Weekly News From Around the Columbia Union Conference

April 23, 2014

Doors Closed at 40 Area Churches for Collaborative Worship, Training, Outreach

More than 40 Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Potomac and Allegheny East conferences agreed to close their doors April 12 to participate in The One Event in Woodbridge, Va. The event, which drew 2,000 attendees, included a worship service, community project and training sessions, which covered topics like how to reach the Millennial generation, become more involved as members and give Bible studies.

“Each month, Potomac’s pastors in Northern Virginia get together for leadership development, encouragement, fellowship, accountability and dreaming,” said Rick Jordan, pastor of the Woodbridge (Va.) church. “One of our dreams was to come together, as one, for a joint worship service and fellowship. We don’t want language, culture or our buildings dividing us, so we planned the worship service to celebrate our diversity.”—Story by Tiffany Doss

READ MORE
WAU Releases Statement Regarding Their Nursing Program

Washington Adventist University (WAU) in Takoma Park, Md., released a statement last week with news about their Edyth T. James nursing program. The Maryland Board of Nursing has approved WAU's program, but placed it on warning status. The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) recently voted to deny continuing accreditation of their baccalaureate nursing program.

University officials say they will appeal ACEN's decision and seek other accreditation. Until the appeal is considered, the program will maintain its accreditation.—Story by Visitor Staff

ALLEGHENY WEST’S NEW OFFICE COMPLEX “A BLESSING,” LEADERS SAY

To send us a news story or announcement, email us at visitor@columbiaunion.net. The deadline for all submissions is 12 p.m. each Tuesday.
The Allegheny West Conference (AWC) Executive Committee voted recently to purchase a new building to house their headquarters. The new complex, a three-story, 21,600 square foot, facility is located at 1080 Kingsmill Parkway in Columbus, Ohio. It sits on 1.2 acres of land, just north of downtown, is easily accessible from all major highways and has 77 parking spaces.

“We’re thankful for the blessing of acquiring this building—well below market value—because it will provide much-needed space for offices, meeting rooms, an auditorium, a media center and more,” says William Cox, president.

AWC leads and supports the ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ohio, West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Western Virginia. Since 1967, a year after it was established, its headquarters have been located in a house at 1339 East Broad Street in Columbus.

The leadership team believes that securing this larger complex will facilitate its mission and vision to grow in the areas of evangelism, stewardship and education and enable the organization to enhance and expand its ministry to the diverse populations in its territory.—Story by Bryant Taylor READ MORE

Allegheny West Pastors Invite Community for Movie Review

Allegheny West Conference’s Glenville church in Cleveland recently took a very nontraditional approach to evangelism. On a Sunday afternoon, they invited unchurched family and friends to join them in watching the controversial movie *Noah*. More than 370 people lined up outside one of the largest theaters at the Severence Center and shared their contact information before watching the film. Afterward the moviegoers participated in an after-action review with Glenville pastors MyRon Edmonds and John Coaxum.

With the assistance of a handout, Edmonds and Coaxum presented the truth about the Bible story. Glenville members also distributed a compilation of Ellen G. White writings on the story of Noah and refrigerator magnets with the church’s contact information.

Why use such an unconventional approach? “As a church, Christ has asked us to go! We have operated so long with a ‘come’ mentality that we have forgotten that we’ve been told to go!” said Pastor Edmonds.—*Story by Marna Borieux; Photo by Rodrick Bacon*

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**Adventist HealthCare Hosts Health Ministry Leaders**
Seventh-day Adventist health system ministry leaders from across the nation gathered at Adventist HealthCare’s corporate offices in Gaithersburg, Md., this week to discuss the importance of faith in delivering healthcare. This group of mission integration vice presidents, representing 18 health systems from 17 states, has been meeting annually for the past nine years. This week’s meeting was held April 21 to 23.

Topics discussed over the three days included issues in health ministry, chaplaincy and health equity. Rep. John Delaney (pictured center), serving Maryland’s sixth district, was a guest speaker on the first day. Delaney discussed the intersection of public policy, healthcare and faith, describing the leaders in the room as being on the forefront of how we think about healthcare. He also addressed the Affordable Care Act and the nation’s changing healthcare landscape. “I find that institutions that answer to a larger calling, beyond just the substantive medical services, really do deliver a better experience,” Delaney said.

This is the third year Adventist HealthCare has hosted this annual meeting.—Story by Laura Cook

**Director Shares How Allegheny East Church’s Drama Ministry Impacts Others**
Over Easter weekend, hundreds attended a stage play at Allegheny East Conference’s Germantown church in Philadelphia called The Case. Some 75-plus members from the Germantown church, surrounding Seventh-day Adventist churches and from the community helped make this year’s play a reality. This is the third play they’ve staged on Easter weekend. Below, we talk to Ina E. Farrell (pictured), who wrote, directed and produced the play:

Q: What was the most surprising thing you’ve heard participants or spectators say about the play?

A: Many have said that they saw themselves in the characters in the play. One person said that the play was so moving, she wanted to accept Christ on the spot. For the crew, it was the internal ministry. There were cast members who did not feel like they could come out of their shell and perfect the roles they were given. I think that the “sowing into the cast” was amazing. They have shared that it has changed their lives. Some have been able to see themselves in the characters on the stage. The relationships that have been formed during this process have been phenomenal. What has been the most rewarding for me is being able to give the cast tangible solutions by introducing and reintroducing the cast to Christ.

—Interview by Armina N. McElveen

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General Conference Suspends Filming of The Record Keeper Series
Seventh-day Adventist world church leadership recently announced their decision to suspend the release of the 11-episode series called *The Record Keeper*, after questioning some of the series' theological implications.

The decision came after carefully reviewing the Web series, which dramatizes the epic struggle between good and evil. Church leaders from different parts of the world and the world headquarters evaluated the series, participated in the discussions and the decision-making process.

The church's Biblical Research Institute (BRI) provided a biblical analysis of some of the problematic and theologically inaccurate matters raised in the Web series. … While Bible studies were to be prepared to accompany the series and encourage further study, according to the BRI, the content of *The Record Keeper* would have put the church in the difficult position of endorsing the misrepresentation of biblical truth while at the same time offering studies, which conflicted with the dramatic presentations. This would invite misunderstandings and cause confusion.—Story by ANN Staff

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Join our Mental Health #VisitorChat!

In the April *Visitor* we tackled the issue of [mental illness in the Seventh-day Adventist Church](http://www.adventistpress.com/weeklyobserver). Join us April 29 at noon as we're delving even deeper.

Our team of experts will discuss the symptoms of mental illness and talk about
practical ways to help those suffering.

Follow us at @VisitorNews, then tweet your questions and comments to #VisitorChat.

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**Potomac Church Offers Intervention**

Can churches help erase the stigma of mental illness? The Seabrook church in Lanham, Md., is helping by offering free, confidential counseling and therapy services. [Read about their ministry here.](#)

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**Columbia Union Members in the Media**

- **Earnings & Deals: Adventist HealthCare plans to open urgent care centers**
- **Benefit concert raises funds for church's Family Aid Fund**
- **Chesapeake Member Shares Boston Marathon Experience**

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MARYLAND**

- **April 26: The Dupont Park Church Home and School Association is sponsoring a black tie gala.** The gala will be held at the Camelot banquet facilities in Upper Marlboro, MD. The theme for the evening is “An Evening in Paris” and will be hosted by Christian Comedian Jonathan Slocumb. Former students, faculty, parents, members and supporters of Christian education are invited. For more information about tickets and advertising in the souvenir journal, visit [dupontgala.eventbrite.com](http://dupontgala.eventbrite.com).

- **April 26: The New Hope church in Fulton, Md., is hosting a family-friendly...**
concert featuring renowned Cellist Stephen Framil performing Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations with the Washington Adventist University's New England Youth Ensemble. This will be followed by the Washington Concert Winds performing well-known and loved American Pops Classics. Light reception to follow. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 12350 Hall Shop Road.

April 30: Baltimore White Marsh Adventist School's annual Move Up Open House is Wednesday, April 30, 8:30-noon. Potential students can visit classrooms, meet teachers, and experience the school in action. Parents are encouraged to come and learn more about the school, too. Lunch will be provided. To reserve a spot, contact principal Rose Gamblin by phone at (410) 663-1819 or email principal@bwmschool.org.

VIRTUAL

April 9-May 15: Adventist photographers from across the North American Division are invited to participate in inSpire's 2014 Facebook Photo Contest. Both amateur and professional photographers may enter. The idea is to spotlight God's creative power and to provide opportunities for His people to share their gifts. Prizes range from $100 to an iPad Mini. Winners will be selected based on a combination of how many people like the photos on Facebook, and the rankings that will be given by inSpire's photography judges. The contest ends at midnight on May 15. MORE
Doors Closed at 40 Area Churches, Members Enjoy Collaborative Worship, Training, Outreach

columbiaunionvisitor.com/doors-closed-at-40-area-churches-members-enjoy-collaborative-worship-training-outreach/

April 23, 2014 · by Taashi Rowe · in Allegheny East Conference, Potomac Conference, Uncategorized

For one special Sabbath, the doors of some 40 Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Northern Virginia area were closed. Their members instead gathered at the Hylton Memorial Chapel for a joint worship service, fellowship, training and a free concert.

Story by Tiffany Doss

Some 40 Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Potomac Conference agreed to close their doors on April 12 to participate in The One Event in Woodbridge, Va. The event, which drew 2,000 attendees, included a worship service, community project and training sessions, which covered topics like how to reach the Millennial generation, become a more involved as a member and give Bible studies.

"Each month, Potomac's pastors in Northern Virginia get together for leadership development, encouragement, fellowship, accountability and dreaming," said Rick Jordan, pastor of the Woodbridge (Va.) church. "One of our dreams was to come together, as one, for a joint worship service and fellowship. We don't want language, culture or our buildings dividing us, so we planned the worship service to celebrate our diversity."

To break down some of the barriers at the event, worship songs were sung in both English and Spanish. Kofi Antwi-Adarkwah, pastor of the First NOVA Ghanaian church, gave the Scripture reading in his native language. Pastor Jimmy Munoz from the Seabrook church in Lanham, Md., translated speaker Barry Black's sermon into Spanish. Black is the chaplain for the U.S. Senate.

In the development stage, Jordan said outreach training for members became an element the pastors wants to highlight. However, they felt training wasn't enough and an outreach program should be organized. They decided to use a free concert as their platform.

"We were able to bring in Josh Wilson, a popular Christian artist, and were able to partner with WGTS 91.9 FM, a local radio station which operates out of Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., and serves the Washington, D.C., area," explained Jordan. "People were also encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to give to a local food bank. We were able to collect more than 8,000 pounds of food."

The history of the location added to the magnitude of the event. The structure, the Hylton Memorial Chapel in Woodbridge, Va., has hosted thousands of events and contemporary Christian music artists, artists such as Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, Mercy Me, Casting Crowns and well-known speakers such as T.D. Jakes, John Bevere and Rick Warren.

"The event was a huge success. People have been asking when we will be doing another one and why haven't we done this before!" exclaimed Jordan. "We had more than 2,000 people from all over Northern Virginia come together to worship, celebrate and train, and we were blessed to have over 1,500 people from the community attend the Josh
Wilson concert. It goes to show how much we can accomplish when we all come together in the name of the Lord. We will see where the Lord leads us next!

This article was first published on April 15, 2014 on the Potomac Conference website.

Correction April 24, 2014: An earlier version of this article incorrectly stated that Allegheny East Conference churches closed their doors for the event and that WGTS 91.9 FM broadcasted the evening concert. We regret the errors.
April 23, 2014 · by Taashi Rowe · in Education, Uncategorized, Washington Adventist University

Washington Adventist University (WAU) in Takoma Park, Md., released a statement last week with news about their Edyth T. James nursing program. The Maryland Board of Nursing has approved WAU’s program, but placed it on warning status. The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) recently voted to deny continuing accreditation of their baccalaureate nursing program.

University officials say they will appeal ACEN’s decision and seek other accreditation. Read the full statement below:

WAU’S Baccalaureate Nursing Program

Maryland Board of Nursing and ACEN Accreditation Status

April 17, 2014

Washington Adventist University’s (WAU) baccalaureate nursing program has been approved but placed on warning status by the Maryland Board of Nursing because National Council (of State Boards of Nursing) Licensure Examination (NCLEX) scores for first-time test takers did not reach the expected benchmark in 2013. The Department of Nursing faculty has instituted various strategies designed to improve future NCLEX scores.

The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) has voted to deny continuing accreditation of WAU’s baccalaureate nursing program. The University will be appealing this decision. In addition, the University will be seeking accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), and that application is in progress. CCNE is officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency contributing to the improvement of the public’s health to ensure the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate, and residency programs in nursing. Schools including Loma Linda University and The Catholic University of America are accredited by CCNE.

It is important to understand the following:

1. The nursing program is approved by the Maryland Board of Nursing.
2. All current and new students can take the NCLEX examination in the state of Maryland (as the baccalaureate program continues to maintain its approval by the Maryland Board of Nursing).
3. The baccalaureate nursing program is not closing.
4. Students will continue to be admitted to the baccalaureate nursing program.
5. The ACEN Board of Commissioners’ decision to deny continuing access impacts only the baccalaureate nursing program.
6. WAU is filing a notice of appeal to ACEN.
7. While WAU is in the appeal process, ACEN shall maintain the prior accreditation status of WAU’s baccalaureate program until the disposition of the appeal.

The University will provide periodic updates about the status of the nursing program as more information becomes available.
If there are questions about the status of the baccalaureate nursing program, please contact Dr. Mackey (jmackey@wau.edu or 301-891-4546) or the Maryland Board of Nursing:

Dr. Patricia Kennedy
Maryland Board of Nursing
4140 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2254
Telephone: 410-585-1900

and/or

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
334 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
Attention: Sharon Tanner
Telephone: 404-975-5000
Allegheny West’s New Office Complex “A Blessing,” Leaders Say

April 23, 2014 · by Taashi Rowe · in Allegheny West Conference, Uncategorized

Leaders say this new, three-story building in Columbus is a necessary tool in helping to them complete their mission—preparing people for Christ's soon return.

Story by Bryant Taylor

The Allegheny West Conference (AWC) Executive Committee voted recently to purchase a new building to house their headquarters. The new complex, a three-story, 21,600-sq.-ft., facility is located at 1080 Kingsmill Parkway in Columbus, Ohio. It sits on 1.2 acres of land, just north of downtown, is easily accessible from all major highways and has 77 parking spaces.

“We’re thankful for the blessing of acquiring this building—well below market value—because it will provide much-needed space for offices, meeting rooms, an auditorium, a media center and more,” says William Cox, president.

AWC leads and supports the ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ohio, West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Western Virginia. It has 12,000 members who worship in 62 churches and operates two schools and numerous community-based outreach programs.

Since 1967, a year after it was established, its headquarters have been located in a house at 1339 East Broad Street in Columbus.

The leadership team believes that securing this larger complex will facilitate its mission and vision to grow in the areas of evangelism, stewardship and education and enable the organization to enhance and expand its ministry to the diverse populations in its territory.

“We want to impact the larger community with a knowledge of Christ by providing practical education and training programs, sharing our lifestyle through wellness programs and assisting in their personal growth and development. All our ministries will be positively impacted by this development, and every gift and talent is needed to fulfill our potential,” Cox added.

Leaders expect that the acquisition of this building will open doors, enhance community relationships, provide new sources of funding and inspire the AWC family to finish the work of preparing people for Christ’s soon return. The acquisition of the building was made possible via a loan from the Columbia Union Revolving Fund.

Plans are underway to prepare the building for occupation later this year. Updates will be shared on the conference website, awconf.org, through the Allegheny West Spirit newsletter in the Visitor, at upcoming town hall meetings and at this year’s camp meeting.
Glenville Pastors Invite Community for Movie Review

April 17, 2014 · by Michelle Bernard · in Allegheny West Conference

The Glenville church in Cleveland recently took a very non-traditional approach to evangelism.

*Story by Allegheny West Conference Staff*

On a Sunday afternoon, they invited unchurched family and friends to join them in watching the controversial movie Noah. More than 370 people lined up outside one of the largest theaters at the Severence Center and shared their contact information before watching the film. Afterward the moviegoers participated in an after-action review with Glenville pastors MyRon Edmonds and John Coaxum (pictured).

With the assistance of a handout, Edmonds and Coaxum presented the truth about the Bible story. Glenville members also distributed a compilation of Ellen G. White writings on the story of Noah and refrigerator magnets with the church’s contact information.

Why use such an unconventional approach? “As a church, Christ has asked us to go! We have operated so long with a ‘come’ mentality that we have forgotten that we’ve been told to go!” said Pastor Edmonds.

Coaxum added, “Glenville’s theme for this year is ‘The Church Has Left the Building.’ We are on a mission to literally meet people where they are and bring them the truth.”
Director Shares How Germantown Church’s Drama Ministry Impacts Others

columbiaunionvisitor.com/director-shares-how-germantown-churchs-drama-ministry-impacts-others/

April 23, 2014 · by Taashi Rowe · in Allegheny East Conference

Interview by Armina N. McElveen; Photos by Michael Pearson

Over Easter weekend, hundreds attended a stage play at Allegheny East Conference’s Germantown church in Philadelphia called The Case (see pictures below). We talk to Ina E. Farrell, who wrote, directed and produced the play. Some 75-plus members from the Germantown church, surrounding Seventh-day Adventist churches and from the community helped make this year’s play a reality. This is the third play they’ve staged on Easter weekend. Below, Farrell talks more about this ministry:

Q: How did you first get involved in this kind of ministry?

A: I attended a church where the drama ministry director moved to another state, so I took on the task of being the drama ministry leader. My background is in theater and voice.

Q: Tell us about this year’s play?

A: The overarching theme this year is that no one is too far gone for God to save them. A man was arrested for murder, but it didn’t happen like everyone thought.

Q: What is the impact you’re hoping to have by doing the play?

A: I want to convey to the world that although life is difficult, Jesus still saves lives. God is in control of it all.

Q: Do the plays always have an Easter theme?

A: Somewhat. The goal is always to bring the cross forward. Oftentimes, people think of the cross as something that happened years ago. Although the event was many years ago, the significance of His Resurrection is powerful and lives even now in our lives today.

Q: What’s the biggest audience you’ve ever had?

A: 5,000

Q: What was the most surprising thing you’ve heard participants or spectators say about the play?

A: Many have said that they saw themselves in the characters in the play. One person said that the play was so moving, she wanted to accept Christ on the spot. For the crew, it was the internal ministry. There were cast members who did not feel like they could come out of their shell and perfect the roles they were given. I think that the “sowing into the cast” was amazing. They have shared that it has changed their lives. Some have been able to see themselves in the characters on the stage. The relationships that have been formed during this process have been phenomenal. What has been the most rewarding for me is being able to give the cast tangible solutions by introducing and reintroducing the cast to Christ.
Q. What pushes you to do a play each year?

A: Although we are ministering to others, we have been blessed also. We have ministered to each other and have established lasting relationships.

Click here to read about last year's play.
Decision to suspend “The Record Keeper” comes with strong endorsement for creative outreach

Adventist world church leaders today announced their decision to suspend the release of the 11-episode series called “The Record Keeper,” but agreed to explore the possibility of supporting similar creative outreach projects.

Adventist church leaders questioned some of the series’ theological implications

April 11, 2014 | Silver Spring, Maryland, United States | ANN staff

Seventh-day Adventist world church leadership today announced their decision to suspend the release of the 11-episode series called “The Record Keeper,” but agreed to explore the possibility of supporting similar creative outreach projects.

The decision came after carefully reviewing the Web series, which dramatizes the epic struggle between good and evil. Seventh-day Adventist church leaders from different parts of the world and the world headquarters evaluated the series, participated in the discussions and the decision-making process.

“Seventh-day Adventist world church leadership is committed to using and developing creative methods of outreach that are faithful to Scripture and Seventh-day Adventist ideals to reach segments of the population that will never be impacted by traditional evangelism,” said world church president, Ted N. C. Wilson.

“The Record Keeper” follows the story of Cadan and Larus, two angels who struggle to maintain their friendship after universal civil war breaks out. Meanwhile, another angel, Raina, pursues a record of events while trying to make sense of the chaos.

Seventh-day Adventist Church theology sees the controversy between good and evil as central to understanding the turmoil witnessed throughout history and evident in the world today.

The church’s Biblical Research Institute provided a biblical analysis of some of the problematic and theologically inaccurate matters raised in the Web series. In addition, church leaders were looking for a much stronger portrayal of the love of God, the creation of a perfect world, the Plan of Salvation and the final renewal of heaven and earth as recorded in the Bible.

While Bible studies were to be prepared to accompany the series and encourage further study, according to the Biblical Research Institute, the content of “The Record Keeper” would have put the church in the difficult position of endorsing the misrepresentation of biblical truth while at the same time offering studies that conflicted with the dramatic presentations. This would invite misunderstandings and cause confusion.

Church leaders at the world headquarters expressed their continued desire to produce creative material that would be
in harmony with Scripture and capture the attention of people seeking divine truth.
Join our #VisitorChat About Mental Health

Join our #VisitorChat About Mental Health!

Story by V. Michelle Bernard

In the April Visitor we tackled the issue of mental illness in the Seventh-day Adventist Church (Read our article here). Join us April 29 at noon as we’re delving even deeper.

Our team of experts will discuss the symptoms of mental illness and talk about practical ways to help those suffering.

Follow us at twitter.com/visitornews, then tweet your questions and comments to #VisitorChat.

Our experts include:

- **Katia Reinert**, a family nurse practitioner and public health clinical nurse specialist with training in depression treatment and the integration of faith and health. Reinert is the director of Health Ministries for the church’s North American Division.

- **A. Leah Scott**, is the director of Columbia Union Conference’s Health Ministries and Adventist Recovery Ministries.

- **Michelle St. Fleur**, MD, is a family physician currently doing a research fellowship focusing on mental health in faith-based organizations. She is very interested in the Adventist Church being more involved in mental health.

- **Nathan Krause**, pastor of Potomac Conference’s Olney church (Olney, Md.) is a Mental Health First Aid Instructor.

- **Debra McKinney Banks** wrote the April Visitor article “Can Churches Help Erase Mental Illness.

- **Carlos Fayard**, PhD, assistant professor of psychiatry at Loma Linda University School of Medicine in California.

Join the chat by following #VisitorChat on April 29 at noon (EDT)!

Read more of our articles on mental health:

- 5 Things Not to Say to Someone With a Mental Illness
- Can Churches Help Erase the Stigma of Mental Illness?
- Seabrook Offers Intervention
Seabrook Offers Intervention

columbiaunionvisitor.com/seabrook-offers-intervention/

March 27, 2014 · by Michelle Bernard · in Potomac Conference , This Month's Issue

How one Maryland church is helping their church find better mental health.

Story by Debra McKinney Banks

Monique Keene-King, a licensed professional clinical counselor, volunteers as the director of the Potomac Conference’s Seabrook church’s (Lanham, Md.) counseling ministry, where they provide free, confidential counseling and therapy services to church members and their families and friends.

Operating since 2012—after hosting a banquet specifically aimed at inviting mental health professionals to join the ministry—Damein Johnson, Seabrook’s senior pastor, is overjoyed with the results. “The counseling team stays busy!” he exclaims. “Plenty of people are taking advantage of this service and telling their family and friends about it.”

The church recently expanded the ministry beyond its building walls, and has already received requests after offering their services to parents at the local elementary school.

“This is a huge help for us as pastors,” says Johnson, on behalf of his pastoral team. “Pastoral counseling doesn’t cover everything, and we can get in over our heads. There are just some issues we can’t address. It’s nice to be able to refer them to our counseling ministry.”

Read more at seabrooksd.org.
Gaithersburg-based Adventist HealthCare plans to open urgent care centers in Germantown, Rockville and Laurel by early 2015 through a partnership with Maitland, Fla.-based Centra Care, executives said this week.

Centra Care operates about a dozen urgent care centers in Florida. The new centers will help Adventist meet a growing need for health care options for non-life threatening injuries and illnesses, said Terry Forde, interim president and CEO for Adventist HealthCare.

The facilities will be in free-standing buildings and add as many as 30 new jobs. They will feature online appointment capabilities, walk-in appointments, on-site lab work, X-rays, physicals and immunizations.

Bethesda biotech Northwest Biotherapeutics agreed to sell $15 million in stock to a single investor, with an option for the investor to purchase up to $17 million more in stock.

The placement is expected to close by Tuesday. Northwest did not disclose the investor, but H.C. Wainwright & Co. is the placement agent.

Adventure course company Go Ape USA moved its headquarters from Rockville to a larger office at the Glass Factory in Frederick.

Go Ape has zip line adventure courses in Rockville, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Indiana and Missouri.

Bethesda defense giant Lockheed Martin opened an office in Israel on Wednesday to support the corporation's growing presence there.

The company also established a science, technology and research investment fund in universities in the Republic of Korea.
Karla Rivera Bucklew (seated) and Ingrid Forss will perform at the Parkway South Seventh-day Adventist Church on May 3. MARMORA – A benefit concert at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Marmora will be held Saturday, May 3 for the church’s Family Aid Fund.

The Family Aid Fund Benefit Concert was started in 2006. Each year, Karla Rivera Bucklew joins Ingrid Forss in performing at the Parkway South Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The church is located at the corner of Route 9 and Roosevelt Boulevard.

Rivera has a Masters degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Maryland. She has toured as soprano soloist with the New England Symphonic Ensemble, Pro Musica and Columbia Collegiate Chorale to places such as Ely Cathedral and St. Martin-in-the-Fields, South Africa, Russia, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Australia.

Forss is professionally certified as a piano instructor by Westminster Conservatory of Music in Princeton, and has a private part-time piano studio.

The Family Aid Fund helps local families in need, according to a press release.

The concert is scheduled for 7 p.m. on May 3. Admission is free but donations are greatly appreciated.

For more information, call 609-675-4124 or visit https://www.facebook.com/familyaidconcert.
Howard runners call 2014 Boston Marathon an 'amazing' experience

Rich Reinhardt, of North Laurel, holds up a medal after finishing the 2014 Boston Marathon.

(Photo courtesy Rich Reinhardt / April 21, 2014)

By Blair Ames, bames@tribune.com

9:00 a.m. EDT, April 22, 2014

For Phyllis Sevik, the goal for the 2014 Boston Marathon wasn't to finish, it was just to start.

Sevik, an Ellicott City resident, was in the medical tent near the finish line during the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings, which killed three people and injured hundreds.

In the tent for treatment after her legs cramped up shortly after she crossed the finish line, Sevik saw firsthand how the area immediately became a triage for victims.

"The injuries I saw were horrific," she said.
Sevik acknowledged that her experiences from last year affected her running over the past year, and she was hesitant about traveling to Boston this time around because she wasn't sure what to expect.

After finishing Monday, Sevik said the atmosphere was "fabulous."

"It was absolutely incredible, from all the runners, to the locals, to the volunteers," she said. "No one was going to stop the city from winning today."

Although Sevik was anxious about toeing the starting line, the crowds eased her anxiety.

"I'm just totally in awe at Boston," she said. "It was amazing."

Sevik finished the marathon in 3:49:42, her second Boston finish and fourth marathon finish overall.

She said security was noticeably increased, but didn't get the sense that anyone was apprehensive about running.

Sevik and her husband, Ken, were among more than a dozen Howard County Striders to participate in the marathon Monday.

More than 36,000 runners participated in the marathon, up about 9,000 from 2013.

Clarksville's Tatyana McFadden won the women's wheelchair race for the second straight year Monday.

Rich Reinhardt, of North Laurel, ran in his first Boston Marathon and called it an "amazing experience."

"The crowds were so supportive. I've never had a race where my ears hurt because people were screaming so loud," he said.

Reinhardt, who had participated in six marathons before Boston, said he was "super motivated" to qualify this year after the events last year.

"I like to let people know that their stupid actions can't stop us from living our lives," he said. "This race means so much to the city."

Reinhardt finished in a time of 3:01.23, just off his goal of three hours, but qualifying him for the event next year.

"I cannot wait to go back and do it again," he said.

Faye Weaver, of Ellicott City, finished her first Boston Marathon Monday in 3:39:03.

Weaver knew this year's event would fill up quickly, so she ran the Erie marathon on a Sunday morning in September.

"Monday morning came and as soon as I could get on a computer, I was signing up," she said.

Before the race, she said she was "excited, scared, and anxious" to get started.

"It's like the mecca of marathons, it's just an honor to participate," she said.

Christine Brewer, a teacher at Cedar Lane School, called the amount of people cheering along the race "overwhelming."

Brewer, competing in her first Boston Marathon, finished in 4:05:24 and although she was disappointed in her finish said that "overall, it was a great day."

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