Central States Conference Elects New President
Maurice R. Valentine II assumes leadership
BY MARTIN WEBER

Governor Honors Dakota Adventist Employee
Luz Naaz served five First Families in the governor’s mansion
BY JACQUIE BILOFF

Adventist Appointed Special Olympics Global Ambassador
Christian Beard has been involved with Special Olympics for 30 years
BY JOHN TREOLO

IN THIS ISSUE
Mid-America’s Pathfinder Camporee in the Black Hills of South Dakota is our feature this month. Youth director Hubert Cisneros made friends with community leaders, who in turn helped make the event possible. One of them is the local chief ranger for the U.S. Forest Service, Lynn Kolund. Cisneros wanted rangers to present seminars at the camporee, but nobody available had the authority to approve it. “You’ve got to see the big guy,” everybody told him. But he wasn’t around that day. Just then Cisneros spotted a man striding across the parking lot. “You’re Lynn Koland, aren’t you?” Cisneros inquired. “How could you tell?” the surprised ranger responded. “By the way you are walking. I need to talk to you. All I’ve been hearing today are no’s, and I need to hear a yes from you.” Together they helped organize the magnificent experience for Mid-America’s Pathfinders that you’ll see in these pages.

—MARTIN WEBER
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**Blog:**
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Can there be more than two sides to this topic?
http://bit.ly/OAeoI4

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**Blog:**
**Arriving in Thailand**
Katelyn Pauls shares lessons she is learning as a student missionary.

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**Article:**
**Recycling Plastic: Good Idea or Not?**
What's different about plastic?

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**Blog:**
**Fire!**
One family’s day of miracles
Some moments forever burn themselves into your memory—perhaps because of the extreme emotion connected with them, or because they change the direction of your life. Maybe it’s a phone call that crashes uninvited into your world. Or a cherished dream that suddenly becomes reality. Or an epiphany when understanding breaks through and you don’t know whether to laugh or cry.

One such moment occurred for me when at age 13 I was attending the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Pathfinder Fair. We had just paraded in full dress uniform into the biggest gymnasium I had ever seen and I was standing at attention, holding the American flag. When the conference youth director began giving out awards I heard my name called. I had won the Pathfinder Girl of the Year award for our entire conference!

Me—from one of the smallest clubs, with hand-me-down uniforms and makeshift camping equipment? I was in total shock! I might still be standing there with my mouth agape if our deputy director had not taken the flag from my hands and pointed me toward the stage.

That moment indeed opened up my world because along with the award came a free week at summer camp. Camp was like an extended Pathfinder Camporee—lots of Christians doing all kind of fun and interesting activities together for an entire week!

As an adult now, with kids of my own who loved Pathfinders, I have a renewed appreciation for the Pathfindering ministry. Pathfinders learn teamwork and responsibility, in conjunction with other valuable skills such as First Aid, cooking, pet care and wilderness survival. Pathfinders also learn self discipline, respect for others and loyalty to their country.

The director of that little backwoods club of my childhood invested heavily in our group—time, money, planning, enthusiasm and plain old hard work. She taught us how to swim in my uncle’s pond; she recruited church members to teach us honors; she drove us to fund raising events; she made us practice for Investiture until we could all recite our parts perfectly; she persuaded her son (an ex-Marine) to teach us to march; she took us hiking and camping. And through our experiences in God’s nature, our hearts were softened and our minds opened to spiritual thoughts.

Then she gave us Bible studies at her kitchen table. I treasure my King James Bible with all those verses underlined in bright colors. Along with two other Pathfinders, I was baptized—another vivid memory etched in my mind, another pivotal point in my life.

Yesterday I dug out my honor sash from the cedar chest in our bedroom. The colors of each badge are still fresh, the stitching firm. As I run my fingers across them I recall learning to cook over a campfire…spelunking in Lost Sea Cave…identifying wildflowers.

Perhaps I should see if our local club needs some help. There just may be another pivotal moment ahead—for myself or a new Pathfinder.

Brenda Dickerson is managing editor for OUTLOOK.
2012 Mid-America Pathfinder Camporee

Each day brought its own version of excitement to the Mid-America Union Pathfinder Camporee. Following are daily summaries by OUTLOOK editor Martin Weber. The full story from each day is available on outlookmag.org.
ThursdAy 7/26

The Truth 2 Freedom Pathfinder Camporee is off to a rousing start. Not even a rain shower during the opening-night talk by Elder Lemon could dampen the spirits of campers.

This morning the sun smiled upon the high school football field where Pathfinders gathered for worship, organized by the Minnesota Conference. President Ed Barnett described a large hawk swooping down into the bushes and snatching a baby rabbit away to destruction. Barnett warned his listeners that the devil is likewise out to destroy our lives, but we can find safety by choosing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Afterward, Pathfinders loaded up on school buses to embark on field trips to their choice of destinations among the many nearby natural attractions. Some visited the Reptile Gardens; some went to Bear Country USA; some even panned for gold along a creek near Calumite Mine.

As this adventuresome day ended, Elder Ron Whitehead (international camporee director) reminded us of his favorite saying—“Keep looking up!”

WEDNESDAY 7/25

An army of 1,139 Pathfinders and their leaders from throughout Mid-America’s nine-state territory are traveling today to Custer, South Dakota for their much-anticipated camporee. Themed Truth 2 Freedom, the camporee is a collaborative effort among Hubert Cisneros (youth director for the Mid-America Union) and his six local conference colleagues. The real heroes, however, are the many volunteer local church Pathfinder leaders who are sacrificing vacation time for the privilege of bringing their kids to this grand event.

All six conference presidents will be here, as well as Thomas L. Lemon, Mid-America Union president, and even the president of the North American Division, Elder Dan Jackson.

Elder Cisneros (a.k.a. “Uncle Hubert”) has connected with civic leaders in Custer, arranging for the Pathfinders to march in the annual community parade. Other highlights will include visits to Mammoth Site Hot Springs, Harney Peak, Crazy Horse Monument and Museum, Sylvan Lake Park, Jewel Cave National Monument and Wind Cave National Park.

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FRIDAY 7/27

This morning, after an inspiring worship talk by Iowa-Missouri president Dean Coridan, our Pathfinders became the first group to receive local training in the new Junior Wilderness Ranger program.

To help Pathfinders create connections with the natural world, Lynn Kolund, chief ranger for the Hell Canyon District of Black Hills National Forest, brought a team of rangers to camporee. Assistant ranger Laura Burns presented Leave No Trace, a seminar that included a humorous skit teaching Pathfinders how to enjoy the forest while making a minimal impact upon the natural environment.

Friday afternoon a sudden fierce thunderstorm rumbled through the Black Hills. Pathfinders returning from their field trips found some tents overturned and belongings scattered. But the campers and their leaders put their skills to work restoring order before their evening program, which featured the personal testimony of Kansas-Nebraska president Ron Carlson and an unforgettable talk by Elder Jackson.

SABBATH 7/28

Overcoming unexpected circumstances is a core value for Pathfinders. When Sabbath morning’s participation in the town’s annual parade was (reluctantly) canceled by Custer civic leaders—there were just too many Pathfinders for such a small town event—camporee plans had to be adjusted.

Although the Pathfinders were disappointed at missing the opportunity for witnessing to their hosting community, they took advantage of the extra time for worship and study. Each club enjoyed their own Sabbath school together before Elder Maurice Valentine II, new president of Central States Conference, brought the Pathfinders a stirring, Christ-centered challenge to become all they can be for God.

In the afternoon everyone boarded buses for Mt. Rushmore, where we hiked and picnicked before parading in Class A uniform into the majestic setting of the amphitheatre for a power-packed message from Elder James Black, NAD youth director.
GRAND FINALE

The Truth 2 Freedom Camporee climaxed in a dramatic spiritual event where hundreds of young people came forward in the Mt. Rushmore amphitheater—not just to commit their lives to God, but to surrender them. “There is a difference,” explained Elder Black. “Commitment is an agreement made with God, but surrender means giving yourself up to Him—your whole life.”

In this majestic setting, with the towering figures of national leaders carved from the mountain beyond, Pathfinders—future leaders of our church in Mid-America—resolved to live out for God the courage and vision of those presidents.

Sabbath evening provided fun for campers at their home base, the Custer High School football field. Kids got to see themselves on the big screen and relive their special camporee moments during the slideshow created by Ryan Teller of Union College. Images flashed across the screen of leaders and kids of all ages doing fun activities, learning new skills, eating, laughing, playing and worshiping together.

Finally it was bedtime. On Sunday morning after a quick breakfast, Pathfinders broke camp and dispersed to their homes throughout the Mid-America Union—many young lives forever changed.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

April Romauld, Minnesota Conference by Hubert Cisneros, youth director

“For the Pathfinder Camporee to be enjoyed by the kids, it had to be well orchestrated by adults. I coordinated external interaction with the community before and during the camporee, and April helped me with planning—beginning a year ago. During the camporee she kept the internal machinery at the site running smoothly. April is able to direct people in a way that is comprehensive and engenders cooperation. She is extremely gifted in organizational and communication skills.”

Ryan Teller, Director of PR for Union College by Martin Weber, communication director

“Pondering the challenge of coordinating camporee communications, I turned to my predecessor—a multi-veteran of big Pathfinder events. Ryan agreed to serve as volunteer lead communicator for the camporee, organizing the photographers, taking hundreds of photos himself, posting them on OUTLOOK’s Flickr page, and coordinating the amazing slideshow for Sabbath evening. Unselfish, resourceful and unflappable, Ryan saved the day. I’ll always appreciate him for that.”

Tireless Volunteers

To the many volunteers working behind the scenes to make this event not only possible, but a smashing success, thank you!
**CAMPOREE COMMENTS**

**Liberty Thompson – Pathfinder from Cuba, NM**
“I really loved reciting the pledge of allegiance at Mt. Rushmore with my sister, Indiana, in the Navajo language.”

**Nick Engquist – Pathfinder from Lincoln, NE**
“We went caving and rock climbing. It was great!”

**Paul Anderson – Principal, Custer High School**
“What a blessings to see the grandstands at our high school football field used for prayer, praise and the worship of God by the young people of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

**Rosa Velder – AdventSource associate, Lincoln, NE**
“My daughter, Alexandria, was the first Pathfinder to run forward in the call that Elder James Black made. I will never forget that day as long as I live.”

**Ashley Taylor – Teen Pathfinder from LaPorte, CO**
“I really liked the Teen Time that happened every night because I got to meet a lot of new friends.”

**Wyatt Watson – Pre-Pathfinder, Cheyenne, WY**
“I really liked watching the video promoting the international camporee at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. I’ll be old enough by then to join Pathfinders so I can go!”

*To view hundreds of camporee photos, visit our Facebook and Flickr pages (see links below).*

**PATHFINDER PLEDGE IN ACTION AT CAMPOREE**

When Collins and Jillian Maranga of United Central Adventist Church in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota arrived with their two daughters in Custer, South Dakota for the Truth 2 Freedom Camporee, they discovered that the rest of their group had been delayed—along with all the food for the group. Soon little Grace and Abby were hungry.

God provided through the kindness of other Pathfinder clubs who noticed the girls were hungry and invited the family over for lunch. Later, Pathfinders made room on the bus for the family to join the afternoon field trip to Flag Mountain. Someone from the Bolivar (Missouri) club spread the word that this family’s food had not arrived—and every one of the Pathfinders contributed something from their own supper to the family.

Jillian says, “The love was wonderful. We had nothing yesterday, yet today Abby and Grace had more than enough. A girl named Faith even gave us her backpack with all it contained. That’s called God’s love.”

And that’s what the Mid-America Union Pathfinder Camporee was all about.

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Thanks to all the Pathfinders and leaders who submitted photos for our Facebook and Flickr pages.

[http://on.fb.me/N24uPE](http://on.fb.me/N24uPE)

Kids “Reboot Fast” at Camp Meeting

by Sherrie Monique Bell

The children conducted their own outreach activity center: “Reboot Fast Camp!” They had opportunity not only to experience but to share with adults the truth about God’s love and His principles of health and healing. Two Central States pastors, William Pergerson and Gene Yocum, helped lead their outreach and also taught a class. The kids themselves shared “Safety Zone” devotions—powerful messages about God’s love and protection. At the poultice station, they educated adults about the benefits of charcoal and dispensed free samples. At the prayer and meditation station, kids prayed for and provided encouraging scriptures to each adult. They also shared praises at the Bible song station. At the exercise station, children worked out with adults to an exercise DVD. There was even a juicing station, where kids served adults a refreshing and nutritious drink.

On Sabbath, Central States children lead out in the divine worship hour, further building their confidence in Christ while teaching them to bring souls to God.

Children First leaders are planning a new Christ-centered theme for next year’s camp meeting, anticipating the reward of seeing each child grow closer to the God who gives them love and safety.

Sherrie Monique Bell is a member of Connection Center in Zimmerman, Minnesota.

Children First leaders

Disaster Relief: James White
Education Superintendent: Judith Mason
Evangelism: George Bryant
Health Ministries: Compton Ross
Men’s Ministries: Compton Ross
Message Magazine: Compton Ross
Ministerial Director: Gil Webb
Multicultural Director: Eduardo Jacobo
Prison Ministries: James White
Publishing: Compton Ross
Religious Liberty: Compton Ross
Stewardship: George Bryant
Trust Services: George Bryant
Van Ministries: James White
Young Adult/Youth Director: Donald Rolle

Note: A few departmental positions (such as communication director) remain open, to be filled by the Central States Conference Executive Committee.
Maurice R. Valentine II Elected New Central States Conference President

Other administrative officers are re-elected

by Martin Weber

Maurice R. Valentine II is the new president of Central States Conference, elected June 17 by delegates to a regular quadrennial constituency meeting. Roger Bernard was re-elected as vice president for administration and Tonya Anderson as vice president for finance.

Elder Valentine, who has been serving the Mid-America Union as both vice president for administration and ministerial director, said: “I count it an honor to accept the call to return to the place which birthed, nurtured and honed my spiritual journey—the Central States Conference. Moreover, I’m humbled at the opportunity of once again being called of the Lord.”

Central States covers the largest geographical territory of any local conference in the North American Division.

Before coming to the Mid-America Union, over the course of 21 years Elder Valentine served 11 congregations in four states, during which he was exposed to ministry opportunities across the division as a marriage retreat, graduation commencement and convention speaker who also trained church leaders in strategic planning geared specifically to strengthening the discipleship process. Later the Lord exposed him to international ministry in the Caribbean, Canada and England as a marriage retreat facilitator, pastor trainer and evangelistic speaker (respectively). He concluded his previous service at Central States as assistant to the president.

Since that time Valentine has become more familiar with administrative leadership, serving on various committees of the North American Division; he is also a member of the Adventist Health System executive board and vice chair of the Union College Board of Trustees. He holds degrees in communications and theology from Oakwood University and the Master of Divinity from Andrews University.

“My passion is the pervasive restoration of mission as determined by Jesus in the great commission in our church, educational, and healthcare institutions,” declares Valentine. “My greatest enjoyment in ministry is derived from seeing people discover or rediscover their place in God’s plan as healthy growing disciples of Jesus Christ and see them pursue their giftedness in connected synergized ministry to reach the unchurched.”

Valentine testifies that his love for helping God’s people grow relationally with Jesus and each other is only exceeded by his love for his family, with whom he enjoys skiing, hiking and exploration of natural wonders. He has been married to the former Sharon Livingston for 26 years; together they are blessed with two adult sons and a daughter.

“To this day, helping people hear His voice is what Sharon and I have dedicated our lives to,” says Elder Valentine. “Together we have learned it is in His presence that we experience the fullness of His joy, and in the center of His will we learn the disciplines of His saving grace and peace. Therefore, I accept the call of the constituents of Central States Conference to serve, with the hope that together as His disciples we can be co-laborers with Him working harmoniously and collaboratively to finish the work.”

The Central States constituency session was held at conference headquarters in Kansas City, Kansas. Representing the larger Seventh-day Adventist organization at the meeting were Thomas L. Lemon, president of the Mid-America Union, and Alvin Kibble, a vice president of the North American Division.

Martin Weber is editor of OUTLOOK.

See previous page for a list of elected department directors.

I count it an honor to accept the call to return to the place which birthed, nurtured and honed my spiritual journey—the Central States Conference.
Bismarck Teacher Receives National Honor
by George Javor

Bismarck member Laurie Foerderer teaches art at Century High School and is also the advisor for a group called Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD). At the organization’s nationwide conference in Torrance, California, Foerderer placed 3rd as National Advisor of the Year. Century High also received the 3rd place award in SADD’s National Chapter of the Year competition in June.

National president/CEO Penny Wells says, “Century High School exemplifies our idea of a successful SADD chapter. Our panel of judges found particularly impressive the commitment to the SADD mission and principles, the varied and comprehensive schedule of activities, the creativity and enthusiasm of Century’s members, advisors and supporters, and the club’s outreach to the community and region.”

At a regional conference earlier this year, Foerderer was chosen as Northern Lights Advisor of the year. The territory includes North and South Dakota and parts of Minnesota. Foerderer says it has been a banner year for CHS SADD. She sees her God-given mission as helping students make positive decisions.

George Javor is a retired biochemistry professor and member of Bismarck Church.

Award-winning teacher Laurie Foerderer with four of her students at Century High School in Bismarck

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I Am the Light of the World
(She) who follows Me will have a life filled with light and shall never live in darkness (John 8:12)

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Governor Honors Dakota Adventist Employee

by Jacquie Biloff

An executive proclamation of the State of South Dakota, office of the governor, states: “Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 8, 2012, as Luz Naasz Day. . . . I join with her many friends in wishing her a fulfilling and happy retirement.” The governor then certified his proclamation with the official seal of the state.

Luz Naasz is a member of Pierre Adventist Church. She served the state of South Dakota for 37 years, 33 of them in the governor’s mansion for five different families: William and Mary Dean Janklow (two non-consecutive terms), George and Linda Mickelson, Walter and Pat Miller, Michael and Jean Rounds, and Dennis and Linda Daugaard. Since each inbound governor family chooses its own personnel, to remain on staff for 33 years speaks volumes about Luz’s work ethic and faithfulness.

In honor of Luz’s retirement, the governor’s wife organized an open house at the governor’s mansion and assembled a memory book for her with letters and photos from the first families and co-workers. One of the notes from a now-grown child read, “Thanks for being such a wonderful memory. I know you took care of at least one incident I had with Mom’s kitchen table. We could use a lot more Americans like you.”

One first lady recalled Luz “cleaning windows by hanging outside the upstairs windows. Our windows were always sparkling.” She also recalls that Luz went so far as to “iron all the tablecloths and napkins because the cleaners just did not do a good enough job.”

A governor’s son, now an attorney, commented, “I recall her quiet, gentle spirit, coupled with her unbelievable work ethic. She became part of the family and was always there for us, a nice calming influence in a world sometimes overshadowed by chaos.”

Another first lady added, “Luz was instrumental in making our stay at the governor’s residence a pleasure during a very difficult time in South Dakota’s history. She welcomed us with open arms and heart. We have many fond memories and will forever cherish our friendship.”

A governor’s daughter said, “She was quiet as a mouse and always gave the best hugs!”

May blessings follow Luz Naasz as she retires from salaried employment to serve her Savior in other ways.

Jacquie Biloff is communication director for the Dakota Conference.
**Mike’s Story**
*When I look at Mike, I remember why we do evangelism.*

by David Klinedinst

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Mike Torrence was sitting in the front row wearing his New York Knicks shirt. It was the first week of the St. Louis West County Church’s evangelistic meetings in Chesterfield, Missouri. Mike had his Bible and he was ready to dive into it. It’s not hard for an evangelist to know who is most interested. They sit in the front two rows with their Bibles open, taking notes, smiling, nodding their heads—enraptured with the message.

Mike usually stayed to talk after the meetings. Before a car accident had left him disabled, he was a contractor. Sadly, because the insurance company gave him the run-around, he never received the compensation due him. As a result, Mike has to walk with a cane. Knowing his life was forever changed, he went through a dark and discouraging time.

But now Mike stood before me and said, “I want to do what you’re doing. In the past I pictured myself teaching the Word of God to people.” I assured him that God still had a plan for his life and could use him in a mighty way.

Night by night I watched as hope stirred in Mike’s heart and he accepted the truths from God’s Word. He had found a church where he could worship and fellowship—a church that was passionate about Jesus, a church that welcomed him.

As Mike prepared for baptism, he said to me, “I don’t want to just sit in a pew. I want to contribute. I want to do something.”

On Sabbath, May 12, Mike was baptized. Mike has a passion for Jesus, and now he has a church home to go with it. I can’t wait to see how God will use Mike’s passion for His glory. The rest of the story is yet to be written.

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David Klinedinst is resident evangelist for the St. Louis area.

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**Retiring After Faithful Service**

by Michelle Miracle

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Helen Young, assistant treasurer of the Iowa-Missouri Conference for the past 12 years, is retiring from denominational service. A graduate of Sunnydale Adventist Academy and Union College, she began her work for the church at Union College in 1967 as an assistant accountant. After earning her bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, Helen moved to California to be a cashier at Glendale Adventist Hospital.

While there she met Robert “Bob” Young. They were married May 23, 1971 and, along with Bob’s children, David and Kathleen, began life as a family. Several years later Bob and Helen welcomed a daughter, Debra, and Helen took a few years off to raise her.

In 1984 the Youngs moved to Helen’s home state, Missouri. For 16 years she worked at Sunnydale Adventist Academy and Sunnydale Industries in various accounting roles, the last 10 of which she was business manager for the academy. In 2000 Helen began her service at Iowa-Missouri Conference headquarters in West Des Moines. Tragedy struck when Bob contracted Lewy Body Disease, of which he passed away two years ago.

Helen plans to move to New Hampshire so she can live near her daughter Debra and son-in-law Larry, where she will help Debra run her new specialty chocolate business. The Iowa-Missouri Conference profoundly thanks Helen for her 31 years of dedicated service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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Michelle Miracle is communication and Sabbath school director for the Iowa-Missouri Conference.
You are invited to attend an informative and inspirational town Hall Meeting in your region.

It will consist of a devotional, financial and statistical reports, a “Health of the Conference” message, and Q&A time. We are here to serve the Lord as well as you, the members of this conference, and your presence at one of these meetings is crucial to the growth of the work. If you have questions you would like addressed at a Town Hall Meeting, please e-mail Elder Robert Peck, conference vice president for administration, at rpeck@imsda.org. We will do our best to answer them during the meeting.

Dean Coridan
President

Young people from Kansas City Central Church in Missouri presented the “Passion of the Christ” during a worship service earlier this year. They, along with children’s ministries volunteers, creatively collaborated on the script, costumes and props to provide a glimpse into the sacrifice Christ provided the world.

Jody Dickhaut, former Adventist Community Services—Disaster Response director for Iowa, receives the Iowa Governor’s Volunteer Award from Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds. Dickhaut won the appreciation of state officials for outstanding civic service in the aftermath of the 2011 Iowa flooding.

IOWA-MISSOURI CONFERENCE TOWN HALL MEETINGS

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It will consist of a devotional, financial and statistical reports, a “Health of the Conference” message, and Q&A time. We are here to serve the Lord as well as you, the members of this conference, and your presence at one of these meetings is crucial to the growth of the work. If you have questions you would like addressed at a Town Hall Meeting, please e-mail Elder Robert Peck, conference vice president for administration, at rpeck@imsda.org. We will do our best to answer them during the meeting.

Dean Coridan
President

ALL MEETINGS 6:30-8:30 PM

9/16 - Des Moines Church
9/17 - Council Bluffs Church
9/18 - Muscatine Church
9/19 - Cedar Rapids Church
10/2 - Kansas City Multicultural Church
10/3 - Clinton Church
10/7 - Springfield Church
10/8 - Rolla Church
10/9 - Columbia Church
10/10 - St. Louis West County Church
Two Mortgage Burnings in Leavenworth
by John Treolo

Members of All Nations (Leavenworth, Kansas) Church recently had a double reason to celebrate: two mortgages were burned, signifying a completed commitment for their sanctuary and declaring their community center debt free.

The first mortgage burned signified the completion of a 10-year commitment. Nearly 12 years ago, when members of the Christian Science Church moved to a new worship center, they gave their former complex to All Nations Church. Their generosity was influenced by the fact that Phil Clark, a member of All Nations, had been playing a 1917 Moller Pipe Organ during their Sunday services.

Because of Clark’s dedication, the church building was given to the Adventists with only one stipulation: they must remain in the building for 10 years or it would revert back to the Christian Science group.

“I enjoyed playing for them during their Sunday services,” Clark said. “They were nice folks and the organ is lovely.”

A few years later, members purchased a house next door to the church for business and prayer meetings, socials and as a community center. It was named the Arimeta Carpenter Community House, after a long-time member who passed away in 2004. “Arimeta’s dream was to assist with the mortgage payments on this house,” beamed Larry Carpenter, her husband of 35 years. “It’s nice to see her name on this building.” This was the second mortgage burned.

Following the mortgage burnings, members had yet another reason to celebrate as the new church sign was unveiled. Designed and built by Carl and Debbie Goff, this much-needed sign was met with hearty applause.

Representing the Kansas-Nebraska Conference were Don Stricker, vice president for administration, and John Treolo, communication director. District pastor Morgan Kochenower summed up the significance of this special event: “This means no matter what, God led in the past, God leads in the here and now, and God will lead in the future. This is just one more witness and testimony to God and the humble acts of His people. I’m humbled that this church and our paths crossed—that I could be a part of this church’s freedom from debt. One day we’re going to go to heaven where we’ll have a different place to worship. But right now we have this place.”

Lianne Degerness (left) and Judy Carroll discuss one of the local ministries featured at the service fair of Golden Hills (Bellevue, NE) Church. The fellowship hall event followed a message from Pastor Thure Martinsen describing the church as the body of Christ in its various functions. Many members signed up to serve in different ministries.

Nearly 80 former staff members and campers convened for a Camp Arrowhead staff reunion, sharing stories, songs, pictures and memories from 1976-83. Lloyd Erickson, camp director and youth leader for the then Nebraska Conference, helped coordinate the event. “You are like my kids,” Erickson told attendees. “Someone told me this is the second best reunion we will ever attend.”
Adventist Appointed Special Olympics Global Ambassador
by John Treolo

Born with Down syndrome, Beard, 38, hasn’t allowed this condition to hinder him from excelling in life. At Piedmont Park, he serves as a deacon. He also belongs to the Kiwanis International, Toastmasters International and volunteers at Lincoln-area non-profit agencies.

During the Special Olympics Nebraska 2012 Summer Games held near Omaha, Beard competed in three aquatics events, garnering one 1st place and two 3rd place wins. In the past, he has competed in track, basketball and bowling.

Prior to the Summer Games, the Law Enforcement Torch Run (a fund-raiser for Special Olympics) was held in Lincoln. Invited to speak on behalf of the Special Olympics, Beard was joined on the steps of the Hall of Justice by the mayor of Lincoln, chief of police and other city dignitaries.

“I’m so blessed to be here and I thank God for giving me the talent to compete. This is like the Christian race,” Beard says. “I have enjoyed sports all my life.”

Andy Moseley, associate pastor at Piedmont Park, comments, “I think the Special Olympics mean a lot to people like Chris. They train for this and he’s happy to participate. If there is such a thing as pastoral pride, I feel it when I see Chris.”

Pastor Andy Moseley (left) encourages Christian Beard, who is about to compete in an aquatics event during the 2012 Special Olympics Summer Games near Omaha.

Christian Beard, a member of the Piedmont Park Church in Lincoln, Nebraska has been named Global Ambassador for the 2012 Special Olympics. He has been involved with Special Olympics for more than 30 years.
Youth Mission Trip to Montana
by Benji Ferguson

The Minnesota Conference Adventist family has a reputation for supporting mission trips. As a pastor here, I’ve been on countless mission trips with students. This summer 17 students and young adults went to Brockton, Montana with Dan and Wendy Masloski and Ken Rannow.

Typically there are several defining moments prior to mission trips where leaders have to make difficult decisions. This trip was no different. Two days before the trip, we almost had to cancel because one of our central volunteers was needed for disaster relief with the flooding in Duluth. But, praise God, He worked things out and 13 students had a fantastic “God encounter” on the Fort Kipp Indian reservation.

This was my first trip to a Native American reservation—a unique experience. As we entered the town, a dozen stray dogs chased our car all the way to the public school where we stayed. Brockton consists of a rundown bar and gas station. One could sneeze driving by and miss the town of 400 residents living in 40 homes. One of the few churches there was a dilapidated mess.

The school, however, was a nice facility, since Native American culture places high value on their youth. Each classroom featured smartboards. The home economics room where we stayed and cooked meals was well equipped.

We had two main service projects on this trip. The first was painting the hallways of the school. The second and primary project was providing a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children of the town. The first morning we visited every house and invited kids to the VBS that afternoon. Some of us mission trip veterans were skeptical about that first day's Minnesota youth enjoyed interacting with Native children during the VBS provided by the group.
Minnesota’s 2012 Pathfinder Fair
by Marilyn Sabata

More than 230 enthusiastic Pathfinders, leaders and friends gathered at Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson, Minnesota for the 2012 Pathfinder Fair. Excitement was in the air as they set up display booths to showcase the crafts, outreach projects and honors they had been working on—from string art to cacti to maple sugar.

My favorite part of the day was the Grand March. Everyone, dressed in class A uniforms emblazoned with honor sashes, class pins and braids, marched in step past The Grand Stand. It reminded me of my own days as a Pathfinder—and even before that as a toddler. My mother had dressed me in my little Pathfinder uniform and placed me in our club’s float as we circled the parade field.

Back to this year’s fair at Maplewood. After hurrying on to inspect the booth displays, I returned in time to hear an inspirational talk from Minnesota’s youth director, Jeff Wines. He described having been injured in a skiing accident and then needing to trust the ski patrol as they brought him down the mountain strapped to a sled. He likened this to the trust we need in Christ to let God lead our lives.

Each club then had opportunity to exhibit march and drill skills. As I had visited clubs in the weeks before the fair, I witnessed Pathfinders and their leaders working hard to perfect their turns, learning the difference between a column and a flank, and marching in step. Their persistence and discipline paid off. I was proud of them!

After lunch, Ana Granda-Esqueda and Donna Shanholtzer, the two area coordinators who organized this year’s fair, led out in team-building activities. Pathfinders particularly enjoyed four-way tug-of-war and “toxic waste.”

The day culminated with the distribution of well-earned ribbons and awards. As each club’s name was called and their representative came forward to accept the ribbon, a roar of applause filled the gymnasium—the perfect ending to a great day.

Marilyn Sabata is the Southern Area Pathfinder Coordinator for the Minnesota Conference.
Adventist Pastor, Educator Avery Dick Passes Away

by Mark Bond

Avery Varner Dick, who pastored churches in Wyoming, the western slope of Colorado, Missouri and North Dakota, passed away May 25, 2012 in Loveland, Colorado. He was born November 15, 1914 on a farm in La Harpe, Kansas, the second of five boys. He attended Enterprise Academy and Union College, earning a BA in Religion in 1938.

He married Arline McTaggart in June of that year—she died in Loveland in 2005. In 1947 the Dick family went to China as missionaries; after evacuating twice from the Communist army, they moved to the Philippines where Avery pioneered work in the Mountain Province region of Luzon until 1952.

After earning a Masters of Divinity from Andrews University, Avery taught Greek, religion and ministerial training at Kingsway College, Mountain View College (Philippines) and Canadian Union College.

The Dicks moved to Loveland in 1976. Avery helped pastor the Estes Park Church and was an active member of the Campion Church. The church library is named for him.

Avery Dick is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Ardis and Dick Stenbakken; grandson Erik Stenbakken, his wife Gelerie and two children; granddaughter Rikki Welch, her husband Jason and two children; and brothers Willis, Elwin and Clyde Dick.

Memorial services were held July 2 at the Campion Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Campion Academy.

UPCOMING MEN’S AND WOMEN’S EVENTS

Rocky Mountain Conference Men’s Advance
Sept. 14–16, Red Clouds Ranch (near Lake City, CO)
Speaker: Karl Haffner

To register or for more information, contact Marvin Olson at 970.261.2577.

Heart-Spa: Chosen for Such a Time as This
Sept. 7–9, Glacier View Ranch
Speaker: Dr. Hyveth Williams

To register or for more information, contact Ginger Bell at 720.980.9006 or 303.659.1999.
Awaken Wyoming
by Mark Bond


It started Tuesday morning with a series of “What ifs?” between the conference ministerial director and a retired pastor: What if the state of Wyoming had a full-time evangelist? What if that evangelist could work with and train church members to reach our communities? What if money wasn’t a barrier to making that happen? What if we could raise the funds needed to make those dreams a reality?

Al Williams and Gordon Henderson quickly went from asking “What if?” to asking Gary Thurber, Rocky Mountain Conference president, if he would support such a plan. Thurber wholeheartedly agreed that if the Spirit moved on the people and funds could be raised, it could spark a revival—both within the church and across the state. And thus Awaken Wyoming was born.

The three gentlemen worked out a preliminary budget covering salary, travel and the cost of hosting evangelistic efforts across Wyoming over a three-year period, arriving at the figure of $500,000. That’s a daunting number for a region with less than 1,200 members meeting in 24 churches served by only six pastors.

By Wednesday, they shared their vision with the Wyoming pastoral team and the Wyoming Task Force (a group of interested lay members and leaders) and received overwhelming support. Many started thinking of people they knew with significant financial resources who have a heart for Wyoming.

By Friday evening, when they made the first appeal to the camp meeting audience, they already had commitments for just over $200,000. When Elder Thurber shared the goal, along with the progress that was already happening, palpable excitement filled the room. He asked the audience to pray about the proposal and return the next day with pledges to share what the Lord had put on their hearts.

By Sabbath’s end, pledges and offerings from those present totaled $35,000. In addition, 12 youth at the camp meeting pledged to raise $1,000 each over the next three years—an additional $12,000! This brought the total for the day to nearly $50,000, and the grand total to more than $250,000. In just a few days, they had reached the halfway mark of their seemingly insurmountable goal!

The pastors and attendees have returned to their home churches across the state of Wyoming to share Awaken Wyoming with those who weren’t there to witness the Spirit-led excitement that comes from watching an idea spring to life.

If you have a heart for evangelism in Wyoming, please consider becoming a part of Awaken Wyoming. Send tax-deductible gifts to the Rocky Mountain Conference earmarked for Awaken Wyoming.

Mark Bond is communication director for the Rocky Mountain Conference.
Shaun Lehmann stared at the odd device on his kitchen table—a plastic tub holding a metal contraption submerged in salt-water solution and connected to an impressive looking controller. The 1993 Union College chemistry graduate, always a skeptic, wanted to see if his purchase really lived up to its maker’s claims. Would the electrophoresis footbath remove toxins from the human body? Or was all the junk left in the water simply a chemical reaction from electrolysis?

Now a physician in suburban Houston, Texas who...
prefers to help his patients learn good nutrition and wellness practices rather than relying on pharmaceuticals, Lehmann wanted to know if they would benefit from the footbath treatments. “When the footbaths began to show up in our area, people asked us for advice on the product,” explained Lehmann. But he couldn’t find any scientific studies on the topic. “I didn’t mind researching so I went out and bought one to see for myself what it was.”

With the help of his father, also a chemist, he began to experiment with the device. “The biggest question was whether the electrolysis was taking something out of the body or possibly putting something back into the body,” he explained.

Doctors who practice alternative medicine use electrophoresis footbaths to “cleanse” the body with a low electrical charge between two electrodes believed to bind to toxins and discharge them in the water.

When a patient undergoes a footbath treatment, the clear electrolyte solution turns to a brown thick gel-like material. The brown residue is thought to be the impurities removed from the body through the therapy, and many patients have reported feeling better after treatments. During his experimentation, Lehmann and his father discovered that the water still turned brown when the device was run without feet being in the solution. “A lot of people think all that gunk is coming from the feet, but they need to know that it is also part of the process occurring from chemical reactions,” Lehmann explained. “We wanted to find out if there are any organic materials coming from the body.”

For help, Lehmann turned to his old friend and mentor, Dr. Charles Freidline, professor of chemistry at Union College. “When we presented our question to Dr. Freidline, he was immediately interested,” said Lehmann. “Dr. Freidline wanted to create a study for students to work on, and this one was available for me to do,” explained Erome Daniel Hankore, a 2012 chemistry graduate who worked on the project as part of her Research Methods class. “No one had touched this area except for a recent study done only this year, so it was exciting to discover new data.”

In fall 2011, Freidline and Courtney Dupper, a December 2011 chemistry graduate, began their research with Lehmann’s footbath. Hankore also joined the project and took over when Dupper graduated in December.

The students first ran the process with and without feet and tested for nonpolar compounds, which could be extracted from the water and tested using gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS).

Finding nothing, they started testing the water in the Union College laboratory for polar compounds—ingredients that could not be separated from the water—using liquid chromatography equipment. “Up until now it wasn’t really known what the footbaths exactly did for the body,” says Freidline. “It has taken a lot of trial and error, but we have discovered many new things that we weren’t expecting. For example, the electrolysis only produces fresh, gelatinous, iron III hydride solid that surrounds the feet. The electrolysis process does not include the patient in any way. In other words, no current passes through the feet.”

“The footbath is a growing part of medicine and few people have studied it,” Hankore said. “We tried many different samples of the solution before we even involved people in the testing. When we finally did trials with people, we could clearly identify the differences in the solution.”

But she acknowledges that it still may be too soon to tell if the footbath has a significant chemical effect on the body. “It may be psychological as much as it is medical and we may need to study the placebo effect,” she said. “There are so many possibilities, but I feel my contribution was showing that if there are any toxins coming out of the body, they are most likely polar compounds.”

Freidline submitted the research abstract to Nebraska Academy of Sciences, and Hankore was invited to present at the 112th Annual Nebraska Academy of Sciences meeting. She gave a 15-minute presentation to more than 70 professors and students from various colleges and universities in Nebraska and surrounding states.

Although Hankore graduated in August, chemistry students Kara Flemmer and Daniel Story will continue to study the chemical effects of the footbaths. “By using high performance liquid chromatography, we have found several compounds in the water after running the process with feet in the solution.” Freidline explained. “We think some are amino acids, but we don’t have the equipment to identify them.”

Freidline hopes to partner with Dr. Dan Snow at the University of Nebraska Water Sciences Laboratory and use their liquid chromatography mass spectrometer to identify the compounds his team discovered in the footbath solution. He also plans to have students test the footbath on sick people, who presumably have more toxins to be pulled out of the body than do healthy people.

In addition to providing valuable information for the scientific and medical community, applying their knowledge through research projects and other practical applications helps students find a direction for their future. “This project really inspired me to look into research programs in graduate school,” says Hankore, who came to Union to prepare for medical school. “It helped me link medicine to research, and I loved finding out about a process that happens to improve medicine.”

Years earlier, Freidline also influenced the course of Dr. Lehmann’s life. As Lehmann was weighing his educational options heading into his junior year, Freidline called to offer the prospective transfer student a job in his lab. “I would have gone to Walla Walla College to continue my engineering degree,” Lehmann remembered. “Out of the blue, Dr. Freidline called me one day and offered me a job. It was a big deal for me.”

The two still stay in touch. “He is my favorite professor,” Lehmann said. “He is the reason I attended Union College.”

Right now Union College is building a new science and mathematics complex which will provide more facilities and opportunities for student and faculty research projects. For more information on Union’s science program or how you can help make this new building a reality, visit www.ucollege.edu.

Ruby Ruano is a senior nursing major from California.
**Operation Walk Eases Pain**

*Gives new life to thousands around the world*

It’s not often, if ever, that orthopedic surgeons get to hold a newborn baby in their arms and know that they played a critical role in bringing that life into the world.

But that’s exactly what Dr. Douglas A. Dennis was able to do in Managua, Nicaragua. Dennis, a joint replacement surgeon at Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver, was in Nicaragua for his sixth Operation Walk Denver mission trip when Delphina walked into the clinic holding her newborn baby.

Two years earlier, Delphina, 37, had no chance of ever having a baby. She had been born with a congenitally dislocated hip that over the years had scissored inward so badly that she couldn’t deliver a baby, and a cesarean section was out of the question due to cost.

“She asked me if she could have a baby if I fixed her hip. She never talked about the pain, just about wanting a baby,” Dennis remembers. “This would never happen in the United States because when babies are born, we check their hips and if they are not in the socket, it’s a fairly simple fix. This was an extremely difficult surgery. But 20 months after the surgery, I got to hold her baby.”

Dennis, a nationally renowned joint replacement surgeon, moved his practice to Porter Hospital seven years ago. A condition on his relocation decision was the hospital’s support for Operation Walk Denver, an organization Dennis had founded in 2003 to provide joint replacements to needy patients in developing countries.

“I’ll never forget that Jim Boyle, then president and CEO of Porter, didn’t blink an eye at my demand. He said, ‘That’s who we are; that’s what we’re about,’” Dennis says. “That’s why being at Porter has been such a great marriage.”

Operation Walk Denver now falls under the umbrella of the Rocky Mountain Adventist Healthcare Foundation. This affiliation has helped streamline administrative costs, allowing Operation Walk Denver to dedicate 96 cents out of every dollar donated to patient care and begin to build a $4 million endowment meant to fund in perpetuity two trips annually.

The work is not cheap—or simple. Each biannual mission trip requires a mountain of equipment and personnel. Eight tons of cargo, including $1 million worth of donated artificial joints, medicines and surgical supplies, along with at least 50 team members are flown to Central and South America twice a year.

The result? Eight days in a foreign country (typically in substandard operating room facilities) and 14-16 hours of surgery every day. More than 1,000 lives have been changed in the past nine years.

“It scares me how lucky I am. Operation Walk Denver is my way to give back,” Dennis says.

Last year, Operation Walk Denver and Porter Hospital teamed up to bring the same hope to people in the United States through Operation Walk USA. In December, 10 patients who had waited years in pain because they could not afford care received free joint replacement surgery.

“I could no longer make a living or do chores around home because of the pain,” says Bob Wentzell, 61, who had his left knee replaced at Porter Hospital last December through the program. “I feel like the luckiest person on the planet because they picked me.”

Wentzell, who lives in the mountains outside Breckenridge, Colorado had injured his knee skiing in 1981. By 1991, the pain had left him disabled and doctors recommended then that he get an artificial knee. Because he lacked insurance, he wasn’t able to do that until Operation Walk Denver.

“It was a miracle for me and I’m so thankful to the doctors, the nurses and everyone at Porter,” says Wentzell, who now can hike up and down the hillside to his home and bikes three miles a day.

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This article was submitted by Stephen King, senior vice president for mission and ministry for the Rocky Mountain Adventist Health System/Centura Health, where he serves the four Adventist hospitals in Colorado. It was written by CMBell Company.
The seventh principle of CREATION Health is “Outlook.” The dictionary describes outlook as “a habitual or characteristic mental attitude that determines how you will interpret and respond to situations.” One’s outlook impacts everything we do. It can affect the choices we make by lowering stress levels, building positive relationships and trusting in God as well as others.

People are drawn to those who are positive, encouraging and optimistic. You can choose to wake up each morning with a positive outlook or a pessimistic one. I choose to focus on the positive. Each morning before getting out of bed I remind myself of one thing that I’m going to look forward to during the day. It might be a lunch with a colleague, taking my son’s dog for an early morning walk, reading a chapter in a book that I can’t get my nose out of, or my after-work Jazzercise class. Starting my day with a positive attitude sets the tone for my entire day. Positive beliefs are the stepping stones for success.

Outlook also incorporates expressing gratitude. Each day we need to count our blessings. I keep a journal by my bedside and every night record three things for which I am grateful. Last night I wrote, “I am grateful for my friend Ashley who allows me to make unexpected visits to her office to discuss important events of the day. I am thankful for the opportunity to spend time at the swimming pool with my two grandkids. I am very appreciative of my next door neighbor who takes my son under his wing when he needs help with a school project.” The intentionality of focusing on gratitude versus grumbling not only impacts my outlook but is contagious, having the ability to improve others’ outlooks. Gratitude opens doors and invites others in; grumbling slams the door and isolates.

Researchers Emmons and McCullough reported in Counting Blessings Versus Burdens that “people who regularly list what they are thankful for experience higher levels of optimism, alertness, enthusiasm, determination, attentiveness and energy than those who didn’t. Those who expressed gratitude more often helped others, exercised regularly, made progress toward personal goals.”

Your outlook is a personal daily choice. Do you choose enthusiasm over pessimism? Happiness over sadness? Tranquility over trepidation? Calmness over agitation? These choices give you the power to make a positive difference in your environment, relationships and physical well being.

Joshua 1:9 says “Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Robin J. Patykiewicz is director of retail and speaking for Women’s Health at Shawnee Mission Medical Center.

Shawnee Mission Medical Center offers a series of lifestyle transformation classes using the CREATION Health principles. For more information, visit ShawneeMission.org/CreationHealth.
**Changed: Real Lives in a Real World**

by Laura Samano

The North American Division (NAD) is targeting over 30 million Latino youth through an evangelistic initiative called Changed: Real Lives in a Real World.

Traditionally, Latino evangelism has focused on foreign-born Latinos (first-generation immigrants) who currently comprise about 75 percent of Adventist Latino membership. However, Adventism is growing slowly among second- and third-generation Latinos, who now form the majority of Latinos in the United States according to a 2009 survey by the PEW Hispanic Research Center.  

Consequently, Changed is designed to appeal to the unique cultural and linguistic identities of second- and third-generation Latinos. Realizing that local church participation is vital for the success of Changed, the division is offering multiple resources for promoting this initiative. For more information visit www.changedlatinoyouth.com.

Laura Samano is assistant editor of Guide Magazine.

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**AHS-2 Researchers Share Study Results**

by Barry Manembu, MPA

Researchers with Adventist Health Study-2 (AHS-2) presented their latest scientific findings at multiple North American Division camp meetings this past summer. In July 2011, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded AHS-2 $5.5 million to continue the study for another five years. These recent presentations honored the commitment of AHS-2 directors to share the latest results with study participants.

There were many active study members among attendees at most locations. “They asked a variety of questions, but the typical ones were on the diet classifications, what we were doing about Alzheimer’s disease and how to get further information,” said Dr. Terry Butler, one of AHS’s senior researchers.

Butler also reported study results confirming that “vegetarian Adventists have lower mortality rates, and lower rates of certain cancers compared to non-vegetarian study members. We also know that couples who are more religiously alike report more marital satisfaction.”

Another senior co-investigator, Dr. Patti Herring, presented summaries on the health outcomes of particular conferences she visited, including percentages of those who reported having high blood pressure, high cholesterol, Type 2 diabetes, patterns of meat eating or vegetarians, and levels of physical activity.

To find out more about the Adventist Health Study-2, visit www.adventisthealthstudy.org.

Barry Manembu is a project editor for Loma Linda University.

*For the complete story by Barry Manembu please visit http://bit.ly/T4WDTT or scan the QR code below.
Balusek, Maxine R., b. May 4, 1924 in Denver, CO. d. June 14, 2012. Member of the Wanamaker (Topeka, KS) Church. Survivors include daughters Marion Kieffer, Anne Dinger, Rose Puff and Judy Coffey; son William Jr.; 1 sister; 10 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren.

Blanchfield, Barry, b. June 30, 1957 in Lake City, IA. d. June 9, 2012 in Panora, IA. Member of Guthrie Center Church. Preceded in death by parents; 3 siblings. Survivors include wife Evetta; daughters Tarah Anderson and Teia Blanchfield; son Tyrel; 2 siblings; 3 grandchildren.

Bitterman, Malvin E., b. Feb. 28, 1924 in Delmont, SD. d. June 30, 2012 in Huron, SD. Member of Huron Church. Preceded in death by wife Doris. Survivors include daughters Karen, Pam, Rhonda Gorneberg and Roberta Drown; son Randy; 15 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild.


Butler, Earl N., b. Apr. 9, 1916 in Shovel Lake, MN. d. June 12, 2012 in Le Center, MN. Served in US military during World War II. Member of Le Center Church. Preceded in death by wife Lorraine. Survivors include sons Bruce and Craig; daughters Beverly and Debbie; 9 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.

Cleveland, Lloyd D., b. Aug. 24, 1925 in Kersey, CO. d. June 10, 2012 in Loma Linda, CA. Member of Paradise Church. Served as missionary in Peru and Rocky Mountain Conference Treasurer. Survivors include wife Laurene; sons Scott and Randall; 5 grandchildren.


Dickhaut, Daniel, b. Nov. 17, 1916 in Irvin, Alberta, Canada. d. June 5, 2012 in Redfield, SD. Member of Redfield Church. Preceded in death by wife Verona. Survivors include daughters Mavis Walton and Darlene Rothacker; sons Duane, Dennis, Darrell and Darvin; 4 siblings; 25 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren.

Elstrom, George R., b. May 27, 1921 in Lincoln, NE. d. June 4, 2012 in College Place, WA. Member of Village Church. Served as pastor in Michigan, Minnesota, California and Oregon. Also served administratively at Central California Conference and Arizona Conference. Preceded in death by first wife Glenys “Cherry” Elstrom. Survivors include wife Twila; son Thomas; 2 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren.

Gremmels, William, b. May 5, 1940 in Rock Island, IL. d. June 18, 2012 in Muscatine, IA. Member of Muscatine Church. Survivors include wife Sandra; daughters Sue Gremmels-Reed and Kath Danz; son Robert; 4 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild.

Flowers, Thomas, b. Jan. 22, 1936 in Sherman, TX. d. July 15, 2012 in Marsland, NE. Member of Hemingford Church. Survivors include wife Faye; daughters Gayle and Wendy; sons Chuck and Wade; 2 siblings; 9 grandchildren.

Friesen, Emma "Elise", b. May 16, 1917 in Lisco, NE. d. Dec. 6, 2011 in Lamar, CO. Member of Lamar Church. Preceded in death by 6 siblings. Survivors include husband Virgil; daughter Wanda Balmer; sons George, Clarence and Calvin; 5 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren.

Jackson, Janice, b. Mar. 26, 1941 in Glidden, IA. d. Mar. 16, 2012 in Burlington, IA. Member of Burlington Church. Preceded in death by 1 brother. Survivors include husband Jon; sons Jon, Jack, Jerry and Jason; daughters Jean Strunk and Joy Jackson; 1 brother; 8 grandchildren.

Kastrow, Elmer M., b. July 22, 1933 in Beulah, ND. d. Mar. 31, 2012 in Bismarck, ND. Member of Bismarck Church. Survivors include daughter Virginia Lee; sons Gene Elmer Jr. and Dwight; 1 brother; 13 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.


McConnie, Sandra, b. Aug. 5, 1943 in Sioux Falls, SD. d. May 15, 2012 in Sioux Falls, SD. Member of Sioux Falls Church. Preceded in death by husband Jorje. Survivors include daughters Deb Johnson; Suni Nave and Lisa McConniel; sons James, Bill and Leonard; 4 siblings; 13 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren.

Miller, Jack, b. Feb. 9, 1923 in Cedar Rapids, IA. d. June 1, 2012 in Joplin, MO. Member of Joplin Church.

Overby, Erma G., b. Aug. 21, 1924 in St. Paul, MN. d. June 4, 2012 in Kalispell, MT. Member of Valley City Church. Preceded in death by husband Erwin. Survivors include daughters Sandra Hall and Glenda Funk; son Ed; 2 sisters; 3 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren.


Wickizer, Randall E., b. Aug. 21, 1956 in Neodesha, KS. d. May 18, 2012 in Bartlesville, OK. Member of Thayer Church. Survivors include wife Linda; 2 siblings.

Wolkowitz, Mildred "Lucille", b. May 7, 1916. d. June 8, 2012 in MO. Member of Lee’s Summit Church. Survivors include husband Menard; son David; 5 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren.

Yarnell, Sandra, b. Nov. 24, 1942 in Clinton, IA. d. May 31, 2012 in Clinton, IA. Member of Clinton Church. Preceded in death by husband William. Survivors include daughter Renee Lynn Mitchell; stepdaughter Deborah Wilson; 2 siblings; 1 grandchild.
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EMPLOYMENT

Adventist University of Health Sciences (formerly Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences) in Orlando, FL, seeks an Assistant Program Administrator for the Nurse Anesthesia Program. Qualifications: CRNA with current recertification, eligible for FL licensure, minimum of master's degree from regionally accredited institution with doctoral degree preferred, academic experience. This is a faith-based institution which seeks candidates who fit its unique culture and mission. Submit letter of interest and CV to Dr. Alescia Devasher Bethea, alescia.devasher@fhchs.edu or fax 407.303.9578.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks Research Coordinator for its Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. Physical therapist preferred, but will consider candidates from other healthcare-related fields with research experience. Apply online at http://www.andrews.edu/hr/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi or directly to: Dr. Wayne Perry, Chair, Andrews University Physical Therapy Department, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0420. Telephone: 269.471.6033. Email: perryw@andrews.edu.

Andrews University is searching for a Sous Chef to join Dining Services. Qualified candidates will have a Culinary degree or two years of training/experience. For additional information and to apply please visit: http://www. andrews.edu/hr/emp_jobs_salaried.cgi.

Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL is seeking a Physical Therapist Program Director beginning 2013. The Program Director will provide overall academic leadership developing this program and salary will be competitive. Qualifications: Minimum doctoral degree from regionally accredited school. Senior faculty status. Understanding of higher education and contemporary clinical. Eligible for FL PT licensure PT academic experience. Submit letter of interest, curriculum vitae, three references and/or letters of recommendation to Dr. Don Williams, don.williams@fhchs.edu or fax 407.303.5671.
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences is seeking applicants for the position of Program Director for a new Physician Assistant program. A Master’s degree is required; a Doctoral Degree is preferred. Florida Hospital College is a faith-based institution which seeks candidates who fit the unique culture and mission of the college. Please email CV to: Dr. Len M. Archer, Associate Vice President for Academic Administration, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; len.archer@fhchs.edu.

Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences is seeking a Curriculum Coordinator to work with both the academic departments and faculty on curriculum, mapping and course development in a blended learning environment. Qualifications: Ph.D. in Curriculum Development preferred with ten years of successful teaching in higher education. Send inquiries to Dr. Don Williams, Sr. VP Academic Admin., Florida Hospital College, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; 407.303.5619; don.williams@fhchs.edu.

INVITATION TO TEACH IN THAILAND: Missionary teachers needed to serve God in the wonderful country of Thailand. Please answer God’s call! Matthew 9: 37-38. For more information on this exciting opportunity, please contact: carla2andersen@hotmail.com.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking HVAC Master Technician/HVAC Technician. The technician will install, trouble-shoot and maintain central heat and air systems. Successful candidate must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in good and regular standing. Certification for refrigeration and HVAC Type 2 or better. A high school diploma with college or trade school education preferred. Five years’ experience in heating/air conditioning, ductwork, and/or refrigeration preferred. Send resumes to Human Resources, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370, pcoverdale@southern.edu.

Union College is seeking tenure track faculty member to teach foundational level courses and clinical in BSN program. Prior teaching experience and minimum of MSN in Nursing required. Qualified candidates will possess a commitment to Christian Adventist values. Email cover letter and resume/curriculum vitae to thstimso@ucollege.edu.

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EVENTS

Boulder Junior Academy Classic Event: September 7 - 9. Calling ALL Alumni of BJA and VRA. A fun filled weekend of golf, parties, and gatherings of old friends. Lots of events planned, so don’t hesitate to contact Sharlene Cook Hillier (Shill9494@aol.com) or Becky Carlisle at 303.828.4944 for more information.

Oak Park Academy Alumni Weekend Sept. 28-29. All Alumni and former faculty and staff are invited to this special reunion weekend. The 2012 honor classes are 1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977. Location: Gates Hall 825 15th Street, Nevada, IA. For more information contact Mary Dassenko Schwantes at 636.527.0955 or email: maryschwantes@sbcglobal.net. We need your email—postage is too expensive. Contact Warren Woodeledge at warrenw2u@gmail.com.


TRIBUTES

Elder Al Stern married 65 years to Arlea Lippincott. (Boulder Colorado) Retired 1988 to Estacada, Oregon. Enjoy family and good health after working in North Dakota, Nebraska, California and Upper Columbia Conferences.

Wayne Luallen Hanson was born May 12, 1933 to Oscar and Mildred Hanson of Braddish, NE; he died Feb. 16, 2012 at home in Nixa, MO. Wayne served proudly as a deacon at the Nixa Adventist Church, where he was respected for his honor, integrity and courage. He was also a member of the Omaha, NE Memorial Church for 40+ years. He and his wife, Patricia, raised their three children in NE. Upon retirement, Wayne enjoyed worshipping in Winter Haven, FL. Illness and hurricanes forced a return to MO, where Wayne renewed a close relationship with the Lord. He served in the US Army in the Korean War and at his funeral at the Nixa Church he was accorded full military honors. He is survived by: wife, Patricia Mooneyham Hanson; children, Tammie and Monte Ellingson; Tim and Shelly Hanson; David and Robin Hanson; siblings, Shirley Welch of Lincoln and Martha Hanson of Wichita, and Donna and Fred Welch; brother, Duane Barker; grandchildren, Megan, Larel, Justin, Stephanie, Cassie, Andrew, Kayle, Gage and Lexi; great-grandchildren Sabbath and Melanie. Wayne's love for his church family in Nixa and for Pastor Jeff Werda dictates that their love and care includes them as family and survivors. Preceding Wayne in death: brothers, Merlin “Bud” and Leland Hanson; sister Rose Marie Barker; grandson, James Michael; and great-grandchildren Laci and Kalijah.
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**SUNSET CALENDAR**

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- Casper: 7:41
- Cheyenne: 7:33
- Sheridan: 7:45

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