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Building Christian characters and building relational bridges are the work of the Holy Spirit.



Building Bridges in Our Community

EDITORIAL

The nicest and most effective activity that a Seventh-day Adventist Christian can do in his or her community is that of building bridges. We know all about the value and worth of bridges. In case we have forgotten, bridges connect islands together, people with people, span ravines, gulfs, and even bodies of water. Bridges are designed to facilitate large and small vehicles, to assist passengers to and from destinations of work, pleasure, or business. Bridges these days are made of steel, reinforced concrete and asphalt. They are built to accommodate movement and withstand wind pressure and extreme heat and cold.

Now, to build these types of bridges one needs extensive training and expertise in engineering and science. Perhaps not every committed Christian has this type of training or expertise. But even without this specialized training, there are still important "bridges" that can and need to be constructed in every community, and every Christian can have a part in their construction. I am thinking about bridges of Christian relationships, love, compassion, understanding, forgiveness, tolerance and general sensitivity to the needs of each other, to name a few.

All around us there are gulfs of human separation created by families becoming disconnected by death, divorce and personal selfish choices. There seems to be a mounting sea of violence in many neighborhoods. Drug use and abuse is always with us; religious intolerance is rearing its head again, and prejudice and insensitivity to racial and ethnic differences is still entrenched in many hearts and homes.

To address the challenges of building bridges, we may need to go outside of ourselves and connect with divine powers. In John 15:1, 5 Jesus says, "I am the true vine and my father is the husbandman.... [If a man or woman abides in me] the same bringeth forth much fruit for without me you can do nothing."

To adequately address the task of constructing Christian relationships of healing and building "bridges" which better the life of our community, we need to be equipped with the love, life and power of Jesus. This power is available, and when we claim it through personal surrender and daily commitment to Jesus we receive the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. When this happens we are more than equipped to be "bridge builders" in our homes, our church and our community. Building Christian characters and building relational bridges are the work of the Holy Spirit. Our role in this process is one of continual surrender and cooperation with the Holy Spirit. By being the fruit of the spirit (Gal 5:22-26) we will accomplish the commission of Jesus and one day see the results of our labor.

As the year 2000 continues, my wife Marilyn and I pray that throughout the Atlantic Union Conference territory and around the world, God's remnant church will be diligent relational "bridge builders." And in addition, we will sense and realize that we are God's Hands, Feet, and Heart building bridges over human suffering, materialism, sin and whatever separates man from God—that our bridges will be anchored in Christ.

Carlyle Simmons is president of the Bermuda Conference

Atlantic Union GLEANER, May 2000

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ADOUT THE COVET: New Englanders welcome and enjoy the beauty of the flowers that are part of God's creation. They can be seen "bursting out" all over indicating that spring is here once again. The cover photo was taken by photographer, Paul Miller of Vernon, VT.

It's TIME! Seventh-day Adventists Get Media-Friendly

by Celeste P. Ryan

had heard of the church and only

about 35 percent could name some

fact about the church. And as Murray

discovered, about two percent of the

Mormons. The primary finding of the

Why did this happen? How could

seems to be Adventist or knows some-

this happen when everyone we know

one who is? Didn't everyone go to

public linked the Adventist church

survey was that most people knew

nothing of the Adventist church.¹

with Jehovah's Witnesses and

few years ago, Northeastern Conference communication director, C. A. Murray, took to the streets of New York City, video camera in tow, to find out what people in the "Big Apple" knew about Seventh-day Adventists.

In a New York minute he discovered that folks in the city that never sleeps were not very familiar with our church or beliefs. When asked, they really couldn't say much about us.

"I think they are like Jehovah's

Witnesses." one New Yorker said. "They worship seven days?" another guessed. "They can't eat meat." noted another. For the most part, during Murray's video survey, the answers didn't get much better than that.



Hew Lipscome, ACS co-director for South Georgia region is interviewed by Fox television reporters. ACS was featured in more than 20 television and newspaper reports about relief efforts to help Camilla, Georgia, disaster survivors. Photo by Jamie Arnall

In 1994, the North American Division established a Commission on the Public Image of the Church. This group conducted an extensive survey of the public and learned that awareness of the church had indeed dropped sharply during the previous decade.

In 1986 about 70 percent of the public indicated they had heard of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and about 50 percent could name some fact about the Adventist church. By 1994 only 53 percent indicated they The commission concluded that two factors contributed most heavily to the decrease in public awareness and perception. The first was the decrease in the presence of the Adventist church in the mass media. Throughout the 1980s and the early 1990s, the church's contacts with the public media decreased. Press relations dried up. The church stopped producing public service announcements for radio and television. Secondly, church communication leaders turned their attention toward sending messages to internal audi-

academy. attend one of our 15 North American colleges, or at least shop at the ABC? Haven't they been invited to potluck, camp meeting, or an evangelism series? If not, then surely they read the ADVENTIST REVIEW.

ences.² We had become quite skilled at "navel gazing" and "preaching to the choir."

IT'S TIME

In 1997, after learning about how sharply public awareness of Adventists had dropped in the previous decade, the Commission on Public Image of the Seventh-day Adventist Church recommended that the North American Division establish a media relations program to help the church become known throughout North America.

That office was established in March 1999 under the direction of Kermit Netteburg, assistant to the president for Communication, to "raise public awareness of the Seventhday Adventist Church—its mission, its message, and its members."

In the first year of this initiative, we have focused on making and nurturing contacts with media personnel in North American print and broadcast organizations, developing a press kit to professionally represent our church, identifying public relations resources for local church use, conducting workshops for communication leaders, pitching and submitting news stories and ideas about the Adventist church to media contacts across North America, and seeking publicity for major Adventist events.

One such event was the 4th International Pathfinder

Areas Where Adventists Excel

Here are three areas where Seventh-day Adventists excel. You can always find something within these areas to highlight in your local media. Got a story or idea? Give them a call:

Health Experts—Seventh-day Adventists have a life-changing health message that is the right arm of the gospel. We operate 162 hospitals and sanitariums around the world and numerous other health care facilities. We have physicians, researchers, and health educators from around the world who can share life-changing information through the media. Our health studies are often noted in journals and media reports. Every stop-smoking program, health fair, and diabetes screening your church sponsors is newsworthy.

Educators—Seventh-day Adventists run the largest protestant school system in the world where nearly one million students are educated in 5,590 schools. It has been noted that Seventh-day Adventists are among the most highly educated people in the world. Your church school, a field trip, annual graduation, a special student, a teacher dedication or retirement, even a holiday school program provide opportunities to seek media coverage.

Service-Oriented Christians—ADRA, the humanitarian and disaster response agency of the church works in 121 countries, with 400 Adventist Community Services (ACS) centers in the United States alone. When a disaster strikes, ACS one of the first church-based service organizations called upon and in many U.S. states, expertly coordinates and manages donated goods warehouses in conjunction with state emergency management offices to provide immediate relief to disaster victims. Your center's anniversary, a holiday toy or food drive, or your quick response to those in need after a disaster make great stories for local media.



Church based Adventist Community Services centers provide opportunities for local churches to get media coverage about disaster relief efforts, an anniversary, a food or toy drive, or other activities. Terry Haight, ACS director for Adventist Community Services in Georgia Cumberland Conference interviewed by newspaper reporters. Photo by Jamie Arnall.

Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, last summer. Upon contacting the religion editors of the Milwaukee and Green Bay newspapers, I heard virtually the same comment: "We don't hear much from Adventists," each told me. "But we'd like

> to." I got the same reaction in Boston, Huntsville, Texas, California, Miami, Oklahoma City, Toronto, and Washington, DC, and immediately realized that God was opening doors for the Adventist church.

> In this five-day Pathfinder event, 18 newspaper articles were written and more than 20 television sto ries appeared about these young members of our church. Last New Year's eve, Ephesus' sundown service was shown on "ABC 2000" for 50 seconds, one of only a handful of churches featured worldwide during the 24-hour broadcast. This opportunity came about after a paragraph in the WASHINGTON POST religion page, highlighting the "Genesis 2000" satellite program, caught the attention of an ABC producer. Last spring, a student at the Bermuda Institute was named Bermuda's Teen of the Year with other Adventists close behind. It took just a couple of phone calls by communication director, Randolph Wilson, to get her featured on the weekend television newscasts and in the island's newspaper.

POWER TOOL

We've learned quickly that communicating with public media can be a powerful tool in highlighting the unique ways in which Adventists are sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and his message of hope for this troubled world. We are a chosen people of hope who cherish a unique quality of life. The community is waiting to hear what we have to say, especially in areas that affect quality-of-life where we are well versed—health, education, and service (See sidebar: Areas Where Adventists Excel).

A note about Crisis Communication

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a designated team that handles crisis communication. This team works to stay on top of potential crises involving our church and its name. Should a crisis occur that involves the Adventist church in your community, contact your conference or union communication director immediately. During a national or international crisis, don't decline to comment to reporters. Instead refer media inquiries about the Adventist church as a whole to your pastor and/or conference or union communication director who can appropriately speak on the issue at hand.

It's time for the Seventh-day Adventist Church to work •gether at all levels—local churches, conferences and nions; church-owned and sponsored entities; and from each ivision—to increase public awareness of our life-changing message, our beliefs and mission, and our 11 million memers from all walks of life (See sidebar: Tips for Raising ublic Awareness).

Communication is an important and effective arm of our ublic ministry. Indeed we have our work cut out for us, but

Tips on Raising Public Awareness

Here are five ways local churches can start raising public awareness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in their community today:

Get Resources—North American Division Communication has developed a ministry job description and a list of communication resources for local church ministry in the new millennium. Use these resources for effective internal and external communication efforts. On the web, visit www.plusline.com and go to the resource section. For a free catalog, call AdventSource at 1-800-328-0525 or contact your conference communication director.

Get Signs—One of the first and best things you can do for your church is to get and use the new Adventist logo that fosters a unified worldwide identity. The second and best thing you can do is get highway, street, and building signs that clearly and boldly identify your church location.

Get Involved—As a Christian church, you have a responsibility to influence the community for good. Attend and speak up positively at community meetings where votes affect your church, your kids, and its members. Invite the mayor and other public officials to worship with you on

the opportunities are endless and God has opened the door. One day, in a New York minute, our reputation in the community that doesn't worship as we do could depend on it. Frequent contact with a religion reporter who calls to check his facts before going to press could save us from a major media crisis or help us land a positive feature. A friendship with a judge or lawyer who defends the church in a religious liberty vote could help secure continued Sabbath worship.

What do you hope they'll know about us then?

As media relations manager, Celeste Ryan works to raise public awareness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America—its members, its mission, and its message. Contact her via email at celestepryan@compuserve.com.

1. QUALITY OF LIFE, The Report of the Commission on the Public Image of the Church (October 8, 1997: North American Division) p. 1. (Available at AdventSource 1-800-328-0525).

2. Ibid, p. 1.

Sabbath, as well as your neighbors, work associates, and friends. Volunteer to help with community events, donation drives, and fund-raisers on behalf of the Adventist church.

Get Out More—Do you have a church booth (table or floor display)? Develop one and set it up at the next community health fair or community sports event. Have your Pathfinders create an exhibit for this summer's county fair. Have them march in the Independence Day (July) parade, the televised Latin and Caribbean parades held in New York each summer, and have an Adventist team participate in the Bermuda Day (May) bike races and heritage celebrations. Your sharply dressed youth will have a very positive influence on the community.

Get Coverage—Initiate and nurture a relationship with local media in your community by giving them a call and requesting to meet them. Follow-up by sending news releases about your upcoming activities and inviting them to cover your events. Pitch story ideas that have religious themes, feature young people, the pastor, an outstanding member, or highlight new programs. Share statements published by the Adventist News Network (www.adventist.org) to let them know our official views on current issues.

Banggie Island

by Jeff Scogg

Pius, a young Global Mission pioneer in Malaysia, went to the challenging island of Banggie which lies just off the tip of Borneo. When he landed on Banggie, Pius found it was about 20 miles long and had no public transportation. He had to hitchhike with local businessmen. He managed to catch a ride to the far end of the island where he began to work among the people.

Pius began to make friends, but when the people discovered that his ultimate hope was to introduce Christianity, some of them began plotting to kill him. Fortunately, the village chief, a compassionate man, warned Pius. He escaped into the jungle, and a friend guided him to a remote community. The chief in that community allowed Pius to remain, and one of the local farmers even gave him some land where he could build a house and plant a garden.

The farmer also helped Pius clear the land. The Malaysia Mission in Sabah loaned them a chain saw with which to cut boards from the trees. With those materials, Pius built a simple house in the middle of his clearing. As soon as the house was complete he took a short leave to return home to marry his sweetheart.

Together they returned to the home Pius had built, and his new bride jumped right into the ministry her husband had begun. She cared for people when they were sick, and began to teach them how to prevent disease. She plays the guitar, which the village children fell in love with. They flock to the couple's home to learn new songs.

The villagers also helped Pius and his wife. For instance, planting a garden was no problem, but keeping the monkeys out was. Their new neighbors showed them how to protect their garden. Over time, mutual trust and confidence grew between them—and so did the people's interest in the way this young couple worshiped their God. It is a small, humble, but effective beginning. Thanks to Global Mission pioneers, the work on Banggie Island, in the 10/40 Window, has begun.

Jeff Scoggins, Communications Project manager Global Mission

The General Conference 2000 Session offering to be collected July 8 will be used to focus on people in places lin Banggie Island throughout the countries of the 10/4 Window.

On July 8, mark your tithe envelope "GC 2000 Offering." If you would prefer to mail your gift or give by credit card you can call 1-800-648-5824 or visit the Global Mission web site at www.global-mission.org.



The area we call the 10/40 Window is one of the toughest areas on earth for the light of Jesus to reach. Because it's so difficult Christians, including Adventists, have not put the necessary effort into reaching this huge number of people. That is going to change. With the "For the Heart of the Need" offering this year, Global Mission will establish more than 1,000 new congregations in the10/40 Window. Not everyone can go as missionaries, but each of us can help care for those who do go—both with our money and our prayers. The one thing Global Mission pioneers long for the most is to feel the support of their church both locally and worldwide.

6

Because He Lives ... Health and Wholeness

Northern New England Conference Camp Meeting July 21 - 29, 2000 Pine Tree Academy, Freeport, Maine

Lonnie Melashenko Director-Speaker Voice of Prophecy

Roger Coon Former Associate Secretary E.G. White Estates

Lloyd Erikson Andrews University

Debra Brill North American Division

Dedrick Blue Assistant to the President Northeastern Conferece

Richard Neil Health Educator Northern Vermont Camp Meeting July 7-15, 2000 Morningstar Meadows Farm Glover, VT

Ron Halvorson Speaker, Author, Evangelist Southern Union Conference

Cheri Peters Director of Teen Pathways and founder of True Step Ministries

For more information write or call: Herluf & Kathy Johnson, 165 Dwinell Drive, Glover, VT 05839 (802) 525-4690; e-mail: kjvt@together.net

That They All May Be One

New York Conference Camp Meeting Union Springs Academy, Union Springs NY

English Camp Meeting June 16 - June 24, 2000

Gordon Bietz President of Southern Adventist University Collegdale, TN

Jack Sequeira Pastor, Capital Memorial Church Washington DC

Jan Yakush

Teaches Bible online and writes correspondence courses for Home Study International as well as filling speaking appointments.

John Fowler Evangelist/Pastor

David Vandenburgh Senior Pastor, Kettering Church Kettering, Ohio

John Nixon Pastor, Oakwood College Huntsville, AL

Sabbath Concert June 24, 2000 - 3:30 p.m. Steve Darmody & Jennifer LaMountain Hispanic Camp Meeting Viernes Junio 16, Sabado Junio 17, Sabado Junio 24

Dr. Atilio Dupertuis Director of Hispanic Ministries Andrews University

Native American Camp Meeting September 8 - 10, 2000 Hatch Lake, New York

Blondell Senior Director, Adventist Home Youth Services, Inc.

Alex and Sandi Bocovoy Sandi works closely with Native American Ministries as Director of Vacation Bible School training. Alex presents health programs dealing with important health issues.

200

Dennis Pardee A specialist in the art of making, decorating, and playing Native American flute replicas.

Festival of Faith 2000

Southern New England Conference Camp Meeting June 16 – 24, 2000

Festival emphasis this year will be cultivating and maintaining vibrant Christians and healthy, vibrant churches! Research has indicated that healthy, growing churches demonstrate eight quality characteristics.

Spirituality

2000

- Inspiring worship
- Need-oriented evangelism
 Gift-oriented ministries
- Holistic small groups
 Function
- · Empowered leadership · Development of a loving
- Functional church structures
 - Development of a lovin church community

The week's events will include workshops to help understand and develop these quality factors in the churches as well as nurture faith and Christian practice. There will be many opportunities to celebrate what some Southern New England churches have done to strengthen these characteristics and to celebrate the growth of God's church in the Conference.

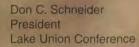
FEATURES:

English Meetings with speakers Don C. Schneider, Jay Gallimore, Steve Wallace (Montana Conference), others to be announced

Franco-Haitian Meetings with speaker Clifford LeGuerre Portuguese Meetings with speakers Alejandro Bullon, Ronaldo Arco

Spanish Meetings with speakers Louis Torres, Carlos Pardeiro, Alejandro Bullon

- Seminars: Health-related topics—Small groups—Healthy church life emphasis-much more!
- Women's Ministries
- Adventist Book Center Auditorium Sale
- Music local talent, guest artists, congregational singing – Prayer and Praise





Jay Gallimore President Michigan Conference

Clifford LeGuerre Guidance Counselor Miami Palmetto Senior High School

Ronaldo Arco Youth Director East Sao Paulo Conference, Brazil

Alejandro Bullon Ministerial Director South American Division



Carlos Pardeiro President/CEO KSBN TV, Safe Television for All Ages



Walking Up the King's Highway

Bermuda Conference Camp Meeting June 11 - 17, 2000 Bermuda Institute/Southampton

SDA Church Complex, Middle Road, Southampton

Speakers: Bermuda Conference Local Church Pastors

En El Umbral De La Eternidad (On the Threshold of Eternity)

Northeastern Conference Camp Meeting May 24 - 29, 2000 Camp Victory Lake, Hyde Park, NY Hispanic Camp Meeting

Dr. Mario Veloso Associate Secretary General Conference

Pastor Carlos Turcios Multilingual Ministries and Personal Ministries New Jersey Conference

Pastor Jose Agosto An Educator, Family Counselor, and Lover of Youth Dr. Tomas Ramirez Medical Surgeon and Natural Medicine Practitioner Director of "En Familia" Clinic in Nuevo Leon, Mexico

Music Ministry Isis Espana Harry Laboy Anibel O'Connor





Finding Peace, Power and urpose in the 21st Century

Greater New York Conference Camp Meeting Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, NY

Portugese Camp Meeting May 26 - 28, 2000

English Camp Meeting July 19 - 22, 2000 Charles Joseph Lake Region Conference

Hispanic Camp Meeting July 28 - August 5, 2000 Hugo Gambetta Lake Region Conference Pedro Portes North Dominican Conference

French Camp Meeting August 19 - 27, 2000

United Camp Meeting September 16, 2000 Richard Barron Pastor, St. George's Church Ministerial Secretary Bermuda Conference

Union Adopts New Policy on Procedure for Accepting a Group Into Another Conference

E ach congregation within the Seventh-day Adventist Church is a part of the sisterhood of congregations known as the local conference. The relationship between the congregation and the conference in the Seventh-day Adventist Church is a very important one in wh both work closely together in order to ensure church growth and viability.

From time to time, requests are made for a group of believers to join the sisterhood of companies or churches in another conference. I guidelines below were adopted by both the Atlantic Union and the North American Division and are published here for the benefit of a constituents.

Donald G. King, executive secrete

Procedure for Accepting a Group Into Another Conference

When there is an overlapping of conference territory and a group separated from one conference desires affiliation with another conference, the following procedure must be followed:

- 1 When a group of members separate themselves from an established Seventh-day Adventist Church and start a new group without the recognition of the local church and/or the local conference, the church shall inform the conference and the conference shall notify the union.
- 2 The local conference must also send a notice to the area churches stating that the new group is not an official Seventhday Adventist Church.
- 3 If the group wants to become a part of a conference, it must make an attempt to reconcile with the conference from which it separated. The former conference shall request a union officer to preside at the reconciliation meeting.
- 4 Before another conference considers the group's request for acceptance, it must first verify with the union officer(s) that a good faith attempt at reconciliation has been made.
- 5 After the certification of the union officer(s), the new conference may consider the application of the group for acceptance into the sisterhood of churches. Issues of church membership must also be properly settled.
- 6 If the new conference executive committee votes to organize the group into a church congregation it shall notify the union and the area churches that the church has been accepted into its sisterhood of churches.
- 7 Such acceptance must be ratified at the next constituency meeting of the conference.

Procedimiento Para Aceptar a Un Grupo En Una Asociacion Diferente

Cuando existe una extensión de territorios entre asociaciones que coinciden y un grupo se separa de una de las asociaciones, deseando afiliarse a la otra asociación, el siguiente procedimiento debe seguirse:

- 1 Cuando un grupo de miembros se separa de una iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Dia establecida y comienzan un grupo nuevo sin el reconocimiento de la iglesia local y/o la asociación local, la iglesia debe informar a la asociación de dicha separación y la asociación debe notificar a la unión.
- 2 La asociación local deberá también notificar a las iglesias del área, informandóles que el grupo nuevo no es aun una iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día en forma oficial.
- 3 Si el grupo desea ser parte de una asociación, el grupo debe hacer un intento de reconciliarse con la asociación de la cual se separó. Dicha asociación debe requerir a un oficial de la unión que presida en la reunión de reconciliación.
- 4 Antes que otra asociación considere la petición de aceptar al grupo, debe verificar con los oficiales de la unión que se haya realizado un intento de reconciliación en buena fe.
- 5 Después de haber tenido una certificación de lo anterior por los oficial(es) de la unión, la nueva asociación podrá considerar la solicitud del grupo para ser aceptado a la hermandad de iglesias. Los asuntos en cuanto a la membresía de la iglesia deben ser propiamente arreglados.
- 6 Si el comité ejecutivo de la nueva asociación vota en favor de organizar el grupo como iglesia, debe notificar a la unión y a las iglesias del área que la iglesia ha sido aceptada a la hermandad de sus iglesias.
- 7 Una vez se tome el voto de aceptar a la iglesia, tal aceptación debe ser ratificada en la próxima reunión de congreso de la asociación.

Procédures a Suivre Pour Accepter I Groupe Dans Une Autre Conference

Lorsqu'il existe un conflit territorial et groupe séparé d'une conférence désira affiliation avec une autre conférence, procédure suivante doit être suivie:

- 1 Quand un groupe de membres se sépi d'une Eglise Adventiste du Septièn Jour et commence un nouveau grou sans la reconnaissance de l'église loc: et/ou la conférence locale, l'église d informer la conférence et la conférence son tour, informe l'Union.
- 2 La conférence locale doit aussi inform toutes les églises de la zone que le no veau groupe n'est pas une Egli Adventiste du Septième-Jour officielle.
- 3 Si le groupe veut faire partie d'une co férence, il doit essayer à se réconcil avec la conférence de l'église mère. dite conférence invitera un officier l'Union à présider à la réunion de réco ciliation.
- 4 Avant qu'une autre conférence consi ère l'acceptation du groupe, elle de vérifier premièrement avec l'Unio pour savoir si une bonne tentative réconciliation a eu lieu.
- 5 Après la certification des officiers of l'Union, la nouvelle conférence per considérer l'application du groupe q veut faire partie de ses églises sœurs. liste de membres doit être convenable ment révisée.
- 6 Si le comité exécutif de la nouvelle co férence vote d'organiser le groupe d église, elle doit informer l'Union et l églises locales de l'acceptation du group dans son sein.
- 7 Cette acceptation doit être ratifiée à prochaine assemblée constituante de conférence.

Atlantic Union GLEANER, May 2000

Worldwide Web of Falsehood

The "letter of the week" began like this: "Hello. My name is Courtnee, and I am 22 ears old . . . all my hair is falling out . . . rashes ll over my face . . . vicious pounding headaches . "In all, nine equally devastating symptoms were listed. "Those were only a few of my sympoms," she went on to say. She found the reason, nade the diagnosis, when she went on-line and ead all about "ASPARTAME POISONING." We believe that Courtnee is well now, since

he banished aspartame from her life.

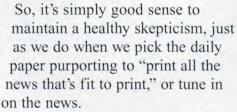
Several months ago, TIME magacine ran an article called, "A Web of Deceit." It focused on baseless internet scares, this aspartame-poison hype being one of them. Recently, an internet author, who chose to remain nameless cited a connection with the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, and implied that aspartame causes MS. The alleged association was denied by the Foundation. So was any cause and effect relationship

between aspartame and multiple sclerosis.

So where do we find the truth? Is aspartame a menace to the millions that find delight in its sweet charms? Or is it a tried and safe sugar-substitute for all those sucrose afficionados? Well, let us consider what becomes of it when ingested and digested. Formic acid and methanol are the end products of its metabolism. The amounts of each are minuscule, even less than generated from the metabolism of a glass of tomato juice, or a variety of succulent fruits. Ever since 1966, this substitute for the crystalized juice of sugar cane has been searched and researched, on animals and man, in minute amounts and massive doses. Through it all, aspartame comes out as safe as a swallow of pure spring water.

This Health Wise column is not just about aspartame. No, it's about truth on the web! About integrity on the net.

Can you trust your health to the net? Definitely not! The information superhighway is honeycombed with potholes and deceitful signposts. Anyone with a PC or new iMac can post, at will and whim, the pros and cons of any topic on earth. Most anyone can be an instant expert in no more time than it takes to boot-up.



Must we doubt it all? Is there nothing on the WWW that merits our confidence? Consider this: if it's

from the government, it is probably worthy of belief, at least until it can be verified. Ditto for information from institutions of learning. Like universities and col-

Health

leges, state or private.

Finally, do we have the last word on sweeteners? No, we understand that new ones are coming to your supermarket shelves soon. They will have been researched ad infinitum and found safe. But as sure as sugar is sweet, there will be detractors on the net urging that we beware and eschew these new "poisons." Well meaning without doubt, but misinformed.

Let's keep a wide open mind. Let's be alert as we surf the net. Atlantic Union GLEANER, May 2000

by Raymond O. West, M.D., M.P.H.

ADP Meets Adult Student Needs

Program with providing access and direction for her when she was seeking to achieve her dream of a college education. According to Velma, "ADP allowed me to maintain a regular family life (as a mother of seven children) while achieving academically at my own pace. That was how I was able to complete a bachelor's degree in 1994, a master's degree in education with an emphasis in special education in 1997, and a second emphasis in administration in 1998." Since graduating from AUC, she has worked as a teacher and a principal. Her next goal is to acquire a doctoral degree in education. "And to think that

I almost missed getting a college education because I thought I was too old at 53 years to go back to school," she said. "I highly recommend ADP to anyone who would like to pursue academic excellence the way I did."

ADP alumni continue to be strong promoters of the program, recruiting others to share in success. In addition to Velma, who heard about ADP from an alumnus, Carla Sue of Washington State came all the way across the country on the recommendation of another alumnus. "T'm not a Seventh-day Adventist, but 1 heard about ADP from someone who had been through the program. It sounded wonderful and gave me hope that I

Psychology major and graduating senior Mark Thielen of California with elementary majors, Carla Sue of Washington State and Allison Thompson of Connecticut, originally from Jamaica.

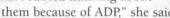


Velma Lovelace '99, alumna

could do it, too. I am the only one on both sides of my family to go to college and I wanted to set a good example for my children. ADP allows me the flexibility to stay home with my children so that I can oversee their education while I get my own."

The flexibility of the program is one of its most attractive components. Students can retain their full-time employment and are given college credit for some of their work experience. "The prior learning credit was the clincher for me. By giving me college credit for previous experience, I was able to cut the time to complete my degree by one third," said Mark Thielen '99, a recent ADP graduate. "As a plumber with a business to run, I could plan my vacation time to coincide with the times I had to be on campus and my business did not suffer. Now I plan to go on to graduate school. It is not easy to make a career change. It is one thing to think you can do something, but it is another to actually do it. ADP enabled me to look at myself differently!"

The ADP program allows individuals who have had to postpone their personal dreams to accomplish them after many years of interruption, as in the case of Ernestine Finley. "I started off at AUC many years ago, but marriage family, and ministry responsibilities kept me from finishin my degree. ADP allows me to design learning units that result in projects I can use in my work with the It is Written television program. I have created all sorts of wor derful Bible study materials that I may never have gotten around to developing if I hadn't started thinking about



After more than 28 years, th Adult Degree Program continues to meet the needs of adult students. That is why students fly in from around the country twice a year to participate in two week programs. The rest of the time, they work on their self-directed assignments and projects.

Students are in constant contact with their teachers, consulting with them on a regular basis. Since the program was designed for adults, one of the prerequisites is that students must be at least 25 years old. Education is the most popular major, but virtually all majors, with the exception of laborator related studies, are possible through ADP.



Anne Gustafson, ADP director



California shares information at lunch with theology majors, Carl Behrmann of New Hampshire and Norman Vaillant of Rhode Island.

The most important prerequisite, according to Anne Gustafson, ADP director, is "the love of learning!" The next ADP session starts on July 10, 2000. So, what are you waiting for?

Make your dreams come true at AUC! For more information contact:

Anne Gustafson, Director Adult Degree Program ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE PO Box 1000 South Lancaster, MA 01561-1000 1-800-282-2030 or (978) 368-2304

Desiree Ham-Ying, vice president for Advancement and Faith Beall, assistant director for Advancement Atlantic Union College

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ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE

ADP— Get Your College Degree Against All Odds

am not a person with a lot of extra time. Neither are you. So let me tell you about how I finished my college degree without spending any extra time at school. I now, it sounds like losing weight while eating all the ice ream and fried food you want. Impossible. And it is, nless you get the degree through the Adult Degree rogram at Atlantic Union College.

The beauty of ADP is that you design your own curricuum. When I did ADP, I was homeschooling two children, anning a full-time music ministry which required me to cavel almost every weekend and spend 20 to 30 hours in ne office per week, and keeping a house clean and a husand happy. (Fortunately they were both low-mainteance.) I was able to get straight A's (I had to work for hem!), but more importantly, God used ADP to change he course of my life.

I was in some ways tired of music ministry. I decided hat I wanted to study the Bible in more depth and perhaps bursue a teaching career. My first semester with ADP I tudied the subject of mental health from a biblical standboint. As part of the unit I gave four presentations in my iving room under the title *Healing Inner Wounds*. About wenty people came, and I had what was essentially my irst experience with public speaking. I cannot tell you now it happened, but word got out, and I ended up doing he seminar again at one local church, then another. That was about six years ago, and I am still at it, having shared he same information all over the United States and in Canada, and even as far away as Africa!

During another semester 1 recorded a compact disc with 11 songs of my own composition. I wrote a devotional book to go along with the compact disc, called BANISH THE MYTH. I had spent many hours in the recording studio, but never for college credit! Writing the devotional was my first experience in authoring a book, an experience which prepared me to write my spiritual autobiography, which was published by Pacific Press in February 2000 under the title, TESTIMONY OF A SEEKER.

One more wonderful feature of ADP is the prior learning

credit you can receive for learning that has taken place outside of a formal school setting. For instance, I had run my own business, taught health and nutrition, and written hundreds of songs before I ever attended ADP. I was able to show from course descriptions from other colleges how I had learned the equivalent of one year's credit in various areas. The committee was pretty tough about it, but the effort was worth it in the end.

I still have the music ministry which, thanks in part to ADP, is now a teaching/writing ministry as well. If you want to know more about ADP from someone who has "been there, done that," then please contact me! (145 Putnam, CT 02620, (860) 928-9540, e-mail: jennifer. schwirzer@snet.net. or contact the Adult Degree Program at 1-800-282-2030.) If I haven't already sold you on the fact that this is the best adult education program anywhere, then I'll keep trying.

If you want to expand your horizons, your mind, and your opportunities, but your plate is already full, this is the program for you.

Jennifer Jill Schwirzer, alumna Atlantic Union College



ADP graduate Jennifer Jill Schwirzer was thankful for the support of her family.

Participants at an ADP summer seminar at AUC

GRADUATION AT ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE May 12 - 14, 2000				
CONSECRATION SERVICE	May 12	7:30 p.m.		
BACCALAUREATE SERVICE	May 13	11:00 a.m.	Elder Richard Barron	
COMMENCEMENT SERVICE	May 14	10:00 a.m.	Dr. Humberto Rasi	

Atlantic Union GLEANER, May 2000

Union Springs Academy Students Participate in 30-Hour Famine

On February 26, 2000, forty-nine students and guests participated in the 30-hour famine which was held at Union Springs Academy. This annual event is sponsored by World Vision to provide education regarding world hunger and to raise money for those in need. The participants raised over \$600 for this cause.

At first I was a little leery about starving myself for thirty hours. It almost seemed impossible, since I really like to eat. Yet I figured that this was to help other people around the world who need food more than I do, and God would help me do it.

The famine began at 9:30 a.m. Sabbath morning in the gymnasium and there were special events planned for the entire 30 hours. A five-man a capella group from Atlantic Union College called "One Voice" performed a number of times during the weekend. For Sabbath school and church the Union Springs Academy group "Inertia" played for song service. During church Chris Estey, a student from the Center for Personal Evangelism, shared his testimony which was a blessing to all.

Instead of our usual Sabbath afternoon lunch, we had a juice break and kept on with activities throughout the afternoon and evening. Sunday morning we loaded into vans and went to Reva Roller Rink in Auburn. Although some students enjoyed the opportunity to get out and do something, others were too hungry to skate.

When we returned from skating we were challenged by another lesson in life. We were forced to watch Mrs. Blanchard and a college student eat food from Taco Bell in front of us! While they were eating they pointed to us and commented, "Look at all those poor, hungry people. They must be starving. I wish someone would

be starving. I wish someone would help them." When they were finished they threw their leftovers away. When they threw the food in the trash it was just too much for many of the students. That was perfectly good food! What were they thinking? It was a sobering lesson. Imagine how much food we waste while homeless people look on in disgust at the way we treat the very thing that keeps us alive.

All in all, the 30-hour famine was fun and a huge blessing to many of the students at Union Springs Academy.

Heather Janetzco, sophomore Union Springs Academy

camp to begin. Already preparations are underway for this next summer and the changes that will be taking place. The good news is that we now have the pledges for the new pavilion! But now we need some help in putting it up. We would like to invite you to come up and help with getting the camp ready and putting up the pavilion. We had a great time during our work camps last year and want to invite you to come up and be a part of our team. Come up and be a part of our team. Come up Arailable Available Available Available Church M Available Available Church Sk Campart of our team. Come up May 2 Work Sk Campart of our team. Come up Pa

Memorial Day weekend and/or any other time of our work week. Not only is there building to do, but cleaning and sprucing up so there is something for everyone. And remember the price is right. Great food, great fellowship, and the feeling of a job well done—all for free as our thank you for your help! Just clip out the registration to let us know you are coming.

Camp Cherokee

It will soon be time for summer

WYWWWWW		mp Cherokee Camp Data Sheet
Name:		Telephone:
Address:		
Church Membersh	lip:	
Available Work	Dates:	
🖵 May 26 - 29, 2	:000 🖵 June 1 -	8, 2000 🖵 October 6 - 8, 2000
Work Skills:		
Carpentry	Electrical	Plumbing
Painting	Chain Saw	General Cleaning & Maintenance
Other Commen	ts:	
Please clip and i Camp Cherokee/NY 4930 W. Seneca Tri		215

NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS Application for June 16 - 24, 2000 Camp Meeting

Please Check Accommod	dations Desired:	Fee
Dormitory Room (2 sir	\$121	
Will you have children	under age 13 with you? If yes	, you must stay in the
	beds are available in dormitor	
Number of beds need		\$5/bed
	Hill (electricity provided)	\$69
Trailer space off Hill (e		\$74
	/air conditioning & electricity	\$102
(Spots directly behind	Locating #s 32-45 must pay for	or a/c)
Large Cabin		\$148
Small Cabin		\$121
Overnight guests: If you time please indicate below	are not planning to stay at car which nights you will be stay	mp meeting the entire
Friday, 6/16	Monday, 6/19	Thursday, 6/22
Sabbath, 6/17	Friday, 6/23	
Sunday, 6/18	Wednesday, 6/21	Sabbath 6/24
	pplication to: Priscilla English, cuse, NY 13215, (315) 469-692	

Cabins: Cabins are pre-assigned. The cost is \$148 for large cabins and \$121 for small cabins. Furnishings in the cabins are the sole responsibility of the cabin user. We usually do have some cabins available for specific nights and will try to accommodate you if we can. The charge for a cabin on a per-night basis is \$22.

Pets: For health reasons, and for the consideration of others, pets are not allowed on the camp grounds.

Minors: Accommodations are made available on the basis that the person applying for them will provide proper supervision of any minors under his/her jurisdiction.

Name:	Telephone:
Address:	
Signature:	

A Record Pace in Soul Winning!

Reports from churches indicate 260 ouls were baptized in churches in he New York Conference during 1999. Praise God and may each new member grow into active discipleship.

Records for the past twenty years have been examined, and this is the highest year in baptisms during that time period.

It may be a new record for our conference. We must be determined to continue to reach souls with the message of Jesus and His soon return!

Skip Bell correspondent NYC

Regional Children's Ministry Workshop Coming to Albany

I want to alert you to an upcoming Children's Ministries Convention that is being held in the Albany, NY area October 19-22, 2000. This convention is for moms and dads, Sabbath School teachers, VBS leaders, Adventurer Club leaders, and anyone who teaches children about God.

It features Steve Case, Wilma Kirk-Lee, Stuart Tyner & Terry Johnson, to mention just a few of the speakers. There are seminars you can choose from to meet the needs you may have in your church.

The number to call to register is 1-800-328-0525. Early bird registration (by August 31) is only \$99!

Joni Bell New York Conference

Union Springs Academy

Alumni Weekend

May 5-7, 2000

Registration: 3:00 p.m.

Friday, May 5

Union Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Friday Night Vespers:	Class of 1980
Sabbath School:	Class of 1975
Church Service:	Class of 1950
Saturday Night Vespers:	Class of 1990

A banquet will be held Sabbath Evening.

For more information and meal tickets please call Robert Raney at (315) 889-7314 ext. 26.

Thirty Added to the Church on New Year's Day 2000

What a fantastic way to begin the New Year—giving your life to Jesus as your Best Friend. This was the experience of thirty people on Sabbath, January 1 at the district day held in the Willimantic church in Connecticut. The three churches, Willimantic, New London English and the New London Spanish group combined their efforts to bring twenty-nine souls

into the baptismal waters with one added on Profession of Faith. This was the culmination of intercessory prayer, friendship evangelism and the Discover Bible School program, along with personal Bible studies and invitations to NET '99 with Doug Batchelor.

Another way to describe the event is day of miracles! During the baptism many conversion stories were shared. There were several families—dad, mom and children—who

were baptized together. Among the candidates was May Arson, Willimantic's first Discover Bible School graduate.

Sondra Bradway had recently moved to Willimantic. She had been faithfully watching Doug Batchelor on the local cable channel. One night she dreamed that he came to 96 Lewiston Avenue in Willimantic to do a live seminar. Her sister Laura listened as Sondra



Roberto Marrero holds the microphone as Pastor Dan Sierra prepares to baptize Sondra Bradway, the lady with the dream that came true!

One happy man—Garnett Hubley joined the church on Profession of Faith.



Marc and Patricia Simon brought the Southern New England Conference church membership past the 11,000 mark. They have recently added baby Lilly to their family!

related the dream to her. Laura became excited and told her she had just received a brochure in the mail

advertising the NET '99 satellite evangelism program featuring Doug Batchelor which would be available in Williamantic however, the seminar would be located in 126 Quarry Street and not at 96 Lewiston Avenue. To her surprise Sondra later found out that the Willimantic

church was located at 96 Lewiston Avenue before its move to Quarry Street! Sondra attended the meetings and was baptized, confessing that she had finally found the path that leads to eternal life.

The spiritual leaders of the district will continue to look for ways to enhance their church programs using the natural talents existing among the membership. They are excited and committed to spreading the good news of the gospel of Jesus

Christ. God blesses the work of dedicated pastors and lay people—"being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ"—PHILIPPIANS 1:6.

Judy Thomsen, Southern New England Conference

"Feast or Famine"

The Greater Providence Seventh-day Adventist Church in Johnston, RI hosted a three-part class titled, "Feast or Famine." The classes held in January and February were arranged by the Women's Ministry department of the church. Church members and guests from the local community attended the classes.

On each night, participants listened to a short lecture and then sampled 10 to 15 food dishes. Each dish was accompanied by the recipe used in its preparation. Participants were encouraged to take as many recipes as they wished.

The first night featured a talk on advantages of being vegetarian and sources of protein in a vegetarian diet. Food dishes were main courses that included sources of protein.

The second night included breakfast foods and a short presentation on the advantages of including fiber in the diet.

On the third night, participants sampled a variety of tasty desserts that were made without refined sugar. They also heard a lecture concerning the possible health problems associated with over-consumption of sugar and how to make use of acceptable substitutes for sugar.

Peter M. Griswold, communication secretary Providence church

"Sewn Together" in God's Love

Sixty women gathered in the So.

Lancaster, MA Village Seventh-day Adventist Church fellowship hall on the cold, blustery February 7 for their second Women's Ministry meeting of the new year and millennium.

Patricia McCall, Women's Ministry chair, introduced the featured speaker, Evelyn Sullivan, Southern New England Conference Women's Ministry director. Sullivan, a full-time teacher at Browning Elementary school in So Lancaster, a wife and mother of three children is well qualified to speak on her subject of the "Role of a Busy Mother." She presented some very fundamental ways to face challenges and help alleviate the day's stresses.

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- Learn to say NO—When someone asks you to assume a responsibility that you feel would be a burden at that time, tell them that you will consider all angles and get back to them later after prayerful study on the situation.
- Renewal—At times it is necessary to get away from the present situation. Take a short trip or go to another part of the home. It will give new impetus to plans by praying, gathering your thoughts, and refreshing your mind.

When opportunity was given for the women at each able to suggest ways to alleviate stress, one excellent uggestion was to exercise in the fresh air. Walking is lood exercise on a daily basis.

The meeting closed with everyone standing in a circle olding hands around the hall, singing, "Turn Your Eyes Jpon Jesus," and offering a heartfelt prayer. The women of the So. Lancaster church are really "Sewn Together," he motto the women chose for their organization.

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the church at 75 5:30 p.m. Street. Babysitting is available for mothers who cannot secure the services of a babysitter. The speaker or the March meeting was Jackie Folger and the title of her presentation was, "Herbs in a Woman's Life." All vomen are invited to the meetings.

Nice Bowden, communication assistant secretary



Southern New England Conference Camp Meeting 2000 June 16 - 24, 2000 Camp Meeting Reservation

Mail With Deposit To: Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 34 Sawyer St., PO Box 1169, South Lancaster, Massachusetts 01561 For information: Phone (978) 365-4551, Fax (978) 365-3838, E-mail: 74532.2272@compuserve.com

Tent with floor	\$ 75.00
Double bed-spring and mattress	
Single bed-spring and mattress	
Table	
Chairs—each	2.00
*Per night private tent or small trailer-no hook-up	
*Full-time private tent or small trailer-no hook-up	
*Full-time 24-foot trailer or motor home elec./water	

Please contact Lenheim Hall (men's dorm) or Preston Hall (women's dorm) at Atlantic Union College (978) 368-2000 to make your reservations for dormitory rooms (We not longer handle this.)

Name			
Address			_
City	State	Zip	
Phone			

May 1, 2000 is the deadline for reserving the same accommodations as last year. After May 1 all reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Application MUST have a deposit of \$20.00. DEPOSIT IS NOT REFUND-ABLE AFTER JUNE 1, 2000. (*)

On site for private tent or trailer, only one family permitted per site.

Every order change after June 6 will require a \$5.00 charge.

*Senior citizen discount of ten percent (10%) will be given upon request with this application for those 60 years and above.

The Who, What, and Why of the Albany Workshops

They are held in Albany because that is the largest city sitting roughly equal distances from the three major conference population centers: Western New York, New England, and New York City metropolitan.

They are held in February because they need to be done early in the calendar year and things are often unsettled in January. Additionally, the training that is offered equips new, as well as old local church officers to perform in the new year, develop agendas, and set goals for local church activities.

They are held on President's Day weekend because the three-day weekend allows members to attend with minimal loss of work time. They are not held on Sabbath as the absence of so many church leaders and pastors would be disruptive to worship services. They are in the 20th year because the attendance has grown each year and the presenters and attendees attest to its value and ability to uplift spiritually. Many think of it as a sort of "mid-winter camp meeting."

Over the years, morning worship speakers have included: Dick Barron, Barry Black, Charles Bradford, Dennis Ross, Walter Pearson, Henry Wright, and others. Guest presenters have included: Faith Crumley, Mitch Tyner, Clarence Hodges, Nolene Johnsson, Alfred McClure, and Ted Wilson. There have been numerous representatives from North American Division and General Conference institutions and departments, along with Ted Jones, Don King, Leon Thomassian, and departmental directors from the Atlantic Union Conference.

Training seminars include subject areas such as Communication, Sabbath School, Stewardship, Ushers, Community Services, Personal Ministries, On-Line Ministries, Deacon and Deaconess, Storytelling, Risk Management, and others.

Attendance at this year's meeting was the largest ever. Twenty years ago some 250 members attended. Then Sabbath School director, James P. (Pop) Willis began the meetings never knowing or dreaming that their growth and importance would be as it is today. When Arthur Morgan took the reins of the Sabbath School Department, the workshops continue to flourish experiencing consistent growth topping the 1,000 mark several years ago with this year's attendance in excess of 1,600.

Testament to the value and fame of the meetings is made by the yearly attendance of individuals from conferences as far away as Jamaica, West Indies, Bermuda Conference, Trinidad and Tobago.

"This was a thrilling experience," Aura Stewart-Henry, Communication director from

Trinidad and Tobago, told those who packed the Communication workshops. "It has reinforced so much of what I have been saying and doing back home. I have additional ammunition and a couple of new programs for our churches in Trinidad and Tobago."

The overwhelming number of attendees who come year after year may, at their own expense, seem to say that they agree with Henry's statements.

C. A. Murray, correspondent NEC

No Camp Meeting a Mixed Blessing

With General Conference 2000 scheduled for Toronto, Canada June 29 - July 9, the Northeastern Conference camp meeting will be suspended for this year. It proves to be a mixed blessing as conference administrators continue negotiations with the company selected to build the sewage treatment plant for the Victory Lake Campground.

With the expansion of the camp and the City of Hyde Park, a sewage treatment plant became a necessity. The town demanded that it be built to bring Victory Lake Camp into compliance with health regulations. Conference administrators are meeting to bring costs down and to insure that the proposed facility will be built in a costefficient, timely manner.

C. A. Murray, correspondent NEC

Dolores Brown Gets "Albany Baptism"

For Dolores Brown, it was a baptism of sorts. Having come to her Northeastern Conference Sabbath School department secretarial position in August 1999, she was almost immediately faced with preparation for her first Albany workshop.

Reservations, out of town guests, travel reservations, promotional materials all had to be attended to. Housing in a number of hotels, including Holiday Inn and the neighboring Hampton Inn, and Rec Roof Inn had to be coordinated. All of this, plus the usual glut of late registrants makes the logistics of putting "Albany" together a daunting task. But, she did it!

C.A. Murray, correspondent NEC

Each One Can Reach One

Led by the Holy Spirit, and the ded icated efforts of the layperson named Ruby Sanderlin, 10 young adults (seven males and three females) have made their choice to walk with the Lord.

Sanderlin is a quiet, behind the scenes charter member of the

outh Ozone Park Seventh-day dventist Church, who has a burng desire to share Jesus with everyhe she comes in contact. It was fate that led Andre Rozzelle nd Armando Torres (both 24) to quire an apartment in the buildg in which Ruby resides. As their aths crossed in the hallway, she ould exchange a smile and coursy greeting, until one day she ruck up a conversation and immeiately concluded that there was a ungering in their lives for some irection, and she offered to study ne Bible with them.

This led her to purchase Bibles or each of them and the studies egan. As the studies progressed, rmando invited Deshawn odriquez (24) and Raymond avis (18), and they in turn invited harlene Walker. The chain reacon lengthened as the studies connued, each one began to reach ne with the "Good news of the Gospel." Soon there were 10 ouths, all between the ages of 18-4, studying the scriptures and folowing its direction. Getting on board the Gospel train were Andre Morris, Deshawn Rodriquez, Levon Carter, Charlene Walker, Livingston Wright, Cheryl Walters and Maria Nieves. They regularly attend the varied services of the church and are very involved in the AYS programs.

Seven of these young people are already baptized, two are in baptismal class, and one is still in the valley of decision.

The church family continues to pray, encourage and support them—"These Youth of the World, for the Man of Galilee."

Marjorie Locker, communication secretary South Ozone Park church

Haitian Youth Congress

May 26 - 28, 2000

at the Nevele Grande Resort Hotel in the Catskills, New York

For more information call the Franco-Haitian Services Department of the Northeastern Conference

(718) 291-8006 ext. 235

OFFICIAL NOTICE Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the tenth regular triennial Constituency meeting of the Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventhday Adventists will be held in conjunction with the twenty-third regular Constituency meeting (tenth regular triennial) of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists on Sunday, June 18, 2000 at Camp Victory Lake, Hyde Park, New York. The meeting of the Corporation will convene at 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and trustees for the ensuing triennium and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates to the tenth regular triennial meeting of the Conference are the delegates to the tenth regular meeting of the Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventhday Adventists.

> Stennett H. Brooks, President Trevor H. C. Baker, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the tenth regular triennial and twenty-third regular Constituency meeting of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, June 18, 2000 at Camp Victory Lake, Hyde Park, New York.

The purpose of this meeting is for the receiving of reports for the past triennium, the election of officers, departmental directors, and pertinent committees for the ensuing triennium, and the transaction of such business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each organized church within the Conference is entitled to be represented by duly appointed delegates chosen on the basis of one for the organization, and one additional delegate for each 60 members or major fraction thereof.

> Stennett H. Brooks, President Trevor H. C. Baker, Secretary

NORTHERN NEW ENG

What? Wellness Camp?

A Wellness Camp in an obscure little town called Weld? What was this all about? That was the reaction of

Machias banker. Doug Dimond. His wife, Jackie, had picked up a brochure by chance. Significantly overweight and on high blood pressure medications, he was a junk food junkie who used a CPAP machine for sleep apnea, never exercised and spent considerable time on

the road. After some discussion, the Dimonds decided to attend.

The first Vibrant Life Wellness Camp held at Camp Lawroweld on lovely Lake Webb, ran for a week in

Doug Diamond

months of planning and preparation for an intense, livein learning experience to promote healthy lifestyle changes. The program offered delicious vegan meals, cook-

August 1999. The vision of Rob

Granger, Parkview Hospital's Wellness

director and Northern New England

Conference Church Ministries/Camp

director, Harry Sabnani, resulted in

ing classes, lectures by health professionals, exercise programs, devotionals and time for fellowship. The goal was 30 for the first year-30 attended . . . though one had to leave.

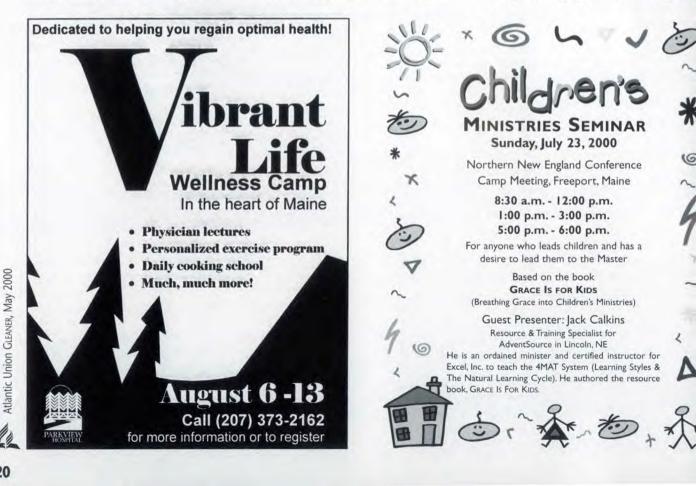
This year's Camp is August 6 - 1 and 50 spaces will be available on first come, first serve basis. The Cost is \$495 per person, which includes food, lodging and all offered programs. A spouse may attend for an additional \$395. For reservations made after July 24, ac \$50. Accommodations are clean but rustic and include some privat rooms, cabins, and dorm-style liv-

ing. Those who wis may bring self-contained RV's.

So how did Doug Dimond do? Both h and his wife have fully embraced the healthy life. Six months after camp, they are following a daily exercise regimen and continuing a vegan diet. He has lost 45 pounds, is or

half of the blood pressure medications he had been taking and sleep well without the aid of the CPAP machine. Recently Doug wrote the program director with this testimo-

Jackie Diamond



w, "The enthusiasm has survived! I feel as if I was wen another chance to do it right—a great gift from od. Amazingly, I don't obsess on food now. . . I have und that it is possible to eat well while away from ome. You and your staff performed a miracle in my we with God's help. Everyone should have such a nance to experience this. I want to insure that this rogram continues. I want to live my life as an exame of what can be accomplished. Everyone I have net that is associated with this program is my friend. eep up the good work."

If your life is ripe for change, the Vibrant Life Yellness Camp may be just what you're looking for. all the Wellness Department at Parkview Hospital Brunswick, ME) at (207) 373-2162 for more inforation.

obert H. Granger, DrPH, MPH, wellness director arkview Hospital

ATTENTION SINGLES!!

Plan NOW to attend our annual

Singles' Memorial Day Retreat



Held at beautiful Camp Lawroweld in the western Maine mountains on Lake Webb. Come and enjoy a Christ-centered weekend with our speaker, Pastor Rick Kuntz, previously an evangelist in New York and now to be a Pastor in NNEC.

We will be blessed with uplifting music, prayer groups, inspiring and motivating seminars, wholesome food, Christian fellowship, SMILES, HUGS, hiking, canoeing, and other Christ-centered FUN.

Be sure to mark your calendars now for May 26 - 29, 2000.

Get your reservation in EARLY to avoid missing out on the blessings awaiting you. May our God richly bless each of you as you plan to meet with Him there.

> For more information call— The Northern New England Conference (207) 797-3760 ext. 15

Please bring your own bedding. Cost is \$65.00. Make checks payable to Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists with a memo of "Singles" Retreat. Mail application and check to: Northern New England Conference of SDA, Attention: Singles, 91 Allen Ave, Portland, ME 04103

Name:

Address:

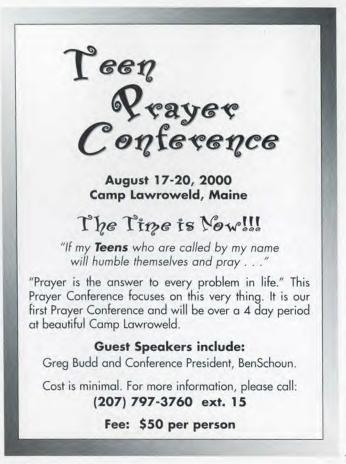
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Deadline is May 17 (no refunds after that date)

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Junior Camp I	June 25 - July 2
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For more information call: (2	07) 797-3760 ext. 15

Court Lawhoweld



Atlantic Union GLEANER, May 2000

Hempstead Centenarian Meets Millennium

Early Sabbath mornings, an impeccably groomed and gloved lady strides purposefully up the aisle. She smiles and nods with gentle grace as she greets her fellow members by name. Her tone is cultivated; her diction flawless.

This elegant personage is Loretta Amanda Gray whose bearing and acuity belie her hundred years on this plane.

Gray was born on Christmas Day in Saint Anne's Parish on the island of Jamaica, West Indies, the middle child of five siblings. She received her early education at the Bethany school and was raised a member of the Anglican Church of England.

She reflects on the "simple" bird life she led in Jamaica. Recreation consisted mainly of visiting and talking with neighbors, taking long walks, and going to church. There was no television or radio. By today's standards, life then seems harsh. House chores commanded a great deal of time since there was no electricity—to get hot water one had to first fill, then boil water in great iron kettles. Clothes were hand-washed and irons heated on a stove.

On the other hand there was no time to be lonely, there was always "someone to talk to." Delectable foods she still favors were hers for the picking from trees in her yard: oranges, mangoes, tangerines, guava, and all kinds of vegetables.

Gray had two children, and when she was fifty she decided to bring them to live in New York. There she began to read flyers; Adventist liter-



From left to right: Loretta Amanda Gray and her daughter, Francilla Johnson. This picture was taken at a surprise birthday party in honor of her one hundredth birthday.

ature. She accepted Adventism, was baptized, joined a church, and developed a personal relationship with Jesus.

She worked for many years as a housekeeper until her employers died, then bought the house in which she, her daughter and nine grandchildren still live.

Today, as in her childhood, Gray retires at nine o'clock and rises at six. She "never wanted to go out at night," except to church; and

churchgoing remains her favorite activity. Although cleaning her tastefully furnished home affords her much enjoyment ("I love seeing everything looking beautiful"), her hobby, which she described as a "passion" is reading the Bible. She continues to be thrilled by the "exciting stories in the Old Testament" and reads from the book of Psalms twice daily. At night she sleeps with an all-night Christian radio playing, and is always "happy to meet the Lord in prayer" each morning.



Her philosophy of

life that she would extend to youn people today is "to serve the Lord, think always of the Lord, not the world, and obey and love your par ents." This credo has apparently served Loretta Gray well since, by adhering to it, she remains faithful, contented, alert and vibrant thoug "full of years."

Colsome M. Logan, communication secretary Hempstead church

OFFICIAL NOTICE Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Triennial Session of the Greater New York Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the Triennial Session of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, convening at 9:00 a.m. (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.), Sunday, June 11, 2000 at Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, New York 12594. The delegates to the Conference Session are also delegates of the Corporation Triennial Session.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect a Board of Trustees for the coming triennial period, to receive reports, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

> Dionisio Olivio, President Claude Morgan, Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE Greater New York Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 51st Triennial Session of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 9:00 a.m. (registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.) on Sunday, June 11, 2000 at Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, New York 12594.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and departmental directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization, and one for every 30 members. Each church is entitled to elect alternate delegates who may be seated at the Conference Session in place of any regular delegate not present.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Organizing Committee is being called for Saturday night, June 10, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. at Camp Berkshire, Wingdale, New York 12594. All members of the Organizing Committee should plan to be present.

> Dionisio Olivio, President Samuel U. Bulgin, Executive Secretary

A GREAT SOURCE OF CHURCH Information Available on CD-ROM

by Ednor A. P. Davison, Managing editor

The editors occasionally receive inquiries at the Atlantic Union Conference office asking for information about an article that someone "remembers seeing somewhere" in the tlantic Union GLEANER some time in the past. The only way that anyone had to find that article was to search back issues of the GLEANER issue by issue and page by page—a very time-conuming exercise with a slim chance for success.

There is a better way to search for information if you have ccess to the internet. "It's one of the best-kept secrets of the hurch, and a terrific resource," said Daniel J. Drazen, editor of ne Index since its relocation to the campus of Andrews University from La Sierra University in 1992.

To access the "Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index online o to www.andrews.edu/library/sdapi.html. There you will be ble to search for the topic (s) of interest to you.

The Index on CD-ROM?

In addition to its availability on the internet, the Index is now ssued on CD-ROM instead of an annual paper copy.

"A lot of it has to do with cost of production," Drazen says. That's one of the reasons why the Index relocated here to andrews in the first place: the cost of producing it every year became too prohibitive. We were able to save a substantial mount by going to desktop publishing in 1992, and since most of our subscribers have computers and the capability to work with CD-ROMs, the Index Board felt this would be the logical next step.

"Having the Index on CD-ROM offers a feature the old paper edition never had. It used to be you could only look at one volame of the print Index at a time. With the CD-ROM, you can earch everything that's available from the present back to 1979, he earliest year where we have complete information. We're still adding 1978 references to the online Index."

Drazen added, "One of our past managing editors, Harvey Brenneise, said it best: without some way of being able to find articles that have appeared in our church publications, whether by title or author or subject or whatever, we may as well be hrowing them away as soon as they come off the press. This is what the Index is all about: making the periodicals published by he church more useful to scholars, students . . . anyone!"

Dbituary Index

Another feature of the Index Web page will interest anyone who is working on a family genealogy: the Obituary Index for the church-sponsored papers in the North American Division. The Obituary Index is produced by the Adventist Heritage Center, James White Library, Andrews University, with the help of several other libraries. The work is supervised by Jim Ford, Heritage Center curator and managing editor of the SDA Periodical Index.

The index lists Adventists for whom obituaries were submitted by their pastors since the early 1900s when most union papers commenced publication. The Information about the SDA Obituary Index page explains how one can get photocopies of specific obituaries from the published journals, once someone has determined whether the name they were looking for is in the index.

Individuals interested in obtaining the SDA Periodical Index on CD-ROM should send \$50 to SDA Periodical Index, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-1400.

Photocopies of any of the articles listed in the SDA Periodical Index to which the user does not have access may be obtained at a charge if 20 cents per page (includes postage). There is a \$3.00 minimum. Send your request to SDA Periodical Index, James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-1400. or e-mail: ahc@andrews.edu.

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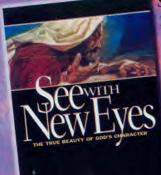
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Rim Allan Johnson

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pot News

anual Maranatha Trip to Venezuela-Alumni and friends are invited join Henry Livergood and a group of AUC students for their annual aranatha trip to Venezuela, May 15-June 5. The project is the continuing modeling of the school in St. Helena. Come for an unforgettable experice, or if you cannot come, considering helping to finance students who e committed to this mission but financially stressed. For more informan, call Henry Livergood at (978) 368-2314.

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one of the fastest growing hospitals in North Carolina needs, rom time to time, qualified managers committed to supporting a Christian healthcare mission. Our desire is to build a database of qualified applicants hat have managerial talents. We are a mission-focused enterprise n the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina where employees are encouraged to uplift Christ in the workplace. Ne offer competitive pay, hard work, and challenges that may change your life. Our organizaion includes a 103-bed hospital, a regional billing office, home realth agency, and 18 physician linics. We have adopted a strategic plan that pushes us to grow at 15% a year. Send -ésumé to Abeasley@ahss.org, or ax (828) 681-2770, or mail PO 3ox 1569 Fletcher, NC 28732. Réumés will be kept on file and qualified applicants will be notiied as positions become available.

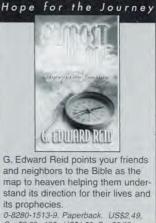
DIRECTOR OF PHARMACY

Florida Hospital Medical Center is a 1478-bed tertiary referral health care system serving central Florida, the Caribbean, and South America. Florida Hospital has six campuses in the Orlando metropolitan area. The Florida Hospital Health Care System is the leading provider of high quality health care in central Florida. The Department of Pharmacy Services has an excellent leadership opportunity requiring 5+ years of proven managerial experience in a multidisciplinary clinical environment. Applicants must have a demonstrated understanding of working in a managed care environment with experience in a Integrated Delivery System. Must have clearly stated goals and proven interpersonal and decisionmaking strengths, as well as flexibility and entrepreneurial skills. Must have a master's degree. Contact us about our attractive wage and benefit program. Please send résumé or call FLORIDA HOS-PITAL, EMPLOYMENT, 616 E. ROLLINS ST., STE 101, ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32803, 1-800-327-1914

Out-of-Union

Adelphian Academy Alumni Homecoming, June 9-11, 2000 at Holly, Michigan. The classes being honored are 10, 25, 40, and 50 year. The 50 year class is still trying to locate some of its members. Please contact Doug Wacker, phone (517) 675-7711 or e-mail: doug3@voyager. net. We need addresses for: Donna Bell-Creager, Anna May Bush-Krettell, Robert K. Damon, Betty Germain, Kenneth Hughes, George Morse, Lorna Wagner.

Annual Madison College & Madison College Academy Homecoming, June 16-17, 2000, Madison Campus Church. Honor Classes: '30, '40, '50, '60, '70. All attendees and friends welcome. Phone: 1-888-254-1615, e-mail: madison2@earthlink.net.



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Yellowstone National Park Sabbath morning Worship Services are conducted May 27-Sept. 2, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, in the Old Faithful Lodge Recreation Hall. Recreational attire. Sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Conference (303) 733-3771.

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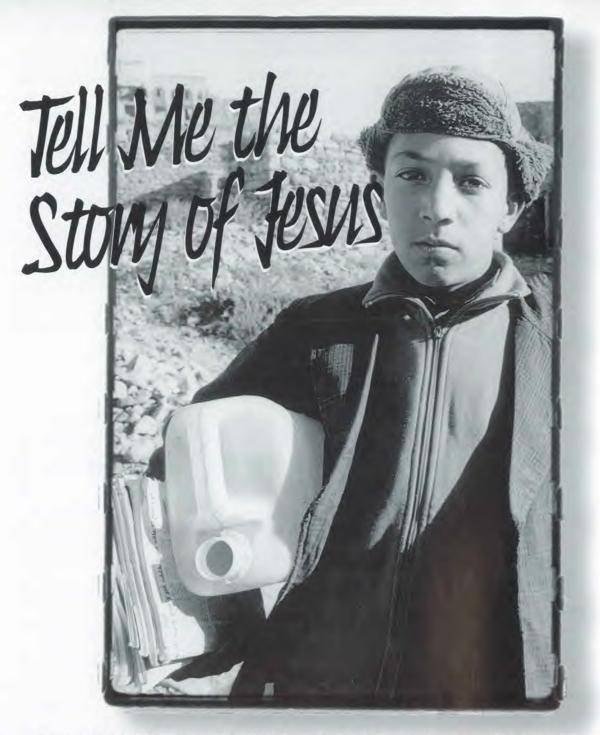
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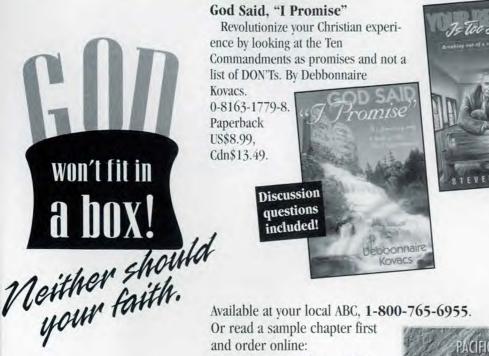
You can give to the World Budget offering on the second Sabbath of each month or place an offering for World Budget in a tithe envelope any Sabbath.

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What is ATS?

You might call it the "New Kid on the Block." ATS is an international organization of over 4,000 members who are seeking to uphold the authority of Scripture, preserve the fundamental beliefs of their church, and enhance their witness as representatives of God's Remnant Church. In the past two years alone, ATS has held five international forums in which scholars have addressed vital questions of our Adventist faith in the context of prayer, fellowship, and responsible discussion.

ATS also sponsors two publications:

• The Journal of the Adventist Theological Society (JATS), which is edited by former Fulbright scholar Ed Christian, a professor at a Pennsylvania State university.

· Perspective Digest, a dynamic quarterly magazine that condenses and popularizes articles from JATS and other sources. Edited by long-time Liberty editor Roland Hegstad, PD is both challenging and stimulating. (The "Epistles" readers send in response to articles are worth the special subscription rate of only \$8.95.)

I believe with all my heart today could be the lull before the storm, a little time to get our citizenship papers for heaven in order, a little time to go into the Upper Room and pray for the Latter Rain, a little time to settle into truth both intellectually and spiritually."-Norman R. Gulley, President



For further information on the Adventist Theological Society. call 616-471-1704 or log on at www@tarnet.org/ats



Il advertisements should be sent, together payment, to your local conference office approval by the communication director. rate is \$35 for each insertion of forty its or less, and 50 cents for each additionord for advertisements originating within Atlantic Union; \$40 for each insertion for words or less and 50 cents for each word the 40 with an 80-word maximum. Check naney order should be made payable to mic Union GLEANER or Atlantic Union Frence.

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ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE is accepting applications for a tenure track position as professor in the Nursing Department. Doctorate preferred, master's degree required. Contact the search committee through the Office of Human Resources at Atlantic Union College, PO Box 1000, South Lancaster, MA 01561-1000.

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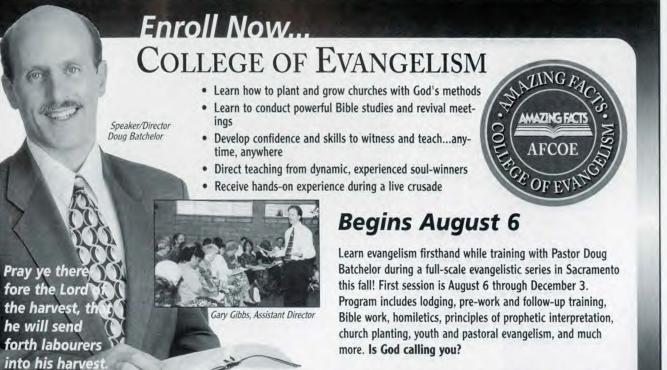
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WALLA WALLA COLLEGE seeks applicants for a tenure track position in Biology. Doctorate in biology or related area, willingness to teach introductory courses, and a research program are required. Those interested in joining a team committed to SDA Christian education send curriculum vita and addresses of three references to Dr. Scott Ligman, Department of Biological Sciences, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Avenue, College Place, WA 99324-1198. ligmsc@wwc.edu. (509) 527-2602. Materials are reviewed as submitted until position is filled.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE seeks applicants for position of Chair, Communications Department, beginning September 2000. Responsibilities will include two-thirds teaching in communication related courses and coordinating departmental recruitment, curriculum development, departmental staffing, and academic advisement. Ph.D. with teaching experience preferred; advanced degree in speech communication or related area required.



— Matthew 9:38

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WALLA WALLA COLLEGE School of Business seeks applications for fulltime tenure track teaching position in Computer Information Systems beginning Fall, 2000. Doctorate with teaching experience preferred; master's with teaching and/or significant professional experience are minimal requirements. Those committed to SDA Christian education contact Norman Anderson, School of Business, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Avenue, College Place, WA 99324. Phone: (509) 527-2951. Fax: (509) 527-2962. E-mail: andeno@ wwc.edu.

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ADVENTIST HEALTH is a not-forprofit healthcare system with headquarters in Roseville, California where it oversees operations of 20 hospitals in CA, HI, OR and WA. Adventist Health is seeking experienced RNs and new graduates for immediate placement in several hospitals. Many specialty areas available. Please contact Leonard Yost. Phone: (916) 774-3355. E-mail: yostj@rsvl.ah.org.

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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR FULL-TIME POSITION IN MATHEMATICS BEGINNING AUGUST 2000. Doctorate in Mathematics or Statics required. Adventists send résumés to Theodore R. Hatcher, Chair, Department of Mathematics, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104 -0350, e-mail: hatcher@andrews. edu, phone (616) 471-3424.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR FACULTY POSI-TION IN BIOLOGY. Broad training in biology, commitment to/excellence in teaching, established research program required. Adventists send résumé to Search Committee, Biology Department, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0410. E-mail: biology@ andrews.edu, phone: (616) 471-3243, fax: (616) 471-6911.

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SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNI-VERSITY is actively seeking a person with a doctorate in Physical Education to begin July 1, 2000. Applicants who are strong in Pedagogy are desired. Three full-time faculty plus adjuncts will make up the department. Check the web site at PE.SWAU.EDU for information about the department or e-mail: bsather@ swau.edu. Send résumé to Southwestern Adventist University, Academic Vice President's Office, PO Box 567, Keene, TX 76059.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNI-VERSITY is seeking to fill the following positions with qualified individuals. An earned doctorate is required in most positions, however, individuals who are working on the doctorate will be considered in some cases: Psychology, Math, English, Computer Science and Chemistry. Send résumé to: Southwestern Adventist University, Academic Vice President's Office, PO Box 567, Keene, TX 76059.

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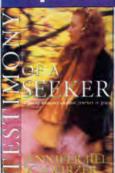
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