Pine Springs Ranch (PSR) resident staff were able to move back to the camp over the weekend of July 20 after being evacuated due to the wildfire that swept through the area July 15-16. Some are in temporary housing after their homes were destroyed or made unlivable by the fire. They are working hard to get the minimal comforts of daily living up and running while facing the challenges of limited electricity, water that has to be boiled, and fires flaring up from time to time. The camp was well insured but it will take time for the assessments to be made, and in the meantime many have asked how they could help. MORE

The Pacific Press is sending 600,000 copies of the Swahili translation of *The Great Hope* (Tumaini Kuu in Swahili) to three countries in the East Central Africa Division (ECD): Tanzania, Kenya, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where they will be used for evangelistic campaigns in the ECD. The books were packed onto 275 pallets and shipped in 15 containers with a total weight of 450,000 lbs. It will take about two months for the shipment to reach its destination. (Photo: One of the 15 pallets ready for shipping)

This past weekend I was awed and inspired by the surroundings at the Northern California Conference Redwood Camp Meeting. I spoke on Friday evening, for church on Sabbath, and on Saturday evening. This conference is really fired up for evangelism. The lay members gave enthusiastic reports regarding their experiences with witnessing and giving Bible studies. An offering was received for evangelism. There is great enthusiasm for “The Bridges Project” which will affect the San Francisco area where Northern California and Central California Conferences are to work together in evangelism. - From NAD President Dan Jackson (Photo, L-R: Ramiro Cano, Central California Conference president; Dan Jackson, NAD president; Jim Pedersen, Northern California Conference president)

Hinsdale Hospital now offering water birth

Florida Hospital Carrollwood is One of Health Care’s Most Wired Hospitals
Skull and crossbones: Newark motorcycle minister writes book about Christian origin of symbols

Florida Hospital Tampa is One of Health Care's Most Wired Hospitals

New community center offering inmate video visitation

U.S. News and World Report names Porter Adventist Hospital as one of Colorado's top three hospitals

Castle Rock Adventist Hospital days away from opening

Adventist HealthCare prepping cheaper bid to relocate

Local parents celebrate babies' births with royal style

Registration for Health Summit 2014 begins August 1. The Summit, to be held in Orlando, Fla., January 24 - February 2, is designed for health leaders and individuals wanting to share evidence-based wholistic health programs which will enable them to effectively present the life-changing elements for abundant living. If you want your congregation's health ministry to be relevant and able to address current health issues, you will want to attend. MORE

College students attending a non-Adventist college: The Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) website is the best way to stay connected with Adventist ministry while attending a non-Adventist college or university. Another great connecting point is ACF on Facebook.

Take a three-minute survey to be automatically entered to be one of five people who will win a $50 AdventistBookCenter.com gift card. The contest closes by the end of this week.

Save money on National Advertising in the union magazines. You can save 15% by placing a half- or full-page ad as a "National Buy" in at least five of the nine NAD union magazines. A "frequency ad" (placing identical ads in at least five magazines within a 12-month period) will get you an additional 10% discount with four-time frequency or 15% discount with a 12-time frequency. The union magazines have a total circulation of 400,000, reaching nearly every Adventist home in the division.

MORE

Discover how your church can become a center for health, healing and wholeness in the community. Although many secular organizations offer smoking cessation clinics, cooking schools and other life-changing programs, none of them offer the life-changing power found in Jesus Christ — the only Healer and Savior of body and soul. With contributions from more than...
150 health professionals, the chapters in this book include: Help for the New Health Ministries Leader, Creating a Vibrant Health Ministry, Step-by-Step Health Evangelism, Health Ministries Resources and Parish/Faith Community Nursing. MORE

"A Forgiving Father"
G. Alexander Bryant,
Executive Secretary
North American Division

REACH: Community Outreach and Evangelism
Adventist Members Sow Love at a Local Public School

While childhood obesity is at an all-time high in the U.S., another side of childhood health is insufficient food and improper nutrition. Metropolitan Church members in Hyattsville, Md., are addressing the lack of a free public school lunch during the summer months for community students by growing fruits and vegetables to help give them access to food. At the same time, they are teaching the students how to garden. In addition, members have prayed for the school, invited the parents to use the food pantry, held a clothing drive and started English-language classes. MORE

Aug. 4-10: Please pray for the Northern California Conference and its 139 churches with 41,664 members.

NAD News: Marriage and Family Resources, Special Days in North America, pp. 11-13
NAD Update: A Message for All - Hispanic Ministries in North America, pp. 14-15
NAD Perspective: Serving Immigrant Populations, p. 17
NAD Letters: p. 18
NAD Feature: Reaching the World on our Doorstep, pp. 34-41
Dear Friends:

Thank you for your continued prayers for the ministry of Pine Springs Ranch, the summer camp staff and those who work at the camp and call it home.

Pastor Carmen, the Wuttke family and David Machado were able to move back on site over the weekend, but not without challenges of limited electricity, water that has to be boiled and fires flaring up from time to time. Carmen is in her home, but the others are in temporary housing. They are working hard to get the minimal comforts of daily living up and running. Pine Springs Ranch is their home and getting them settled is our first priority.

You may have noticed Pine Springs Ranch has received national as well as local news coverage and the picture of the ashes of the Wuttke home with the fireplace still standing has become the most used photo for this fire event. The fire is expected to be contained by Friday and we are grateful no more damage to structures has taken place.

SUMMER CAMP:

The summer camp leadership team was able to join the resident staff and retrieve the campers’ luggage from the cabins on Friday. Saturday night and Sunday parents came to the conference office and picked up their children’s belongings. I met several parents Saturday night at the office who expressed much gratitude to the camp staff for the safety and care of their children. One little girl announced to me that when she was old enough, she was going to be a counselor at Pine Springs Ranch.

The spiritual impact the staff had on these children in the short time they were at PSR before the fire is evident. It deeply saddens us that due to the fire damage at the camp we will not be able to continue to operate for this summer camp season. The conference will take care of our commitment to the summer camp staff, who depend on this summer job and the matching funds they are to receive from their universities. We will also intentionally keep reaching out to the campers who lost out on the camp experience. We know there are many disappointed children.

GROUPS:

Many have asked when the camp will be fully operational again. We do not yet know. The insurance adjuster visited the camp for the first time with Tim Rawson today and we will work closely with them to figure out our options for becoming operational again. The loss of the sewer plant is devastating for public use of the facility, but we are exploring all alternatives. If you have a church group that has booked the camp in the next few months, the camp staff will be contacting you and will keep you updated on what we realistically can expect for the time you are booked. We do expect to be out of full operation until the end of 2013.
WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

Many of you have called and e-mailed asking what you can do. The camp is well insured and the Wuttke family and the camp in general will be covered for the long haul. Here are some ideas of how we might all help shower those who serve us with love and care in the next few days and weeks:

1. Notes and cards of encouragement to the camp staff letting them know how you are praying for them. They can be sent in care of the Youth Department at the conference office, PO Box 79990, Riverside, CA 92513.
2. Gift cards to grocery stores and restaurants for all staff.
3. Gift cards for Corey and Colton, the two Wuttke teenage boys, so they can shop a bit for themselves. We suggest Best Buy and REI as great options for them.
4. For the Wuttke family, gift cards to Bed, Bath and Beyond; JC Penney’s; Sears and Target, so they can begin to buy basics such as towels and bedding, would be helpful.
5. You can send checks to the conference office. Verlon has set up an account for donations at the office for anyone who would like to donate money directly to the Wuttke family or to the camp in general. Just be certain to identify the checks as for the “Wuttke Fund” or “PSR Fire Recovery Fund” in the memo section at the bottom of your check.

There will come a time after the insurance assessment has been completed that we will need the physical help of many hands at the camp and we will notify churches and schools as soon as this labor is needed.

Thanks again for your commitment to and interest in your camp. Pine Springs Ranch belongs to you and we know God has a plan for the ministry there to thrive again!

Sandra Roberts

Executive Secretary

July 17, 2013
Many of you have heard by now a wildfire swept through Apple Canyon on Monday, July 15, 2013, and Pine Springs Ranch was evacuated. Summer camp was in session with 120 campers plus summer camp staff. All campers and staff were safely taken to Hemet church and reunited with parents. We had a great team effort led by summer camp director, Carmen Ibanez, and her assistant, Jeremy Cruz, as well as all resident and summer camp staff. We are grateful to the Hemet church for their support by opening the church to a couple hundred instant guests. They did a phenomenal job with the evacuation and keeping the children safe.

We attempted to get updates on the condition of the camp structures last night but were told it would be this morning before the fire department could get in and assess damages. Due to the fast moving fire and the immediate need to evacuate, the horses, the animals at the nature center and personal belongings had all been left behind. We only had time to evacuate people in the vehicles.

Tuesday, July 16, 2013, Tim Rawson and I joined the resident staff at the fire command center in Mountain Center and were able to get Tim and Carmen on a truck into the site to help look at damage with firefighters. The major buildings are still standing, but we have complete loss of the following: sewer plant, store, maintenance facilities, and the Wuttke home. There is some damage to other staff housing, Town Hall and other random spots. It will most likely be Friday before we can get in again to do a more complete assessment of the property. The animals are fine and animal control has taken over their care and feeding until we can remove them from the property.

We are grateful for the standing structures and saddened at the losses. Please keep Fritz and Melody Wuttke in your prayers as they lost everything when their house burned to the ground.

The camp is not out of further danger. Apple Canyon continues to be an active fire site.

Thankful to God for a wonderful camp staff...thankful to God the campers are all safe...and thankful even though the camp was in the direct path of the fire we did not have more damage. We are grateful for the fire fighters and responders who have worked so hard to save the property and been so compassionate to us.

We will update this page as we continue to make decisions on summer camp and facility use during this unfolding fire disaster.
Keep praying with us – God has been very good!

Sandra Roberts
Executive Secretary
Southeastern California Conference

For more information refer to the following links:

North American Division PSR Article
Press Enterprise Blog- Carmen Ibanez Interview
NBC Video
Photos by Tim Rawson
Support Pine Springs Ranch:
PSR Fundly
HINSDALE, Ill. — Leading up to the birth of her son Roscoe, Abbi Togtman had done a lot of reading about the different options available to mothers in labor.

One of those options in particular, water birth, intrigued her. The Oak Park resident was intent on going through natural child birth, and she had heard water birth helped to ease the pain of labor and avoid other birthing issues.

“I was really nervous about tearing and having stitches,” Togtman said. “Water birth seemed like a more gentle way of approaching everything.”

Togtman connected with OMG Women’s Healthcare, which helped her to arrange for a water birth at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. On May 26, Togtman was the first mother to complete a water birth at the hospital. Since starting to offer the service two months ago, the hospital has had eight water births, all of them going smoothly.

The water definitely helped her manage her labor pains, Togtman said. She became so relaxed while having contractions that she had to get out of the water, because her contractions had slowed. When it came time to push, she returned to the tub, which helped to calm her in the final moments of labor.

“My husband was behind me holding me up,” Togtman said. “With each push, I was able to push up on the side of the tub with my feet so that I’d be floating. It felt much better than in the bed, where gravity is working against you.”

Hinsdale Hospital considered water birth many years ago, but decided initially to further study research related to the method as it was used, said BettySue Netzel, nursing director for Women and Children’s Services at the hospital. Two midwife groups working with the hospital — OMG and West Suburban Women’s Health — asked that the hospital reevaluate this delivery option.

After studying water birth results conducted internationally, the hospital agreed to offer the service. Fortunately, tubs that some mothers opt to use during the labor process for relaxation were already in place in three of the hospital’s labor and delivery rooms. So the transition did not prove too difficult.

“We want to support those patients in our community who want this type of birth,” Netzel said.
Water immersion provides women in labor with another tool to help with their pain management, said Beth Helme-Smith, a certified midwife with OMG Women’s Healthcare.

“It’s a much calmer environment for a baby to be born into and a much gentler transition for the baby,” Helme-Smith said. “Babies are calmer, they don’t cry as quickly and they’re more peaceful during the whole birthing process.”

Much like when someone injures a muscle and is able to soothe themselves in a warm bath, water birth can help a mother relax while in labor, said Patricia Schneider, certified nurse midwife with West Suburban Women’s Health.

“They still have contractions, but the sensation or perception of pain is diminished,” Schneider said. “The warmth soothes the whole body and really promotes a mother’s ability to handle the pain.”

If she were to attempt natural child birth again, Togtman said she would try a water birth. Her pain was managed well, she said, and the tearing after giving birth was minimal.

And throughout her labor, Togtman said she was impressed by how well her midwife worked with hospital staff.

“It seemed like everyone was on the same page, and we were really impressed by the hospital,” she said. “The nurses were awesome and totally supportive of what we were doing. And our midwives were great.”

The hospital’s nurses have been phenomenal in supporting water births, Schneider said.

“The nurses in labor and delivery have been stupendous and, being excited about it, they’ve really tried to facilitate women getting into the water,” Schneider said.

The whole water birth process at the hospital has worked out well, Helme-Smith said.

“What we’re seeing with the patients, it’s working out just beautifully for us at this time,” she said. “It’s definitely a safe option.”

Read More Business
For the 15th year, Hospitals & Health Networks has named Adventist Health System one of the Most Wired Hospitals and Health Systems, which is based on Health Care’s Most Wired Survey. Florida Hospital Carrollwood is on the list as one of the 44 hospitals in the Adventist Health System.

“Florida Hospital Carrollwood has a more than 85% physician adoption rate for computerized provider order entry (CPOE), utilizes clinical decision support and evidence based protocols, and employs technologies like closed loop medication with positive patient identification to reduce the likelihood of medication errors,” said Joe Johnson, Florida Hospital Carrollwood CEO. “Our focus is on utilizing technology to continually improve patient care and safety, and we are honored to be recognized for our effective technology adoption.”

As a result of its implementation and execution of CPOE, Florida Hospital Carrollwood was recently recognized with the HIMSS Level 7 designation. HIMSS Level 7 sets the national standard for patient safety through the use of electronic medical records. Florida Hospital Carrollwood is the third hospital in Florida to achieve HIMSS Level 7 and is now one of only 2% of all hospitals in the United States to earn this designation.

“Florida Hospital Carrollwood is proud to be able to take the lead in patient safety through our use of electronic medical records (EMR) in Hillsborough County,” said Johnson. This level of technology integration could not have taken place without the leadership and support of Adventist Health System, which has led the way in the adoption of EMR. With an ongoing commitment from our highly skilled physicians and staff, the use of electronic medical records enables us to continue in our efforts to provide the highest quality and safest care to our patients.”

Health Care’s Most Wired Survey, conducted between January 15 and March 15, asked hospitals and health systems nationwide to answer questions regarding their IT initiatives. Respondents completed 659 surveys, representing 1,713 hospitals, or roughly 30 percent of all U.S. hospitals. The methodology for determining the Most Wired survey winners sets specific requirements in each of four focus areas: infrastructure, business and administrative management, clinical quality and safety, and clinical integration.

“This year’s Most Wired organizations exemplify progress through innovation,” said Rich Umbdenstock, President and CEO of the American Hospital Association. “The hospital field can learn from these outstanding organizations ways that IT can help to improve efficiency.”

About Florida Hospital Carrollwood

Florida Hospital Carrollwood is a member of the Adventist Health System. Florida Hospital Carrollwood is a 120-bed community hospital specializing in Spine and Orthopedic Surgery, General Surgery, Cardiac Services, Neurological Services, General Medicine, Wound Healing, ENT, Diabetes Management, Bariatric Weight Loss Surgery, as well as other services that meet our mission of healing the mind, body and spirit. It’s Knee and Bariatric Weight Loss Surgeons are known for their revision work, correcting procedures done elsewhere. Spine Surgeons at Florida Hospital Carrollwood perform specialized procedures not available elsewhere in the world. In addition, Florida Hospital Carrollwood is the only hospital in the nine-county Tampa Bay area to utilize the Mazor Renaissance™ Spine Robot. The Radiation Department provides the only nuclear camera with low dose in the state of Florida and utilizes the first KineGraph VMA™ available in the world for Spine. Florida Hospital Carrollwood is a HIMSS Level 7-designated hospital, one of only 2% in the United States. It holds the Surgical Review Corporation Center of Excellence designation for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. The Hospital collaborates with its physicians and clinicians to provide wellness education for a healthier community. Visit http://www.floridahospital/carrollwood.

About Health Forum Health Forum, an American Hospital Association information company, distributes, collects and analyzes the Most Wired data and develops benchmarks that are becoming the industry standard for measuring IT adoption for operational, financial and clinical performance in health care delivery systems. The 2013 Most Wired Survey is conducted in cooperation with McKesson Corp., AT&T, the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives, and the American Hospital Association. The July Hospitals & Health Networks cover story detailing the results is available at http://www.hhnmag.com.

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Skull and crossbones: Newark motorcycle minister writes book about Christian origin of symbols

NEWARK — As a longtime Christian pastor and motorcyclist, Tom Hughes has found himself caught between two vastly different groups, as most would have it.

But Hughes, pastor of the Newark Seventh-day Adventist Community Church, has published a book arguing Christians and motorcyclists have a little more in common than they think.

Two years of research and writing have led Hughes to publish The Skull & The Cross in June with Remnant Publications, an international Christian publisher based in Michigan. The 64-page book sells for $4.99 and 15,000 copies were printed. Hughes said at least 1,000 have sold so far.

Hughes researched the material for the book to discover for himself the meaning behind the skull and crossbones, long-revered symbols by motorcyclists but despised by Christians, he said.

Christians were yelling at me because they said you shouldn't have skulls on your bike; they're evil, Hughes said. And bikers were yelling at me because they were saying ... they're our symbol, they belong to us.

But Hughes said he found that the skull and crossbones were used as Christian symbols for centuries after the time of Jesus.

Among other points, Hughes said the X of the crossbones is the first letter of the Greek spelling of Christ. The Latin word calvaria translates to the English skull, and calvaria is also where the word for Calvary comes from, which is one of the names of the place Christ died and where Christians point to as the origin of salvation.

Hughes also published pictures of old churches in Europe some of which he's been to where those symbols were displayed alongside the crucifix.

For Hughes, the research that led to his book aids in his ongoing ministry to motorcyclists, a ministry he's been conducting around the country since 1998. Known as the Bible Biker, Hughes has said he's ridden in all 50 states and has shared the Christian faith with thousands of motorcyclists at rallies and on the road.

The Bible says that the Gospel will go to every nation, kindred, tribe and tongue, he said. The bikers are a tribe ... the bikers have to receive the message, too. So all I'm trying to do is reach bikers with the message of salvation.

For Remnant Publications, putting out a book catering to motorcyclists was a bit unconventional, said Dwight Hall, CEO of the nonprofit publisher. Hall said Remnant printed four to five million books in 2012 and distributes them throughout the world, but Hughes book was more narrowly focused than most.

Hughes began looking into the symbols in 2011 and spoke about his findings at a motorcycle rally in June 2012, which Hall attended and led to him becoming interested in the topic. After some initial hesitation with the manuscript, vetting of the sources and adjustments to the book's presentation, Hall said the book has a chance to reach a large audience.

We felt it was going to be a niche market, Hall said, who also is a motorcyclist. It will get out to other people.

Hughes has extended his ministry into print before, adapting a copy of Steps to Jesus by placing a motorcyclist-themed cover on it and renaming it The Ride of Your Life. Hughes said he's distributed more than 400,000 copies of the book, which was printed in 2010.

Hughes said he's working on a longer book about Christ-centered worship and is planning for a 2014 release.

Its a natural result of my ministry, he said about his venture into publishing. I have a lot of things to say.

Hughes and Hall both said they've heard good reactions to The Skull & The Cross so far. Loren Seibold, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor, writer and theologian, wrote in an email that Hughes book is an interesting and possibly unique contribution to the study of religious
Christian culture associates the skull with violence and demonic themes, Seibold wrote. Tom Hughes shows how it turns up throughout Christian history as a reminder that, as Ecclesiastes (9:5) says, The living know that they shall die.

Hughes said he hopes Christian motorcyclists will hand it out in mass quantities. Books can be bought in amounts of 100 or 1,000 for a discounted price to explain the skull and crossbones symbols seen on motorcycles and gear.

But not every motorcyclist took the news with enthusiasm. Hughes said one motorcyclist grumbled about the information, telling Hughes, Now every time I look at my bike, I'm going to be thinking about Jesus Christ.

Hughes responded, Mission accomplished, dude. That's all I was trying to do.

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Adventist Health System, comprised of 44 hospitals including Florida Hospital Tampa has been named one of the “Most Wired” hospitals and health systems by Hospitals & Health Networks for the 15th year. This is based on Health Care’s Most Wired survey, which takes place between January 15 and March 15. Hospitals and health systems nationwide answer questions regarding their IT initiatives. Respondents completed 659 surveys, representing 1,713 hospitals, or roughly 30% of all U.S. hospitals. The methodology for determining the Most Wired survey winners sets specific requirements in each of four focus areas: infrastructure, business and administrative management, clinical quality and safety, and clinical integration.

Florida Hospital Tampa has more than 85% physician adoption rate for computerized provider order entry, utilizes clinical decision support and evidence based protocols and employs technologies like closed loop medication with positive patient identification to reduce the likelihood of medical errors. "Our focus is on utilizing technology to continually improve patient care, and we are honored to be recognized for our effective technology adoption," said John Harding, President and CEO of Florida Hospital Tampa. Health Forum, an American Hospital Association information company distributes, collects and analyzes the Most Wired data and develops benchmarks that are becoming the industry standard for measuring IT adoption for operational, financial and clinical performance in health care delivery systems. “We could never have achieved the level of being one of the “most wired” hospitals without the assistance and teamwork of the entire staff. We are thankful for the employees partnering with our IT department to adopt the technology,” said Karim Veerjee, Information Services Director of Florida Hospital Tampa. The 2013 Most Wired Survey is conducted in cooperation with McKesson Corp., AT&T, the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives, and the American Hospital Association. “This year’s Most Wired organizations exemplify progress through innovation. The hospital field can learn from these outstanding organizations ways that IT can help to improve efficiency,” said Rich Umbdenstock, President and CEO of the American Hospital Association. The July Hospitals & Health Networks cover story detailing the results is available at [http://www.hhnmag.com](http://www.hhnmag.com).

About Florida Hospital Tampa
Florida Hospital Tampa is a not-for-profit 475-bed tertiary hospital specializing in cardiovascular medicine, neuroscience, orthopaedics, women’s services, pediatrics, pulmonology, oncology, endocrinology, bariatrics, wound healing, sleep medicine and general surgery including minimally invasive and robotic-assisted procedures. Also located at Florida Hospital Tampa is the renowned Florida Hospital Pepin Heart Institute, a recognized leader in cardiovascular disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and leading-edge research. Part of the Adventist Health System, Florida Hospital is a leading health network comprised of 23 hospitals throughout the state. For more information, visit [http://www.FHTampa.org](http://www.FHTampa.org).

About Florida Hospital Pepin Heart Institute and Dr. Kiran C. Patel Research Institute Florida Hospital Pepin Heart Institute is a free-standing cardiovascular institute providing comprehensive cardiovascular care with over 76,000 angioplasty procedures and 11,000 open-heart surgeries in the Tampa Bay region. Leading the way with the first accredited chest pain emergency room in Tampa Bay, the institute is among an elite few in the state of Florida chosen to perform the ground breaking Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) procedure and LARIAT procedure. It is also a HeartCaring designated provider and a Larry King Cardiac Foundation Hospital. Florida Hospital Pepin Heart Institute and the Dr. Kiran C. Patel Research Institute, affiliated with the University of South Florida (USF), are exploring and conducting leading-edge research to develop break-through treatments long before they are available in most other hospitals. To learn more, visit [http://www.FHPepin.org](http://www.FHPepin.org)
New community center offering inmate video visitation

by Jamie Anfenson-Comeau Staff writer

Beltsville Adventist Community Center pilots first-in-state program

by Jamie Anfenson-Comeau Staff writer

The Beltsville Adventist Community Center is not yet a year old, but it is already piloting a first-in-the-state program connecting prison inmates with families.

“We’re very excited to be piloting this,” said Glenn Holland, community pastor for BACC, which is operated through the Beltsville Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The pilot program uses video conferencing software and equipment to allow family and friends to schedule an appointment at BACC to see and speak with inmates at Jessup Corrections Institution eligible for visitation at no cost, Holland said.

Holland said he learned about videoconference visitation being used in Virginia through the regional conference of Seventh Day Adventist churches. Holland said Virginia is the only other state to provide the service.

“It seemed like something we ought to be doing in Maryland,” Holland said.

Holland said he contacted the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services and last September, a plan began to create the free pilot program.

“We think this is better for safety and it is easier on families in that they do not have to travel as far,” Martha Danner, DPSCS deputy director of Community Supervision Support.

Jessup is currently the only prison participating, but if the pilot is successful, it would be expanded to other state prisons, Danner said, adding that several Baltimore area churches have expressed an interest in participating.

Inmates are more likely to be successful after prison if they have strong family support, but many families cannot make the journey on a regular basis, Danner said.

“If somebody can visit from a remote location and maintain closer contact with the inmate, that inmate may well do better when he or she gets out,” Danner said.

There are 22 prisons in Maryland and JCI is closest to Prince George’s County.

Capt. Anthony Lewis, pilot project coordinator for JCI, said the benefits include not having to search visitors for contraband or worry about visitor safety inside the facility.

“Jessup Correctional Institution was pleased to be chosen by the DCPCS to pilot this video visit program,” said Lewis. “This is a wonderful program and I would like to see it expand throughout the DPCPS.”

The first video visitation was held July 14.

“It went great,” said Holland. “They were really excited to be the first ones to try it.”

The inmate and visitor wished to remain confidential, Holland said.

Video visitations must be scheduled at least a week in advance, by calling the Beltsville Seventh Day Adventist Church. Currently, they are only scheduled for Sundays, as the church observes the Sabbath on Saturdays and hosts a daycare program weekdays, but if demand increases, it may be extended to weekday evenings as well, Holland said.

Holland said the prison video visitation is just one example of ways churches and government can cooperate.
BACC provides other services such as counseling, a computer lab and a food pantry.

“Both churches and government need to be working together to meet the needs of the community that we both have a mutual interest in serving, and that’s what we’re doing here,” Holland said.

janfenson-comeau@gazette.net
U.S. News and World Report names Porter Adventist Hospital as one of Colorado's top three hospitals

Published on July 20, 2013 at 5:02 AM

Porter Adventist Hospital has recently been named as one of the top three hospitals in the state by *U.S. News and World Report*. As one of only 14 hospitals to make the prestigious "Best Hospitals in Colorado" list, Porter Adventist Hospital was recognized for strong performance in cancer care, gastroenterology, geriatric medicine, gynecology, nephrology, neurology, orthopedics, pulmonology and urologic surgery.

This ranking distinguishes Porter Adventist Hospital as one of the top health care providers in the state that is above average in terms of reputation, patient survival, safety and overall care.

In addition to this most recent honor, Porter Adventist Hospital has also received an "A" grade for safety by The Leapfrog Group and was one of only six Colorado hospitals to receive the 2013 Healthgrades Patient Safety Excellence Award™.

These awards and honors are a direct result of the rigorous efforts made by the hospital's entire staff to improve patient safety, quality of care, communication and teamwork throughout the entire hospital.

SOURCE Porter Adventist Hospital

Posted in: Medical Condition News | Healthcare News
Castle Rock Adventist Hospital days away from opening

Castle Rock Adventist Hospital days away from opening By Virginia Grantier vgrantier@ourcoloradonews.com Colorado Community Media | 0 comments

It seemed everyone was there for the July 17 ribbon-cutting and gala event at the new Castle Rock Adventist Hospital: number crunchers, CEOs, doctors, politicians, the public and the artists who have put things on its walls – including a relatively small person, when compared to the 48-foot-tall, 15,000-pound steel aspen trees he created for the lobby.

And there were the architects who put the hospital on the map — exactly where they thought it should be.

The builder wanted the hospital next to the road so the huge building loomed even larger, but designer Aurelio Posada and architect Chuck Cole, of Florida-based Hunton Brady Architects, had a different idea, upon visiting the site.

“We wanted to capture the soul and spirit of the site,” Posada said. “We wanted to understand what the site was telling us.”

Cole said the building needed to be up on the ridgeline, farther east. He said that as he and Posada stood on that site, they could “feel it,” that that was where it was supposed to be.

But they still wanted all of the patients to have a good view of the mountains, so the hospital rooms aren’t the usual shape. He said they needed to be “cranked” to the west and so aren’t your typical rectangular rooms, more like parallelograms, he said.

At the ribbon-cutting, it’s not known what if anything the site was telling Castle Rock Mayor Paul Donahue, but he had some things to tell.

He related how when he first got on the council six years ago, the bottom was falling out of the economy and the council was trying to figure out how to keep the town in a good financial position. Along came a hospital.

He said Adventist was the first major company to make a commitment during those “rocky times.” Donahue said having the hospital is not only great for the health and well-being of the community, but it has also helped attract more development in the area.

He asked God to bless the hospital and “be a light on every patient.”

Donahue and Todd Folkenberg, the hospital’s CEO, and other speakers received strong applause from the crowd of about 400, but one of the most admired there had on a white hat and didn’t give a speech at all.

Responsible for all of the gala food, which included local products and produce from the hospital’s community garden, was the hospital’s executive chef, Dan Skay, who was written up in the Wall Street Journal a couple years ago for winning a contest as the country’s best hospital chef.

In addition to healthful food in the cafeteria, the hospital will have a free bicycle-rental program and the opportunity for the general public to hold exercise meet-ups there. The plan is for the 212,240-square-foot hospital, a 50-bed Centura Health entity with 300 employees, to surpass the expectations of the average health care facility and become a center point for health and wellness for the residents of Castle Rock and surrounding areas, according to a news release.

The hospital has been providing emergency care since its phase one opening in 2011. When the grand opening happens on Aug. 1, there will be the addition of a labor and delivery service, an intensive care unit, an acute care wing and a full-service women’s imaging center that includes equipment for determining bone density and provides digital mammography.

The hospital, at 2350 Meadows Blvd., officially opens at 7 a.m. Aug. 1.

For more information, go to www.castlerockhospital.org or call 720-455-5000.
Adventist HealthCare prepping cheaper bid to relocate Washington Adventist Hospital

bizjournals.com/washington/blog/2013/07/adventist-healthcare-prepping-cheaper.html

Ben Fischer

BizBeat

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Updated: Jul 23, 2013, 4:06pm EDT
Adventist HealthCare will soon try again to obtain Maryland regulators' permission to build a new hospital in White Oak, this time planning a "significantly less" costly project with a more traditional funding scheme, two executives told me Tuesday.

Adventist, dealt twin blows when regulators rejected two separate plans to build new Montgomery County hospitals in 2011 and 2012, will take the first steps Aug. 2 toward trying again to relocate Washington Adventist Hospital from Takoma Park farther north. They continue to call the relocation crucial to its long-term survival.

The new proposal will be scaled down from the hospital's previous $398 million, 249-bed plan thanks to a decision to keep its 39-bed psychiatric unit at the Takoma Park campus, said hospital President Joyce Newmyer. Also, an as-yet-undetermined number of general medical-surgical beds will be converted to psychiatric beds.

Adventist had originally proposed a complex plan to pay for the construction, which included obtaining federal mortgage insurance through the Federal Housing Administration for $285 million of the cost, enabling it to borrow at a lower interest rate than would have normally been available to Adventist.

Adventist's overall financial condition was a key reason Maryland Health Care Commissioner Barbara Gill McLean recommended a denial of their project last September, which lead to Adventist going back to the drawing board.

On Tuesday, Robert Jepson, Adventist's vice president of business development, said the system will pursue more conventional financing in the revamped application.

"I think it's fair to say that was a source of concern for the Health Care Commission," said Jepson. "It's a more traditional approach."

Ben Fischer covers health care and law.

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Local parents celebrate babies' births with royal style

By Michelle Basch More Reports

Patricia Kollappallil of Gaithersburg and her baby Hunter Mathai celebrate sharing a birthday with the royal baby with high tea in their hospital room Tuesday at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. (WTOP/Michelle Basch)

ROCKVILLE, Md. - Fourteen newborns and their moms got the royal treatment Tuesday at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville.

That's because the babies were born on the same day as Prince William and his wife Kate's child, the heir to the British throne.

Amy Folger of Bethesda gave birth Monday to a baby boy named Flint. He has another connection to the royal baby in addition to their shared birthday: Flint's birth weight.

"Eight pounds, six ounces, I heard the same weight as the (royal baby)," Folger says.

Also giving birth to a boy Monday was Patricia Kollappallil of Gaithersburg, who says she admires the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

"I like the modern kind of royal that Kate and William seem to be. And I'm always picking up magazines and reading about them," she says.

Kollappallil visited London this past January while she was pregnant. So in a way, her baby Hunter has already been there.

The hospital treated the new moms to high tea in their rooms including a sandwich, pastry and a chocolate covered strawberry.

Paper crowns were placed outside each of their doors. And each mom received a gift of a crown-shaped picture frame to hold their child's photo.

Folger and her husband Bryan proposed a future throwdown with William, Kate and the baby who could one day become king of England.

"We challenge them to a polo match in 18 years," Folger said with a laugh.

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The U.S. loses a race it never does, thanks to .01 of a second.

More Seacrest on TV

Ryan Seacrest will be starting a new quiz show on NBC.