Year-end Meeting - Be Informed

The 2011 NAD Year-end Meeting (YEM) begins Friday, October 28 and will continue through Tuesday, November 1. The annual YEM is where church leadership will consider budget requests, make appropriations, and adopt policies that are necessary for the operation of the Adventist church in our division. Some of the topics that will be addressed this year are:

- Guam-Micronesia mission added to the North American Division territory
- Local hires
- The NAD media strategy
- The overall division strategy
- GC response to NAD's model constitution variance request
- Ministry reports

NewsPoints will keep you posted. You can also get up-to-the-minute YEM news through:
- Twitter - follow @NADpres
- Facebook updates
- Photos on Flickr

Dan Jackson Shoots Holiday Specials at Adventist Media Center - On October 18, 2011, NAD President Dan Jackson spent the entire day shooting a Thanksgiving Special and two Christmas Specials at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley.

George Johnson, NAD communication director, was recognized.

Top Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) Awards

WSMC 90.5 celebrates their 50th year of broadcasting.

Adventists in the News

Ministerial Spouses are invited to participate.

Baptisms are happening across the division.

Welcome Home Sabbath is November 26.

Surviving and Thriving in These...
Valley, Calif. “Wall of Gratitude” is an hour-long Thanksgiving Special hosted by Dan Jackson and Connie Vandeman Jeffery. Featuring Family Reunion music along with a devotional message from Pastor Jackson, this program will air on Hope Channel during Thanksgiving week.

A series of seven Christmas programs was taped October 18-20. The series is entitled “God’s Christmas Cards” and will air during the week leading up to Christmas on Hope Channel. Dan Jackson hosts the entire series and presents the Christmas Cards from “God” in two of the seven programs. The other five programs are presented by the five speaker/directors of the Adventist Media Center. What would God say this year to Casey Anthony or Tiger Woods? What would He say to Bernie Madoff, John Edwards, or Jaycee Dugard? What would He say to President Obama? And what would He say to YOU? You’ll find out this December. Watch “God’s Christmas Cards” on the Hope Channel. Go to www.hopetv.org for air times.

George Johnson, NAD communication director, was recognized as one of the “40 Under 40” leaders in the October issue of Rejuvenate, the award-winning national magazine for the faith-based meeting planning industry. This recognition came from peer leaders and others in the faith-based meetings world. Numerous nominations were reviewed and evaluated based on references, industry involvement, and comments on social media and group websites.

Johnson plans annual communication training meetings, the most recent one was October 20-22 in Lombard, Ill.

“This group of individuals represent the present and future of our industry,” said Chris Collinson, chief strategist of Collinson Media and Events. “They were selected by their peers, reinforcing their status as industry influencers.” MORE

Top Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) Awards were given for 37 different categories to hard-working communication professionals and students at the SAC Convention in Lombard, Ill. last week. Here are the top five:

LifeTime Achievement Award: Richard “Dick” Weismeyer, postumously. Weismeyer’s entire 46-year career was dedicated to public relations at Loma Linda University, where he served as director for nearly 40 years. In 2010, he was named executive director of university relations. He was actively pursuing an EdD from the School of Education at La Sierra University at the time of his death, January 12, 2011.

By exemplifying the highest principles of selfless service to the organization he loved, Mr. Weismeyer introduced millions of readers around the world to the health ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. By setting a high standard of excellence in both publications and video, he challenged and encouraged his mentees and staff members to produce their best work for the cause. His legacy will outlive him for years to come.
Reger Smith, Jr. Cutting Edge Award: Envision magazine, Andrews University Communication Department. Debbie Michel, editor; Daniel Campbell, layout editor; Victor Mills, layout editor; Glenn Roper II, managing editor; Michele Joseph, copy editor/
Award of Excellence: "AWR is Here" Campaign. Shelley Nolan Freesland, communication director; Clayton Kinney, designer
Young Professional Award: Chris McConnell, Rocky Mountain Conference

Student Award: Winner: Kristina Penny, Andrews University
Find out who won in your area. MORE

WSMC 90.5 celebrates their 50th year of broadcasting this weekend. WSMC is Southern Adventist University’s (SAU) radio station, which started with 10 watts and an all-volunteer staff in November of 1961, and now its 100,000 watt signal reaches a 90-mile radius out from SAU. MORE
You can listen to WSMC 90.5 classical radio, live, HERE.

The following are positive stories that appeared this week in the news about Seventh-day Adventists in the North American Division territory.

Adventists in the News

Adventist employee runs to honor family who battle breast cancer
TribLocal
October 25

Award-Winning Photojournalist
Billy Weeks’ Photos on Display
WTVC
October 24

Humanitarian to share Rwanda experiences at ASU
Arizona Republic
October 21

Festive tasting offers meatless holiday fare
Hometownlife.com
October 23

Adventist to Take Over California’s Sierra Kings Hospital
Becker’s Hospital Review

Operation 5 Loaves and 2 Fish
Bernews
October 25

‘Loaves and fishes’ food drive hailed a resounding success
Royal Gazette
October 24

CT editor: Clear, transparent communication is ‘lifeblood’ of organization
Adventist News Network
October 23

Pastor plants passion at Solomon’s Porch
Lehigh Acres Citizen
October 23

Adventist, DaVita teaming up to tackle kidney disease
Hanford Sentinel

News: REACH North America - A collaborative strategy for the church at every level, pp. 11-14
Perspective: Living Up to Our Potential, p. 17
Feature: “Our Praying Pioneers,” pp. 36-37
Adventist Service: Walking in their Shoes, pp. 38-39
NAD Letters: p. 45

October Offerings and Special Days

October Focus:
Adventist Heritage

Helpful Websites:
Adventist Heritage
Adventist Heritage Magazine Collection
Archives and Statistics, GC
Biblical Research Institute Center for Adventist Research, Andrews Univ.
Ellen G. White Estate Official Web Site
La Sierra Library Heritage Room

Special Days:
• October 22, Pathfinder Sabbath

Helpful website(s):
Vibrant Life Magazine
E. G. White Estate, Spirit of Prophecy Day - Heritage Sabbath Pathfinders

Related Resources Quick Links:
AdventSource October
October 21

**Talking About the End of the World**
KIMT
October 21

**Former seniors' home to become a church**
Royal Gazette
October 21

**Strong response to church's 'loaves and fishes' appeal**
Royal Gazette
October 21

**Chef putting on cooking show Sunday at Needles church**
Mohave Valley News
October 21

**Choosing 'Forks Over Knives': Free film screening Oct. 22**
Grand Junction Free Press
October 21

**Albion College teacher preparation program tops in state, Michigan Department ...**
The Jackson Citizen Patriot
October 21

**Health by Choice, Not Chance**
Molokai Dispatch
October 19

**The Church of Live Music**
ChicagoNow
October 21

**New Adventist to open church, day care in Bowie**
Gazette.Net: Maryland Community News Online
October 20

**Volunteers seek family in need of help**
Langley AdvanceNews
October 20

**Jellico hospital expanding ER**
Times Tribune of Corbin
October 20

**Annual Coats for Kids drive ends Saturday**
Statesman Journal
October 19

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**Announcements**

Ministerial Spouses are invited to participate in a special TV program, Keeping it Real, to be streamed live on the Hope Church Channel Tuesday, November 1, 2-4 p.m. ET. It will be hosted by Joanne Cortes and Carin Villalva and will include: Daisy and Daniel Quinones, Finding Your Voice for God; Rhonda Johnson and Debi Pedersen, Healthy Body and Soul; Martin Weber, Keeping Your Kids Connected; Christina and

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**Union Magazines and Websites**

- Atlantic Union GLEANER
- Canadian Adventist MESSENGER
- Columbia Union VISITOR
- Lake Union HERALD
- Mid-America OUTLOOK
- North Pacific Union GLEANER
- Pacific Union RECORDER
- Southern Union TIDINGS
- Southwestern Union RECORD

**Adventist Mission DVD and Quarterly**

4th Quarter, 2011
North American Division

Watch DVD
Read Mission Quarterly
Bernie Anderson, Dealing with Pornography Addiction; Cynthia Mercer, Increasing Spiritual and Emotional Intimacy; Jose Hernandez, Embracing Your Identity and Role.

The show can also be joined via the Ministerial Spouses Association Facebook page, or text questions to (818) 477-3844. Also view it via the Hope Channel App, Hope Channel Online, and GloryStar (Channel 124). For more info contact Donna Jackson.

It will be rebroadcast (recorded, not live) Tuesday evening, November 1, at 8-10 p.m.; 10 p.m. – 12 a.m.; Sunday, November 6, 2-4 p.m.; Sunday, November 13, 2-4 p.m. (All times given are in Eastern Standard Time.)

**REACH North America**

Baptisms are happening across the division as a result of the month-long series of “Prophecies Decoded: Can the Past Reveal Your Future?” which ends Sabbath, November 5. At the live site in Nashville, 10 individuals were baptized this past week. About 30 more have expressed a desire to do so in the next few days.

Multiple reports have come from life-long members expressing heartfelt thanks for the depth and clarity of the messages presented. Many are experiencing personal revival, find themselves thoroughly motivated to reach out to others with the Three Angels Message, and have adopted an extremely positive view of the value of NET evangelism.

*Photo: Pastor Mike McKenzie baptizing “Rudy and Heather”*

**Resources**

Welcome Home Sabbath is November 26.

AdventSource has a “Reconnecting Ministries Quick Start Guide” to help with tips for leading an initiative to reconnect with missing members. It includes a job description, visitation hints, congregation preparation, what not to say and do, and more. See other suggested resources for the NAD Special Days emphasis at [http://www.nadadventist.org/article.php?id=82](http://www.nadadventist.org/article.php?id=82).

Surviving and Thriving in These Last Days is a
new DVD just released by Jewish Heritage Ministries. This series of 8 DVDs contains 31 messages that shed light on the mysterious truth that seemingly unrelated subjects come into play as deciding factors of whether or not you survive these last days outside the door of eternity and thrive while awaiting its passage. Subjects such as Yom Kippur, America, the dried river Euphrates, and numerous others are explained from a unique perspective.

This series will be especially helpful for sharing with your Jewish, Messianic, and Evangelical friends. Watch the trailer. MORE

ViewPoints: "Just after being elected into a conference leadership position I read the following statement. It is from Eugene Peterson in his introduction to II Corinthians in his translation, The Message Bible: 'Because leadership is necessarily an exercise of authority, it easily shifts into an exercise of power. But the minute it does that, it begins to inflict damage on both the leader and the led.'"

- Lake Union President Don Livesay in his Sabbath sermon to the Society of Adventist Communicators Convention, October 22, in Lombard, Ill.

Stay Socially Connected with NAD

© 2011 North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 | Visit: nadadventist.org

George Johnson Jr., communication director | Bernadine Delafield, NET evangelism coordinator
Lynetta Murdoch, editorial assistant. Email: newspoints@nad.adventist.org

Sent to ahc@andrews.edu — why did I get this?
Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote
As the Society of Adventist Communicators’ executive director, George Johnson has his hands in the group’s annual meeting by dealing with finances, sponsorships, contracts, location and vision. However as communication director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America he indirectly has an impact on all 30 to 40 meetings that the North American Division produces. Besides frequently consulting on event promotion, Johnson’s main responsibility is communicating the message of each event to the denomination’s nine regional magazines throughout the U.S., Canada and Bermuda, as well as overseeing media relations with local and national press. Because he started as an intern at a NAD regional conference office in 1997 before returning in 2002 and moving up the ranks in the headquarter’s communication office, he regularly encourages college students to pursue internships and gain as much experience as possible. The little free time he has usually is spent in the gym with his wife Kimberly or with his two sons George and Joshua. —J. Garrett
10-26-11 SAC Names Award Winners at 2011 Convention

Awards enhance professional growth and development

Lombard, IL - The culminating event for the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) convention Oct. 20-22 in Lombard, IL was a banquet where several prestigious awards were presented honoring individuals for their work.

SAC president Kimberly Maran, says, “With 37 categories, this is our first foray into the expansion of the awards, and the presentation of them. We previously handed out five awards so this is a hefty increase.”

SAC executive director and North American Division Communication Director, George Johnson, Jr., says, “Professional growth and development are greatly enhanced with this awards presentations. It is exciting to see the pride and recognition given to these hard working communication professionals.”

The 2011 SAC award winners include:

Lifetime Achievement Award
Richard “Dick” Weismeyer, awarded postumously. Weismeyer’s entire 46-year career was dedicated to public relations at Loma Linda University, where he served as director for nearly 40 years. In 2010, he was named executive director of university relations. He was actively pursuing an EdD from the School of Education at La Sierra University at the time of his death, January 12, 2011.

By exemplifying the highest principles of selfless service to the organization he loved, Mr. Weismeyer introduced millions of readers around the world to the health ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. By setting a high standard of excellence in both publications and video, he challenged and encouraged his mentees and staff members to produce their best work for the cause. His legacy will outlive him for years to come.

Reger Smith, Jr. Cutting Edge Award
Envision magazine
Andrews University Communication Department
Debbie Michel, editor
Daniel Campbell, layout editor
Victor Mills, layout editor
Glenn Roper II, managing editor
Michele Joseph, copy editor

Award of Excellence
AWR is Here
Shelley Nolan Freesland, communication director
Clayton Kinney, designer

Young Professional Award
Winner: Chris McConnell, Rocky Mountain Conference
Honorable Mention: Brod Boyd, Amazing Facts
Heidi Martella, Washington Conference

Student Award
Winner: Kristina Penny, Andrews University
Honorable Mention: Michael-Anthony Spearman, Wayne State University

Category: Corporate Communication
Class: Constituency or Annual Report Video
No entries

Category: Corporate Communication
Class: Constituency Report (Print)
Best in Class: Atlantic Union College’s Quinquennial Constituency Meeting book
Cindy Kurtzhals, director of public relations and publications for Atlantic Union College
Winona Wendth, cover photo consultant
Dr. Lois King, assistant vice president for marketing
Melahn Cable, contract layout/graphic designer

Honorable Mention: Ontario Highlights 2009 Constituency Report Edition
Pastor Halsey Peat, director of communication and religious liberty for the Ontario Conference

**Category: Corporate Communication**
**Class: Annual Report (Print)**
Best in Class: Adventist World Radio Annual Report
Shelley Nolan Freesland, Adventist World Radio communication director
Clayton Kinney, designer

Honorable Mention: Telling His Story
Dan Jensen, Potomac Conference communication director
Adrienne Suarez, graphic designer

Adventist Health Annual Report
Rita Waterman, assistant vice president of corporate communication
Lauren Brendel, communication coordinator

**Category: Corporate Communication**
**Class: Website**
Best in Class: pcsda.org
Dan Jensen, Potomac Conference communication director
Paolo Esposito, communication intern
Adrienne Suarez, graphic designer

Honorable Mention: Free and Affordable Health Care Services
Brian Weed, web content manager and instructor, Loma Linda University School of Public Health
Sheikh Zulfiqar, 2011 alumnus, Loma Linda University School of Public Health

**Category: New Media**
**Class: App**
Honorable Mention: Appventist
Erik de Jonge, general manager, Active8
Niko Koffeman, copy/concept
Homecoming Application
Andrews University Office of Alumni Services
Andriy Kharkovyy, developer

**Category: New Media**
**Class: Email Newsletter**
Best in Class: Sailing with Jesus
Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director
Raschelle Casebier, Washington Conference communication apprentice

Honorable Mention: Andrews Agenda
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication
Keri Suarez, media relations specialist
Darren Heslop, photographer
Todd Freeman, programmer
Martin Lee, designer

**Category: New Media**
**Class: Blog**
Honorable Mention: Outlook
Chris McConnell, webmaster/designer

**Category: New Media**
**Class: Use of Social Media**
Honorable Mention: Andrews University's Facebook and Twitter feeds
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication
Stephen Payne, vice president for enrollment management and integrated marketing and communication
Keri Suarez, media relations specialist

**Category: Print**
**Class: Newsletter (Print)**
Best in Class: Accent
Heidi Martella, Washington Conference communication director
Raschelle Casebier, Washington Conference communication apprentice
Maylan Schurch, Bellevue, Washington, Adventist church pastor

Honorable Mention: The Herald
Communication Department of the Burns Seventh-day Adventist Church
Oliver Page, Ph.D., communication leader

**AUC Today**
Cindy Kutzhalz, director of public relations and publications
Dr. Bordes Henry-Satuene', vice president for enrollment
Melahn Cable, contract graphic designer

**Transmissions**
Shelley Nolan Freesland, Adventist World Radio communication director
Clayton Kinney, designer
Category: Print
Class: Magazine
Best in Class: Focus
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication
Patricia Spangler, editor
Tami Condon, contributing editor
Keri Suarez, contributing editor
Matt Hamel, designer

Honorable Mention: Outlook
Martin Weber, communication director
Chris McConnell, managing editor/designer
Brenda Dickerson, copy editor

Category: Print
Class: Editorial
Best in Class: “Facebook, Twitter have much to teach us about personal, corporate interactions”
Adventist News Network
Chanmin Chung, production manager, Al-Waad Media Center; Beirut, Lebanon

Honorable Mention: “The way we teach sexual abstinence before marriage needs to be reexamined”
Adventist News Network
Courtney Ray, associate pastor of the Tamarind Seventh-day Adventist Church, Compton, Calif.

“Increasing our media savvy will further the gospel faster”
Adventist News Network
Brian Hatyoka, reporter; Times of Zambia, Livingston, Zambia

Category: Print
Class: Feature
Best in Class: “Winternet Evangelism”
Chris McConnell, managing editor/designer

Honorable Mention: “Further definition on tap for Adventist fundamental belief on creation”
Adventist News Network
Elizabeth Lechleitner, editorial coordinator

“In Bermuda, ministers to gang community, enlists support of area churches”
Adventist News Network
Elizabeth Lechleitner, editorial coordinator

Category: Print
Class: Devotional
Honorable Mention: Our Stories, Volume 2
Rita Waterman, assistant vice president of corporate communication
Brittany Russell Dobbs, communication specialist

Category: Print
Class: News Article for Event Coverage
Best in Class: “Leaders, delegates reflect on top decisions at Session”
Adventist News Network
Edwin Manuel Garcia, writer

Honorable Mention: “Planting Seeds of Grace”
Focus magazine
Samantha Snively, writer
Patricia Spangler, editor

Category: Print
Class: Column or Department
Honorable Mention: Children’s Corner
Shelley Nolan Freesland, communication director
Brandon Reese, designer

Category: Print
Class: Student Newspaper
No entries

Category: Broadcast
Class: Radio Show or Podcast
No entries

Category: Broadcast
Class: TV/Internet Show
Best in Class: “Hope in Motion – Keerthana, Prolaspe and Safe Haven”
Terry Benedict, producer/director

Category: Broadcast
Class: Video Story/Project
Honorable Mention: “AEC Today”
Robert Booker, executive producer
Charles Williams, executive producer
George Johnson Jr., host/producer/director
Lauren Davis, host/producer
Evan Williams – director/editor/camera
Bryce Williams – graphics/editor
Joshua Martin – graphics/editor

Category: Marketing/Public Relations
Class: Exhibit or Display
Best in Class: AWR is Here
Shelley Nolan Freesland, communication director
Clayton Kinney, designer
Skyline Exhibits

Honorable Mention: Andrews University Booth at the 2010 GC Session
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication

Category: Marketing/Public Relations
Class: Promotional Video
Best in Class: No Child Left Behind: Education with God’s Love
Terry Benedict, producer/director

Honorable Mention: “Called by God”
Shelley Nolan Freesland, communication director
David Brillhart, Brillhart Media

“Outlook Magazine Redesign”
Chris McConnell, webmaster/designer
“God’s Classroom”
Kenn Dixon, assistant pastor for youth ministries
Kiera Dixon, daughter and student

Category: Marketing/Public Relations
Class: Brochure or Printed Promotional Package/Kit
Best in Class: “You’re Accepted”
Andrews University Enrollment Management
Jason Webster, enrollment management
Matthew Park, designer

Honorable Mention: Mid-America Union’s 2011 Media Kit
Martin Weber, communication director
Chris McConnell, managing editor/designer
Brenda Dickerson, copy editor

Category: Marketing/Public Relations
Class: Ad (Print)
Honorable Mention: “Spread the Christmas Spirit”
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication
Matthew Park, designer

Category: Marketing/Public Relations
Class: Marketing Gift
Best in Class: Andrews University spiral notebook and mug
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication
Rebecca May, director of campus relations
Nadine Nelson

Honorable Mention: “AWR is Here”
Shelley Nolan Freesland, communication director

Category: Marketing/Public Relations
Class: Media Pitching Campaign
Best in Class: “Women refs blaze a trail”
Cindy Kurtzhals, director of public relations and publications
Coach Sandy Smith, recreation director
Karen Nugent, reporter, Worcester Telegram and Gazette

Category: Design
Class: Book Design
Best in Class: What Maps Do You Use?
Adrienne Suarez, designer

Honorable Mention: Cardinal
Andrews University Student Association
Lauren Popp, editor
Tori Crumley, assistant editor
Max Murray, marketing manager
Ammiel Mendoza, design editor
Erica Bruso, designer
Katerina Adams, designer
Boeun Grace Kim, designer

http://www.nadadventist.org/article.php?id=657
Jay Kijai, photography editor
Sarah Fruth, copy editor

**Category: Design**
**Class: Magazine Cover Design**
Best in Class: Envision
Andrews University Communication Department
Debbie Michel, editor
Daniel Campbell, layout editor
Victor Mills, layout editor
Glenn Roper II, managing editor
Michele Joseph, copy editor

Honorable Mention: Outlook
Martin Weber, communication director
Chris McConnell, managing editor/designer
Brenda Dickerson, copy editor

**Category: Design**
**Class: Magazine Design Overall**
Best in Class: Envision
Andrews University Communication Department
Debbie Michel, editor
Daniel Campbell, layout editor
Victor Mills, layout editor
Glenn Roper II, managing editor
Michele Joseph, copy editor

Honorable Mention: Outlook
Martin Weber, communication director
Chris McConnell, managing editor/designer
Brenda Dickerson, copy editor

**Category: Design**
**Class: Project Design**
Best in Class: Andrews University 2010-2011 Calendar
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication
Patricia Spangler, content
Justin Jeffery, layout/designer

Honorable Mention: “AWR is Here”
Shelley Nolan Freesland, communication director

Collection of postcards by MARC Creations
Iwan J. Voerman, MDiv., creator

**Category: Design**
**Class: Photograph**
Best in Class: Globe Postcard
Office of Integrated Marketing and Communication
Martin Lee, photographer

Honorable Mention: “Presidential Transition”
Adventist News Network
Josef Kissinger, photographer

--The Society of Adventist Communicators is an organization for the socialization, continuing education, recognition, and nurture of Seventh-day Adventists whose careers are in fields of communication.

Tamara Fisher, Vice President for Communication
Society of Adventist Communicators

END
Adventist employee runs to honor family who battle breast cancer

By Sheila Galloro Oct. 25 at 10:53 a.m.

Caption: Joe Ventura celebrates a recent run with his parents, Maureen and Ely (Jo) Ventura

Adventist employee runs to honor family who battle breast cancer

Bolingbrook resident will tackle grueling 50-mile run on Oct. 30 to raise money for Open Arms Breast Cancer Outreach Fund, a part of the Hinsdale Hospital Foundation.

Running to raise money for cancer treatment and awareness is not a new concept. But Joe Ventura is taking it to a new level. More to the point, he is taking it to a new distance.

Joe's 50-Mile Run and Fall Family Fest takes place on Sunday, Oct. 30 at Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve in Darien. The event benefits the Open Arms Breast Cancer Outreach Fund which is part of the Hinsdale Hospital Foundation and supports breast cancer patients and their families through diagnosis, treatment and recovery.

Ventura will begin running at 8 a.m. and the free Fall Family Fest takes place from 1 to 4 p.m. at Argonne Family Park in the Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve. Runners of any skill and experience level are invited to run with Ventura, bike with him, or just cheer him on.

Running nearly twice the distance of a traditional marathon of 26.2 miles shouldn't be a problem for Ventura. The 25-year-old Bolingbrook resident is an ultra-marathon runner who recently completed a grueling 100 miles in just 24 hours in South Bend, Indiana.

“I was pretty overwhelmed at what I had done, I surprised myself,” Ventura said. “I had done two 50-kilometer runs (50 kilometers is equal to about 32 miles) and three 50-mile runs. But this was the first time I did 100 miles. I felt OK for the first 16 hours. The last eight hours were rough.”

The idea for Joe’s 50-Mile Run took shape last year, when Ventura and his mother, Maureen, attended a cancer awareness event which featured a 12-hour run. They began comparing notes with staff at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and the idea for the Oct. 30 run was born. Maureen has worked at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital for 28 years and is currently the PACS administrator. (PACS stands for picture archiving and communication system.)

“I think what Joe is doing is fabulous,” Maureen said. “We’re very proud and excited. We will be thinking of the women in our family who had breast cancer, and the women who struggle with it every day.” Ventura will be running in support of an aunt, Maureen’s sister, who is a breast cancer survivor, and in memory of his two great aunts who died of breast cancer.
Ventura's accomplishments are even more surprising when you consider that he doesn't have the luxury of training full-time. As serious as he is about running, it is only part of his busy life. Ventura works as a patient care technician in the emergency department of Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital. He is also working toward his bachelor's degree in nursing at Chamberlain College of Nursing in Addison.

Ventura began running track and cross country while attending Romeoville High School. But after graduation, he stopped running, gained weight, and started to smoke.

"After five years of not running, I got tired of living an unhealthy lifestyle," Ventura said. "I decided to start running again, and at the end of the first year, I was able to run my first 50 miles. I plan to keep running as long as I can."

Adventist Midwest Health includes Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. To find a physician, visit www.keepingyouwell.com.

Media contact: Sheila Galloro, public relations specialist, Adventist Midwest Health, Sheila.Galloro@ahss.org; 630-856-2359.
Award-Winning Photojournalist Billy Weeks' Photos on Display

Southern Adventist University will host a gallery opening and lecture by award-winning photographer Billy Weeks on October 26 at 7 p.m. in McKee Library.

Weeks just won top prize in the International Gordon Parks Photography competition for his picture “Young Mother,” which is included in the show.

Weeks has worked as a photojournalist for more than 27 years, and currently serves as adjunct professor in photojournalism at Southern. His career started with the Chattanooga Times in 1984 as a staff photographer. In 1995, he became the Photo Team Leader, and from 1999-2010 he was the Director of Photography at The Chattanooga Times Free Press.

As a photojournalist, Weeks has covered assignments that range from the World Series to small villages in Central America. Communication Arts selected his photographs of poverty in Honduras as an Award of Excellence for editorial photography. Additionally, he’s been published in B&W Magazine’s portfolio special issue four times, and has received many acknowledgments for journalism including the Freedom of Information award issued by the Associated Press. He also has taught photojournalism workshops for CNN online and the University of Georgia.

Week’s photographs are part of “Southern Exposures,” a six-week exhibition also featuring images by Southern alumni and faculty. Chattanooga-based wedding and portrait photographer Garrett Nudd will also have works on display. He will host a library lecture on Friday October 28 at 9:30 a.m. titled “The search for 1,000 words: exploring society's love-affair with photography.”

The photo exhibition will remain on display in McKee library through December 14.
Humanitarian Carl Wilkens, who saved hundreds of lives by remaining in Rwanda during the three-month genocide in 1994, will visit metro Phoenix, giving talks and signing his book, "I'm Not Leaving."

He was the only American to stay, defying pleas from his church and the U.S. government to leave.

He will speak at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Memorial Union at Arizona State University in Tempe and at 7 p.m. Thursday at Changing Hands Bookstore, 6428 S. McClintock Drive, Tempe.

"While telling those stories, I incorporate messages and tools to stand up against not just genocide, but racism and hatred and intolerance," Wilkens said in a phone interview.

Wilkens will discuss his experiences during the genocide, current bloodshed in Darfur and Democratic Republic of Congo and the movement Invisible Children, which seeks to end the conflict in Uganda and stop abductions of youngsters for use as soldiers.

He will talk about President Barack Obama's decision to send 100 advisory troops to the region in central Africa brutalized by violent cult leader Joseph Kony.

In the Rwandan genocide, it's estimated that more than 800,000 died.

Wilkens was in Kigali in Rwanda as country director of the humanitarian agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. When the genocide began, his wife and children left Kigali, but Wilkens risked his life by staying to protect two people who had been working in their home and who held Tutsi identification cards, which marked them for extermination by extremist Hutus.

"I couldn't leave them to be tortured and killed," Wilkens said.

However, he didn't expect the full-scale genocidal onslaught.

"We knew it was going to be bad, but we had no idea how bad and how long it would be," he said.

In his book, he often mentions the Mille Collines Hotel, the place featured in the movie "Hotel Rwanda."

The movie was accurate to a point, but the reality was worse, and the movie left out the key role the United Nations played in hotel security, Wilkens said.

As the genocide wore on, Wilkens worked to deliver water and food to orphanages.

During his visit to Arizona, Wilkens will discuss how keeping the Democratic Republic of Congo in chaos depresses wages. The power struggle mainly centers on the country's minerals including tungsten, tin and titanium, used in manufacturing smartphones, iPads and laptops.

They are called conflict minerals because their revenue is often accepted to fund and fuel conflict. Some electronics manufacturers refuse to use them.

"We're encouraging people to learn about these conflict minerals," he said.

He began his activism against genocide in 2004, after he appeared on a PBS "Frontline" documentary, which prompted teachers to invite him to their classes.

In 2008, he quit his chaplain's job to travel and speak full time at schools and faith and civic groups.

"One of the things I always want to leave people with is the understanding that the most powerful tool we have to build peace is stories," he said. "Stories are much more powerful than weapons of violence. Stories have the potential to change the way we think, which changes the way we feel, which changes the way we act."

In addition, he said, he hopes his stories encourage action against genocide and intolerance.

"We're passionate about the powerful combination of stories and service to build peace," he said.

He said people can get involved by being good neighbors to refugee families, by adding to Facebook pages the phone number 800-GENOCIDE and by calling that number, which makes it easy to leave messages for members of Congress.

"It takes just a few minutes to make a phone call," he said. "It's a small thing each of us could do."

For details about his Arizona schedule next week, see worldoutsidemyshoes.org or the Facebook page of World Outside My Shoes.
Humanitarian Carl Wilkens, who saved hundreds of lives by remaining in Rwanda during the three-month genocide in 1994, will visit metro Phoenix, giving talks and signing his book, "I'm Not Leaving."

He was the only American to stay, defying pleas from his church and the U.S. government to leave.

He will speak at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Memorial Union at Arizona State University in Tempe and at 7 p.m. Thursday at Changing Hands Bookstore, 6428 S. McClintock Drive, Tempe.

"While telling those stories, I incorporate messages and tools to stand up against not just genocide, but racism and hatred and intolerance," Wilkens said in a phone interview.

Wilkens will discuss his experiences during the genocide, current bloodshed in Darfur and Democratic Republic of Congo and the movement Invisible Children, which seeks to end the conflict in Uganda and stop abductions of youngsters for use as soldiers.

He will talk about President Barack Obama's decision to send 100 advisory troops to the region in central Africa brutalized by violent cult leader Joseph Kony.

In the Rwandan genocide, it's estimated that more than 800,000 died.

Wilkens was in Kigali in Rwanda as country director of the humanitarian agency of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. When the genocide began, his wife and children left Kigali, but Wilkens risked his life by staying to protect two people who had been working in their home and who held Tutsi identification cards, which marked them for extermination by extremist Hutus.

"I couldn't leave them to be tortured and killed," Wilkens said.

However, he didn't expect the full-scale genocidal onslaught.

"We knew it was going to be bad, but we had no idea how bad and how long it would be," he said.

In his book, he often mentions the Mille Collines Hotel, the place featured in the movie "Hotel Rwanda."
The movie was accurate to a point, but the reality was worse, and the movie left out the key role the United Nations played in hotel security, Wilkens said.

As the genocide wore on, Wilkens worked to deliver water and food to orphanages.

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Read more: http://www.azcentral.com/community/tempe/articles/2011/10/21/20111021tempe-humanitarian-wilkens-asu.html#ixzz1d3Amu4rl
Festive tasting offers meatless holiday fare

Learn about and taste vegetarian foods at the 24th Annual Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza, Sunday, Nov. 6, at Metropolitan Adventist School Gymnasium, located on Haggerty just north of Five Mile, in Plymouth.

The event will feature recipes that use a plant base for the main dish on the holiday dinner table. Presenters also will offer ideas on ways to serve the holiday recipes. More than 50 non-meat dishes will be available to see and taste. Creative cooks will be on hand to talk about vegetarian family favorites for special events.

Cookbooks of the sample dishes that are presented will be available for purchase. A CD with 20 years of recipes from the event also will be available.

The festive event demonstrates how great holidays can taste without meat.

Detailed information and ticket order forms are available at [www.veggieholiday.com](http://www.veggieholiday.com) or call the hotline at (248) 446-9176.

Adult tickets are $14; children, 6-12 pay $6.

The ticket order must include a first, second and third choice of seating times — 11 a.m., 12:45 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. — and the total number of tickets ordered. Make checks payable to Metro SDA School. Send to "Holiday Tasting," 695 N. Ridge Road, Canton, MI 48187-4635.
Adventist to Take Over California's Sierra Kings Hospital

Written by Molly Gamble | October 21, 2011

Tags: acquisition | California | hospital management | Sierra Kings District Hospital

Hanford, Calif.-based Adventist Health Central Valley Network is taking over Sierra Kings District Hospital in Reedley, Calif., according to a Hanford Sentinel report.

The deal was finalized Oct. 12 and Adventist will begin operating Sierra Kings Nov. 1. The name will change to Adventist Medical Center-Reedley.

Under the deal, Adventist will assume Sierra Kings' lease for $800,000 a year while purchasing its rural clinics for $4.6 million and equipment for $3.7 million, to be paid on the closing date.

Sierra Kings has been facing financial challenges, and the district filed for bankruptcy protection in late 2009.

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To receive the latest hospital and health system business and legal news and analysis from Becker's Hospital Review, sign-up for the free Becker's Hospital Review E-weekly by clicking here.
MASON CITY, IA-For many years - people have been trying to guess when the world will end.

Recently the topic got more coverage when people like Harold Camping - a Christian radio broadcaster - predicted the end of times on October 21st of this year. Then there's a mailer that's been circulating in North Iowa from the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Mason City - talking about the revelation. But they say - their upcoming seminars are about making people less afraid about the end of times ... and do not believe in setting certain dates about when it will happen.

Pastor Jody Dickhaut is the speaker at the seminars. He said, "we've had a lot of disaster this year what does that mean is there something ominous coming and the Bible can help people understand and make sense of those things without falling to the chicken little syndrome, you know the sky is falling, the sky is falling, we can just approach things from a more rational perspective."

The church says their goal is to teach people about what the Bible says about the rapture .... and let the people decide for themselves.

The event is called "Revelation Reveals Hope for a World in Crisis" ... and will start Friday at 7 pm at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Mason City.
Choosing ‘Forks Over Knives’: Free film screening Oct. 22

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STAFF WRITER

Chicago Sun-Times film critic Roger Ebert called it “a film that can save your life.”

Television host and prominent cardiac surgeon Dr. Oz said, “I loved it and I need all of you to see it.”

What these two are highly praising is the documentary film, “Forks Over Knives,” which came out earlier this year.

A free screening of the film is planned for 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Grand Junction Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 730 Mesa Ave.

At the heart of the film is the claim that most if not all degenerative diseases can be controlled, or reversed, by avoiding an animal-based and processed-food diet.

“The name of the movie implies changing the way you eat instead of going under the knife (for surgery),” said Kathy Swelstad, co-organizer of Saturday’s event.

The movie chronicles the work of two prominent researchers, Drs. T. Colin Campbell and Caldwell Esselstyn, and their patients who changed their diets, and thus, changed their health.

Swelstad, too, is living proof that it works. Diagnosed with Crohn’s Disease in the late ‘90s, Swelstad sought out a vegetarian diet to ease her symptoms.

“I definitely feel better,” she said. “People don’t have to live with their conditions. They can make changes and have a better quality of life.”

Swelstad’s not a trained nutritionist; she calls herself a concerned advocate, and it’s her personal experience that motivated her to bring a film screening to Grand Junction.

“I do feel so strongly about this movie and its message.”

“We need to keep striving for a plant-based diet.”

Health by Choice, Not Chance

Community Contributed
By Dr. Hans Diehl and Brenda Kaneshiro

October is National Vegetarian Month. It is a good time to reflect on our diets and the high price we are paying for the privilege of living with such a high abundance of food in the nation, and on Molokai.

Such abundance has helped lay the foundation for coronary artery disease, stroke, high blood pressure, arthritis, adult onset diabetes, obesity and several kinds of cancer. These diseases are related to lifestyle, especially how we eat.

Here are seven common pathways in dieting habits that lead to disease:

Sugar — The National Research Council reports that refined sugars and sweeteners account for up to 20 percent of many people’s daily calories. Refined sugars have no fiber or nutritional value, and they promote obesity.

Refined Foods — Foods are refined to remove the fiber. Now we’re learning how necessary fiber is in protecting us from certain cancers, stabilizing blood sugar, controlling weight and preventing gastrointestinal problems such as gallstones, hemorrhoids, diverticulitis and constipation.

Salt — Most Westerners consume between 10 and 20 grams of salt per day (two to four teaspoons). This is many times more than what is needed, and contributes to high blood pressure, heart failure, and kidney disease.

Fat — Many people don’t realize that they are consuming 36 to 40 percent of their daily calories as fat, much more than the body can handle. As a result, blood vessels plug up causing coronary artery disease and strokes.

Proteins — Scientists now recognize that a diet containing less protein and much less fat and cholesterol is essential for improved health and longevity.

Beverages — Minimize the number of sodas, beer, coffee, tea and sweet drinks consumed every day and replace them with water. Most of these drinks lack fiber and are loaded with calories. They can play havoc with blood sugar levels and sabotage weight control efforts.

Snacks — Snacks disrupt the digestion and overburden the stomach. They are a frequent cause of bloating and indigestion and contribute to obesity.

Eating a variety of whole-plant foods will furnish all the fat, protein, fiber and nutrients the body needs. It is also ecologically sensitive and can cut the food budget in half, especially if you grow your own!

The best news is that this type of dietary lifestyle helps delay and often prevents the onset of
most degenerative diseases. Not only does eating full-fiber plant foods allow people to eat larger quantities of food without having to worry about weight gain, but it promotes optimum health and energy for a lifetime!

The last vegetarian fellowship dinner this month will be served on Oct. 29 at the Seventh-day Adventist Church immediately following their service that begins at 11 a.m. You’re welcome to come join us for great fellowship and food.

The information in this column is not intended to replace medical advice or treatment. Questions about symptoms and medications, general or specific, should be addressed to your physician. If you are interested in finding out more about Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) and how to take charge of your health, or would like to be contacted when more information is available for the next CHIP session, please email CHEC@iglide.net or phone 808-558-8204.
Emory-Adventist raising money for digital mammography equipment

It's National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Smyrna-based hospital is doing its part in encouraging others about the importance of early detection.

By Patch Staff  Email the author  October 20, 2011

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the idea is to educate about early detection and raise money for the cure. In Georgia, approximately 6,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer every year and more than 1,080 women lose their lives to breast cancer annually.

The Foundation of Emory-Adventist Hospital at Smyrna is currently in the process of trying to raise $220,000 for hospital digital mammography equipment. Learn how you can help and donate by visiting www.smyrnacares.org or see here.

“It seems these days that each of us knows of someone diagnosed with breast cancer - I lost both of my aunts (my mother's sisters) to breast cancer. Today we are fortunate to have early detection methods. Regular screening tests can find breast cancer early, when it's most treatable.

“Digital mammography detects 80-90 percent of breast cancer in patients with no symptoms. There is less radiation exposure with digital mammography and more accurate photos of the breast even in women with dense breast tissue. You will experience less physical discomfort and it takes less time than an analogue mammography.

Our hope is that you are experiencing excellent health and practicing good breast care by performing regular breast self examinations and scheduling routine mammograms.

The Foundation of Emory-Adventist Hospital at Smyrna has adopted the acquisition of digital mammography as its fundraising project. Won't you please consider making a donation towards this important piece of technology for the hospital.” - Gwen Baldwin, Foundation Director of Emory-Adventist Hospital at Smyrna

Sometimes women are afraid to go see their doctors for the screening, but this month women are mustering courage and doing it. Breast cancer screening means checking a woman's breasts for cancer before there are signs or symptoms of the disease. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend three tests that are used to screen the breasts for cancer. Talk to your doctor about which tests are right for you.

- Mammogram. A mammogram is an X-ray of the breast. Mammograms are the best method to detect breast cancer early when it is easier to treat and before it is big enough to feel or cause symptoms. Having regular mammograms can lower the risk of dying from breast cancer. If you are age 50 to 74 years, be sure to have a screening mammogram every two years. If you are age 40–49 years, talk to your doctor about when and how often you should have a screening mammogram.

- Clinical breast exam. A clinical breast exam is an examination by a doctor or nurse, who uses his or her hands to feel for lumps or other changes.

- Breast self-exam. A breast self-exam is when you check your own breasts for lumps, changes in size or shape of the breast, or any other changes in the breasts or underarm.
Having a clinical breast exam or a breast self-exam have not been found to decrease risk of dying from breast cancer, according to the U.S. Prevention Services Taskforce. The best way to find breast cancer is with a mammogram. If you choose to have clinical breast exams and to perform breast self-exams, be sure you also get regular mammograms. Talk with your doctor about how often you need mammograms.

Where Can I Go to Get Screened?

If you want to be screened for breast cancer, call your doctor's office. They can help you schedule an appointment. Most health insurance companies pay for the cost of breast cancer screening tests.

For those who cannot afford a physician, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP) is available at the Cobb County health department. The BCCP is designed to increase awareness of breast and cervical cancer and serve low-income women who are uninsured or under-insured through screenings.

The program provides clinical breast and pelvic exams, pap tests, mammogram referrals, and diagnostic services to eligible women between the ages of 40-64 years of age.

The following are the steps that the Cobb County Public Health Department recommends for good breast health:

2. Clinical breast exam by health care provider every three years at age 20-39, and every year after 40.
3. An annual screening mammogram starting at age 40.

For more information, call Cobb Public Health at 770-514-2314.

The National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) also offers free or low-cost mammograms and education about breast cancer. Find out if you qualify.

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Emory-Adventist raising money for digital mammography equipment - Sm... http://smyrna.patch.com/articles/emory-adventist-raising-money-for-digit...
New Adventist to open church, day care in Bowie by Virginia Terhune

Staff Writer

Members of a new Adventist congregation plan to build an 850-seat church and a 75-seat day care on Old Stage Road in Bowie, with plans to open in about two years.

“We’re hoping it will serve the community,” said administrative pastor Kelvin Mitchell of the Restoration Praise Center, which is currently holding Saturday services in Lanham.

Founded in the Bowie area about three years ago, the Adventist church is currently meeting in the Capital Christian Fellowship church in Lanham and draws between 600 and 650 people to services, Mitchell said Monday night at a Bowie City Council meeting.

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission asked the city for input as part of its review of the project.

The church's traffic consultant, Dave Nelson with Street Traffic Studies, said at the council meeting that his studies indicate that Old Stage Road and the road’s intersection at Church Road can accommodate the additional traffic.

The church is planning room for 219 parking spaces, said the church's attorney, Michael Nagy.

However, Bowie councilmen Todd Turner and James Marcos had questions about the increase because Old Stage Road is presently the only way in and out of the Old Stage community and anything that blocks the road could block people in.

The City Council voted to support the new building but on condition that any improvements be completed that remain to be done on the property facing Old Stage Road, such as road-widening or adding sidewalks or curbs and gutters.

Turner said he also wants the church to contribute financially to a planned extension of Old Stage Road that would eventually create a second access to Church Road when the neighboring Fairwood community builds out.

Representatives of the neighboring Patuxent Montessori School on Old Stage Road and the Old Stage Homeowners Association did not immediately respond to emails for comment Tuesday morning.

Mitchell said the church bought the 7.5-acre site from Trinity Community Church, which had started to build a 333-seat church but then abandoned the project, leaving behind the building pad and partially built parking areas.

“We’ve cut the grass and put up a fence so people know we’re here,” he said.

Mitchell said Restoration Praise Center would hold one service on Saturday mornings and also offer classes in cooking and health for members and the community on other days of the week.

The day care operation in the same building would serve church members and also be open to the general public, he said.

Bowie planning director Joe Meinert said the day care facility would go through a separate review process before opening.

Mitchell said the church got its start in founders’ homes in the Bowie area about three years ago, with some time spent meeting at Bowie High School before moving to temporary meeting space in the Lanham church.

Mitchell said many members live in the Bowie area and that he believes the location of the church's new building is “a perfect fit, like peanut butter and jelly.”

For more information about the Restoration Praise Center, visit www.rpcfsda.org.

vterhune@gazette.net

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Breaking News

- Truseal closing, moving plant to Ohio - 1 Hours Ago

### Jellico hospital expanding ER (http://thetimestribune.com/local/x859489909/Jellico-hospital-expanding-ER)

**Looking to create fast track for urgent care patients**

*The Times-Tribune (http://thetimestribune.com)*

CORBIN — By Carl Keith Greene / Staff Writer

The staff at Jellico Community Hospital expects to break ground in January on an expanded emergency department that should be completed by June.

Jason Dunkel, executive director of marketing and business manager, said Wednesday the new emergency area will be designed to move patients as quickly as possible through the department, which will be expanded from 63 square feet to 84 square feet.

The hospital was opened by the city of Jellico in 1969 and was acquired by Adventist Health System in 1984.

The existing emergency department he said, “is old. It served us in the past. Our volumes are to the point that we need higher efficiencies and a fast track.”

He explained that often in the current facility patients who need quick care are not getting it as fast as needed.

Particularly, patients who have minor injuries are often cared for prior to patients who are in need of more immediate care, he explained.

In the new facility there will be one section for mildly ill patients and a second section to treat emergency patients quickly and carefully.

An average of about 40 patients go through the emergency room each day, Dunkel said.

The addition to the emergency department will cost about $2.6 million to finish, and the funds came from a grant, donations and the rest from Adventist Health System.

Dunkel said part of the emergency department will be a fast track, “We need to get patients in and out of the emergency department on a quicker rate than we have in the past.”

The fast track will essentially handle problems such as “upper respiratory infections, the snotty noses, the things that will really clog up your emergency room. The less severe injuries and ailments
will go through the fast track.”

And the others will go through the other treatment area.

He explained, “We’ve known for years that our emergency department needed help.”

The hospital of 54 beds has diagnostic and imaging services, wound healing and hyperbaric medicine, an emergency center, pastoral care, laboratory, surgical department, physical therapy, pharmacy, radiology, maternity services, Sunbelt Home Care, intensive care and Care Plus After-Hours Clinic.

The nearest hospitals to Jellico are Baptist Regional Medical Center in Corbin and Tennova Health Care, LaFollette Medical Center in LaFollette, Tenn.
Operation 5 Loaves and 2 Fish

October 25, 2011 · Leave a Comment

On Wednesday [Oct.19], the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church launched ‘Operation Five Loaves and Two Fish.’ The goal of the ‘Operation’ was to provide sufficient groceries in order to assist 100-150 families struggling during this difficult economic time.

The church invited members of the public to contribute by dropping off non-perishable items to the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist [SDA] Youth Center, on King Street in Hamilton.

“The response from the community was tremendous. We saw people from all walks of life dropping off goods at the youth center, it was truly amazing,” said Elder James Landy, the Project’s Coordinator.

Today the members of the Hamilton SDA Church and volunteers from the community [approximately 50 people] took on the herculean task of putting together the hampers of food. The approach to creating the hampers was methodical – team members separated the items into food groups and then compiled the food into family sized hampers.

Church members and volunteers arrived at their posts at 8:00 am and worked through to till 12:00 pm in order to create more than 200 hampers.

Says Pastor Kenneth Manders, “Today we saw a God’s love in action. Today we provided an unprecedented number of families with hampers of food, over 200 in less than an hour. In total, the Hamilton SDA distributed over $15,000 worth of food and sundries to families in need. We are excited and blessed to know that we have met the needs of our Community.”

Elder Landy Stated, “We would like to thank all of the members of our Community who donated food. We would like to especially thank The Market Place, BGA, Arnolds, Lindo’s, Butterfield Vallis, Bermuda Longtail Real Estate Ltd and Citi Hedge Fund Services for their valuable
contributions which played a major role in helping Operation Five Loaves and Two Fish reach its goal. These organisations are truly model corporate citizens”

A young mother who wished not to be named commented, “I did not know what to do, my cabinets were bare. I have just been laid off. I had nowhere to turn. I just want to say, thank-you, thank-you, thank-you.”

Hamilton Church Seventh-day Adventist church is committed to changing lives and meeting the needs of our community. Operation Five Loaves and two Fish has highlighted the needs of those who are being adversely affected by the economic downturn and the Hamilton SDA will continue to find unique and non-traditional ways to support, educate and aid those in need.
‘Loaves and fishes’ food drive hailed a resounding success

By Owain Johnston-Barnes

A drive to collect food for needy families resulted in more than $15,000 of food donations and more than 200 families receiving hampers.

The Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church announced yesterday that “Operation Five Loaves and Two Fish” was a huge success, surpassing its goal of helping 150 families.

Project Coordinator Elder James Landy said yesterday: “The response from the community was tremendous. We saw people from all walks of life dropping off goods at the youth centre. “It was truly amazing.”

Along with numerous personal donations, several businesses stepped up to the plate and donated food to the effort, including Market Place, BGA, Arnolds, Lindo’s, Butterfield and Vallis, Bermuda Longtail Real Estate and Citi Hedge Fund Services.

At the launch of the drive last week, Elder Landy said that the initiative came about after the church, which offers food twice a week to needy individuals, began to see an increase in the number of families using the service.

“It was originally intended for the homeless, but right now there are a lot of people who are out of work and who are struggling,” he said.

Around 50 volunteers joined with members of the church yesterday to put together the more than 200 hampers, creating separate hampers for seniors and vegetarians.

The group of volunteers laboured for four hours organising the 200 hampers in time for the 12pm scheduled giveaway.

Less than an hour later, the hampers had all been given away, leaving the church hall with only empty cardboard boxes.

One young mother, who asked not to be named, said: “I did not know what to do. My cabinets were bare. I’ve just been laid off.

“I had nowhere to turn. I just want to say thank you, thank you, thank you.”

Pastor Kenneth Manders described the effort, called “Operation Five Loaves and Two Fish,” as God’s love in action.

“Today we provided an unprecedented number of families with hampers of food, over 200 in less than an hour.

“In total, the Hamilton SDA distributed over $15,000 worth of food and sundries to families in need.

“We are excited and blessed to know that we have met the needs of our community.”
CT editor: Clear, transparent communication is 'lifeblood' of organization

Creative adaptation of new communication platforms necessary, Neff says

23 Oct 2011, Lombard, Illinois, United States
Elizabeth Lechleitner and Ansel Oliver/ANN

The editor of one of the nation's leading Christian magazines affirmed the Seventh-day Adventist Church's commitment to corporate communication and the industry's fast-evolving best practices, saying that continuing such an investment yields dividends.

David Neff, editor of Christianity Today, said if the Adventist Church does not control its communication, someone else will. "It will get done some other way," Neff said.

To communicate effectively and benefit from reader interaction and feedback, church communicators must adapt to changes in media and communication platforms, he said. Neff delivered his remarks during the keynote address of the Society of Adventist Communicators annual convention on Friday, October 21. Nearly 200 participants are meeting this year in Lombard, Illinois, for networking and training in public relations' best practices.

Neff was picked to headline the event because of his knowledge of current trends in communication, said George Johnson, Communication director for the Adventist Church in North America. The society typically selects speakers in the region of its annual convention. "We knew coming to the Chicago area we could draw on the knowledge of David and what he had to offer," Johnson said.

Christianity Today, based in nearby Chicago suburb of Carol Stream, was founded by Evangelical Protestant minister Billy Graham in 1956. It has a circulation of 130,000 and a readership of 275,000 including its digital offerings, according to its website.

Neff called communication the "lifeblood" of an organization. "Pay attention to your readers, what they need, what they think they need and how they read," he said. "Communicate vigorously, clearly and transparently. That investment will pay off. Don't cut back."

Neff's keynote address, "Google and Gutenberg," traced the evolution of communication platforms, beginning with the very first "early adaptors" who traded their scrolls for books in the 13th Century. Christians today can learn from how those in the past became clear channels for sharing Christ, he said.

"Revolutions in communication always mean new possibilities," Neff said. "New adaptation is necessary. Under God's providence, your creative adaptation can and will bear good fruit."

That flexibility is especially crucial as today's technology continues to present new media and platforms, Neff said. When he took the helm at Christianity Today in 1985, Neff said he felt the Internet was "ephemeral and perhaps amusing," but would never replace the permanence of print media. The magazine was America Online's first religious content provider. Now, 50 percent of organization's content exists exclusively online, generating media buzz ahead of the print edition.

While new media platforms mean an organization's content can go viral "incredibly fast," it also jeopardizes the organization's brand, Neff said.

The drawback of such quick distribution, he said, is that online readers don't know what and where they are reading. "They'll say they 'saw it on Facebook.' One of their friends posted a link, and the article is now associated with their friend's good taste rather than the journalistic brand that brought it to them," Neff said.

Also, with instant updates from Facebook and Twitter, more traditional media must adapt, he said. Video can evoke emotional response unlike any other media, but many communicators aren't capitalizing on that strength, Neff said. Instead, "we settle for a talking head and, at best, several talking heads in a living room setting."

Even online content must adapt as media platforms evolve, Neff said, citing a recent study that reported 6.7 percent of Internet traffic now comes from mobile devices.

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Christianity Today, based in nearby Chicago suburb of Carol Stream, was founded by Evangelical Protestant minister Billy Graham in 1956. It has a circulation of 130,000 and a readership of 275,000 including its digital offerings, according to its website.

Neff called communication the "lifeblood" of an organization. "Pay attention to your readers, what they need, what they think they need and how they read," he said. "Communicate vigorously, clearly and transparently. That investment will pay off. Don't cut back."

Neff's keynote address, "Google and Gutenberg," traced the evolution of communication platforms, beginning with the very first "early adaptors" who traded their scrolls for books in the 13th Century. Christians today can learn from how those in the past became clear channels for sharing Christ, he said.

"Revolutions in communication always mean new possibilities," Neff said. "New adaptation is necessary. Under God's providence, your creative adaptation can and will bear good fruit."

That flexibility is especially crucial as today's technology continues to present new media and platforms, Neff said. When he took the helm at Christianity Today in 1985, Neff said he felt the Internet was "ephemeral and perhaps amusing," but would never replace the permanence of print media. The magazine was America Online's first religious content provider. Now, 50 percent of organization's content exists exclusively online, generating media buzz ahead of the print edition.

While new media platforms mean an organization's content can go viral "incredibly fast," it also jeopardizes the organization's brand, Neff said.

The drawback of such quick distribution, he said, is that online readers don't know what and where they are reading. "They'll say they 'saw it on Facebook.' One of their friends posted a link, and the article is now associated with their friend's good taste rather than the journalistic brand that brought it to them," Neff said.

Also, with instant updates from Facebook and Twitter, more traditional media must adapt, he said. Video can evoke emotional response unlike any other media, but many communicators aren't capitalizing on that strength, Neff said. Instead, "we settle for a talking head and, at best, several talking heads in a living room setting."

Even online content must adapt as media platforms evolve, Neff said, citing a recent study that reported 6.7 percent of Internet traffic now comes from mobile devices.
Research of an audience is key, said Kimberly Maran, SAC president and assistant editor of Adventist Review and Adventist World magazines.

"I applaud Christianity Today for the research they’re doing to find out how to better serve their audience," Maran said. "I think that’s something that we Adventist Communicators can do more of and do better."

The society is scheduled to meet next year in Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States.

4 Comments

I’m confused. We were clearly told that we should not invite non-Adventists to our conventions and meetings, and yet it’s okay to bring in Mr. Neff to speak to the SAC? AND it’s okay for the ANN to report it and "applaud Christianity Today" for their work? Is there a double standard floating around here somewhere?

Michael Taylor  |  October 25, 2011 12:44 PM  |  Reply

Mr. Taylor,

Thank you for reading and for offering your thoughts by submitting a comment. You would do well to understand the admonition that Elder Wilson gave in his sermon on August 9, 2011 in a pastoral rather than an administrative light.

And of course he is correct. God has given the Adventist Church the light it needs with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. However, to interpret this as an administrative rule, demanding that no one but a baptized Seventh-day Adventist should ever make any sort of presentation at an Adventist gathering would be to misunderstand his office and, I believe to misrepresent his intent.

To model our evangelistic strategies after those of other denominations simply because they have found success in their context is a mistake. We have been given a unique mission as the return of Christ draws near and our ears should be most keenly attuned to His voice.

However, to take words that our Chief Pastor has delivered and to twist their meaning so as to back our church into a corner and to build a brick wall of isolationism around us is unfair and unwise.

Elder Wilson is a deeply humble and profoundly spiritual man. To stretch the meaning of his words will inadvertently attribute to him a spiritual arrogance, which I have never seen in him personally or in his leadership.

If you have ever visited the home of Ellen G White you would see that she read widely the writings of scholars in bible and history. Our belief in her inspiration is not that she refused to listen and to read anyone who was already a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but that she was obedient to God’s voice and was guided by the Holy Spirit to advise the church on precisely what God wanted us to know. God breathed through her and if we would take the time to read her writings we will benefit from them.

David Neff’s presentation was one that highlighted the industry’s best practices on how to adapt to developments in human interactions through technology. He was not offering spiritual guidance, but was providing professional information that will help Seventh-day Adventist communication professionals more clearly understand the landscape in which we must conduct and fulfill our mission.

I also want to let you know that spiritual presentations at the Society of Adventist Communicators convention were delivered by John Bradshaw, speaker/director for It Is Written; Don Livesay, president of the Adventist Church’s Lake Union; and Andrews’s University students reporting on their involvement with The One Project. They were scriptural, they were personal and they were powerful. We were all blessed.

I’m responding at such length because I am concerned that if we spend so much time examining and criticizing one another as church members we will unwittingly take our eyes off our true mission.

Pastor Wilson also said these words in his message on August 6th

"We are a unique movement of destiny. We are to proclaim Christ’s great message of warning and salvation found in the three angels’ messages of Revelation 14.

We are to not to allow anything to distract us from our mission that will finish strong!"

Sincerely,
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Sincerely,

Pastor Garrett Caldwell
Associate Director for Communication
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Somehow it seems like the church, founded basically on Joshua Himes' amazing use of the printed page, and of course the sacrificial work done thru the Advent Review and Herald, has lost sight of how it got to where it is today. Of course I understand it is the Holy Spirit behind it that gives the results, but we are to press forward as much as possible. Instead of pushing the limits of technology, our Seventh-day Adventist church seems to be mired more and more in preserving the status quo and pensions of workers, rather than exploring new ways to spread the message.

For one clear example:
It is amazing to me that the most visually powerful book next to the Bible was first printed in 1858 (The Great Controversy Between Christ and His Angels, and Satan and His Angels), and yet here we are in 2011 and still no one has made it into a moving picture presentation. There are millions of people who would be happy to see it in movie format, if it was made under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and many who would never pick up any book would see the truth for this time.

Leave a comment

Please restrict your comments to 500 words or less. For more information, please see the ANN Comments Policy.

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Comments (You may use HTML tags for style)

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Pastor plants passion at Solomon's Porch

October 23, 2011
By LILLIAN NIEVES, Lehigh Acres Citizen

The unassuming white structure named Solomon's Porch Ministries at the corner of E. 3rd Street and Fifth Ave, un-deliberately conceals a piece of paradise. Pastor Reuben Middleton spiritually cares for his parishioners and has lately propelled himself into creating a garden ministry.

In early August, it was the six-feet and higher stalks of corn, flanked by pine logs that attracted neighbors and me to rubberneck and double-park on the property. I had driven pass this corner many times and never gave it a second thought.

The corn has been harvested since, and now, Pastor Middleton is growing sorrel, which according to Wikipedia is known as "common sorrel or garden sorrel (Rumex acetosa) - is a perennial herb that is cultivated as a garden herb or leaf vegetable (pot herb).

Other names for sorrel include spinach dock and narrow-leaved dock." In addition to sorrel, one can find pumpkins, cantaloupes, watermelons, cucumbers, carrots, sweet potatoes, garlic, tomatoes, peppers, bananas, plantains, papayas and radishes. A neighbor and fellow parishioners supply seedlings, plants and perspiration.

In June of this year, on Father's Day weekend, Pastor Middleton started working on his dream of planting an edible garden. After three years of planning, he said it all came to fruition that weekend. Solomon's Porch provided the land and Fitzroy (Roy) Beckford, an agriculture and natural resources agent from Florida Extension Services, provided the expertise.

The passion was already present. Using half an acre of the property, Pastor Middleton thought out of the box when he designed his vegetable beds. He felled many pine trees and aesthetically used the logs for the beds and edging. The pastor is quick to inform you that he comes from a large city of Belize, Central America, and does not have the schema for planting. As he put it, this is one big experiment for him.

Lehigh Acres Edible Gardening Exchange has selected the garden at Solomon's Porch as the Garden of the Month because of Pastor Middleton's tenacity and dedication. For someone who has never gardened before he has proved that with purpose and passion one can successfully enjoy the fruits of the land.

Pastor Middleton moved to Cape Coral in 2001 and continued his Adventist Ministry in Lehigh in the same year. Recently, he bought a home across from Solomon's Porch because as he put it, he needed to be closer to his garden. To visit the garden at Solomon's Porch, go east on Leland Heights Blvd., make a left on Richmond and take a right on E. 3rd Street, it's at 406 E. 3rd Street.

The Lehigh Acres Edible Gardening Exchange meets monthly. For meeting details, email ilovelehighacres@gmail.com or call 239-206-3373.
Adventist, DaVita teaming up to tackle kidney disease

By Sentinel Staff | Posted: Friday, October 21, 2011 11:45 am

To provide extended services to patients in areas that need it most, Adventist Health/Central Valley Network has partnered with DaVita Dialysis to provide kidney and dialysis services to patients with chronic kidney failure and end-stage renal disease.

Adventist Health became a joint venture partner on Sept. 1 with the new DaVita Lemoore Dialysis Center.

DaVita, which is Italian for "giving life," is a Fortune 500 company and the largest provider of dialysis services in the U.S. Dialysis provides an important service for kidney patients by removing waste and excess water from their blood, a function normally performed by healthy kidneys.

The newly opened center has 16 dialysis chairs with a maximum capacity to dialyze up to 96 patients. There are 14 staff members, including a social worker and dietitian.

"We are excited to partner with such a well-respected, reputable and large organization that has a complementary approach to patients in need of higher-level care," said Randy Dodd, Adventist Health vice president of business development and strategic planning. "It's another important service our community needs."

Nephrologist Dr. Tom Yang has been named the center's medical director. He is board-certified in internal medicine.

"The center is unique to this area west of Hanford because it is underserved," said Dr. Yang. "Before, a lot of patients had to be transported miles to receive treatment. This center helps to make those patients' lives easier. It's very encouraging."

Adventist Health also plans to partner in another DaVita center in Hanford. Plans are in the development stage, and the center is expected to open by early next year.

The DaVita Lemoore Dialysis Center is located at 1345 W. Bush St. For more information, call 924-3175.
Former seniors’ home to become a church
By Owain Johnston-Barnes
Plans to turn a former seniors’ home on Wreck Road into a worship centre have been approved by the Planning Board.
The application was filed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
Parking spaces for 20 cars and 30 cycles will be added to the property and the building’s covered patio and living room/dining room will be converted into a 60-seat sanctuary.
Bedrooms in the building’s upper floors will be converted into classrooms and an office.
The building has functioned as a residential senior’s home, day care and counselling centre but currently stands vacant and unused.
The application, received on May 10, garnered around 20 objections, the majority of which expressed concern about traffic and parking matters.
St James Church Rector, Archdeacon Arnold Hollis argued against more land being devoted to churches, saying the property could be better used as a seniors’ home given the Island’s ageing population.
“If the church wants to do something noble, then it should be encouraged to transform this former senior citizens home into a model rest home for seniors in these Isles of rest,” Dr Hollis wrote.
Noting the traffic concerns, the Development Applications Board found that the on-site parking would be acceptable given the number of seats in the church, and said that amendments to the plan, submitted September 27, alleviated some of the concerns.
Strong response to church’s ‘loaves and fishes’ appeal

By Elizabeth Roberts

A church drive to provide food for needy families is in “high gear” and has been “inundated with gifts of love,” according to a spokesman.

The Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church launched ‘Operation Five Loaves and Two Fishes’ on Tuesday, with the aim of helping more than 150 struggling families. The drive was prompted by an increased demand on the church’s regular twice-weekly feeding programme for the homeless. Elder James Landy said the operation also aims to help those who have a home, but may be unemployed and struggling financially.

Mr Landy said yesterday: “Operation Five Loaves and Two Fishes is in high gear with many individuals as well as companies making donations to the cause. The Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church has been inundated with gifts of love from the community.

“It is also important to note there has been no shortage of individuals who have been requesting the care packages. We still are asking for the community’s help. So far, we have had corporate donations from Butterfield and Vallis, BGA and Arnold's. MarketPlace also came with a crate of goods to be handed out.”

Donations of non-perishable goods will be collected at the Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Youth Centre until Saturday, October 22. They will be handed to members of the public at the same venue from 12 noon until 2pm on Sunday, October 23. Deliveries can be arranged for those unable to come to the centre.

For more information, call him on 534-9600, call the church on 292-4276 or e-mail hamiltonsda[AT]northrock.bm.
Albion College teacher preparation program tops in state, Michigan Department of Education says

Published: Friday, October 21, 2011, 10:07 AM     Updated: Friday, October 21, 2011, 10:12 AM

By Bob Wheaton | Jackson Citizen Patriot

Albion College’s teacher preparation program is one of two in Michigan to earn perfect scores on the state’s most recent review, the college announced today.

Albion earned a perfect Teacher Preparation Institution score of 70 for the 2009-10 academic year, according to a recently released report from the Michigan Department of Education.

Spring Arbor University and Hillsdale College joined Albion among the 19 programs that received an “exemplary rating” from the state, which evaluated programs at 33 schools.

Scores are based on factors that include student performance on the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification, program completion rates and feedback from teacher preparation program students and supervisors at schools where new teachers are employed.

Andrews University, a small Seventh-Day-Adventist college in Berrien Springs, was the other school to have a perfect score.

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The Church of Live Music

I believe in the Church of Baseball. I've tried all the major religions, and most of the minor ones. I've tried 'em all, I really have, and the only church that truly feeds the soul, day in, day out, is the Church of Baseball.

Susan Sarandon in "Bull Durham"

The most amazing religious experience I ever had occurred after graduating college. I was visiting a friend of a friend at an all-black, Seventh Day Adventist college in Huntsville, Alabama. We all went to church on the Sabbath and, as you can imagine in a southern church, there was singing. This was not the typical white church Sunday morning murmmerings. This was calling out to the Lord to come down and sing next to you- and he would be a fool to NOT answer your call, singing. Solos that curled your toes. The choir raising the roof. The congregation standing and swaying and singing along.

I had goosebumps. I felt God all around me. I sang along, and clapped til my hands were sore. (My friend, also white, clapped on the off beat at one point and we both looked at each other, giggling, hoping no one noticed!).

It was the music which helped bring the religious spirit home to me.

During the 90s, we'd visit the Gospel Tent at the Jazz & Heritage Festival in New Orleans when Aaron Neville (The Neville Brothers) would guest sing with a local choir. Hearing that man belt out "Amazing Grace" in his unique way was always a highlight for me (and Scott would always sing from his commercial- 'the touch, the feel of cotton'). Those 4 days of music were always so spirit lifting.

After much soul searching and without being blasephemous, I can honestly say that I believe in the Church of Live Music. (It doesn't matter where you feel spiritual, as long as you do). For me, seeing a band play enlivens my soul and that is where I always feel the most alive. I married a man who, well, we've never actually discussed this, but I think he may feel the same way. I felt so lucky to have found someone who shares my musical inclination, and who was as willing, if more so, to be in a mosh pit one night then at a Dead Show the next, smiling all the while (or perma-grin, as we call it).

When Scott & I took our very young kids to see their first live band- a U2 cover band (one of my all time favorite bands-U2, not the cover band), the kids were jumping, clapping & having a ball. Scott & I were both so proud. It's genetic! They ARE little US!

At a concert this summer, a man was in the row in front of me. Let's describe him as being a rather large man; of generous proportion. The show started and he got to his feet with the crowd. I watched him jump and dance and clap for the entire time the band played. It had to be the most
excercise he'd had in years, and he was dripping sweat by the encore. But he was blissful. He is clearly a member of the flock.

While I am an admitted music snob, I do always get excited when someone tells me they are seeing a band (even if the thought of seeing that band myself would send chills of horror (snob, I say!) up my spine.) I always want to hear about their experiences at the show. What they sang. How they performed... (Wendy, I'm looking at you seeing Brittany Spears, but I heard all about the show!).

My favorite hair cutting gal Laura was all excited to see a show with her high school BFFs. They were all going to see 'New Kids on the Block' and 'Backstreet Boys'. I could not help but laugh (nose in air), but the next time I saw her, I asked how the show was. She gushed for 15 minutes about the people in the crowd and the bands performances. She was totally feeling it, even weeks later, and loved it.

My friends the MacKenzies get the 3-Day Lollapalooza passes and this year, brought their 3 and 7 year old girls in for free on Friday night. I love that their youngest Lilly told me that the last band she saw were The Kills. What an experience!

What concert has stayed with you? Why? And if you feel like sharing- what are your top five concerts ever?

Mine?

Nirvana at Aragon Ballroom

Sonic Youth at The Riv

The Head and the Heart opening for The Decemberists at Interlochen, MI 2011

Pearl Jam opens for Smashing Pumpkins & The Red Hot Chili Peppers- at Aragon 1991

Paul Simon with Ladysmith Black Mombazo 1991

I wonder who will be Sam and Zoe's favorite? I hope I get to go with them!
New Guidelines Available to Help Hospitals Reduce Readmission Rates in Diabetic Patients

Cost-Effective Approach Lets Hospitals Improve Glycemia Management for Inpatients

BOCA RATON, Fla., Oct. 20, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- The Readmission Reduction through Glycemia Management Solution is now available on MX.com to help hospitals improve outcomes for patients with diabetes. Developed by Adventist Health System and in use at Florida Hospital, the solution can help shorten hospital stays and decrease readmission rates through better glycemic management.

The Glycemic Management Solution consists of instructional materials, order sets, insulin-dosing guidelines and other components designed to help clinical teams better manage blood glucose levels. According to the American Diabetes Association, a staggering 8.5 percent of the US population has diabetes and up to a third of all hospital inpatients require treatment for hyperglycemic conditions.

This solution focuses on improving glycemic control - a cost-effective approach that can reduce readmission rates and decrease the incidence of diabetes-related complications, including wound infections and renal dysfunction.

"We've made one hospital's successful approach portable so that any hospital can adopt it at their institution and start to see the benefits immediately," said MX.com CEO Joseph Davis. "Using Adventist Health System's methodology, hospitals can improve care and reduce the high costs associated with readmissions."

High readmission rates continue to burden the US healthcare system. The Dartmouth Atlas recently reported little improvement in overall readmission rates. One in five Medicare patients is readmitted within 30 days of discharge and avoidable readmissions cost an estimated $17 billion a year.

MX.com is a peer-to-peer online marketplace for turnkey toolkits, guidelines and other types of intellectual property developed by leading medical institutions. Solutions enable hospitals to streamline operations, improve patient care and enhance performance. MX.com features a growing inventory of free and licensed peer-to-peer hospital solutions.

ABOUT MX.COM

MX.com by Medimetrix Solutions EXchange is the first online peer-to-peer marketplace for free or licensed healthcare management solutions designed to help hospitals improve performance and standards of care. The site features an extensive inventory of clinical and management solutions developed by Duke Medicine, Johns Hopkins Medicine, Partners HealthCare and other leading medical institutions. Established in 2010, MX.com is a privately held company founded by Joseph Davis, chairman of the Medimetrix Group and Spirit of Women Health Network. Equity holders include Medimetrix Group, Inc and its affiliates, private investors and interested health systems.
including Johns Hopkins Medicine and Adventist Health System.

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Find this article at:

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.
Volunteers seek family in need of help

BY ALEX ZAPOTICHNY, LANGLEY ADVANCE   OCTOBER 20, 2011

Dear Editor,

Drive through the streets of Aldergrove and you may notice some of the challenging needs of our community: the homeless, the hungry children, the families living in run-down houses.

These issues are overwhelming, but when we are not confronted with these issues personally, they are soon forgotten and our daily activities consume our thinking.

The question is; can we do more? There is something you can do to help.

Each May, Acts of Kindness (AOK), a volunteer-based charity, undertakes a one-week home transformation project in the Langley/Aldergrove area.

Eight Extreme Home Repair (EHR) projects have been completed to date. Each EHR recipient is chosen from among nominations received in the prior year.

The project is made possible thanks to the generosity of countless sponsoring businesses and more than 200 community volunteers.

Parishioners of the Aldergrove Seventh-day Adventist church, the parent organization of AOK, make up many of the labourers for the project. They are joined by neighbours and community-minded individuals who tackle transforming the selected home.

The next project is slated to begin May 11, 2012, with the reveal on the May long weekend.

For the 2012 EHR project, AOK would like to have a home selected by the end of 2011. We would like to ask for your thoughtful assistance in nominating a candidate for a home transformation. A family whose home is in need of urgent repair due to an unforeseen setback would be a worthwhile candidate.

If you know of a Langley or Aldergrove area family whose home is facing significant repair issues and who have financial limitations and/or other life struggles that make fixing their home difficult, you are invited to nominate them via AOK’s website at www.aokaldergrove.org. Nominees need to own their own home. AOK is grateful to all past supporters of EHR projects, and eagerly anticipates facilitating another life-changing home transformation in May 2012.

Alex Zapotichny, EHR Volunteer

© Copyright (c) Langley Advance
The annual Coats for Kids coat drive takes place through Saturday. Area businesses, churches, classrooms, organizations and individuals are asked to donate new or gently used coats, hats, scarves and mittens.

More than 20 groups have participated in this event annually since it began in 2002.

Community members and groups can drop the coats at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1159 Oak St.

Silverton Together, 421 S Water St., also will serve as a drop-off location between 10 a.m. and noon Saturday.

Residents are encouraged to bring coats of any size.

The coat drive nets an average of about 600 coats each year.

This year, volunteers at Seventh-Day Adventist Church will give the coats to families in need from 10 a.m. to noon and 6 to 7:15 p.m. on Thursdays.

For information, call Barb Warner at (503) 829-8300 or (503) 873-0975 or Silverton Together at (503) 873-0405.
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