A Membership and Evangelism Report of North America

The North American Division membership now totals 1,130,584 members in 5,306 churches and 778 companies, with only three percent of churches having more than 500 members, according to the Executive Secretary's report by G. Alexander Bryant to the 2011 NAD Year-end Meeting. By the end of 2009 the ratio of Adventists was 1:405 people. The gap is closing. According to the Secretary's Report, the ratio is now 1:306. The Southwestern and Southern Unions are the fastest growing unions in terms of membership. MORE

The Division is launching a Large City Evangelism Project that will be done over the next five years. More than half of the world's population live in cities of about 200,000 people. Each union in the North American Division will be focusing on major cities in their union. The first major city will be New York City in 2013, where the population, and thus, potential converts from there and surrounding areas, total 11,957,128 souls. There are approximately 60,000 Adventists living in the Greater New York area where the dominant denomination is Catholic. MORE

Watch the 30-minute NAD 2011 Year-end Meeting Evangelism Report video.

News Notes

An Andrews University professor was named one of 10 “Personal Trainers to Watch” at the 26th annual Club Industry Show in Chicago by the American Council...
on Exercise (ACE) and Life Fitness. Dominique Wakefield is director of fitness and exercise studies, assistant chair of the Department of Nutrition and Wellness and assistant professor in that department. Following a six-month nationwide competition, the ten finalists were from a pool of 300 nominees, taken from over 260,000 fitness professionals. She was as recognized for her “significant commitment to fitness and in helping their clients achieve a lasting lifestyle change.”

LifeTalk Radio has launched a new program called Health & Longevity with Dr. John Westerdahl. Health & Longevity will supply the latest cutting edge information about nutrition, health, and lifestyle medicine, featuring health and longevity news and research, answers to questions about nutrition and health, and includes special interviews with leading health authorities and personalities.

It airs Fridays at 5 p.m. ET, rebroadcasts on Sundays at 3 p.m. ET, and streams at those same times at www.lifetalk.net, and can also be heard via satellite on Glorystar Channel 1004 on Galaxy G19. Podcasts will be available at www.lifetalk.net soon. MORE

Glendale Adventist Medical Center (GAMC) performed its 1,000th SILS™ case, also known as Single Incision Laparoscopic Surgery. With this accomplishment, GAMC has earned the place as the most experienced hospital in the country using SILS™ technology.

Castle Medical Center recently participated in Hawaii’s first Convoy of Hope outreach. Approximately 14,000 guests attended and received free groceries, a hot meal, medical and dental screenings, job opportunities, haircuts, family portraits, clothing, backpack with school supplies and opportunities to hear the gospel.

Adventists in the News

The following are positive stories that appeared this week in the news about Seventh-day Adventists in the North American Division territory.
Evangelism still works. Emily, a young woman who attended Prophecies Decoded meetings beginning opening night, grew up in a dysfunctional home with an alcoholic mother. The messages so impacted her that she pled with her live-in boyfriend and father of their two children to...
come with her. Matt, involved with drugs for many years, was plagued with demons. As they attended, the Holy Spirit spoke to their hearts. Matt quit smoking and drugs, and requested special prayer to be rid of the demons talking in his head. He was anointed and prayed over, and two days later, he found perfect peace in Jesus as the new Lord of his heart. He repeated over and over, "I now belong to Jesus!"

On the last Sabbath of the series, Emily and Matt were married in the sight of God on live television while in the baptismal tank. After the groom kissed the bride, they were buried in the waters of baptism to start their new life together. Their faces shone like the angels.

More stories will be shared in future issues of NewsPoints.

It Is Written (IIW) has brand-new, fully-illustrated Bible study guides, "Going Deeper Into God's Word." These comprehensive study guides are designed to reach today's changing world by focusing on God's amazing grace and Jesus as our great Savior. Each study takes people deep into the Bible, opening up the "present truth" that is so important in these last days of Earth's history.

In addition to the study guides, IIW is developing related resources and study tools that are going to make it easy to share God's last-day message with friends and neighbors. MORE

Webinar - Adventists InStep for Life - "Funding for Health Outreach Projects" will be held November 10, 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. EST. Join this NAD Health Ministries webinar for an overview and discussion of the Prevention and Public Health Fund, including Community Transformation Grants and the National Prevention Strategy to learn how you can connect to these important health-related efforts and apply for funding when available. Register and MORE

Re-ViewPoints

"Faith is when you grasp with your heart what your intellect cannot comprehend nor defend." - said Pastor Wintley Phipps at the 2011 NAD Year-end Meeting Sabbath evening concert on October 29.

For more pictures of the concert featuring Jemuel and Donna-Marie Anderson and Wintley Phipps, please visit www.flickr.com/NADAdventist. Photo courtesy of Rich Herard.
1.13 million are Adventist Church Members, NAD Secretary Says

Year-end meeting encouraged to instill values that make young people want to stay

BY MARK A. KELLNER, news editor, Adventist Review

A total of 1,130,584 people are members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United States, Canada and Bermuda, Pastor G. Alexander Bryant, executive secretary of the North American Division, reported on October 28, 2011. His report came on the opening morning of the division's year-end meetings held in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Those Adventists, who represent one out of every 306 people living in these three countries, meet for worship in 5,306 churches and 778 companies, he added.

Forty percent of those churches have fewer than 50 people meeting for worship weekly, while three percent have more than 500 in their congregations each Sabbath, or Saturday.

Of the unions represented in the North American Division, the Southwestern Union is the fastest growing, followed by the Southern Union. Of the membership, only about half resides in or near urban areas, versus larger percentages -- 60 to 70 percent -- of the population as a whole. The Adventist Church is planning an increased emphasis on urban evangelism beginning in 2013 in New York City.

The church and its institutions face other demographic changes, Bryant said. One is the high percentage of people who have been members of the church for more than 20 years. If more people were joining the movement, Bryant said, the percentage would be lower, signifying growth. Another challenge: only 26 percent of Adventist families have young children at home, which means a lower supply of students for church-owned schools. And, he added, 69 percent of Adventist families earn less than U.S. $50,000 a year, making it more challenging for those parents to send their children to Adventist schools.

In his remarks welcoming delegates on the morning of October 28, Pastor Dan Jackson, NAD President, said the region faces many challenges in the coming months. Among these are mobilization of lay members; the involvement of young people in church life; the creation of "champions" of social media such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn; the effective use of mass media and the strengthening of "legacy" media outreachs.

Also speaking the first morning of the five-day event, Prof. Bailey Gillespie of La Sierra University, a church-owned school in Riverside, California, reported on the third decennial survey of young Adventists, known as Valuegenesis. Among the results of the survey, nearly a third of those young people who may leave active fellowship in the first 10 years after leaving an academy return to the movement. He said that building "a warm and thinking place in the home, church and school" is a key to retaining young members.

The annual meetings bring together union and conference presidents, secretaries and treasurers, as well as local pastors and lay members. During this time, delegates will consider various policy and procedural matters, as well as receive reports on activity throughout the territory.
REACH NYC AND BEYOND

Dr. G. Earl Knight, President
Greater New York Conference
• New York City’s population reached a record high for a 10-year census of 8,175,133 in 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Borough of</th>
<th>County of</th>
<th>Population Census</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manhattan</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>1,585,873</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Bronx</td>
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<td>Richmond</td>
<td>468,730</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of New York</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,175,133</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau *Census 2010*
NYC DEMOGRAPHICS

- Non-Hispanic whites now constitute 33 percent.
- The Hispanic population now makes up 29 percent.
- Non-Hispanic blacks now account for 23 percent.
- Asians now constitute 13 percent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Census 2010
Westchester County

Population - 2010

- Westchester County 949,113
- White person’s not Hispanic 57.4%
- Black persons 14.6%
- Asian persons 5.4%
- Hispanic or Latino origin, percent 21.8%
The combined population of Nassau and Suffolk counties is 2,832,882 people.
Total Population in the Greater New York Area

- New York City: 8,175,133
- Westchester: 949,113
- Long Island: 2,832,882
- Total: 11,957,128
- Total Greater NY Area Adventist (60,000) estimate

- Total possible converts: over 11 million
Dominant Denomination

New York County, New York

Denominational Groups, 2000

- Evangelical Protestant: 32,144
- Mainline Protestant: 99,916
- Orthodox: 19,705
- Catholic: 564,505
- Other: 359,105
- Unclaimed: 461,820
Dominant Denomination

Westchester County, New York
Denominational Groups, 2000

- Evangelical Protestant: 18,313
- Mainline Protestant: 54,673
- Orthodox: 5,068
- Catholic: 469,670
- Other: 102,907
- Unclaimed: 272,828
Dominant Denomination

Nassau County, New York

Denominational Groups, 2000

- Evangelical Protestant: 21,344
- Mainline Protestant: 67,069
- Orthodox: 10,238
- Catholic: 694,389
- Other: 221,175
- Unclaimed: 320,329
Dominant Denomination

New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA CMSA

Denominational Groups, 2000

- Evangelical Protestant: 484,982
- Mainline Protestant: 1,163,295
- Orthodox: 159,371
- Catholic: 8,947,233
- Other: 2,420,616
- Unclaimed: 7,928,795
The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Greater New York Conference

MEMBERSHIP :: UPSTATE / LI / NYC

- UPSTATE: 2535
- LONG ISLAND: 3129
- QUEENS: 3344
- BROOKLYN: 6045
- BRONX: 7191
- MANHATTAN: 2571
- STATEN ISLAND: 223
• In Greater New York, the Lord has many precious souls who have not bowed the knee to Baal; and there are those who through ignorance have walked in the ways of error. On these the light of truth is to shine, that they may see Christ as the Way, the Truth, and the Life. {Ev 385.1}
Under the direction of God the mission in New York City has been started. This work should be continued in the power of the same Spirit that led to its establishment. Those who bear the burden of the work in Greater New York should have the help of the best workers that can be secured. Here let a center for God’s work be made, and let all that is done be a symbol of the work the Lord desires to see done in the world. {7T 37.3}
NYC’s Significance

The main reasons why God chose New York City to be a symbol for the way the work is to be done in the world are:

1. One of the greatest cities in the world. New York City is the most visited city in the world.
2. As a financial center, it impacts the worldwide economy.
3. As a center of cultural facilities, it boasts one of the largest school systems in the world.

4. As a leading communication center.

5. As a transportation center: ports, trains, subway, public and private transportation, airports...
Initiatives for Greater New York

1 Creative ministries and new approaches to ministry.
   • Reach NYC, Café Ministry, Restaurant, Small Groups, New Church Plant

2 Training / Equipping
   • Bible Institute, Adventist Frontier Mission, School of Mission and Discipleship, Lay Training for foreigners and missionaries, Camp Berkshire - center for training, spiritual retreats, wellness center
3 Use of Mass Media
- Develop radio and television stations and programs
- Add Hope TV’s Presence to NYC Cable Stations. (3ABN already on FIOS)

4 Community and Health Services
- GNYC has purchased 3 Buildings for Community Health Services
- Health Clinics

5 Save the Children’s project
6 Youth and Young Adult Ministries

- Training and Equipping our youth and young adults for service.
- Youth and Emergency Corps - YES CORPS – Trained in Disaster Response eg. Haiti and Katrina Developed post 911
- Youth and Community Outreach Programs
  - Adopt a Park. (Help to clean and share the gospel)
- Young Adult church plant that cater to the second generation
- Shiloh Bilingual
7 New Paradigms for long term growth in GNYC

- Reach out to the indigenous (Anglos, African Americans and Native Americans) and immigrant community
- Develop creative and innovative approach to ministry for the community.
  eg. Flexible Worship Service Times. Open churches for Daily Prayers and counseling. Health Education Seminars and Exercise programs…
True Liberty comes from knowing Jesus.
I ♥ NY
10-26-11 Andrews Professor Named a “Personal Trainer to Watch”

Noted for her “significant commitment to fitness and in helping their clients achieve a lasting lifestyle change”

Berrien Springs, Mich.—On Friday, Oct. 14, 2011, at the 26th annual Club Industry Show in Chicago, Dominique Wakefield, director of fitness and exercise studies at Andrews University, assistant chair of the Department of Nutrition & Wellness and assistant professor in that department, was named one of ten “Personal Trainers to Watch” by the American Council on Exercise (ACE) and Life Fitness.

After a six-month nationwide competition, ACE and Life Fitness, the leading manufacturer of commercial fitness equipment, named ten finalists along with the one “Top Personal Trainer to Watch” from a pool of 300 nominees, taken from over 260,000 fitness professionals in the U.S. Wakefield, one of the finalists, was recognized for her “significant commitment to fitness and in helping their clients achieve a lasting lifestyle change,” said Chris Clawson, president of Life Fitness. A video of all the finalists is on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8fJiyw5VU.

Wakefield has initiated a number of fitness initiatives on campus since arriving in 2008, including the FitZone fitness lab, a Bachelor of Science in Health & Fitness, a Bachelor of Health Science in Wellness and a minor in Fitness Education; programs to certify students as personal trainers or group fitness instructors, the annual Fitness Expo, and has helped to encourage an atmosphere of fitness across campus. She is also instrumental in Pioneer Memorial Church’s Health and Wellness Ministries, and assisted with the organization of the first Let’s Move Day. She holds a leadership role in the faculty fitness initiative AhealthyU, is an ACE-certified personal trainer, and is assistant coach for the Lady Cardinals soccer team.

Wakefield was nominated for her dedication to physical fitness and motivating the Andrews campus to achieve their God-given goal. She says, “God has created us so wonderfully and He has created our bodies to be active and to move! Caring for the body is an essential part of our beliefs in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but physical fitness has not received nearly as much focus and attention as have other parts of the health message. Our community is struggling with the same issues and diseases that the rest of America is dealing with and physical fitness will provide many solutions to these problems!”

Photo: Christopher Clawson, (left), president of Life Fitness Division of Brunswick Corporation, was on hand to congratulate Wakefield (center), along with Deborah Plitt, a master trainer at Life Fitness Academy.

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Founded in 1874, Andrews University is the flagship institution of higher education for the Seventh-day Adventist church, located one-half mile east of the U.S. 31 Bypass in Berrien Springs, Mich.

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MANILA — The world welcomed its symbolic “seven billionth” baby on Monday but celebrations were tempered by worries over the strain that humanity’s population explosion is putting on a fragile planet.

The United Nations said that by its best estimates the seven billionth baby would be born on October 31, and countries around the world have been marking the demographic milestone in a variety of ways.

Russian authorities showered gifts on newborns, while Papua New Guinea handed out special “goody bags” for new mothers.

The Philippines was the first country to declare a seven billionth baby, a little girl named Danica May Camacho.

Weighing five pounds, six ounces (2.5 kilos), Danica was delivered just before midnight Sunday under a blitz of media camera flashes at Manila’s Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital.

“She looks so lovely,” her mother, Camille Dalura, whispered as she cradled her baby girl. “I can’t believe she is the world’s seven billionth.”

UN rights chief Navi Pillay said in a statement marking the seven billion milestone: “From the moment the child was born, he or she — like every other child born today or any other day — should be guaranteed freedom from fear and want, protection from discrimination and abuse, and equal access to security, justice and respect as a member of the human family.”

The birth comes at a time of great hope, Pillay said.

“The global awakening of 2011, which began in a town in Tunisia and spread to other towns and cities around the world, promises to restore the vision of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of a life of freedom from fear and want for all, without discrimination.”
The United Nations named a Bosnian child, Adnan Mevic, as the Earth's six billionth inhabitant on October 12, 1999, when then-secretary general Kofi Annan was pictured in a Sarajevo hospital with the child in his arms.

The Mevic family is now living in poverty — which is one reason why no one baby was being singled out for the global spotlight this time. Instead a number of births were being marked throughout the day.

In Bangladesh, authorities named another baby girl the world's seven billionth child. Weighing 2.75 kilos and named Oishee, she arrived a minute after midnight at a hospital in the capital Dhaka.

"I'm so happy. I've become the father of a baby girl at a historic moment," her father Mohsin Hossain said.

In Cambodia the honour fell to a baby girl who has yet to be named. Weighing three kilos, she was born in the southern province of Preah Sihanouk, her parents' fifth child.

"I am very glad for her. She is the last child for us. I hope she will have good future. I had a dream that she would be the luckiest among my children," proud mother Pring Phal, 42, told AFP.

However Indian Health Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad said the birth of the seven billionth child was “not a matter of joy but a great worry.”

“We shouldn’t be celebrating," he said Sunday in an interview with The Times of India. “For us a matter of joy will be when the population stabilises.”

India’s population, the world’s second biggest at 1.2 billion, is set to surpass China’s by 2025, according to the US census bureau.

The world has added a billion babies — or almost another China — since Adnan Mevic was born. Having taken millennia to pass the one-billion mark, the world’s population has now doubled in 50 years.

Mounting concern over humanity’s environmental impact and fears that we may not be able to feed ourselves 100 years from now cast a cautionary tone over the buildup to Monday's milestone.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon told students at a New York school last week: “Seven billion people who need enough food. Enough energy. Good opportunities in life for jobs and education. Rights and freedoms. The freedom to speak. The freedom to raise their own children in peace and security.

“Everything you want for yourself — seven billion times over.”

With about two babies being born every second, the figure can only go up and up in the decades to come — to more than 10 billion by 2100, according to UN estimates.

A new UN Population Fund (UNFPA) report highlights how the world will face growing problems finding jobs for the new army of young people, especially in poor countries.

It also sounds alarms over how climate change and population growth are adding to drought and famine crises; the management of megacities like Tokyo; and ageing populations such as Europe’s.

Children’s rights group Plan International meanwhile noted that many births go unregistered, notably in parts of Africa, where as many as two-thirds are not recorded.

In Liberia, only 16% of children are registered, it said.

High school students at Loma Linda Academy attended class for the first time Monday morning in the Seventh-day Adventist school’s newest classroom building.

“It’s because of you that your community wanted to create a building that honors your commitment to excellence,” high school Principal Robert Skoretz told more than 400 students at a brief ceremony in a quad area outside the building before classes. “So we wanted to give you a building that’s excellent.”

School officials sold bonds to pay for the two-story, 40,000-square-foot building on the east side of the campus along Anderson Street. The money will be repaid from tuition and donations to the school.

The $8 million student services building houses nine classrooms and offices for administration, counseling, testing and campus ministry programs. It replaces the oldest building on the campus, constructed in 1948.

The old building “is historic, it’s fun, there are many memories there, but it’s not an adequate building,” said Douglas Herrmann, the academy’s head principal. “The electrical is just kind of pieced together. The foundation is crumbling in places. I sit at my desk, look over toward the window and there are piles of termite droppings.”
Danielle Taylor Johnston moved into her new classroom after teaching journalism, English and film “in a cave.

“I had no windows,” she said. “It was half the size of this classroom.”

She said she was excited when she noticed “all the shadows playing on the walls. I’m excited to see trees, and in the winter there will be snow on the mountains.”

Taylor Kelln, an 18-year-old senior, attended a pre-calculus class in the new structure.

“There was one problem we had with it,” he said between classes. “The projector was off center, but everything else was perfect.”

Chiara Rundle, 17, said the new building “is so nice I can't describe it. There are windows on both sides. You can see the street and the cars and you can see the courtyard.”

Construction of the building was part of a four-year, $45 million expansion of the private K-12 school begun in 2008. Included in that was construction of a $6 million gymnasium that opened last year.

“We know that buildings are just buildings,” Skoretz said during the ceremony. “But when you (students) get in there … learning will take place. God will be glorified and the mission of Loma Linda Academy, which is to train and educate and grow young people into leaders …, will continue to take place.”
ISABELLE DILLS | Posted: Sunday, October 30, 2011 9:28 pm

For the third consecutive year, Pacific Union College — Napa County’s only four-year college — has experienced an increase in enrollment.

This fall quarter, the Seventh-Day Adventist liberal arts college has 1,567 students — 1,511 are on-campus students and the rest are enrolled in off-campus nursing and degree completion programs. Compared to last year, that equals a 5.2 percent growth for on-campus students and a 2.6 percent increase in total enrollment, according to college officials.

Officials said they do not know what’s causing the increase at the Angwin campus.

“It’s always tricky to pinpoint the precise reason for enrollment growth,” said Julie Lee, PUC’s vice president for marketing and enrollment services.

Lee said an increase in scholarship and grant programs may be part of what’s attracting more students.

Starting this fall, PUC began its “Four-Year Guarantee” scholarship program, which awards incoming students anywhere from $1,000 to $7,000 per year, based on a cumulative high school GPA for new freshmen or college GPA for transfer students. The amount is renewable for three years, meaning a student could receive a total award of $4,000 to $28,000.

PUC is now also offering President’s and Dean’s Scholarships — for students with both a high GPA and “outstanding” ACT or SAT scores — as well as a new Adventist Mission Scholarship, a special grant awarded to theology and education majors who plan to serve in Adventist churches and schools.

According to the college’s website, it costs about $33,240 per year to attend PUC full-time — the amount includes tuition, residence hall rent, minimum board and campus fees.

Lee said the degree programs experiencing the biggest enrollment increase are biology, exercise science, psychology and math, as well as film and television production.

The college has also experienced steady growth in its nursing and health programs, such as pre-medicine, Lee said.

“Health care is an area where opportunities to serve will continue to expand as the ‘baby boom’ generation enters retirement,” said Nancy Lecourt, academic dean.

PUC has not hired additional staff, but would give it serious consideration if enrollment continued to grow, Lee said. If enrollment does rise, the college may also need to expand student housing.

This fall, 1,138 students live in PUC’s residence halls, and 84 additional students live in campus apartments, Lee said.

“We are comfortably full in our residence halls, but we do feel that there is space to accommodate another year of enrollment increase,” she said.
For Apison couple, a slow but steady road to recovery

By James Harrison

Published Thursday, October 27, 2011 8:20 am EST

Willie and Marvin Quinn, seated on the porch of their new home in Apison, look at a photo of their former home, which was destroyed in a tornado on April 27. Staff photo.

From the front porch of their home on the corner of Apison Pike and Clonts Road, Marvin and Willie Quinn stare across the road at their neighbor. He sits atop a lawn mower, cutting a wide yard of fresh, green grass.

Behind the man on the mower lies an unnatural landscape. Tree trunks, stripped of bark and branches, rise above a cluttered mess of brush and undergrowth. None of the trunks reach a height of more than twenty or thirty feet before they meet a harsh, severed end—monuments to a tornado which immeasurably changed the Apison community in a matter of seconds on April 27.

It's been six months. The Quinns, married for 57 years, are two victims among the thousands who found themselves rendered helpless, caught in the direct path of a series of storms bearing down on the region.
that day. In Apison alone, nine people were killed.

Half-a-year later, the Quinns, along with everyone else, continue adjusting to the "new normal."

For Willie, 75, and Marvin, 80, the memory is fresh. Minutes before the storm ripped their home of 42 years from its foundations, the couple had returned from Wednesday night church services. The two had gathered in the living room to read the Bible aloud to each other, a nightly tradition, when the wind picked up.

"We didn't even have time to get scared," Willie recalled. "All I knew is that we had to talk to the Lord. We got in the hall, he got on his knees, I hovered over him, and we started praying."

Marvin said he remembers the moment it hit clearly.

"All the sudden, the pressure inside the house went. You could feel it," he said. "Glass busted everywhere. The windows flew out. The house was picked up and moved from it's foundation. We still don't know where the roof went."

The Quinn's home was a total loss, along with dozens of others in Apison.

Miraculously, neither Willie or Marvin was injured. The couple and their family spent the next several days rummaging through wreckage, attempting to piece back what little they could from their life before the storm.

"We didn't have anything but the Lord and each other," Willie said.

The Quinns spent four months living in a small borrowed trailer parked on the corner of their property. A picnic tent to the right of the trailer provided shade during the summer's sweltering heat, as volunteer work crews assisted with seemingly never-ending cleanup efforts.

One neighbor decided not to rebuild his home. He moved a couple miles away, to an area spared by
tornado. There would be no severed trees, no crushed cars, or no piles of brush in his line of sight.

But the Quinns couldn't imagine living any other place than the house they built together in 1969.

They always knew they would stay. Before long, the Quinns land was cleared of any remaining debris. Insurance claims were settled. A work crew from Southern Adventist University began to regularly show up to help construction efforts, as the framing of a house went up.

Piece by piece, they got closer.

And one week ago, almost 180 days after the storm, the Quinns began moving into a new, modest-sized home. A truck donated by the Samaritan Center sits in their garage, and a used van given by a family they never knew before, and haven't met since, sits in their driveway. An American flag decorates their porch.

But despite having so much restored, nothing is the same. The passing traffic along the road in front of their home flows smoothly again, but for the Quinns, life often seems like it's still in gridlock.

"Last night, we were eating supper talking about how it just didn't seem right," Willie said. "It seems like we're somewhere else, like we're living in somebody else's house. I don't know where to turn, or what to do."

But Quinn and her husband have made a habit of expressing thankfulness for the support she and her husband had received over the last six months. In early November, the couple plans to hold a ceremony to dedicate their new house to God.

"I started trying to keep track of what people did to help, and what people donated, but I lost track," Willie said. "It's been hectic, but we're blessed. I give the Lord the credit for what he's done, it was his mercy that we're even here."

Marvin agreed.

"Yes," he said. "That's right. He was with us, when we were in the house. He was in there."

http://www.nooga.com/21429_for-apison-couple-a-slow-but-steady-road-to-recovery/
Accessed: Thursday, November 3, 2011 10:48 am EST
Hinsdale Adventist Academy film wins national award

By Cherie Jackson Oct. 26 at 7:38 p.m.

Children at Hinsdale Adventist Academy sing from the heart

Not only are our students 'best in class' but so is the promotional movie that was produced to depict a typical day in the life of an Adventist student.

"No Child Left Behind – Educating with God's Love" produced by renowned filmmaker Terry Benedict, won Best in Class for Promotional Video in the Marketing/Public Relations category at the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) annual awards gala, held October 22, 2011 in Lombard Illinois. The film won in a category of eight pieces of excellent work produced by other leading ministries represented throughout the United States. Terry was also awarded Best in Class in the Broadcast category for TV/Internet Show with “Hope in Motion – Keerthana, Prolaspe and Safe Haven”.

SAC is an organization that supports the many Adventist communication professionals, students, freelancers, editors, teachers, technology specialists, administrators, producers, photographers, small business owners, and others from North America and beyond-in all fields: broadcasting, marketing/public relations, print/publishing, electronic media, education and health care.
Terry Benedict stated, "Over the weekend, Hinsdale Adventist Academy was seen by the top Adventist communicators in the USA. Now people right throughout the country know about the great things happening in Hinsdale!"

Hinsdale Adventist Academy is certainly on track to fulfilling Dr. George Babcock's vision of creating a model school for the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. The basis of his vision is that children receive the best possible education with God's love as the foundation.

Robert Jackson, Associate Principal of HAA said "I think the video really showed what an amazing product Adventist education is. The more accolades we can get for this film, the better it is for all of our schools. Having worked at a number of schools now, I felt that it depicted the day in the life of an average Adventist student really well. Terry Benedict is an amazing artist and we are so blessed to have had his help. My hope is that this film will help all of our schools."

The film can be viewed at http://vimeo.com/27820212.

Hinsdale Adventist Academy is a Preschool – 12 Christian school located at 631 E. Hickory Street, Hinsdale. For further information go to www.haa.org or contact Cherie Jackson at Hinsdale Adventist Academy via email – Cherie.Jackson@haa.org.
Principal Jackson Makes a Marathon Effort for Hinsdale Adventist Academy

By Cherie Jackson Monday at 12:06 a.m.

Principal Jackson goes the extra mile with his students from Hinsdale Adventist Academy

No-one could ever say Associate Principal Robert Jackson won’t go the extra mile for his school! In fact on Friday October 28th, he ran an estimated 20 miles in the school’s first ever Jog-a-thon. Students ran to raise money for Hinsdale Adventist Academy’s (HAA) athletic program and their classrooms, but the school’s Athletic Director, Coach Alex Adams, said his motivation for organizing the event was much more than just raising money.

“I wanted the kids to get excited about exercise.” Coach Adams stated on Friday. “Kids who would normally not even want to walk one lap of our field were enthusiastic about running as far as they could in 45 minutes. Often exercise is thought of as a punishment. I want our students to know how fun it can be!”

Approximately 300 students from preschool through 12th grade participated in the Jog-a-thon on Friday, collectively running 5462 laps – over 600 miles! Some parents, grandparents, teachers and even class mascots joined in the fun. Kids were sponsored per lap or were given fixed pledges. Some students were so excited that their Principal was running that they even sponsored him themselves!

Students ran in age groups for 45 minutes each, but Principal Jackson ran for the entire day, stopping only for water breaks. “It was a great excuse to get out of the office. To be honest, it was a
really good way to spend some quality time with the students.” After 5 hours of running, Principal Jackson led out in his other special program, Pee Wee sports. Friday was the final day for Pee Wee Soccer, but already the kids are looking forward to the commencement of the basketball season in December. “Getting children active and loving sport at an early age is a very high priority for me.” Jackson said. “If we can give them a love for movement in their early childhood, we are setting them up for a lifetime of good health.”

Healthy living, including exercise and good food choices, are seen as very beneficial choices by Seventh-day Adventist Christians. In fact they are an integral aspect of the denomination’s ethos. Hinsdale Adventist Academy educates children from Preschool-12. The school situated at 631 E Hickory Street in Hinsdale. A special promotional video entitled “No child left behind – educating with God’s love” can be seen at http://vimeo.com/27820212.

For additional information go to www.haa.org or call 630.323.9211.
School has new protection from the elements

By ANDREW SCHOTZ
andrews@herald-mail.com
10:09 PM EDT, October 30, 2011

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Saturday’s snowstorm was an unplanned but perfectly timed test of Mount Aetna Adventist Elementary School’s new roof.

The school already had scheduled to celebrate its new peaked roof on Sunday, after six decades with a flat roof.

The surprise storm, demonstrating the new roof’s protection, made the milestone more meaningful.

“When we had the snow and the horrible weather yesterday,” Principal Kandace Zollman said Sunday afternoon, a grin spreading across her face, “not a drop of water came out in the school.”

The school, on Crystal Falls Drive south of Smithsburg, is now covered with a metal roof. Zollman said a few additional details remain, such as finishing the portico.

While Zollman stood in a hallway talking, a boom from outside could be heard. It was a mound of snow splatting on the building.

“Good thing they had that roof up there,” someone near her called out.

She said the scope of the work has expanded, along with the cost, which now totals about $210,000.

The school is trying to raise the last $50,000.

For the school’s roof celebration Sunday, the youngest student, 4-year-old Kaycee Peck, was given the honor of cutting a ribbon, although she needed Zollman’s help.

Thelma Coffman of the Class of 1950, the school’s first class, was supposed to be there to say a dedication prayer. Zollman said Coffman couldn’t make it because her home lost electricity in Saturday’s snowstorm.

The school board decided two years ago to go ahead with the roof work. Frequently, the school uses buckets to catch water that leaks in, Zollman said.
Seventy-nine students from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade attend the school, and 20 more are in a home-school partnership program, she said.

“We felt like this was such a momentous event that we needed to dedicate our new roof, our new school, our new dry school ...,” Zollman said. “It was just such a huge answer to prayer and we have been so blessed, that we thought that ... we can’t let this go without a very special event.”

After the celebration, students were scheduled to perform “Anne of Green Gables.”

“Your Green Gables ticket helped to fund Mount Aetna’s brand new green ‘gables,’” the program says.

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Rwanda genocide survivor shares experience, perspective

For Carl Wilkens, genocide is a word that carries different types of significance. It signifies both atrocity and massacre, but also tells a story of courage and forgiveness for a country emerging from the shadows of mass murder.

Wilkens, recognized as the only American to remain in Rwanda during a three-month genocide in 1994, visited ASU Wednesday night to discuss his book “I’m Not Leaving,” and to bring awareness to massacres going on in other parts of Africa today.

Wilkens was living in Kigali, Rwanda with his wife and three kids, working for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, when the genocide began on April 6, 1994.

The plane of the Hutu Rwandan president Juvénal Habyarimana had been shot down, instigating a systematic extermination attempt of Tutsi citizens by the Hutu militias.

As Americans were evacuated from the country, Wilkens’ family left to Nairobi while he stayed behind to protect two Tutsi workers that lived in his home.

“When we said goodbye, we didn’t know that it was going to last as long as it did or that it was going to be as horrific,” Wilkens said. “We knew it was terrible but we didn’t have any idea of the scale of the killing.”

He was confined to his home under a 24-hour curfew for the next three weeks, but then went to work aiding orphanages around the city.
“That pretty much defined my work for the remainder of the genocide — hunting and bargaining with killers and thieves to be able to find supplies for these orphanages and to negotiate all of the roadblocks they had around the city to deliver supplies to the orphanages,” Wilkens said.

The humanitarian recounted a day in late June, when he arrived at Gisimba Orphanage to deliver water to 400 orphans displaced by the killing and was soon surrounded by 50 militia members.

Wilkens said there was a three-hour standoff as the militia planned to murder the orphans until he convinced the Rwandan prime minister to help him spare the children.

Psychology and human studies senior Chelsea Pogue said stories like Wilkens’ are inspiring.

“It just kind of reminded me that there are a lot of people out there who do help and try to make a difference,” Pogue said. “For me, it was really rewarding.”

Pogue, President of ASU’s STAND, an anti-genocide club, said Wilkens’ story proves that everyone has the potential to impact the world.

“Even if you’re just one person (in) all this chaos you can make a difference and help people,” Pogue said.

Wilkens said three things kept him going: speaking with his wife daily via radio, practicing his faith and focusing on the needs of the orphans.

“With children dying at the orphanage from lack of water and medicine, to the killing that was happening around the city, the needs were right in your face,” Wilkens said. “I think the way we survived was focusing on those needs and how we could respond to them.”

Aerospace engineering senior Daniel Doetsch said he has been interested in the Rwandan genocide since he studied it in high school.

“It just always amazes me when I hear stories like this about how these conflicts are so shallow, and yet people do such dramatic things over shallow differences,” Doetsch said. “It’s just amazing to me that we all live on this one planet and we can’t get along.”

Wilkens said returning to Rwanda was difficult initially, but he now returns once or twice a year to the country, marked by a hope he never could have imagined amidst the genocide.

“The longer you are there, the more you are struck by the courage and the hope expressed by the people,” Wilkens said. “That becomes the dominant force on the horizon of your mind, the courage, determination and forgiveness that you witness among the people. You end up leaving Rwanda always with a sense of amazement and a sense of hope.”

Reach the reporter at brennan.j.smith@asu.edu

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Ask State Press To Recommend Your Posts
PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 27, 2011 -- /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Adventist Medical Center (AMC) is harnessing new technology to safely dispose of more than 90 percent of its infectious medical waste on-site. Thanks to the recently installed Red Bag Solutions Technology, the infectious medical waste from red bio-hazardous bags and sharps containers is now pulverized and sterilized, leaving confetti-like material that is safe to recycle or dispose of.

AMC is the first facility in the Oregon market to incorporate this new technology. "Until now, the hospital had to ship our biohazard waste 100 miles away to facilities equipped to safely dispose of it," says Myron Krause, director of Materials Management. "This new process prevents the costs and environmental impacts associated with shipping." The ability to process sharps containers and their contents, allows plastic and other items such as needles to be recycled. AMC's material is recycled through Republic Services, Inc.

It takes about 30 minutes for the Red Bag machine to process a load of material. While that process occurs, Red Bag machine operators ensure that shredding of all HIPAA documentation is occurring. "Performing both these functions on-site will enhance safety, security and make our waste processing more sustainable," says Stephen Raffaele, Environmental Services manager.

The hospital is reducing the medical waste volume by 90 percent and 15 percent reduction in total weight. Unlike other approaches to handling medical waste, the Red Bag's system generates no unpleasant odors, excessive noise or harmful emissions. Remote monitoring of the equipment 24/7 allows for maximum safety, equipment optimization, and technical support.

About Adventist Medical Center (AMC) Adventist Medical Center (AMC), located in southeast Portland, is a nonprofit, 302-bed acute care facility, offering a full range of inpatient, outpatient and emergency services throughout the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area.

Adventist Medical Center is part of Adventist Health, a faith-based, not-for-profit integrated health care delivery system with nearly 20,000 employees serving communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Founded on Seventh-day Adventist health values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 17 hospitals, more than 130 physician and rural health clinics, 14 home care agencies and four joint-venture retirement centers. We invite you to visit http://www.adventisthealthnw.com for more information.

Media Contacts: Judy Leach, DirectorAdventist Health(503) 251-6162 leachjl@ah.org

SOURCE ADVENTIST HEALTH NW
Hundreds of families made their way to St. Leo's Catholic Church on Thursday for the church's annual coat and winter gear distribution.

This is the eighth year that the Human Concerns Committee at St. Leo's Parish and Continuum of Care service agencies have collected new and gently used coats, hats, gloves and boots of all sizes for distribution. The coats were distributed free of charge to people in need.

Donna Douglass, outreach coordinator at St. Leo's, said the event has been a great success during the past seven years. Last year, 1,470 coats were collected and 923 were distributed during the coat drive.

"Every year, I am amazed by the generosity of our community," Douglass said. "The economy is still shaky, and we are expecting a great number of families in need."

Douglass said she was "overwhelmed again" by the generosity of giving and the volunteers that make the coat drive possible and successful each year.

The coat distribution began at 10 a.m. Thursday, but a good-size line began to form outside the church before 9. Douglass said that, at the time of distribution, 1,009 coats and pieces of winter gear had been collected, but Douglass expected more coats and winter gear to come in as the day progressed.

The list of donors was huge again this year, with many individuals and organizations from throughout the area donating to the cause.

"There are hundreds of volunteers and people you don't see that make this possible," Douglass said. "We take racks of coats that need to get washed or repaired out in front of the church, and people take them home and bring them back, and we don't know who took them or who fixed them or who washed them, but they did it."

A couple of examples of the spirit of giving to help others could be found with volunteer Jolene Wojcik and her daughter, Taylor. Wojcik said her daughter, a junior at Grand Island Central Catholic, heard during the summer at Mass that volunteers were needed to help St. Leo's collect for the annual drive.

"She (Taylor) had a box in the lobby, and they talked about it in their religious class, and she collected 51 coats to
contribute to the drive," Wojcik said. "She went through her own coats, and some of her friends did the same, and
the school helped."

Another example of the volunteer spirit that makes the coat drive successful is Jean McFarland's effort to collect
coats, especially children's coats.

She said she's not a big garage sale goer, but she knew garage sales are a good source of children's coats.

"I started going to garage sales on the second day when people began to mark things down, and there were
people who even gave me the coats when they found out what I was doing," McFarland said. "People have just
been wonderful. If they could just be here and see these children's faces when they put on a coat, a hat, mittens
or a scarf -- they don't care if somebody had worn them before."

Douglass called it a "collaborate effort" with the service agencies in Grand Island.

"They bring stuff in, and they come to get stuff for their clients," she said. "It is truly an area- and
community-owned project. It is really amazing."

Heather Cline-Ford, housing programs coordinator at Central Nebraska Community Services, said the coat
giveaway is helpful to caseworkers.

"CNCS relies on community partnerships to help meet the necessities of the individuals and families we serve,"
she said. "The coat drive is one of the strongest community projects available to CNCS. It helps us serve those in
need."

Leftover coats and winter gear from the one-day distribution will go to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Grand
Island for its monthly clothing giveaway, which begins at 1 p.m. the last Sunday of each month.

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Currently we are in the final editing stages for the new It Is Written Bible study guides. You can get an idea of how they will look by clicking on the sample to the left. The final design is not complete. Here is a preview—with all-new original graphics and content.

There is still work to be done before the lessons are ready for use. We hope to have them available in early 2012, and we really need your support to finish the editing, design and printing.

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