Let's Celebrate Freedom Every Day. We're All Free in Jesus!

Creative Connections to Your Community » In order to teach students responsible citizenship, Seventh-day Adventist schools are encouraged to connect with the community. These meaningful experiences nurture student leadership, inspire service-minded attitudes, and create future workers for Christ.

“This is my favorite part of the whole school year!” said one sixth grader. Hearing that was music to my ears. We had spent two hours standing in the hot sun asking shoppers to participate in our baby-food drive, and this student was beaming with joy from ear to ear, bursting with...

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."
-- Nelson Mandela

Healthy Nugget

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend."
-- Martin Luther King, Jr.
enthusiasm. “Next year, we need to be at more stores,” she concluded. A teacher lives for those moments—hearing a student’s eagerness to be a light in the community.

In addition to conducting a baby-food drive at storefronts, my students wanted to give newborn babies a “hug” by making baby blankets to be distributed by the local hospital maternity departments. Industrious students huddled over yards and yards of brightly-colored fleece and little fingers worked hard at tying knots to secure the perimeters of each cuddly blanket. A small cheery greeting served as the final touch on each gift of love.

In contrast, a big picture approach to our community lead to a study of the city’s mission statement. To prepare a gift for the city council members, students used their creative writing skills and artistic talent to construct a book which dissected and analyzed the city’s mission statement and created a visual tour of the city’s mission statement at work—the parks department, the city works department, annual community events, etc. The full-color book concluded with a bonus section of “Why I love my community.”

Furthermore, creative connections to the community naturally fit into the social studies units. As our economics unit rolled around, students prepared to operate a miniature business, which pointed them first to interview businesses downtown and to tour a bank. By the time the students assembled and sold their “plum jam kits”, they were young masters at business finance as well as young ambassadors to the city’s downtown businesses.

Lastly, we tried to connect in small ways. The tradition of Christmas cards and thank you cards can lead to something bigger, as my students discovered. One warm fall day, the street department filled a pothole in front of the school. My students responded with a thank-you note, and a Christmas card the following year. That spring, a city truck arrived during recess to chat with a teacher. The city’s street superintendent spoke, “Thank you for the Christmas card! We are scheduled to re-pave your street. Yes, we will happily delay the project.
by a few weeks in order to not interfere with the school's spring program.” Again, my students replied with a thank-you card. To our surprise, the superintendent posted a picture of the school’s thank-you card on the city’s social media page, citing the students’ politeness as an example to the rest of the community.

For fresh ideas to connect with your community, survey student strengths and interests, interview city officials and assistants, and review the school year’s social studies objectives. Your students are naturally creative; their ideas are golden. City managers and associates are front-line workers with innovative ideas. Local businesses and agencies that are putting the school’s social studies standards into practice can provide real-world connections and cooperative learning opportunities.

I believe we are truly living in the last days, so it is the greatest honor to lead and inspire the next generation to reach out to the world around them. That is the first step in saving souls. Soon, God will call His mighty army of youth to be His helping hand.

(Messages to Young People 71-73)
-- Text and photos by Jodi Aakko

Montrose Celebrates Independence Day by Sharing Meal Certificates » A yearly tradition

Story Guidelines: We want to share your news! » News Nuggets is your publication. We strive to provide news and information expressing our church life. Every church, every family, every individual has a story to tell. We are inviting pastors and secretaries of churches and institutions within the Rocky Mountain Conference to share with us relevant information -- about developments, issues, notable events, as well as experiences of church members.

Please email your story to nuggets@rmcsda.org so we can share how God is working through His people in your territory. When submitting your story, please include the following: the Ws (who, what, where, when, why...also how), a
continued this past week when the evangelism committee delivered meal certificates to various worthy organizations in the Montrose area. Church members W. D Hess, Chere Fisher, Sharon Fisher And Garry Fisher delivered the certificates to the Montrose Fire Department, Montrose Sheriff’s Department, Colorado State Patrol Substation and the Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans.

A total of 234 meal certificates were given out in honor of Independence Day and to honor efforts toward protecting our freedoms and a thank you for the difficult job they do. The collecting of these certificates takes a great deal of time and effort.

The following groups of patrons donated: McDonalds South, Mi Mexico, Arby s, Fiesta Guadalajara, Panda Palace, Chilis, Rib City Grill, Daily Bread, Qdoba, Rio Bravo Mexican Restaurant, Paghres, Dominos, PizzaHut, Heidis Brooklyn Deli and Freddy’s Steakburgers And Frozen Custard. The groups that received the certificates were very appreciative.

-- From article written by Chere Fisher; photos supplied

**Western Slope Camp Meeting Nearing**  Enjoy a spiritual feast at this year’s Western Slope Camp Meeting, held July 31 - August 4 at Mountain Top Retreat just outside of Montrose. Our featured speaker, Dr. Rodney Palmer, currently teaches at Andrews University and has a passion for seeing people come to know Jesus. He is a proven soul winner and will be sharing effective ways to minister to our
neighbors and to help them know Jesus.

Pastor Nestor Soriano, the evangelism pastor at Campion, will also speak, sharing the practices of apologetics. As Christians, we have a different perspective and we approach life differently than our neighbors. Pastor Nestor will help us to deepen our walk with God and to help us to better share the gospel in meaningful ways to those God puts in our path.

The last seminar will address questions that many of us have asked regarding our health and what types of treatments we seek. Dr. Don Nicolay and Dr. Duwayne Carlson will discuss when traditional medicine is the best approach, when we should seek alternative or natural treatments, and how traditional approaches can mix with alternative methods. For more information or to register, check our website at westernslopecampmeeting.org or email pastornateskaife@gmail.com.

COMMENTARY

Weather the Storms of Life »  The Fourth of July—what a wonderful holiday to celebrate. Citizens of our nation have enjoyed freedom for just seven short of 250 years. Let us never forget that that freedom came with great effort, cost, and conflict.

While all of us experience conflict in our lives at times, many feel they would enjoy a life free of all strife. In the short run they likely would, but overall I believe they would find that is not the best way to live. It is typical of human nature to seek pleasure and avoid hardship or pain. Conflict, in and of itself, however, is not necessarily an adverse event. In fact, conflict, when handled productively, can yield great benefits and actually strengthen relationships.

I’m reminded of the Biosphere, a failed experiment of controlled living in a glass bubble in Arizona. I won’t take the time here to describe the structure, but when you have a few moments, do an internet search. I think you’ll be impressed by what you learn.

There were a few reasons why the operation failed. One was that researchers underestimated the dynamics and tension that could exist between men and women living in such close quarters “24/7/365,” as they say. That dynamic could easily fill several posts, but I want to focus on another reason the experiment failed, which is that they could not regulate the oxygen properly.

The designers had planned that the trees they planted would be a significant component of the oxygen system. But the trees died. The reason they died was that they did not put down deep roots. In nature, trees face challenges from winds
and other elements. This causes them to put down roots to solidify their standing. In the Biosphere, no such difficulties were present, so the trees had no motivation to root deeply.

When your workplace or home faces storms, which it will, try to look at them as opportunities to bring about improvements and new ways to operate together as a team. Each weathered storm makes the next one that much easier, or should I say, less challenging to face.

So, as you celebrate this 4th of July with family, friends, and fireworks, please remember that conflict can be a relationship-enhancing experience if handled well. I often say that while conflict is inevitable, damaged relationships are optional.

{quote}Ron Price MA is the owner/operator of Productive Outcomes, Inc. You can contact him at ron@ProductiveOutcomes.com{quote}

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**CAMP MEETINGS**

**Cowboy** -- Uncompahgre National Forest near Silver Jack Reservoir, July 10-14, Speakers: Ron Price/Ed Barnett

**Wyoming** -- Casper, July 16-20; Speakers: Ron Halvorsen Jr. (adults); Joe Martin (youth).

**Western Slope** -- Montrose -- July 31-August 4, Speaker: Pastor Rodney Palmer, undergrad teacher at Andrews University

**Hispanic Camp Meeting**--Glacier View Ranch --August 30-September 2.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Indonesian Sabbath Convocation** » All Indonesian churches in the Colorado area will have a combined Sabbath worship on July 6 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Colorado Indonesian-American Church, 2241 S. Holly Street, Denver CO 80222. RMC president Ed Barnett is the worship speaker.

**HMS Richards Elementary** » HMS Richards is hosting a HUGE garage sale. We are selling hundreds of school supplies, book shelves, file cabinets, props, beautiful wooden picture frames in all sizes, clothing, furniture, and more. Check it out from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., July 11 and 12 at HMS Richards Elementary, 342 42nd Street, SW, Loveland CO 80537.

**Help Needed!** » Wyoming Camp Meeting needs your help. Because of last-minute cancellations, we need the following staff for July 16-20:

Cradle Roll Leader
Kindergarten Leader
Kitchen helpers
There is a limited budget for teacher supplies for the classes and for travel expenses. Kitchen helpers will be assisting the chef, however needed.
If you are interested, please contact Pastor Steve Nelson as soon as possible at steve@unlockingtruth.com. Thank you!

**RMC Youth Department Summer Hours**

The Youth Department will be out of the office during the following dates this summer:
- GVR Summer Camp: June 1-August 2
- Vacation: August 5-10
- Oshkosh: August 11-18

Please feel free to reach out to them through email.
- Kiefer Dooley: kieferd@rmcsda.org
- Jessyka Dooley: jessykad@rmcsda.org
- Brent Learned: brentl@rmcsda.org

Their phones forward to summer camp and they check their voicemail on a regular basis.

**Longmont Thunder Pathfinder and Adventurer Club**

Volunteers are needed to teach a wide variety of honors to our Pathfinders/Adventurers during the club year beginning this fall. We want to book as many new themes as possible. With a church family composed of unique and talented people, we would love for you to share your expertise in the field/hobby you love. Your mileage and materials will be covered. Please contact Cinthya at 626-372-7030.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Vista Ridge Academy is hiring for the 2019-2020 school year. We need a **Part-time ECE Aide** (20-24 hours/week) to assist in our Preschool and PreK/Kindergarten classrooms. State licensing requirements a must; however, we are willing to help update the employee with the necessary classwork/paperwork.

**Part time Extended Care Supervisor** (10-12 hours/week) to supervise students, ages 5-15, after school Monday-Friday. Candidate must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and possess current U.S work authorization. For additional information regarding duties, expectations and how to apply, please contact Sandy Hodgson at shodgson@vistaridge.org.
NewsNuggets Archive Now Online

The NewsNuggets archive is now online, and can be found at https://www-rmcsda-org.netadvent.org/newsnuggets-archive.

FROM THE EDITOR

We want to share your news -- Change is a part of the communication age. With online media experiencing constant evolution, the NewsNuggets is also experiencing an increased access from our readers and contributors. We will continue to encourage news sharing from our churches, institutions, and individual church members.

In order to make our eNewsletter accommodate an increased volume of announcements, our editorial work proposes to present information in a more efficient approach, ensuring that all timely promotions and announcements be included in a weekly, Friday release of NewsNuggets. Submission deadline for stories, news, and announcements is at noon on every Wednesday. Please send all your submissions to nuggets@rmcsda.org.

Thank you for your contribution, but also comments, as NewsNuggets continues to serve the church in an efficient and effective way.

NOTE: Questions are being raised regarding guidelines for the Announcement section of the RMC NewsNuggets newsletter. After a review of the guidelines, the following few points should be considered when sending announcements or promotional materials:
- The newsletter has been established primarily for news sharing within the conference, though selected general church news stories are also considered for publication.
- The primary readership of the newsletter are church members within the Rocky Mountain Conference.
- When submitting an announcement, consider that local Sabbath events may be drawing members from other local churches.
- Promoting evangelistic meetings in NewsNuggets is not attracting potential attendees for whom the meetings are primarily advertised.
- Due to space constraints, NewsNuggets will not publish posters and other large photos or images. However, information from the text will be used.
- Announcements will not be repeated more than twice, and they should be concise. Web page links or phone numbers should be provided for additional information.

We are inviting all correspondents and contributors to follow
a general Adventist News Network *Style Guide*, including glossary. For guidelines, see: http://news.adventist.org/styleguide/
--Editor

**Share the NewsNuggets with your congregation** » Add a note to your church bulletin or newsletter with the following URL: www.bit.ly/RMCnews

Members can follow the link to sign up for weekly news and to keep up-to-date on what's happening around the Rocky Mountain Conference.

**Rocky Mountain Conference Mission Statement**

Tagline:

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Fully Known*