Office of Education to Offer Bullying Prevention Program

The NAD Office of Education will partner with La Sierra University on the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (ODPP) which will be offered in elementary and secondary schools.

Bullying is most often an intentionally repeated aggressive behavior that involves an imbalance of power. A recent U.S. study has shown that 17 percent of all male and female students reported being bullied. This amounts to one in five students. The Division’s Office of Education sees this as an important issue.

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program has more than 35 years of research and successful implementation all over the world. It is a whole-school program that has been proven to prevent or reduce bullying throughout a school setting.

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- Adventist Mission: 3rd Quarter, 2012

About 1,000 educators were anointed at a special service this morning at the Teachers Convention in Nashville, Tenn. Many teachers across the division will begin school as early as August 20. Today they are asking for special prayers regarding their schools, their finances and enrollment. More Convention photos.

Photo: Esther Knott, NAD associate ministerial director, anoints and prays for Karen Gotshall, a teacher at Warren Elementary School (Michigan Conference) and Darlene Huckabay of the Owosso Elementary School (Michigan Conference). (Photo by Dan Weber)

The Seven Campaign: Stop Child Abuse Now has just been launched by Adventist Risk Management, Inc. (ARM) and its partners at the NAD Teachers Convention in Nashville, Tenn., before approximately 6,500 educators. More.

“Child abuse is a horrific act. It robs a child of the innocence of childhood. It attacks the very essence of society. Let us stand together against this worldwide epidemic,” states The Seven Campaign Web site.

Photo: Julio Munoz, manager of client experience at Adventist Risk Management, announces the launch of The Seven Campaign, a program to stop Child Abuse. (Photo by Dan Weber)

“An Appeal for Oneness in Christ” was issued by the GC yesterday. Statement.
Each week we will feature different union magazines or NAD newsletters to give you an In Depth look at your Division. Each union magazine contains local conference news in addition to the articles listed. Occasionally we will also post a news video.

**Featured Union Magazines**

**Lake Union**
- Hope and Healing
- Our Commitment
- Living Our Mission in the Third World
- Compassion in the ER
- Writing a New Chapter
- A Sacred Chapter
- Prayer

**Mid-America**
- First Hispanic Mid-America Youth Congress
- Pastor Receives National VOAD Award
- Journey to Excellence
- A Day in the Life

**North Pacific**
- He Put Them There
- Alaska Hosts ‘Revive’
- La Comunidad Reconoce el Servicio
- Let His Mind Be In You
- One Little Candle

**Featured NAD Newsletters**

**ASI Connections**
The official e-newsletter for Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries (ASI). Read about the ASI Convention in this August 3, 2012 issue.


**Best Practices**

2012 Teachers Convention Video Report

George Johnson, NAD communication director, files a report from the 2012 North American Teachers Convention held August 5-8, 2012 in Nashville, Tenn.

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.

Marriage Retreat, Aug. 24-26
Prayer Call, September 5
New Jersey Conference
Hispanic Marriage Retreat, Sept. 7-9
Satellite Evangelism and Prayer Rally, Sept. 21-22
Let’s Move Day, Sept. 23
Nonprofit Leadership Certification Program, Session II, Sept. 23-27
Let’s Move Week, Sept. 23-28
Georgia-Cumberland Hispanic Men’s Retreat, Sept. 28-30
NY13 Community Outreach Leadership Development Symposium, Oct. 11-13
British Columbia, Canada Hispanic Marriage Retreat, Oct. 12-14
Health Ministries Training, Oct. 13-14
La Red (Hispanic NET Evangelism series), Oct. 13-20
Society of Adventist Communicators Convention, Oct. 18-20
British Columbia, Canada English Marriage Retreat, Oct. 19-21
Daughter of Zion SDA Church Men’s Ministries Weekend, Nov. 2-4
Michigan Conference Marriage Retreat, Nov. 9-11
NAD Camp Meeting Schedule
More upcoming events

NAD Prayer Calendar

Daily Prayer Guide

Aug 12-18: Southern California Conference, with 128 churches, and 43,259 members

Daily Bible Reading Plan

AUGUST Offerings and Special Days

iGiveSDA App
Russ Laughlin one of two new vice presidents at Southwestern
The Keene Star
August 7

Dinuba medical center set to open this year
Visalia Times-Delta
August 1

Adventist Health Partners named one of nation’s top 40 healthcare groups
Suburban Life Publications
July 31

Auction doesn’t end Armory’s service to public
Poughkeepsie Journal
August 3

Paradise man outs hidden toxins
Parade Post
July 31

Special dresses from Campion: Ship with care
ReporterHerald.com
July 31

Offerings:
- Aug. 11, Oakwood/Andrews/Loma Linda Universities
- Aug. 18, Local Church Budget
- Aug. 25, Local Conference Advance

Sample Offertory Readings

Special Days:
August Focus: Spiritual Gifts
- August 25 - Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day

Helpful websites and Resources:
- NAD Women's Ministries
- enditnow
- AdventSource Special Days Resources (July/August)
- Pacific Press Resources on Spiritual Gifts
- Pacific Press Resources on Abuse

Resources:
- NAD Women’s Ministries
- enditnow
- AdventSource Special Days Resources (July/August)
- Pacific Press Resources on Spiritual Gifts
- Pacific Press Resources on Abuse
- Abuse, Domestic Violence Prevention
- Adventist World, August edition, pp.13, 33

NAD News: “enditnow Changes Focus in NAD,” p. 11
NAD Update: “University Students Meet to Grow Ministries on Secular Campuses,” p. 14
NAD Perspective: “Changed: Real Lives in a Real World,” p. 17
NAD Letters: p. 18
NAD Feature: “Hardwired for Success: Do we have the freedom to do what we do best?” p. 33

Announcements
The Stewardship Sermon Contest ends tomorrow, August 9. Up to 10 winners will win $1,000. It still is not too late. Learn MORE.

Family Ministries has a new Facebook page. The page will allow you to “share” quotes or information which was not possible in their previous group. If you would like to access and be a part of the NAD Family Ministries Facebook page you will need to “Like” it on Facebook to join it.

The Stewardship Sermon Contest ends tomorrow, August 9. Up to 10 winners will win $1,000. It still is not too late. Learn MORE.

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Adventist World
NAD AUGUST Edition

REACH North America

REACH: Education for discipleship
A “hands on” gardening workshop hosted by the Vancouver (Wash.) Adventist Community Church, provided an opportunity for more than 70 attendees to learn “Grandma White’s” planting method for fruit trees. The workshop brought together members of Vancouver’s Garden Club with church members, both young and old. It helped to make friends and attracted some of the children to Vacation Bible School. Details in August North Pacific Union Gleaner.

According to Lynn Hoag, the 71-year-old master gardener and agriculturist from Placerville, California, Ellen White’s planting method (3 Selected Messages, p. 328.3, 329) of more than 100 years ago works 300 percent faster than ordinary methods. Photos and how-to.

Resources
Evaluate your church’s Curb Appeal. What does your
church “say” to people who have never been inside? If someone knew nothing about your church or the people in it, would they want to visit it? What impression does it give to people who visit? A self-evaluation tool called Curb Appeal (La Aparencia available in Spanish) can help your church board, communication committee, or any group assigned with the goal of improving your appeal, decipher the messages your church is sending. CD also available with PowerPoint and PDFs of the booklet in both English and Spanish. Available from AdventSource (800-328-0523)

In preparation for the Latino YouthNET Satellite Television Broadcast this fall, the NAD Multilingual Ministries, in partnership with the NAD Youth Department and Pacific Press, has developed a Youth Evangelism Kit specifically for youth and young adults. The Changed “Real Lives in a Real World” Youth Evangelism Kit includes two T-shirts, three devotional books, Bible Study Guides, brochure and DVD with promo video clips. The idea is to make it easy and practical for anyone to share their personal story and the author of their story: Jesus. It can be as easy as wearing a T-shirt!

Several churches have already ordered kits for every member of their youth group. Order a kit or get more information

Resources for Educators

George Johnson, NAD communication director, interviews Karen Pearson and Beverly Logan from the Pacific Press Publishing Association about resources for educators.

Early Childhood Education and Care Centers (3:47 minutes)

The Division has included the Early Childhood Education and Care programs in it's full education program. Learn how these centers help to prepare young minds as they start the education process.
8-7-12 North American Division Partners with La Sierra on Bullying Study

Olweus Bullying Prevention Program to be offered in elementary and secondary schools

Bullying is most often an intentionally repeated aggressive behavior that involves an imbalance of power. A recent study has shown that 17 percent of all male and female students reported being bullied. This amounts to one in five students. The North American Division's Office of Education sees this as an important issue and has partnered with La Sierra University's Center for Conflict Resolution to offer the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) in its more than 1,000 elementary and secondary schools across the United States, Canada, Bermuda, and the Micronesia islands.

In the 1980s, Dr. Dan Olweus conducted the first systematic intervention study against bullying in the world. According to its website, the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program has more than 35 years of research and successful implementation all over the world. It is a whole-school program that has been proven to prevent or reduce bullying throughout a school setting.

Data from Olweus has shown that adults just aren't aware of the various types of bullying that students are being subjected to. However, bullying takes place much more frequently and is missed by adults. "We think that because of the excellent student-to-teacher ratio we have in our small schools that there must be better supervision and management with issues of bullying," said Richard Pershing, director of the Center for Conflict Resolution at La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif.

In working with OBPP, the Center for Conflict Resolution has designed a two-part survey that educators will offer students asking whether they have been bullied or if they have been doing the bullying. The survey will also ask where the activity could have occurred. Questions cover areas such as:

1. Verbal bullying including derogatory comments and bad names
2. Bullying through social exclusion or isolation
3. Physical bullying such as hitting, kicking, shoving, and spitting
4. Bullying through lies and false rumors
5. Having money or other things taken or damaged by students who bully
6. Being threatened or being forced to do things by students who bully
7. Racial bullying
8. Sexual bullying
9. Cyber bullying (via cell phone or Internet)

"Everyone wants to figure out the source of bullying," said Pershing. "It's human nature. It's about power and some are wired to enjoy the exercising of power." Pershing believes that the entire community that supports the school, including students, school board, and parents needs to be involved to level the playing field of abused power by the students. "Once the power has been leveled, then you can move into conflict resolution and teach the kids day conflict resolution," he said. Conflict resolution training has been Beta tested at Madison Campus Elementary in Tenn. and San Diego Adventist Academy in Calif.

Adventist Risk Management, Inc. (ARM), in partnership with several other Adventist organizations including the American Division, launched the Seven Campaign: Stop Child Abuse Now at the NAD Teacher's Convention in Nashville, Tenn. The NAD Office of Education also attended a preview of the Olweus program.

In addition to having access and resources to advocacy programs dealing with abusive behaviors, the NAD Office of Education offered six breakout sessions (equaling eight hours of education in-service) at the Convention dealing with bullying.

Education officers in the local conferences are now reviewing the survey questions. The NAD Office of Education begins issuing surveys this coming Fall.

George Johnson Jr., communication director, North American Division, reporting
Launch of The SEVEN Campaign to Stop Child Abuse

dfournier posted on August 07, 2012 14:17

Nashville, TN. August 7, 2012 - Adventist Risk Management, Inc. (ARM) and its partners launched The Seven Campaign: Stop Child Abuse Now at the North American Division’s (NAD) Teacher’s Convention at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN before 6,500 educators.

The Seven Campaign is a clear stand taken by the Seventh-day Adventist® Church to end all forms of child abuse including bullying, neglect, physical, emotional, and sexual abuse worldwide.

Teachers from across the United States, Canada, Bermuda, and the Micronesian islands responded enthusiastically to the awareness campaign and the pledge to mobilize their students utilizing the digital resources of the campaign found on the official website www.thesevencampaign.com.

“I know we are preaching to the choir. But we need a choir that is large, loud, and strong to take the message to the world that we need to stop child abuse now,” said Julio Muñoz, manager for Client Experience for ARM.

“Every single child is precious;” stated Larry Blackmer, NAD Vice President for Education, during the launch, “it is our responsibility as educators, administrators and church members to make each child feel valued and safe.”

Through this campaign, more than 17 million Adventist church members have the opportunity to create a global grassroots movement. Supporters will mobilize their own communities using digital resources that empower each person to work toward creating awareness, sharing solutions, and advocating an end to this global problem.

The Seven Campaign supports the existing programs currently being implemented around the world through ARM, Adventist Education, and the rest of our partners that raise awareness and prevent abuse against children.

Comprehensive information about The Seven Campaign is available at www.thesevencampaign.com, including downloadable electronic resources, advocacy ideas, and ways for groups and individuals to get involved.

Child abuse has been documented as an issue within the Seventh-day Adventist® Church which
follows trends documented in non-Adventist populations. This is why The Seven Campaign seeks to increase personal awareness, responsibility, and involvement to effectively help end abuse against children in every family and community.

This campaign, which will extend to more than 200 countries and territories, was launched on August 6, 2012, in partnership between Adventist Risk Management (ARM), Adventist Education, The Center for Conflict Resolution at La Sierra University, Christian Record Services for the Blind, Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE), John Hancock Center at La Sierra University, and the Children’s, Women’s, Family and Youth Ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist® Church.

Adventist Risk Management, Inc. is the risk management company for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the largest global denomination headquartered in the Washington DC area. We provide risk management services and insurance product solutions to assist the Church in eliminating oversights that can lead to costly accidents. ARM employs 130 people around the world with corporate headquarters in Silver Spring, MD, and satellite offices in Riverside, CA, St. Albans, England and Brasilia, Brazil. Please contact David Fournier at 301-680-6930 for more information.

Photo Credit - Dan Weber NAD Communication
AN APPEAL FOR UNITY
IN RESPECT TO MINISTERIAL ORDINATION PRACTICES

Since the beginning of 2012 several union conferences\(^1\) have recorded actions expressing support for, or commitment to, the ministerial ordination of women. The world-wide Seventh-day Adventist Church is currently engaged in a study of the theology of ordination and its implications. This study is scheduled for completion by the 2014 Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee. At that time the Executive Committee will determine the report which will be given to the 2015 General Conference Session along with whether or not any new recommendation should be considered by delegates to the Session.

In the light of this current study and the actions of several unions, General Conference officers\(^2\), including presidents of the 13 world divisions, have unanimously communicated an appeal for unity in respect to ministerial ordination practices. The appeal calls: 1) for unity in respecting a global church action (i.e. the 1990 and 1995 General Conference Session decisions on ministerial ordination); 2) for each union executive committee to carefully review the far-reaching effects of pursuing a course of action that is contrary to the decisions of the General Conference in session; and 3) for each union to participate in the current study about the theology of ordination and its implication.

1. **Respecting a global decision of the Church**

The world-wide Church recognizes the General Conference in Session as the highest ecclesiastical authority for Seventh-day Adventists. The 1990\(^3\) and 1995\(^4\) General Conference Session decisions with respect to granting ministerial ordination to women represent the current voice of the Church in this matter. The actions of certain unions indicate their desire to establish an alternative source of authority for a matter that already carries the authority of the world Church.

As currently understood in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, ordination to the gospel ministry is ordination to serve the global Church. No provision exists for a geographically localized

\(^1\) At December 31, 2010 the Seventh-day Adventist Church had 60 unions with conference status and 59 unions with mission status
\(^2\) The group of 40 officers involved include officers from the Presidential, Secretariat and Treasury offices of the General Conference plus the presidents of divisions who, in additional to being presidents of their divisions are vice-presidents of the General Conference.
\(^3\) The 1990 General Conference Session approved that women should be given wide participation in all church activities, including soul winning and pastoral duties, but that “in view of the possible risk of disunity, dissension, and diversion from the mission of the Church” the Session also approved the Annual Council recommendation that ordination of women to the gospel ministry not be authorized.
\(^4\) The 1995 General Conference Session action denied the request of the North American Division that the Session adopt provisions on ordination as outlined below: "The General Conference vests in each division the right to authorize the ordination of individuals within its territory in harmony with established policies. In addition, where circumstances do not render it inadvisable, a division may authorize the ordination of qualified individuals without regard to gender. In divisions where the division executive committee takes specific actions approving the ordination of women to the gospel ministry, women may be ordained to serve in those divisions."
ministerial ordination. Consequently the decision to change or modify ordination practices is a global one and necessitates a decision from the world body.

For any union to introduce a different ministerial ordination practice is seen, by the rest of the Church, as readiness to set aside a world Church decision and proceed in another direction. Such actions, taken at the very time when the world Church is engaged in a study and discussion of the matter, pre-empt the process and any decision that might come from it. This creates widespread confusion, misunderstanding as well as erosion of trust and also nurtures doubt about these unions acting in good faith as members of the world-wide family.

Some who would encourage unions to proceed with ministerial ordination for women draw attention to selected statements from a General Conference Executive Committee document. As used by these individuals, the statements would indicate that a union has final authority in matters relating to ministerial ordination. The intent of the document from which such statements have been taken is to emphasize the interconnectedness of Seventh-day Adventist denominational structure. The authority and responsibility entrusted to any entity of the Church is exercised within the context of beliefs, values, and policies of the entire Church. Being a part of the global Seventh-day Adventist Church obliges every organization to think and act for the good of the whole and to shun a spirit of autonomy and self-determination.

2. The effects of unilaterally pursuing a different course of action

The significance of any union proceeding in a manner contrary to a global Church decision is not limited to the specific action involved (ministerial ordination in the present instance); it touches the very heart of how this Church functions as a global family. The essence of unity in Seventh-day Adventist organizational functioning is the mutual commitment of all organizations to collective decision-making in matters affecting the whole family—and the acceptance of those decisions as the authority of the Church. The action of any union in pursuing a different course of action represents a rejection of this key value in denominational life. Unless this value (i.e. collective decision-making and the acceptance of those decisions as the authority of the Church) is maintained, all other values that contribute to unity are seriously weakened.

For one entity to express its reasoned dissent with a global decision of the Church might appear to some as a legitimate course of action. However, the implications of acting contrary to a world Church decision are not limited to the one entity. Any organization contemplating a course of action contrary to a global Church decision must ask itself, “Is this the pattern of participation in

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5 Information that a number of women serve as ordained ministers in China has been cited as justification, for unions elsewhere to proceed in a similar manner. It has been alleged that the Northern Asia-Pacific Division recognizes these ordinations and has therefore established a precedent for granting ministerial ordination to women. However, these ordinances were not authorized or conducted according to the policies of the Church. Nor are these ordinations approved or recognized/endorsed by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. The Seventh-day Adventist Church does not have an officially organized structure in China that is comparable to other areas of the world. Government regulations do not permit outside involvement in church affairs within China. The practice, in China, of ministerial ordination for women is acknowledged as a reality that has arisen in China and is beyond the influence of the world-wide structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

6 “The General Conference and Its Divisions”, General Conference Executive Committee, April 2012
Church life that we wish to establish and recommend for other entities to follow?” “How will we deal with the situation if an organization in our territory should decide to discontinue its participation in one or more matters under which it disagrees with the larger family of organizations?” Mutually agreed upon policies benefit the entire Church and keep it from fragmenting into independent, locally-driven units. They are the reflection of the Spirit-directed will of the body and allow each entity to look beyond itself for the good of the whole body of Christ.

3. Participation in the current study of ordination and its implications

General Conference officers welcome and invite unions to participate in the global study of ordination. This study will be the most widespread and thorough study the Church has undertaken on this topic. Earlier studies have been conducted by commissions. This is the first time that a study of ministerial ordination engages the whole Church through the 13 divisions.

Biblical Research Committees in all divisions have been asked to conduct a study on the theology of ordination and its implications. In addition, during 2012, the General Conference Administrative Committee will appoint a Theology of Ordination Study Committee, with representation from all divisions, to oversee and facilitate the global discussion process and to prepare reports for presentation to the General Conference Executive Committee. The Annual Council 2014 will determine what action, if any, should be recommended to the 2015 General Conference Session. Careful thought is being given to ensure that the study and education process is conducted with fairness and thoroughness in respect to examining the theology of ordination and its practical implications.

All unions are welcome to submit their conviction as part of the global dialog on this question. Their voices, along with others, in this matter need to be heard. Now is the time for unions to share their position on ministerial ordination, and the rationale behind it. Doing so will ensure that various perspectives will be clearly understood by the world Church.

The appeal sent by the General Conference officers to certain unions also reflects this Church leadership group’s message to other unions that may be considering similar steps with respect to ministerial ordination practices. The communication concludes: “We have shared with you our deep concerns about the course of action you have chosen. We realize that sharply differing convictions with respect to ministerial ordination for women exist in our global family. We also realize that the passage of time without finding satisfaction for the tensions on this question can give rise to frustration and the erosion of confidence that a timely and mutually satisfactory resolution can be found.”

“We therefore earnestly appeal to you:

1. That your union continues to operate in harmony with the global decisions and global decision-making processes of the Church.
2. That until such time as the Church decides otherwise, your union refrains from taking any action to implement ministerial ordination practices that are contrary to the 1990 and 1995 General Conference Session actions.

3. That the union membership be informed concerning the implications for the entire Church in the event that one entity, for whatever reason, chooses a course of action in deliberate opposition to a decision of the whole Church.

4. That the union actively participates in the global discussion about the Church’s understanding and practice of ordination. The contributions of a union in this discussion can be forwarded to the Theology of Ordination Study Committee through the respective Ordination Study Committee set up by each division.

“Thank you for your willingness to receive and reflect on these things. We join you in diligently and prayerfully seeking to know the will, the blessing and the guidance of God in this and all other matters affecting our life together as a Church and our collective endeavor to advance His kingdom.”

—30—
Russ Laughlin one of two new vice presidents at Southwestern

Darcy Force Keene Star

A person new to Keene and a longtime Keenite have new positions at Southwestern Adventist University.

Amy Rebok Rosenthal, formerly chairman of the history department at Pacific Union College, is the new academic dean, and Russ Laughlin, the youth pastor for the Keene Adventist Church for 15 year, is the new vice president for spiritual development.

The positions were announced by Southwestern President Eric Anderson.

Rosenthal is a specialist in British social history, with a particular interest in the history of the family. Educated at Pacific Union College and Indiana University, she has been a college professor for the past 10 years.

“This appointment is the result of a thorough search process,” Anderson said. “An experienced, knowledgeable, and hard-to-impress committee was, in fact, deeply impressed by Rosenthal. I have never seen a group so enthusiastic about a candidate.”

The academic dean, who is “second-in-command on campus,” has the responsibility of “maintaining a strong teaching faculty,” Anderson said.

Rosenthal replaces Ben McArthur, the previous vice president for academic affairs, who has returned to the classroom at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn.

With her husband, Greg, and two daughters, Rosenthal will be moving to Texas in August.

“I am delighted to have such a talented young leader join our administrative team,” she said.

In addition to chairing a department, she has been an active scholar, researching subjects ranging from the history of asylums to Victorian manners. She recently served as a consultant for the history and politics program at La Sierra University.

Laughlin “knows our campus well,” according to Anderson, and has been an adjunct faculty member for 15 years. The vice president for spiritual development is “a hybrid position,” Anderson said, a job that includes teaching as well as administration.

“Laughlin has both academic credibility and spiritual authenticity,” Anderson said.

Laughlin is committed to continuing the work of the retiring vice president for spiritual development, Bill Kilgore, who is returning to the classroom.

“Both of these men are committed to teaching discipleship,” Anderson said. “They are particularly interested in encouraging faculty members to be spiritual leaders.”

Laughlin's two children have attended Keene Adventist Elementary School, graduated from Chisholm Trail Academy, and attended Southwestern. His son, Andrew, graduated from Southwestern in May.

“I am proud of the education and the opportunities that Southwestern has offered my children and look forward to joining the staff and faculty family,” Laughlin said.
When the new Adventist Medical Plaza opens this year in Dinuba, residents will no longer have to travel out of town for urgent care, an X-ray, an ultrasound or a CT scan. This urgent-care center, a first for Adventist Health, also has a medical laboratory where blood can be drawn and analyzed, and an imaging center.

That's good news for Dinuba families, many of whom rely on public transportation, Janet Rocha said.

“It's a good thing that you can come to one spot and get everything done at once,” she said.

Although the building was dedicated Wednesday and completed a month ago, it is not clear when it will open this year as Adventist Health is waiting for the state of California to inspect the center and meet the staff, said Robert Kessinger, manager of the new facility.

It cost $4.5 million to build. The 7,500 square-foot medical plaza is located at 444 W. El Monte Way.

In addition to urgent care, where patients can drop in and be seen by a health provider from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week, people who are injured while on-the-job will also be seen there.

The Adventist Medical Plaza offers a full radiology department and lab services, said Dr. Milton Teske, medical director.

The imaging department will be open by appointment from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with referrals from local doctors.

“The results will be available immediately,” he said.

The last time Dinubans could get imaging services in town was about 10 years ago, before Alta District Hospital closed its doors in Dinuba.

Tulare County Supervisor Steve Worthley, who was born at the hospital, said the county tried to provide medical services at a clinic at the hospital after it closed but running the clinic became too expensive.

Adventist Health came into Dinuba and opened two rural health care clinics, one on...
the east side of town and one on the west side.

With the opening of Adventist Medical Plaza this year, that makes three Adventist Health facilities in Dinuba.

As a parent, Worthley said he had to drive his children to urgent-care clinics in Visalia for bumps and bruises. That's about to change.

“We do not have to drive to Reedley or Visalia now,” he said. “This is a tremendous day for Dinuba and a tremendous blessing.”

Adventist Health/Central Valley Network, a nonprofit, faith-based organization, operates more than 50 sites in Tulare, Kings, Kern and southern Fresno counties.

It has two hospitals in Hanford, one in Selma and one in Reedley. Adventist Health was founded on Seventh-day Adventist health values.

“Adventists believe in natural healing,” Rose said. “By spreading God’s love through physical, mental and spiritual healing.”
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SmartConsumerLiving.com

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InstantCheckmate.com
Adventist Health Partners named one of nation’s top 40 healthcare groups

By Staff reports
Bolingbrook Reporter
Posted Jul 31, 2012 @ 02:23 PM

Bolingbrook, IL — Healthcare magazine “Modern Healthcare” has named Adventist Health Partners one of the hottest companies in the country, according to a release issued by Adventist Midwest Health.

The 2012 Healthcare’s Hottest program identified the 40 fastest growing companies among hospitals and hospital systems, physician group practices, suppliers and payers/insurers.

The magazine focused on healthcare companies that are U.S.-based, had at least $20 million in revenue in 2011 and have been in business at least five years, the release said.

Adventist Health Partners is a physician group of more than 180 specialty and primary care doctors serving Chicago’s western suburbs.

The group — which has been in existence for 20 years — plans to add 35 new primary care physicians and 30 new sub-specialty physicians in 2012.

Adventist Health Partners was a physician group of more than 180 specialty and primary care doctors serving Chicago’s western suburbs.

The organization’s corporate headquarters are located in Downers Grove, and is owned by Adventist Health partners. The group admits patients to Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital, as well as three others in the Adventist Midwest Health system.

The physicians group reported revenue of $58.7 million in 2011.

Adventist Health Partners was one of seven physician group practices to make the list.

List rankings will be provided in September, the magazine said.

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The historic Poughkeepsie Armory no longer is owned by the state, but it will continue to serve the community, according to the winning bidder, Pastor Carlos Aragones.

Representing the Greater New York Corporation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Aragones and his partner, Pastor Lloyd Scharffenberg, purchased the Romanesque-style brick- and-stone masonry building for $520,000 at a public auction in the Eleanor Roosevelt State Office Building.

“We will serve in a huge way and help the community,” Aragones said. “We want the building to belong to the community.”

Bidding started at $50,000 for the property assessed at $2.9 million, according to the Dutchess County Parcel Access. The action was a bit slow out of the box, but quickly transformed into a battle between Scharffenberg and bidder number one (the state Office of General Services wouldn’t release the names of the other participants).

With every $5,000 increment, the two men stared straight ahead, expressionless but determined. As auctioneer John J. Bouchard called for a bid of $525,000, bidder one stared at the back of Scharffenberg and bowed out of the race.

“We were just thankful that we were able to secure the building for less than what we thought would be our maximum,” Scharffenberg said, without clarifying how much they were willing to bid.

Aragones, a local pastor, said the New York branch of the national church organization plans to use the 23,024-square-foot facility to host a food bank, recreation center, counseling service, health and nutrition classes and more.

Aragones promised to do “something special” inside the building to honor the soldiers of the New York Army National Guard who were stationed at the armory for nearly 120 years.

“We are committed to serving the community,” he said. “We want to be a blessing for everybody — a place of joy, a family center.”
Aragones expects to open the community center in about seven months. He said the church has to furnish, inspect and redecorate the facility, but no major alterations are expected.

City of Poughkeepsie resident Latoria McKinney said the community center could help create jobs and educate youth in the community.

McKinney said she has a great personal experience with the Seventh-day Adventist Church because Bernice Porter, the foster mother who raised her, was a member of the church. She said the organization is "hands-on" with a focus on building self-esteem and helping people grow spiritually.

"(The center) is going to empower the community," she said. "Watch the change we are going to see in our youth."

The time capsule that is buried in the foundation of the structure, containing a newspaper, coins and documents signed by the mayor and other officials from 1891, is not included in the sale.

If the capsule is found and removed, its contents are to be handed over to the state.

The Poughkeepsie Armory, built in 1891, was designed by architect Isaac Perry, famous for completing the design and construction of the state Capitol in Albany, according to OGS. The building is listed on both the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

"I'm glad the historic integrity of the building will be maintained and it will be put back to its productive use," Mayor John C. Tkazyik said.
Paradise man outs hidden toxins
Trevor Warner Assistant Managing Editor Paradise Post
Posted: ParadisePost.com

Harmful toxic chemicals are killing marine life, and humans are next if nothing is done. That is the premise Paradise resident Steve Arrington will present at the Paradise Seventh-day Adventist church in a couple of weeks.

Arrington spent five years with the Cousteau society leading expeditions to study the impact of pollutants on marine life.

"We're losing animals," he said. "It's a warning for what's going on in our environment."

He said killer whales of the Puget Sound were placed on the endangered species list in 2005 and could be extinct by 2030. Specifically, the calves are dying and the threat extends to human children, he said.

He noted that everything, from fire retardant in furniture to name brand toothpaste, to fabric softeners have unnecessary toxic chemicals in them. Even the new car smell is a "toxic chemical bouquet," he said, noting the smell comes from the "out-gassing" of chemicals built into the materials of the new vehicle.

The thin film often found on the inside of a vehicle's windshield proves this.

"It's called chemical fogging," he said. "The chemicals are vaporizing and collecting on the windshield. This is reflective of what (chemicals) are in the car."

Flame retardant is especially dangerous because it is built into practically everything Americans consume and impacts young children from birth, he said.

"Ninety-five percent of babies and toddlers tested have flame retardant in their urine," Arrington said. "We're surrounded by it."

And while the fire retardant chemicals, which are basically heavy metals, are banned in Europe, California mandates the chemicals used in consumer products. Air dryers are also responsible for collecting toxic agents because they have screens that collect dust that act as a magnet for the chemicals.

"Use paper towels," he said. "If there are no paper towels, use your shirt."

Homes should be dusted and vacuumed regularly to rid the residence of any dust, especially if there are babies in the house, he said. Babies spend a lot of time on the floor, putting them at higher risk of exposure to dust and chemicals on the floor and carpet.

"A baby is going to lick the carpet," he said.

Toxins are also linked to autism, he said, because toxins can cause depression and depressed people tend to take anti-depressants, which quadruple the chances of birthing an autistic child.

"There's an environmental reason why autism in children has gone from one in 2,500 to one in 80," he said.

The better option would be to reduce exposure to the toxins, creating a healthier body that doesn't need to take a "barrage of meds to mask the symptoms," he said. Solutions are simple, he said. Keep the house clean. Dust and vacuum. Leave windows open to get air circulating though the residence.

Same with the new car smell. Roll the windows down and let the vehicle air out. These and other tips will be offered during Arrington's presentation.

But his presentation is not going to be a long, in-depth science discussion. Instead, it is designed as a family-friendly primer to educate people about toxic agents in the environment, combined with simple, low-cost solutions to reduce exposure.

As a water enthusiast, Arrington will also talk about some of his experiences with marine life.

For instance, he said, he swam close enough to a 45-ton, singing humpback whale to touch its pectoral fin.

"The high notes, I could feel the high notes vibrating the hair on my arms," he said. "The deep notes echoed through my entire body. I never experienced music like that."

The third part of his presentation is about the Dream Machine Foundation headquartered in Fiji, which provides a free medical and dental clinic. Founded more than 12 years ago, the non-profit clinic has treated more than 30,000 patients free of charge, Arrington
Though Arrington's presentation has three elements to it, he promised it would not be a long, boring night. It will be over in about an hour and is designed to be entertaining for the whole family.

The presentation will be held at 7 p.m. on Aug. 11 at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 5720 Academy Drive. There is no admission charge.
Living the young girls' dream, Judy Olson has a closet full of pretty dresses with lace, bows and frills.

The difference is that Olson, 89, is making those dresses to give away to orphanages overseas through International Children's Care, a ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Vancouver, Wash.-based nonprofit establishes villages in 18 countries that include schools and group homes with 10 to 12 children living with volunteer parents.

"In some of these countries, they don't have the finances to buy clothes, so different people who are friends of the institution started serving," said the Campion woman, who is a member of Campion Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Olson, a sewer since she was 12, began sewing children's clothing 20 years ago for the orphanages at the suggestion of her friend.

"It gives me an incentive to get up in the morning," said Olson, who also sews her own clothes and has made clothes for her family and friends. "Keeping busy keeps you mentally going."

Most days, Olson works at her 1930 Singer Featherweight Sewing Machine, making one to three dresses. Each month, she makes an average of 30 dresses, plus a few shirts for the boys.

Olson prefers making the dresses over the shirts, she said, "because I like to."

Using mostly donated material, Olson uses floral, striped, patterned and character prints to create halter dresses or dresses with puffy sleeves. When she has completed several dresses and shirts, she sends them to Vancouver.

Debbie Cate, who attends the Loveland Seventh-day Adventist Church and met Olson through church, asked Olson if she needed help making the dresses. Olson said she could help by making additional dresses.

Six months ago, Cate, who has been sewing since she was 14, started making the dresses. She has made 12 to 15 dresses so far.

"I really admired what (Olson) was doing and thought it was good work," said Cate, 61.

Loveland Seventh-day Adventist Church involves members in sewing quilts through Adventist Community Services, which distributes quilts to newborns and to adults needing single or queen-size bedding. Cate serves as the director of the nonprofit, which also distributes food and clothing to those in need.

"It's giving of your time to someone who doesn't have the ability and the creativity," said 69-year-old Nancy Atwood, who, with her mother, Eleanor Rice, 96, makes the quilts. "It's just seeing the finished product. It's part of the artistry of putting something together."

Shelley Widhalm can be reached at 669-5050, ext. 531, or swidhalm@reporter-herald.com.
Send us your best stewardship sermon on one of the following topics:

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1. Seventh-day Adventist ministers (active or retired) in North America
2. Graduate ministerial students (such as MDiv or similar) in North American schools

**Submission requirements**
1. The submission must be a full-text sermon (outlines not accepted).
2. Bibliographic information must be provided for any material quoted or referenced.
3. Page one of the manuscript must include the following: your name, address, email address, telephone number, and current or previous position that qualifies you for this contest. The sermons should start on page two—do not include your name on any pages except the first page.
4. Submit your manuscript in Microsoft Word to lori.bryan@nad.adventist.org.
5. Only one submission per person is allowed.
6. The maximum length of the manuscript is 3,500 words.

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