaged, interactive learning

By: Libby Knapp

What student would pass up the chance to write on the walls of their classroom as an assignment? Writing on walls is just what is happening in the engineering department's new Re-Markable Room where all of the classroom walls have been modified to be used as a giant white board.

The idea came to Rob Frohne, professor of engineering, when, he says, "I realized I was having all the fun doing the derivations, and the students were bored. I needed to let them have the fun instead."

The Re-Markable Room (Chan Shun Pavilion, room 163) allows students to work together in teams as the instructor watches and helps as needed. The room also provides a convenient review area for students.

"Our Re-Markable Room puts our values in visible form: We're student-focused, collaborative, and committed to sustainability," says Melodie Selby, assistant professor of engineering and interim dean of the School of Engineering.

Of course the engineers didn't stop with one room. They also repurposed the white boards that were used previously in the Re-Markable Room, placing them in engineering department hallways. These white boards provide a way for students to interact with professors outside the classroom environment and provide space for review and study.
Adventist Church releases its first women’s study Bible

The newly-released Woman's Bible is a joint project of the Adventist Church's Women's Ministries department and Safeliz Publishing House. It's the Adventist Church's first study Bible specifically designed for women. [photo: Viviene Martinelli]

**New edition emphasizes women of faith, offers study materials for personal evangelism**

October 23, 2014 | Silver Spring, Maryland, United States | ANN staff

The Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Women’s Ministries department this month released the Woman’s Bible, the first study Bible specifically designed for women by the Adventist Church.

The Woman’s Bible, published by Safeliz Publishing House, is a New King James Version of the Bible that offers more than 100 commentaries, study materials and profiles on major and lesser-known female biblical characters.

All articles were written by Adventist women members, biblical scholars and pastors.

Women’s Ministries Director Heather-Dawn Small said she hopes the new resource will encourage women to read the Bible more often.

“We’re so glad we could offer this resource to encourage our sisters globally in their walk with God, to motivate women who may not read the Bible or read much of it to do so,” Small said. “We wanted to give women tools at their fingertips that can be used in personal Bible study and when giving Bible studies to others.”

Small said the project is one she pursued for four years without success. Safeliz, an Adventist Publishing House in Spain, approached her about a project 18 months ago. The two organizations spent the next five months gathering articles from a variety of female Adventist writers worldwide.

The project’s four main contributors are Jo Ann Davidson, a professor of systematic theology at Andrews University Theological Seminary; Carla Gober, director of the Center for Spiritual Life and Wholeness at Loma Linda University; Elizabeth Talbot, speaker/director of the Jesus 101 Biblical Institute; and Hyveth B. Williams, professor & director of homiletics at Andrews University Theological Seminary.

The Woman’s Bible also includes articles by more than 40 other writers around the world. It also features original color art on women in the Bible and a series of Bible studies. “A woman could give Bible studies to anyone with her own Bible,” Small said.

Adventist Church President Ted N. C. Wilson prayed over a copy of the Woman’s Bible last week at the denomination’s Annual Council, saying the project would be a blessing for women worldwide.

The Woman’s Bible is available in English, French and Spanish, as well as four different covers. It’s available at adventistbookcenter.com.
More Than a Voice!

On September 21, 2014 by Chad Stuart With 2 Comments - Uncategorized

For the past 12 years I’ve had the privilege of working for The Seventh-day Adventist denomination. My prayer is that I continue to work for them until Jesus comes back or I die, whichever comes first. I truly love this global community of faith, that said there are occasions that I become flummoxed by some of the things I am seeing and hearing within my church.

Recently I’ve been reading the biography of J.N. Loughborough by Dr. Brian Strayer. I have thoroughly enjoyed the read, it might be my favorite of the Adventist Pioneer Series thus far.

As I’ve read almost two-thirds of the book however I have found myself getting sideways on an issue...

**The lack of inclusion of young adults at the highest levels of leadership within our church!**

I have heard, ever since I accepted Jesus and started hanging-out around Seventh-day Adventist leaders the statement, “We need to make sure our young people have a voice within their church.”

Here is what I would say to how well that has gone: if young people truly had a voice in this church, a voice that anyone was listening to, a voice with a vote, then there would be a more diverse spectrum of ages amongst our church leadership at every level.

As it stands now though, at the highest level of leadership, The General Conference, there are currently no administrators under the age of 50...and I would venture to guess that there are not even any under the age of 60, if any of you are I apologize :). But it is not just at the General Conference level, The North American Division has the same problem; we have some leadership in their 50’s, but no one at a significant leadership level is below the age of 50 to my knowledge. The same is true within our Union leadership.

I got sideways as I was reading the Loughborough biography because I am reading stories about young adults that are in great positions of influence within our church...oh and when I say young adult, I’m not talking about 40’s and 50’s, I’m talking about 20’s and 30’s, even a few in their late teens. Presidents, GC executive committee members, top theologians, General Conference sent evangelists.

Reading these stories makes me so proud of our early church and so disappointed with our current church.

Young in leadership is just something that is not seen anymore...

Something that is not even given a chance to be seen or experienced at any level other than the local church and maybe, just maybe a local conference or two, at least here in the United States.

There is much talk about giving the young a voice, but folk the young need more than a voice they need to be in on the decision making process, they need at times to be the actual decision makers.

Let me ask what I believe is a very logical question: If the church is trying to figure out ways to retain the youth and young adults of our church would it not make sense for the young to be deciding what actions are going to be taken to reach & retain those demographics? Every successful business in the world has figured this out, why can’t the church?

Hear what I am not saying, I am not saying that we should put those of the older ilk out to pasture. We are a multi-
generational church, so we should have multi-generational leadership...AT EVERY LEVEL!

People like Pastor Rodlie Ortiz should be sitting at any table at the highest levels of this church that are visioning and strategizing for church growth. If you don't believe me ask Pastor Dwight Nelson. Pastor Anthony Wagenersmith I believe would be an asset to the Biblical Research Institute. He has a brilliant theological mind, before we were even out of seminary he was a grad assistant that was delivering lectures to other graduate students. Gina Creek, is a gifted writer, that writes in a unique voice; she should be at the Adventist Review or Signs of the Times or writing copy for The GC. Pastor Taj Pacleb is one of the most gifted traditional evangelists I've ever heard, why aren't we tapping him for global evangelistic events or media posts? Pastor Benjamin Lundquist is in my opinion the most innovative youth and young adult leader out there right now. Every youth and young adult leader should spend time with him. These are just a few, the list could go on and on.

My point is the young adults are out there, out there ready to lead at the highest levels. Just like they were in the first 50 years of our church.

But their church isn't inviting them to even consider such a step.

Their church, our church, my church just keeps talking about giving them a voice...

but what good are their voices if they are not being heard in the rooms making the decisions?

If their voices don't actually have a vote when the decisions are made?

Please church that I love, be a church that truly represents ALL of us! Give us more than a voice!

Adventist Review, Anthony Wagenersmith, Benjamin Lundquist, Biblical Research Institute, Church Growth, Gina Creek, Leadership, Rodlie Ortiz, Taj Pacleb, The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, The Seventh-day Adventist Church
Ellen ... Beyond the Mirror

By the time you read this article, the manuscript for my new book, *Ellen White for Teens*, will be resting in the capable editorial hands of Pacific Press. I hope. In the meantime, however, I am immersed in the *Spirit of Prophecy*. The book seeks to introduce, and in some cases re-introduce, the dear lady to people who may not be fans — either because they don't know about her or they have been harassed by people who know too much about her.

Due to my saturation of “SOP” stories, I thought I would share a little something I came across in my research that struck me as a “warm fuzzy” orchestrated by God to help a little girl struggling with her view of God — and her view of herself.

As most avid Ellen readers know, when she was 9 years old, a classmate chucked a rock at her face. After being struck with the stone, Ellen faded in and out of consciousness as she was brought to a local store for help. Ellen, despite suffering from concussion at the time, remembers, “My garments were covered with blood, which was pouring from my nose and streaming over the floor.”

She even refused a ride home for fear of bleeding all over the owner’s carriage.

During recovery she agonized over many things — whether she would live, the state of her soul, and family friends who would check in and offer sentiments such as “what a pity,” “she’s ruined” and “I don’t recognize her.” These words stung, and Ellen made the decision to ask for a mirror to see her reflection.

What she saw shocked her. The shattered bones in her nose and bruises seemed to change every feature of her face. She couldn’t recognize the face looking back at her — and she didn’t want to live. Ellen was also losing weight and, in her words, was “reduced to a skeleton.”

It was this fractured little figure that would greet Robert Harmon, as he returned from a trip to Georgia. Robert had no idea what had befallen his youngest daughter. Upon his arrival home, all the Harmon kids raced into his arms — except Ellen. Robert looked around the room and asked where his daughter was.

In that moment, Ellen “was forced to learn the bitter lesson that our personal appearance often makes a difference in the treatment we receive from our companions.” Robert’s wife pointed to a little person timidly shrinking back from what should have been a joyful reunion.

“Is … is that my little Ellen?”

Her own father had failed to recognize her — and it broke her heart.

Skip ahead five years (and a dozen dark nights of the soul), and we find a 14-year-old Ellen on summer vacation with her family — at the Methodist camp meeting 16 miles away in Buxton. While normally this kind of family vacation pales in comparison with Disney World — for the spiritually drowning Ellen, this was exactly what she needed.

During a sermon on the book of Esther (where the queen approaches the king hoping to see the scepter of approval), Ellen connected with the words, “I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish” (Esther 4:6). The speaker used these words to encourage confidence in those scared to approach Jesus.

Ellen also heard him say that waiting to make yourself a better person before coming to Jesus was a “fatal mistake.” He even called out as a mistake that people had to make “some wonderful effort” in order to receive God’s forgiveness.

The only thing hindering Ellen from having her view of God erupting in sparkling colors of grace and love was the lack
of “second blessing” Methodism taught. This was the idea that a person had to have some electrifying spiritual rush after they gave their heart to God — which meant they had been “sanctified” or made perfect.

Without that experience she didn’t dare think Jesus accepted her. Yet she went forward anyway, with Esther’s words becoming her own prayer. As she did, she felt her troubles vanish — which scared her — and she tried to pick them back up again.

Some people don’t feel like they are spiritual unless they are “burdened.” Ellen went so far as to think she had no right to feel joy and happiness. Jesus seemed very near to Ellen in that moment — suddenly she realized instead of withholding her sadness, confusion and troubles from Him, she could hand them over and He would take them. Finally she felt assured of Jesus’ love towards people who don’t feel so good about how their life has been going.

One of the ladies at the meeting saw Ellen praying and asked her if she had found Jesus. Before she could answer, the woman said, “Yes, indeed you have! His peace is with you, I see it in your face!” There had been a time when her own earthly father had not recognized her face, and it was devastating — now her face was recognized by a stranger as shining with the love of her heavenly Father, and it was liberating.

1. Ellen White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 11.
2. Ibid.
Salmon Students Clean Up Community Garden

Students of the Salmon Seventh-day Adventist School got to participate in a great community service project on Sept. 16. The students worked hard cleaning, weeding, beautifying and harvesting the community’s garden at the local Sacajawea Center.

Every summer the Sacajawea Center has a community garden. For the past two years they have asked the school to help clean them out at the end of the season. Not only did the kids work hard but also had a lot of fun digging in the dirt, looking for hidden potato treasures and trying new vegetables they would have never tried if it wasn’t for picking them themselves. The day also turned out to be educational for the kids as they learned things ranging from how tall a sunflower can grow to how to properly make a compost pile.

The day proved to be a great success in helping the community, and the students can’t wait until next year to get their hands dirty again.

April Copley
Salmon Seventh-day Adventist School Teacher
Near the end of August, all 185 Adventist educators from the Oregon Conference descended on Gladstone for an event that hadn't been held for quite some time: an Oregon Conference Teachers Convention.

Designed with the theme of "Connection" in mind, the keynote speakers, breakout sessions and times for interaction were all designed to encourage the teachers to connect with Jesus and connect with each other as colleagues so that they could achieve their goal of connecting their students with Jesus.

Gale Crosby, Oregon Conference vice president of education, explains, "We wanted to give our educators time to come together as a education family. Teaching is a sacred calling. We wanted to show our teachers that we value them and to recognize the importance of their work. We were truly rewarded with God's spirit being present throughout the convention."

The keynote speaker, Alex Bryan, Walla Walla University Church senior pastor, shared the history of the Adventist school system and demonstrated how our schools are truly God's schools. He also brought forth a powerful personal message of the significance and influence that our teachers have with our students. He showed from Scripture that our teachers are truly called by God for the specific ministry of teaching like Jesus taught. The teachers felt empowered with his message. One teacher shared, "I was inspired by Pastor Bryan's message. It was a great reminder of how important teaching is. We have a greater purpose."

Linda Christiansen, Oregon Writing Project instructor and director, and Colonel Morris Davis also gave interesting and thought-provoking presentations.

Affirming educators was another important element of the convention. One of the ways that was accomplished was with awards and recognition.

Three long-time Oregon Conference Educators were honored at Tuesday evening's banquet with Lifetime Achievement Awards. Dick and Anita Molstead and Gil Plubell were recognized for their tireless work toward the education of young people in the Oregon Conference, the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) and North American Division (NAD).

In addition, Jenny Neil, Heidi Kruger and Dan Nicola were honored with Oregon Conference Teacher and Administrator of the Year awards, and 11 NAD and NPUC awards were given to teachers for innovation and creativity.

This year's convention was primarily planned and facilitated by the teachers themselves. Teachers brought the theme, format and overall planning into place. More than 30 breakout sessions were planned and facilitated by the teachers, covering a wide range of topics including iPads in the classroom, brain-based research, working with students with special needs, making science experiments fun, and school administration. Breakout sessions were also held by grade and subject to give teachers a chance to share ideas, experiences, and ways of connecting with their students and connecting their students with Jesus — because in the end, that's really what matters.

Krissy Barber

Oregon Conference communication assistant
“Besides introducing our students to Jesus Christ, character development is one of our most important goals,” says Monte Torkelsen, Portland Adventist Academy chaplain. “It means we seek to intentionally develop core character traits in our students that reflect and lift up Christ.”

PAA developed class adventures, challenges and retreats as tools to teach courage, leadership, integrity, curiosity, concern and belief. These traits are the focus of each event, and they continue to be emphasized throughout the year.

The events happen early in the school year, offering a firm foundation for a great year. Each class, as a group, leaves the city and all their electronic gadgets behind to retreat to the wilderness. Through mountaineering, ropes courses, rock climbing, and navigating carefully planned obstacle courses and mind-bending puzzles, students learn life skills and bond with each other. Courses are taught and led by PAA staff, upperclassman mentors and certified mountaineering guides.

Thoughtfully planned, every year’s event builds upon the next. Freshmen spend a day learning about trust and courage through a ropes course. As sophomores, they explore the themes of teamwork, creativity, concern, solitude and reflection, and vision during a weekend in the mountains.

By the time PAA students are juniors, they are ready for a more mature look at courage, strategic planning, group leadership, "followership" and respect, creativity, and solitude and reflection.

Finally, PAA seniors are instructed in integrity, judgment, strategic goal-setting and community. “These traits are about being who you are and who you really want to be, making the right choice at the right time, planning for the future, and connecting with God and each other," says Torkelsen.

“The junior challenge is the hard one,” says Ty Johnson, PAA vice principal. “For some of these kids, it’s the hardest thing they’ve ever done. This year, it was the girls who stood out. They quickly realized they couldn’t complete a challenge on their own and how important it was they connect with each other to finish a task. Their dynamics were impressive to watch.”

Johnson also loves seeing the sense of accomplishment and pride in the students when they complete their final challenge. “As you watch the kids climb that last mountain then look down into the valley, across the hills and river, and the cliffs they’ve climbed, it’s awesome to see them take in all they’ve worked through," he says.

“That final summit is symbolic,” says Johnson. “It’s a reminder of where they came from and what it took to reach the top. It’s a life lesson. And these are lessons we can’t teach in the classroom. You just can’t put a price on that value.”