A smaller publishing house was voted by the Review and Herald Publishing Association (RHPA) Board of Directors after year-end reports showed a nearly $943,000 loss for 2013, and continued weakness in the first quarter of 2014. The goal of the decision is to stabilize the financial health of the 165-year-old publishing house in Hagerstown, Md.

Elder Jackson was honored to offer the prayer for the Maryland State Assembly on Monday, April 7. All prayers have to be submitted in writing and approved in advance. Here is the prayer he prayed:

"O Lord of Space, of Earth and Sea and Sky, we honor You as Almighty God. We acknowledge You as the Source of life and love and the energy that gives us all the ability to live and to be creative as we work for the betterment of the human family.

"We come to You with our request that You bless this beautiful state of Maryland. We also ask that You will continue to guide this Senate through Your gracious providence. We pray this on behalf of each Senator and on behalf of the corporate body. We ask that You will guide their leadership and their stewardship of all of the resources of this great state – physical and financial and human. Provide them all with wisdom, discernment and courage.

"We ask that the laws and actions undertaken during this Session of the Senate will be guided to successful completion and fulfillment. We pray this so that every person in this great State will be mutually benefited as a result.

"We ask that You hear our prayer and that as a result, the principles of goodness, justice and human kindness will flourish throughout our state. Amen."

Open Arms Brings Down Barriers To Care

11th annual chamber business expo to combine job and health fairs

The greatest story ever told

April 16, 2014

Special Days

April Focus: Stewardship
Apr 19, Literature Evangelism Sabbath
Apr 26, Education Sabbath

May Focus: Community Services
May 3 Community Services Sabbath
May 10, Youth Sabbath
May 17, Single Adults Sabbath

Helpful Special Day Websites and Resources

Offerings
May 10, Disaster Famine & Relief
May 31, NAD Evangelism

Sample Offertory Readings
May 1, Prayer Call
May 1-4, Summit on Abuse
May 16-24, Adventist Christian Fellowship Institute
June 2-6, Nonprofit Leadership Certification-I Program
June 24-27, PSI Conference on Philanthropy
July 17-20, Families Reaching Across
Local Adventists receive humanitarian award

Taking the Book to heart

Andrews University’s six-day Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop will be offered again this August 3-8. In addition to university faculty, the following speakers will present: Don Miller, Uchee Pines Institute; David DeRose, Weimar Center of Health and Education; Elvin Adams, U.S. Health Works; Norman McNulty, neurologist. Register before July 25 to reserve a place in the workshop. MORE, email fran@andrews.edu, or call 269-471-3541.

The Adventist Home, the Spirit of Prophecy Book of the Year, is on sale for 25% off for all versions. This book, never out of date, contains practical counsel for Adventist Christian families, including guidance on where to locate the home, how to make it pleasant, counsel on how to get along with other family members, and more. Order online through your local Adventist Book Center, or call 800-765-6955.

Confidence in Chaos, the 2014 sharing book is written to help people who are trying to make sense of a rapidly changing world that appears to be mired in chaos. Written by John Bradshaw, speaker/director of It Is Written television ministry, it reveals not only the depth of the chaos facing our world and the issues coming in the future, but also confidence in the solutions offered to us by God. Read sample chapters and learn more.

CALLED - Visits to Adventist Congregations
A visit to Glenville Adventist Church

Geoff Crowley, a seminary student, struggled with contextualizing the Adventist Church for the next generation. After seeing some failures in the past he got a chance to check out Glenville’s transition. Watch this 15 minute video as lay leaders in their 60’s describe how they handed off their church to upcoming generations. In it Geoff observes a growing church filled with passionate young adults who are transforming the Glenville community. He returns to seminary with firsthand knowledge that the church can still be a

Aug. 6-9, ASI International Convention

Sept. 8-10, Risk Management Conference

Sept. 19-21, Atlantic Union/NAD Adventist Single Adult Ministries Convention

Sept. 22-25, Nonprofit Leadership Certification-II Program

Sept. 25-28, NAD Women’s Convention

Oct. 16-18, Society of Adventist Communicators 25th Anniversary Convention

NAD News: Health Leaders Collaborate, NAD Strengthens Its Response to Local Communities, pp. 11-13
NAD Update: Young Adults Making a Difference, by Sean Robinson pp. 14-15
NAD Perspective: "Mad at God," by Dan Weber, p. 17
NAD Letters: p. 18
NAD Feature: Single in the Church, by Pamela and Claudio Consuegra, pp. 35-39
powerful force for new generations. He is now faced with the challenge of taking the leadership principles so powerfully lived out in Pastor MyRon Edmund's life and applying them to his first church. Watch the video.

REACH: Community Outreach and Evangelism
Every member an active and enthusiastic witness for God using the gifts He has given them to share hope and wholeness with a world in need.

What if...?

"When I sit and think about this experience, I'm humbled. Why me? Why work through someone who could have messed things all up? What if I had ignored God's call...?"

While on the platform one Sabbath, Marjie noticed a visitor and says she heard the Lord speak to her, "She's the one." So she looked for her after the service and found her in the parking lot. She spoke to her and was "ignored," and as she started to walk away she again heard, "She's the one," so she tried again, touching her on the shoulder and said, "I'm glad you came to visit us today."

She learned that it was Dorothy's first time to have ever been to any church. Read rest of the story in the April, 2014 Lake Union Herald, pp. 28, 29.
NAD NewsPoints- Smaller R&H, Jackson prays at MD St. Assembly, Sharing book, Book of the year, Called, What if she'd ignored God's voice?
RHPA Board Votes Smaller, Leaner Profile for Publishing House

Workflow and personnel changes to save $1.5 million within a year.

Posted April 8, 2014

BY ADVENTIST REVIEW STAFF

The Board of Directors of the Review and Herald Publishing Association moved swiftly Sunday, April 6, to stabilize the financial health of the 165-year old publishing house at a specially-called Executive session after year-end reports showed a nearly $943,000 dollar loss for 2013 and continued weakness in the first quarter of the current year. RHPA Board chair Delbert Baker said that the directors were responding to recommendations from management, executive and finance committees, calling for quick and efficient action to turn around the finances of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's oldest institution.

In a series of coordinated steps, Board members voted to affirm a "solvency plan," authorizing RHPA leadership to take immediate steps to control costs and lay the foundation for stronger sales performance in the second half of 2014. The special session occurred less than three weeks ahead of the regularly scheduled meeting of the 30-member Board on April 24. That meeting will focus on broader strategic directions for the publishing house, including a potential role for the North American Division in shaping literature ministry in the U.S., Canada, and Bermuda.

Key items voted by the RHPA Board included streamlining production processes to eliminate redundancies in several departments of the publishing house; reducing the number of book titles planned for release in 2015; and trimming the editorial and production staff of some RHPA-produced journals. A reduction-in-force (RIF) of 26 current employees was also authorized by the Board of Directors, with nearly half of the total being achieved through collaborative retirement agreements with eligible employees. The savings to the publishing house from the workforce reductions are anticipated to reach $1 million in 2014, and more than $1.5 million in 2015.

Review and Herald leadership also sought and received permission from the Board of Directors to lease up to 60,000 square feet of the large Hagerstown, Maryland facility in order to decrease the operational footprint of the publishing house and achieve needed rental income.

Board members listened to several policy change requests formulated by the administration and the executive and finance committees, and referred those actions on to General Conference and NAD committees. RHPA administrators are hoping to build a vigorous online sales portal for products produced by the publishing house. A request was also forwarded to reduce RHPA funding of the church's retirement program to match the level required of the Church's educational institutions.

"Right-sizing the RHPA has been a difficult but necessary process," said RHPA president Mark Thomas following the Sunday afternoon meeting. "No faith-based employer ever wants to lose even one employee, but we have a greater mission to continue serving the publishing and printing needs of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. Keeping that mission in focus required us to take these hard steps to secure this organization and reposition it for renewed growth."
Open Arms Brings Down Barriers To Care

Leonila Magalued was able to get a mammogram done thanks to the Open Arms Breast Cancer Outreach Fund, which sustains programs that support breast cancer patients and their families. | Photo Provided

By CHRIS LaFORTUNE

Leonila Magalued discovered a painful lump in her left breast in July 2013, but thought it would be months before she could get a mammogram done to help determine if she had cancer.

Uninsured and caring for her 91-year-old mother, the Bolingbrook resident had no way to pay for a mammogram. All that was left, she thought, was to wait until October, when local hospitals might offer free mammograms during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Fortunately, Magalued learned about the Open Arms Breast Cancer Outreach Fund at her doctor’s office. She gave the Hinsdale Imaging Center a call.

“I told them my problem and I told them that I didn’t have any insurance,” Magalued said. “They told me not to worry about it and that if I needed help right now, they’d take care of it.”

Magalued scheduled her mammogram, in so much pain that she had trouble finishing the exam. An immediate biopsy was scheduled. Doctors discovered she had already reached Stage 3 cancer, and Magalued entered treatment immediately, undergoing a mastectomy in October 2013.

“If I had waited a few more months, I would have been at Stage 4,” she said. “I am so thankful Open Arms was there.”

The Open Arms Breast Cancer Outreach Fund was inspired by the imaging team at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and established at the Hinsdale Hospital Foundation in 2011. It sustains programs that support breast cancer patients and their families. Thanks to the fund, about 100 women have received mammograms they could not have afforded. Of them, three have been diagnosed with breast cancer and have undergone or are receiving treatment.

“The hard work by our imaging staff, as well as the support of the community, has helped to remove some of the barriers standing in the way of women in need who seek a mammogram,” said Michael J. Goebel, chief executive officer at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital.

The Oak Brook Park District is a major donor to the Open Arms Fund, contributing $16,000 in proceeds from its
annual Pink 5K over the past two years. This year’s event takes place on Saturday, May 10.

Other support for Open Arms has come from dueling piano venue Howl at the Moon, which donated more than $20,000 in 2013. The hospital Foundation's Paint the Town Pink program has also supported Open Arms.

The community backing has been immensely important. A mammogram can cost about $400, said Sandra Mueller, director of Experience Excellence with Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. Patients often need follow-up studies or biopsies, which are also costly.

“We wanted to offer a program where we could tell patients, ‘You have a need, and I have a way to help you right now,’” Mueller said. “That's how this was born.”

Women are referred to Open Arms through the hospital's central scheduling team, as they make outreach calls to the community. Calls for help also come from patients, as in Magalued’s case.

Once Magalued received support from Open Arms, staff with the Adventist Cancer Institute helped her find ways to pay for her treatment. Magalued is finishing up her chemotherapy and will soon see whether additional therapy is necessary. She continues to fight on, for her mother and her two adult daughters.

“I don’t have grandchildren yet, and I want to be around to see them,” Magalued said. “That's why I keep fighting.”

Submitted by Adventist Hinsdale Hospital
The Keene Chamber of Commerce and Southwestern Adventist University have decided that good business is healthy for the community and good health can be good for business.

The two entities are joining forces with the North Central Texas WorkForce for the 11th annual chamber Business Expo, Job Fair and Health Fair scheduled for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 27, at the Leiske-Pultar Gymnasium on the campus of Southwestern Adventist University.

Admission to the fair is free.

The WorkForce will host a job fair and have its 13-work station mobile laboratory on hand to assist with employment applications.

The SWAU Nursing Department will conduct comprehensive health screenings.

The Texas Health Resources Mobile Health Unit will be on site from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to provide well-woman exams, mammograms and colon cancer screenings. Appointments must be made in advance by calling 1-855-318-7696.

Women without insurance may qualify for sponsored screening. Women who have insurance will have their insurance direct billed.

Hot food prepared by a yet-to-be-determined nonprofit organization will be available.

For the children, there will be face painting, balloon animals and entertainment by acrobats. There will be CPR classes for adults and door prizes.

"The Keene Business Expo is a wonderful opportunity for all businesses in Keene and surrounding areas to gain exposure in the community," chamber president Roy Robinson said. "Members of the community enjoy browsing the aisles of the Expo and seeing what each business has to offer."

Expo booths cost $65 for Keene Chamber members and $100 for nonmembers. Sponsorship opportunities are still available for $1,000 to $200. Sponsors receive signage along Old Betsy Road and a banner at the expo indicating sponsorship.

Most sponsors also were represented with booths at the expo.

To register for a booth, contact the Keene Chamber of Commerce at 817-556-2995, or Robinson at 817-517-5353 or robinsonrw@gmail.com.

"The Keene Chamber of Commerce board of directors looks forward to showcasing Keene area local businesses, promoting physical and business health while visiting with guests in a casual, informative environment," Robinson said.
Members of Seventh Day Adventist Church in Dracut play out the events of Christ's death and resurrection

By Debbie Hovanasian

DRACUT - If the current best seller about Jesus Christ, "Killing Jesus" by Bill O'Reilly, or the many Hollywood films -- "Son of God," "Noah," and the future "Resurrection," "Exodus," "The Redemption of Cain," and "Mary, Mother of Christ" -- are any indication, there is a growing interest, even a thirst, for Bible-based stories.

In Dracut on Saturday, Holy Saturday of the Christian Holy Week, one of the most familiar of those stories, the final days in the life of Jesus Christ, will be dramatized both inside and outside a church on Broadway Road, Route 113 -- the Seventh Day Adventist Church of the Merrimack Valley.

Dale Jacobson as the High Priest

Three heavy wooden crosses now stand outside the church, the future site of the Crucifixion scene. Inside the church, volunteers work tirelessly on Jesus' tomb, a platform with pillars and marble walls for the temple and dozens of realistic costumes that evoke the Holy Land some 2,000 years ago.

This is the third year the church has offered the interactive walk-through dramatization, "The Journey," so they've got the ancient drill mastered. They've even added to the sets and costumes each year, said Pastor Matthew Vixie.

"My intent for this project was for people to get a real sense of the gift of Salvation and what Jesus did to save us from sin," Vixie said.

All are welcome to one of four presentations of "The Journey" on Saturday, April 19: 11 a.m., and 1:30, 2:30, or 3:30 pm. Judging by the audience reactions the previous two years, expect tears at the Crucifixion scene, clapping and joy at the Resurrection, and surprise by audience members who, as part of an ancient caravan, are encouraged to evoke the emotions of the day.

Besides the Crucifixion and Resurrection, the walk-through scenes include the Jerusalem Marketplace, Temple, Gethsemane, Pilate's Judgment Hall, and Walk to the Cross.

Anna Cook as the carpenter's daughter

In the marketplace, run primarily by teen members of the church, the "caravan" is encouraged to try the delicacies of ancient Jerusalem, like olives and honey.

After the previous dramatizations, "people were on their cell phones calling their friends and telling them to come down to Dracut for one of the other presentations," Vixie said.

Since most of the dramatization takes place outside in the church parking lot, audience members are encouraged to
dress for the weather, including rain.

Vixie, pastor for three years, was inspired to bring "The Journey" to Dracut after participating in a much larger dramatization in 1996 on the campus of Southern Adventist University in Tennessee, where he attended college.

Fermin Peralta, center, as Jesus, in "The Journey," an interactive presentation by the Seventh Day Adventist Church of the Merrimack Valley. courtesy photos

Sun staff photos can be ordered by visiting our SmugMug site.

That was so large, drawing 10,000 people, that three separate dramatizations took place simultaneously over a two-mile stretch of campus.

Vixie and church members wrote a script on a smaller scale, while other church members, including Vixie's wife, Heather, offered their talents and expertise in sewing, acting (including young children), set design and construction, artwork and even baking cookies.

"We're blessed to be able to do this while blessing the community at the same time," said Chali Davis, who leads the caravans through the walk-through and encourages audience interaction. "I feel by being part of this, it gives us the opportunity to help others see God's gift to us.

Members of the congregation as the disciples. Pastor Matthew Vixie is at far right.

Sun staff photos can be ordered by visiting our SmugMug site.

"We're fortunate to have a lot of talent here, so it doesn't look amateurish," said Dale Jacobson, a church elder, the primary set builder, and the high priest, Caiaphas, in "The Journey."

Out of the church's 175 members, 70 take part in the dramatization, "and just about all the rest take part in some way. It's all hands on deck," said Davis.

Organizers credit the realistic look of the sets to Veronica Iria, an art student at UMass Lowell. She leads a team of volunteers decorating the sets. Organizers have also been sticklers about keeping it accurate to scripture, Vixie said.

Unlike the Roma Downey film, "Son of God," which left Satan on the cutting room floor, Satan does make an appearance in Dracut. He's not too popular, but he is part of the story, said Vixie, who lives in Pelham with his wife and two sons.

Jesus is portrayed by Haverhill resident and church member Fermin Peralta, now for the third year.

"He has a beautiful voice for the part," Davis said, while Jacobson adds that, "he really looks the part."

Children are especially riveted with Jesus, they added. Some have asked to meet him afterward.

"He's great with that, too," said Vixie. "He plays the part perfectly."

The dramatization "makes it visual -- more powerful than words. It's about sights and feelings. We hope it is a renewal for people, that it rekindles a fire in their hearts," Jacobson said.

Chelmsford's Joan Reiss, Sabbath school teacher and coordinator of the event's Punch and Cookies, sees all the "caravan members" just after, emotions and all. They often tell her they feel like they were really there in the Holy Land, she said.
"You look at the world around us and you know that people need something that is real, not something imagined," said Reiss. "That is what they get here."

Merrimack Valley SDA Church, 408 Broadway Road, Dracut; www.mvsda.org or 978-454-9226. Admission is free.
Local Adventists receive humanitarian award

At an award dinner on April 1 in Loveland, Cathy Kissner of Salida, Colorado and June Spaulding of Fort Collins each received the 2014 Charity Never Faileth Humanitarian Award sponsored by the Loveland Colorado Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Loveland Stake President Mark Crane presented the awards to Kissner and Spaulding following remarks by himself; Devin Davis, Facilities Maintenance Superintendent of Public Works for the City of Loveland; and Pastor Ed Barnett, Rocky Mountain Conference President of the Seventh-Day Adventists.

Kissner and Spaulding received the award for their instrumental roles in establishing and managing the Loveland Emergency Distribution Center, which provided relief supplies to thousands of area flood victims from mid-September 2013 through March 28, 2014. “The Emergency Distribution Center was the ‘store’ where clients—those impacted by the flooding—shopped for items they needed to return to their ‘new normal,’” Kissner explained.

Kissner and Spaulding managed center operations, which included collecting and staging donated items and coordinating with the City of Loveland, Larimer County and the Colorado Office of Emergency Management. They also managed, on a day-to-day basis, the staffing of the center with volunteers, both individuals and those from a variety of organizations.

During its period of operation, over 6,400 volunteers served at the center, and over .5 million items were distributed to flood victims, according to Davis.

In attendance at last Tuesday’s award dinner were members of the recipients’ families, local Seventh-Day-Adventist pastors, local leaders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and local business and community leaders.

Kissner and Spaulding’s involvement in the flood-relief effort began with a phone call on September 14, 2013, from the City of Loveland Office of Emergency Management. In that call, they were asked to organize and manage the collection and distribution of donated supplies in the local area. Kissner and Spaulding proceeded to set up and operate the distribution center in donated space at two different locations.

Both Kissner and Spaulding have been active in humanitarian service for many years. Kissner served as the Kansas-Nebraska Conference Community Service Director of the Seventh-Day Adventists for eight years and has been serving as the Rocky Mountain Conference Community Service Department Director for the past 17 years.
Throughout those 17 years, Kissner has also served on the boards of three charitable agencies: Colorado Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, Denver Adventist Community Service Center and the Grand Valley Adventist Community Service Center. When she lived in Kansas, she served for two years as the vice chair for the Sherman County American Red Cross.

“I am proud to be a native Coloradan. I am so pleased to see individuals, agencies, schools, service organizations and government entities come together to help those in need. During the flood-relief activities, old partnerships were strengthened and new ones were established. I realize that there is a lot of work yet to be done, but we are standing together,” Kissner said.

Spaulding served as the director of the Adventist Community Services (ACS) for the Fort Collins Seventh-Day Adventists for 17 years until the closing of the center. In addition to being director of the local ACS, she has worked within the ACS framework in responding to a number of disasters. Specifically, she has assisted with relief efforts for the Spring Creek Flood in Fort Collins, the Boulder Four Mile Fire, the Windsor Tornado, the High Park Fire and last year’s flooding.

“I am humbled to receive this award. I am but one face among many volunteers who put in countless hours to help people in their time of need. I would like to dedicate this award to the volunteers who make it their life’s work to make a difference in the lives of people who have experienced a loss during a disaster,” Spaulding said.

The Loveland Colorado Stake has, for several years running, presented the Charity Never Faileth Humanitarian Award annually to one or more individuals who have provided noteworthy humanitarian service to uplift individuals and families in the Loveland and Fort Collins area during the past year.
A king and his rebellious son struggle to control the kingdom.

A warrior is caught by his hair on a tree branch, dangling and vulnerable to an enemy who has a sword.

And a powerful man sees a woman taking a bath, decides he must have her, and orders her husband into the most dangerous part of a battle, where he is sure to be killed.

All this drama can be found in 2 Samuel, an Old Testament book young members of the Wyoming Valley Falcons Pathfinders Club have been studying to prepare for an international competition affectionately called “the Bible Bowl.”

“Set BLANK in the BLANK of the BLANK and BLANK from him,” Fred “Papa” Herman said during a recent practice at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Hudson section of Plains Township.

“Set Uriah in the forefront of the battle and withdraw from him, that he may be struck down and die,” one of the young Pathfinders said, filling in the blanks in a message King David sent to arrange the death of Uriah the Hittite.

Some of the 90 questions to be asked on Saturday in Takoma Park, Md., where more than 80 teams from North America, the United Kingdom and the Philippines are expected to compete, will need to be completed that way, Herman said.

Other questions might take a different format, such as: “What was the message Bathsheba sent to David?”

“I am with child,” one of the girls said.

What kind of tools did the people of Rabbah use?
“They used saws, iron picks and axes.”

When David told a foreigner named Ittai to go home, how did he respond?

“As the Lord lives, and as my Lord the king lives, wherever my Lord the king may be, whether it means life or death, there will your servant be.”

The Pathfinders, whose Bible-centered club sports uniforms similar to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, seemed to know all the answers word for word.

Or they came close.

At one point Herman asked about a woman named Tamar. Fifteen-year-old Adam McElwee said her clothes were torn and she had ashes on her head to show she was in mourning.

Herman shook his head. “Not ashes but dust,” he said.

Later, Herman said that if a scorer at the international competition were to deem “ashes” incorrect, the students have a right to appeal to judges, perhaps pointing out that “ashes” and “dust” can mean the same thing.

The Pathfinders, who recently had a first-place finish at the regional Union Level Bible Experience in Worthington, Ohio, are excited about their trip to Maryland, but they all said winning is not as important as learning the Scriptures.

“It will help you in life,” McElwee said.

Asked for an example, 16-year-old Shae-lyn Briggs said, “I can be a perfectionist sometimes, and I like to think of the verse, ‘I can do all things through God who strengthens me.’ Then I won’t be so hard on myself.”

The story about King David taking Uriah’s wife and having Uriah killed teaches a lesson that “if you sin you can always come back and God will forgive you,” the students said.

“But you’ve got to ask,” McElwee added.
Natural Remedies & Hydrotherapy Workshop

August 3 - 8, 2014
Seminary (Tan) Hall, N150

Register BEFORE July 25 to reserve a place in the workshop.
(need to turn in registration form and workshop fee)

NOTE: Workshop accommodates 60 guests.

Registration Form
What is Offered
Lecturers
Workshop Fees
Books
Parking/Transportation
Accommodations/Meals
Schedule
Things to Bring

Director: Dr. P. Gerard Damsteegt
Lecturers: Don Miller, ND; David DeRose, MD; Elvin Adams, MD, MPH; David Village, DHS; Winston Craig, MPH, PhD, RD; Norman McNulty, MD and P. Gerard Damsteegt, PhD, MPH, RD

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