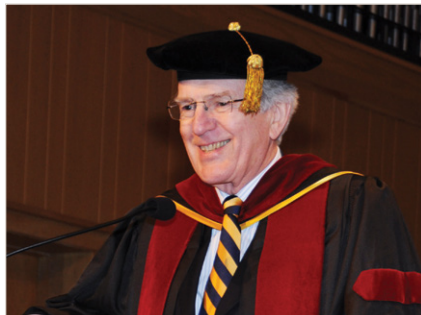


FOCUS





Niels-Erik Andreassen
President

Graduation 2014

A university publishes two kinds of bulletins, and each one is like a “contract” between the institution and its students. The university bulletin tells students how to be admitted, what courses of study are available, who the instructors are, how much it costs to attend, and what is required to complete each of these courses of study. The contractual part promises that if a student meets the expectations for earning a degree outlined in the bulletin, that student will graduate.

The university also publishes a graduation bulletin (sometimes called program) and that too is “contractual” in nature. It is prepared by the academic auditors in the university, generally in the registrar’s office. That bulletin lists the names of students who have met (or are expected to meet) all the requirements for degree completion outlined in the first bulletin, as certified by the faculty and verified by the registrar. Once that is done (and the tuition bills are paid), the student will receive a diploma. We just completed three such festive celebratory graduation services on May 4, and we have another scheduled for August 3.

The recent May graduation bulletin listed 852 names of students approved for graduation. They represented nearly every state in the union and some 55 foreign countries. They have now joined the ca. 75,000-member Andrews University Alumni Association. Without a doubt the enormous worldwide influence of this university far outstrips its modest size. God has blessed Andrews, and we are grateful.

Will all these new college graduates secure employment, and will they find fulfillment in their work? Two recent studies just crossed my desk. The first, supported by the Lumina Foundation and Purdue University (Indiana), asked 30,000 graduates about finding jobs and being engaged in their work. Not surprisingly more jobs were found by graduates from the sciences and business than from the arts, humanities and social studies, but surprisingly, students graduating from the latter were more engaged and fulfilled in their work than those in the former disciplines. In response to questions about engagement, the graduates noted that a caring supportive faculty while in college made the difference—professors who, “made me excited about learning,” “cared for me as a person,” “encouraged my hopes and dreams.” (*Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 16, 2014, A3). In other words, the kind of professors who work at Andrews!

The second article is by David Leonhardt: “Is College Worth It? Clearly, New Data Says.” (*New York Times*, May 27, 2014). This article affirms that our country, in fact the whole world, needs more college graduates, even though a college degree, like anything else in life does not absolutely guarantee success. But the widespread emerging public opinion that a college education is too costly and impractical and not worth the effort, is “the most economically irrational decision anybody could make in 2014.” Then quoting David Autor of MIT, the article concludes that “the true cost of a college degree is about negative \$500,000. That’s right: Over the long run, college is cheaper than free. Not going to college will cost you about half a million dollars.” In other words, we must change public opinion about college!

So then, whenever you hear about a young Adventist Christian who is planning to skip college, tell that person, “Do not even think about it—that would be far too costly.” Instead, send such a person to meet with our student admission and financial aid officers. There is a place for such a person at Andrews and it comes with a rewarding future.

Niels-Erik Andreassen

FOCUS

The Andrews University Magazine

Editor

Patricia Spangler (BS '04)
focus@andrews.edu | 269-471-3315

Contributing Editors

Tami Condon (BS '91)
Becky St. Clair
Melodie Roschman

Designer

Matt Hamel (AT '05)

Photographers

Darren Heslop (BFA '10)
Joshua Martin
Christa McConnell (BFA '13)
Brian Tagalog

Writers

Arielle Pickett (BFA '14)
Ivan Ruiz (BFA '14)

Andrews University

President

Niels-Erik Andreassen (MA '65, BD '66)

Provost

Andrea Luxton (MA '78)

Vice President for Enrollment Management

Randy Graves (MA '72)

Vice President for Financial Administration

Lawrence E. Schalk (BS '64, MBA '71)

Vice President for Integrated Marketing & Communication

Stephen Payne

Vice President for Student Life

Frances Faehner (BSW '76, PhD '07)

Vice President for University Advancement

David A. Faehner (MA '72)

FOCUS (ISSN 1077-9345) is published quarterly, free of charge, for alumni and friends of Andrews University, an institution owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The magazine's address is FOCUS, Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University, 8700 W Campus Circle Dr, Berrien Springs MI 49104-1000. Copyright © 2014 by Andrews University. Reproduction in whole or part without permission is prohibited. Printed by The Hamblin Company, Tecumseh MI. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs MI and at additional mailing offices. Please send address changes to FOCUS Magazine, Office of Alumni Services, Andrews University, 8714 E Campus Circle Dr, Berrien Springs MI 49104-0950, e-mail alumni@andrews.edu or call 269-471-3591.



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Tariq Ismati, a senior government official in Afghanistan, is dedicated to improving the lives of his people with the experience gained while obtaining his degree in international development.

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by Arielle Pickett

With nine degrees among the six of them, the Greenidge and Pickett families are staunch supporters of Andrews University’s quality Christian education.

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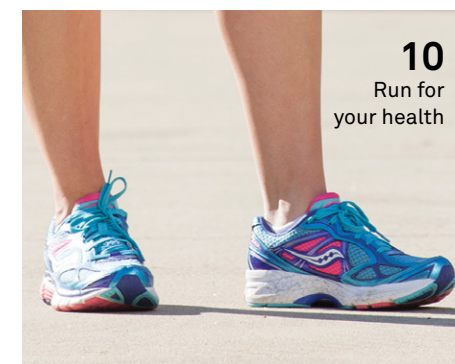
by Iván Ruiz

Some students explore many different options during their university journey. Iván is one of them. Enjoy his poetic take on the process.

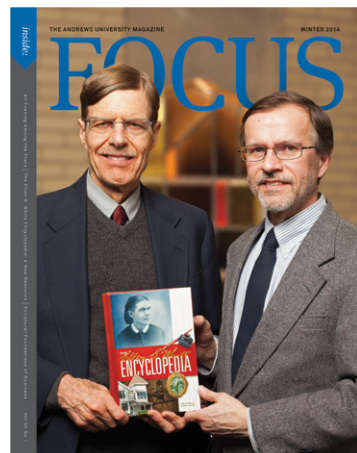
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On the cover: The campus green is especially festive at graduation, with flags from 66 nations flying in the breeze, colorful regalia, groomed landscapes, and a general feeling of joy and excitement. Photo by Christa McConnell, IMC student photographer.



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Run for
your health



FOCUS | Winter 2014

Good read

Something I rarely do, but I read every word in this issue. From that amazing cover of two of the University's brightest (and most photogenic!) scholars (Fortin and Moon), page after page of appealing layout, every page was compelling—beautifully crafted sentences—just plain begging to be read. But the interview with Fortin and Moon was astonishing with pertinent questions and answers—never seen anything better. Their personalities and scholarship was a treat to behold.

Herb Douglass, ThD (MA '56, BD '57)

Email notification

We've just received the fall 2013 copy of FOCUS, which we always enjoy reading.

And we support the idea of the e-format for all international recipients. It would be a nice gesture, though, to receive an email announcing the availability of each future issue—otherwise, there is a tendency to forget to look for it. I guess you do not have a current list of email addresses for subscribers, but perhaps you could include a request in the next issue for international recipients to submit their email addresses.

Thank you for a fine production.

Keith Clouten (former faculty)

Editor's Note

If you would like to receive notification when the next issue of FOCUS is posted online, please provide your email address to alumni@andrews.edu.

Candid and correctable!

As I read many puff pieces and PR publications, it strains credulity to see only positive press. With a bachelor's degree in journalism and some publication experience (*Wall Street Journal*, *Prentice Hall*, *Adventist Review*, peer-reviewed journals, etc.), I've developed a desire as both an author and reader for candor, correctness and correctability.

FOCUS is among the few! Permit me some column inches to cite a couple examples to substantiate these kudos.

In 2006 you issued a challenge and asked

us readers why we hadn't written more about the recent administrative changes where the board fired a few folks and then rehired the president!

Without any firsthand knowledge of the situation, I accepted the challenge and based on a few interviews and what I had read, late one night wrote a scathing pseudo-vitriolic analysis. Without any type of peer review, I e-mailed it, suspecting the editors would have a good laugh, pass it around the office and delete. Months later in the fall issue in 2006 I was surprised and positively puzzled to find my highly non-complimentary comments in print as lead letter in first section!

Now I just read the "Poor Journalism" letter from **Alex Currie** (MA '75, EdD '77) in my latest issue where he uses words like "appalling" and "insult" and impassionately queries errors of omission. Although it was almost a decade ago, I detect echoes of an unusual journalistic attitude of fortitude that I admire.

Rare is the publication that has the intrepidity to publish such rebukes and also graciously concede mea culpa and issue a sincere apology. I perceive that I'm reading a real publication and not just pablum! Again, kudos.

J.T. Shim (attended Mission Institute 1968)

Thanks for writing

Letters to FOCUS are always welcome. To ensure a range of viewpoints, we encourage letters of fewer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for content, style and space.

By mail: Editor, FOCUS
Andrews University
Berrien Springs MI
49104-1000

By email: focus@andrews.edu

Opinions expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the editors, university employees, officers and administrators.

Andrews University magazine earns national awards

Envision recently named best mobile publication in North America by the Associated Church Press

Envision, a regular publication produced by the Andrews University Department of Communication, was recently named the best mobile publication in North America by the Associated Church Press (ACP). The award was announced at the oldest and largest Christian Press Association's annual awards banquet, held in Chicago on April 25.

Envision's prestigious "Best in Class" honor was one of five awards won by the Andrews University student publication from among 1,200 entries submitted for judging in the yearly Best of the Christian Press Awards 2013.

"We are indeed proud of the achievements of Debbie Michel and her students," says Keith Mattingly, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. "Particularly nice is the involvement of our students and their deserved recognition."

Other award-winning entries by the student-produced magazine are:

- Award of Excellence for Student Publications (entire *Envision* staff)
- Award of Excellence for Reporting and Writing: Feature Article, short format magazine ("Uncalled For? Women in

the Seminary" by Melodie Roschman)

- Award of Merit for Reporting and Writing: Personally Useful Article ("Don't Follow Your Dreams: How to be Miserable, Waste Time and Live an Unsatisfying Life" by Melodie Roschman)
- Honorable Mention: Art/Design/Graphics: Design Spread or Story ("From Fear to Eternity" spread by Kristiana Mitacek)

In addition to the printed version of the magazine, Andrews alumnus Kenty Ramdatt designed the mobile app, available on iOS and Android devices.

"We are indeed proud of the achievements of Debbie and her students," says Keith Mattingly, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. "So many awards reflects the great work in the magazine. Particularly nice is the involvement of our students and their deserved recognition."



L-R: Delyse Steyn, professor of communication; Debbie Michel, associate professor of communication and editor-in-chief of *Envision*; Kenty Ramdatt, Department of Engineering & Computer Science alumnus; Rachel Williams-Smith, chair of the Department of Communication.

Envision magazine is produced jointly each spring among three classes: Publication Production in the Department of Communication, Studio Photography in the Department of Photography, and Publication Design in the Department of Visual Art & Design.

www.andrews.edu/envision

SM serves as videographer/photographer

Alex Swensen focused on stories from Benin for Adventist Frontier Missions

Alex Swensen, junior documentary film major at Andrews University, served as a student missionary with Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM) during the 2013–2014 school year. Based in Berrien Springs, Michigan, AFM recruits one University student each year to serve as a videographer and photographer for specific projects they maintain around the world.

"My role is to assist them with video production," says Swensen. "I'm currently working on three films. I've filmed one and am now sitting in a little room editing film 40 hours a week."

AFM uses videos as promotional material to demonstrate to potential and current donors what they are doing with donor money. The missionaries on the ground write stories to keep donors updated, but Swensen points out that there's something about a visual medium used to tell stories that allows one to

see the story unfolding that is much more powerful.

On a recent AFM trip to Benin, Swensen filmed two projects focusing on the Dendi and Odamari people. These communities are animistic and ritualistic with a strong Muslim influence, so reaching them with Christianity is a challenge.

"Benin is thought to be the birthplace of Voodoo," says Swensen. "They utilize strange ritualistic sacrifices, witch doctors, talisman, and other heathen practices. There is a basic Muslim dislike for Christians in general within these communities, and a lot of supernatural issues going on. It's interesting and sometimes frightening."

Though this was not his first time traveling for a film project, it was his first time traveling abroad for one. And while he does admit it's



Alex Swensen shooting video footage in Benin

not work for just anyone, he encourages those who are interested to seriously consider working overseas for a mission organization.

"Do it," he says. "It will totally change your outlook and perspective on life and you will be a better person because of it. You will learn a lot about yourself, other people and God."

For the complete story, visit: www.andrews.edu/news

Spring graduation

B. Lynn Behrens and Eric Rajah receive honorary doctorates

Andrews University's spring graduation weekend spanned May 2–4, 2014. A total of 439 graduates received their diplomas.

June Price, associate dean of Lamson Hall, offered the Consecration address titled, "Not So With You" on Friday, May 2.

Price holds a master's degree in counseling with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy from Southern Adventist University (Collegedale, Tenn.). She has been involved in education for many years, teaching religion at the secondary level and psychology at the college level. Price has been at Andrews University for eight years.

Daniel Jackson, president of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, presented the Baccalaureate address for both services. His presentation for the first service was titled "Beautiful in Time" and his second service presentation was "Just Do It!"

Jackson was elected as president of the North American Division in 2010 by delegates of the world church. A native Canadian, Jackson is a graduate of Canadian University College and has lived and ministered in Canada with the exception of five years of service in the Southern Asia Division of Seventh-day Adventists. He holds a master's degree in systematic theology from Andrews.

Eric Rajah, cofounder of A Better World and president/owner of Advanced Systems, was the speaker for the first and second Commencement services. His address was titled "Imagine It Better."

B. Lyn Behrens, retired president and CEO of Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center in Loma Linda, California, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science during the first Commencement service.

Born in Cooranbong, New South Wales, Australia, Behrens did her medical training at Sydney University School of Medicine, earning her degree with honors in 1964. That same year she began her postgraduate rotating internship at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney. Two years later, Behrens became the first and only pediatric resident at LLU, and in 1986 she became the first woman dean of the School of Medicine at LLU. She was also the first woman to serve as president of LLU, a role she assumed in 1990. Five years later she became CEO of Adventist Health System/Loma Linda while maintaining her position as University president. In 1999 she became president of LLU Medical Center, retiring in 2008 with the distinction of being the longest-serving president in the institution's 103-year history.

Rajah received an honorary Doctor of Laws during the second Commencement service. Born in Sri Lanka, Rajah attended a community school administered by a group of Alberta missionaries who had visited in the late 1940s, where he was able to learn English. After his family moved to Canada, Rajah studied business at University of British Columbia and graduated from Canadian University College in 1981. As cofounder of the Alberta-based

volunteer-run aid organization A Better World, Rajah and his team have developed projects that have met a range of needs and enlisted the services of various volunteers and experts to train workers in the community. Its focus has been on investing in the future of people in need in developing countries by providing education, health, food security, infrastructure and income-generating projects. By 2005, A Better World had expanded to 15 countries and launched a youth division that works with schools and universities to engage the next generation of community leaders. In recognition of his contribution to society, Rajah was inducted into the Alberta Order of Excellence in 2011, the highest honor the Province of Alberta can bestow upon a citizen.

Dana Wales, managing principal at Wales & Associates, was the featured speaker for the final Commencement service at 2 p.m. His address was titled, "Now That You Have Your Feathers..."

Wales graduated from Andrews Academy and Andrews University, then studied economics at the University of Michigan. Since 1987, Wales has been the owner and president of Wales & Associates, a wealth management practice located in St. Joseph, Mich. He currently serves on the University's Board of Trustees and President's Advisory Council for Institutional Development, as well as the Board of Trustees for both Lakeland Health Foundation and the Center for Youth Evangelism.

Student Gardens starts mobile farm market

As part of the Be Healthy Berrien initiative in partnership with local agencies

Just a few days after Christmas 2013, Arthur Mulyono, manager of the Andrews University Student Gardens, received a letter informing him that the Gardens qualified for a grant, which would allow the program to participate in a regional initiative to bring affordable healthy food to the community. The deadline for application was December 31.

"We put a grant proposal together in two days," says Mulyono, "and to our surprise and delight everything went through quickly. Our proposal was accepted."

The grant was through Michigan State to allow the Student Gardens to be a part of their Be Healthy Berrien initiative. In partnership with the Berrien County Health Department and Planning Commission, the YMCA, Lakeland Healthcare, the cities of Buchanan, Niles and Stevensville, and United Way, the Gardens will be helping host a mobile farm market at strategic locations within the county.

"The county has identified seven locations in Berrien County with a high concentration of low income families who have limited access to produce and groceries," explains Stephen Erich, mobile farm market coordinator. "These areas are classified as food deserts."

The Student Gardens food truck will take fresh produce to specific locations within the neighborhoods in these "food deserts," and will sell it to local families for affordable prices. The mobile farm market will accept Bridgcard food stamps, cash and credit/debit cards.

In addition to providing fresh produce, the Gardens will also be working with Lakeland Healthcare to offer health and cooking classes for the community.

"Everything we're doing is working toward making Berrien County a healthier place," says Erich. "Not only are we providing local families with tangible things, but we're also helping to educate them. It's about building community and taking care of our neighbors."

In addition to funding for the truck, the Student Gardens will also have a local intern who travels with them to the mobile farm market locations. The intern will learn how to operate the market so they can create similar programs in their own neighborhood, all while gaining business skills and work experience. The Gardens also have about

20 student employees during the summer, planting, tending, harvesting and delivering to those signed up for its produce subscription service.

Despite adding a program to their repertoire, the Gardens has actually planted less produce.

"We're emphasizing quality this year," explains Mulyono. "We planted more greens like lettuce and kale to encourage people to enjoy them more often, but our fruit production is less—and better. We want our plants to produce as much as possible within each square foot, so we're applying special styles of planting and tending to encourage healthier, more abundant growth in each individual plant."

The Gardens are not only reducing and improving their crops, they've also developed a more efficient plant succession plan. This means a better variety of plants producing at a better rate, providing more fresh produce throughout the season.

"I'm giving something back to my community and serving others. That's what being a Christian is all about."

"This isn't just about growing fruits and vegetables," says Mulyono. "It's about giving back to the community. When we take care of our fruits, vegetables and soil, giving food and necessary nutrients to the people, they will be healthier and better able to give back to the community themselves."

Being a part of the mobile farm market is a dream come true for Erich. Last year he was involved with the Summit on Poverty in America at Andrews, and when he saw an article in a local paper about the level of poverty in his own community, he couldn't ignore it. He applied for an open position at the Gardens, and was quickly hired.

"There's nothing else I'd rather be doing right now," he says with a grin.

The idea of working with so many local organizations excites both Mulyono and Erich. In addition to the partnerships they've established through the county, each location for the mobile farm market represents a positive relationship with a local community center or church.



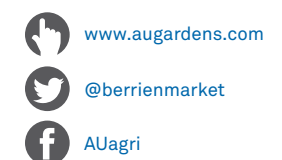
The Mobile Farm Market travels to strategic locations within Berrien County

"Ellen White once wrote that if it is possible, produce should be produced as cheaply as possible, but also sustainably," says Mulyono. "That interests me. If you price the produce too high, it's not sustainable because the market here can't handle it. High prices aren't the answer. Providing good,

organic food to the community at an affordable price makes me feel good about what I'm doing. I'm giving something back to my community and serving others. That's what being a Christian is all about."

Though the program is in an experimental phase this summer, if the response is positive they may do it again in the future.

"It's a wonderful witnessing tool," says Erich. "As a mission of the church, health is emphasized a lot within the Adventist Church. It's important for us as Christians and as young people within the Church to encourage healthy living and do what we can to provide that opportunity for those in our community who may not otherwise be able to manage it."



Top, L–R: June Price, associate dean of Lamson Hall, was the Consecration speaker, Daniel Jackson, NAD president, spoke for both Baccalaureate services, Eric Rajah, cofounder of A Better World and president/owner of Advanced Systems, speaker for the first and second Commencement services, also received an honorary Doctor of Laws. Far left: Lyn Behrens, retired president and CEO of Loma Linda University Health Sciences Center, received an honorary Doctor of Science. Left: Dana Wales, managing principal at Wales & Associates, spoke for the third Commencement

June board report

Challenging enrollment trends and increase in medical expenses affect budget

Enrollment challenges and progress on the new Health & Wellness Center were highlighted at President Niels-Erik Andreasen's board briefing held on Monday, June 2, 2014.

In the President's Report, Andreasen reviewed notable news incidents on campus during the year and reaffirmed the University's commitment to the fundamentals of good quality Adventist education before turning his attention to progress on the planned Health & Wellness Center. Fundraising is going well,

and faculty publication, integration of Griggs University into Andrews University, and the development of several departmental service projects and social consciousness initiatives.

Vice President for Enrollment Randy Graves presented the board with the Undergraduate Enrollment Report, which addressed declining enrollment across the United States and at Andrews University. He began his presentation by noting that nationwide enrollment was down 2.3 percent across all sectors, and that Andrews is located in a region of the United States that is experiencing a decline in high school graduates. North American Division high school enrollment is at its lowest in ten years, with less than 3,500 students per grade, and a recent study indicates that only 7.8 percent of Adventists have children in the Seventh-day Adventist school system. All of these factors have contributed to Andrews experiencing lower than expected enrollment this year—a factor that led to \$1.3 million less tuition than was originally budgeted.

In his briefing to the faculty and staff, Andreasen reviewed Graves's recommendations for increasing enrollment in light of these statistics: offering new scholarships, making contact with Andrews easier and more congenial, and working harder to communicate with all interested applicants. He noted that, in a market where the average Adventist family income is decreasing and parents are focused on receiving maximum value for their money, the personal touch is vital. Andreasen encouraged faculty members to call prospec-

tive students offering information and assistance, and noted that he was spending the next few days hand-signing a thousand letters to accepted students.

Andreasen also explained in his briefing how the enrollment decrease and an increase in fringe benefits, including medical expenses, affected the budget. Andrews did not go into debt this year, he explained, solely because "we are good bankers." The return on University investments compensated for the deficit in operations.

Andreasen concluded his address by making reference to Andrews's impact outside of the campus gates. He announced University participation in a 40-year partnership with Berrien County to improve local sewer and water lines with the ultimate goal of increasing the standard of living in the community. While this project represents a significant financial investment, he explained that the cost will not be problematic due to its spread-out nature, and emphasized the importance of Andrews University being "a good neighbor" to the community. Andreasen also made reference to what he called a flood of recent attention paid to LGBT issues prompted by the campus newspaper and two forums. While maintaining agreement with the Seventh-day Adventist Church's official stance on the issue, Chair of the Board Ben Schoun reiterated Andrews's commitment to creating an atmosphere of "care and compassion towards all students."

Only 7.8 percent of Adventists have children in the Seventh-day Adventist school system.

he noted, stating that Development has raised about two-thirds of the \$18 million goal in cash and pledges.

In the Provost's Report, Andrea Luxton outlined progress on six strategic initiatives, asking "What Have We Done?" for each and then setting future goals. Each initiative focuses on a major theme: nurturing excellence in pedagogy and research, creating a strong and better-planned community, extending the reach of Andrews at all levels, maintaining spiritual foundations and growth on campus, ensuring financial resilience, and building a campus infrastructure that will support expectations for ten years in the future. She mentioned several practical accomplishments, including increased student

AIA Conference hosted at Andrews

Brings together student leaders from across North America

From April 2–5, 2014, Andrews University hosted the 64th annual convention of the Adventist Intercollegiate Association (AIA). Incoming and outgoing officers from every Adventist university in North America met to discuss policy, attend workshops, and network with other student leaders. The theme of the conference was "The Theory of Association," a focus on communication and servant leadership that the Andrews University Student Association has emphasized all year.

Ultimately, outgoing AUSA President Jonathan Jacobs says, "I hope that the incoming leaders are inspired and learn how to inspire others... The AIA Convention creates [the] opportunity to extend the limits of what is possible through intelligent conversation with peers from across the continent."



Spring 2014 at the Howard

Clockwise from top left: Jennet Ingle, March 9 ■ Kingsway College Band, March 12 ■ International Music Competition, March 30 ■ Great Lakes Adventist Academy Concert, April 4 ■ Fountainview Academy Concert, April 5 ■ Second Sunday Concert, Wind Symphony, April 13 ■ Easter Choral, Orchestra and Opera Collaboration Concert, "St. Matthew's Passion," April 18 & 19 ■ Olivia Knott, incoming president of the Andrews University Student Association, April 22 ■ Keith Mattingly presents Earhart Emerging Scholar Award to four CAS students, April 22 ■ RMES Spring Choral Concert, May 13

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Photo by Darren Heslop, IMC staff photographer

Erica (Slikkers) Griessel (BA '03)

Please tell us about the recent race you ran.
On May 4, 2014, I ran the Borgess Run for the Health of It Kalamazoo Half Marathon.

I was inspired to participate in the half marathon when I learned my friend **Deanna Doran** (BSW '09, MSW '10) was coming up from Chattanooga to run with some of our friends, **Amanda Jardine** (BSW '09, MSW '10), **Melody (Johnson) Edwards** (BSA '09, MArch '10), **Katrina Hamel** (att.), **Isaac Sinnett** (BMus '04), and **Cindy Chun** (BA '02).

I first enjoyed running back in elementary school when competing for the Presidential Fitness award. Growing up, my sister and mom ran together and I aspired to be like them. I have many memories of family walks with my mom, dad, sister and the dogs.

In January of 2012, I lost control of my car in the snow and hit a tree head on. I suffered neck and back injuries, and for the next two years was in physical therapy with chronic pain. I ran regularly before my accident, but due to my injuries and recovery, my physical activity was limited. This was difficult for me. Late this winter, I decided to start training for a half marathon. I was determined to not let my pain restrict my lifestyle. To my surprise, my pain did not increase, but at times showed improvement. It is now a preferred method of pain management for me.

How long did you train and what was it like?
I began a 10-week training plan in March. It helped boost my spirits at the end of a record-breaking winter, which was a fantastic perk! I trained on my treadmill in our garage. On the coldest days, I wore a coat and gloves while I ran—one day it was in the 20s! Two weeks prior to the race, I began running outdoors. It was liberating to run outdoors after being tethered to a treadmill for eight weeks.

The training was tough for me because of the monotony of the treadmill, the cold, long, busy days at the Howard Center, and my studies/homework. However, I promised myself that if I stuck to the training plan I would be able to run the half marathon. All of these nearly daily runs would pay off.

This was a long-term goal, with satisfaction I knew would come on race day, but the sense of accomplishment that came after every run while I trained helped me keep going.

What other types of exercise do you enjoy?
With running comes a need for stretching, so I have grown to appreciate yoga. I also enjoy biking with my husband on the KalHaven Trail near our home in South Haven, Michigan.

Are you able to incorporate exercise into your day as manager of the Howard Performing Arts Center?

On concert nights there is plenty of exercise to be had—from walking around the building to moving pianos. On a daily basis, I try to get up and walk around when I find myself feeling groggy. I also try to walk rather than drive when running errands across campus, even in the winter.

What I eat for lunch is more important to me than exercising at work, however. An unhealthy meal over the lunch hour makes for an unproductive afternoon in the office. My mom taught me to keep an apple at my desk for an afternoon pick-me-up.

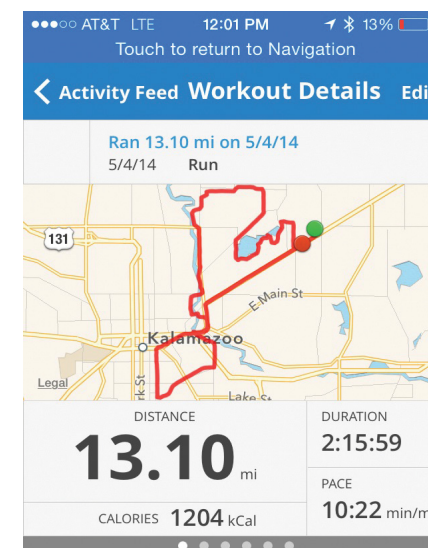
Do you have plans to participate in more running events?

I'm continuing to maintain my endurance by running several times a week, and hope to train for more runs in the future.

Top to bottom:
Closeup of the medallion for running the 2014 Borgess Half Marathon in Kalamazoo, Michigan

App on Erica's phone showing the full run time, distance, pace and calories expended.

Erica and her husband David Griessel celebrate at the end of the race.



VanderWaal receives J.N. Andrews medallion

For excellence in research, teaching, and academic and community involvement

Curtis J. VanderWaal, chair of the Department of Social Work and director of the Center for Community Impact Research at the Institute for Prevention of Addictions, was awarded the John Nevins Andrews Medallion at spring commencement services on Sunday, May 4. Given in recognition of excellence in research, teaching and service, this is the 95th J. N. Andrews Medallion awarded since its establishment in 1979.

VanderWaal earned a BS in health psychology from Andrews University in 1986, and a Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor the following year. He then accrued field experience as a National Institute of Mental Health trainee in Detroit treating chronically mentally ill individuals, and working as a clinical social worker in Redford, Michigan, providing therapy services in an outpatient setting.

and community involvement.

VanderWaal has contributed to numerous research projects and has published numerous articles, book chapters and monographs for government agencies and top journals in the field, including the *Journal of Policy Practice*, *Journal of Social Work and Christianity*, *Journal of Adolescent Health*, *Journal of Primary Prevention*, and *Journal of Drug Issues*. Most of his research has been related to substance abuse and related policies, social capital, and faith-based community change. He has also completed research and evaluation projects for the National Institute of Justice, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the DeVos Family Foundations, Goodwill Industries, and the United Way of Southwest Michigan. In conjunction with colleagues at the Institute for Prevention of Addictions, he has authored or coauthored research grants totaling more than two million dollars.

In addition to his personal accomplishments, VanderWaal has been an outstanding student mentor, including student authors in his publications and overseeing projects that have won national recognition. He has received several awards, including the Siegfried

H. Horn Excellence in Research & Creative Scholarship Award and the Andrews University Award for Excellence in Teaching.

"If you had told me 24 years ago that I'd still be working at Andrews," VanderWaal reflects, "I would have laughed. But...I've had a really good career. I've been able to teach and mentor several thousand students who are making a real difference in the lives of hurting people. I've been mentored by great colleagues, led by wise administrators, and blessed with wonderful coworkers and friends. And I've been given the freedom and encouragement to pursue research topics that are interesting and meaningful. So Andrews has truly been a great place to work—I wouldn't want to be anywhere else."



President Andreasen (left), presents Curt VanderWaal with the J.N.A. Medallion



A hallway in the Department of Biology was named David A. Steen Biology Honors Hall in honor of the former department chair. A small ceremony was held on Saturday, May 3.

L–R: Tom Goodwin, current department chair, David Steen, and Keith Mattingly, dean, College of Arts & Sciences.

June Price named as new University chaplain

Currently serving as associate dean of Lamson Hall

Following a comprehensive search process that included participants from the University, campus church, and Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Andrews University announces the selection of a new University Chaplain. June Price, currently the associate dean of Lamson Hall on the Andrews University campus, is already beginning a transition to her new role and will be fully engaged as University Chaplain on July 1, 2014.

"We are delighted to provide an opportunity for June to share with our entire campus community the spiritual gifts and leadership she has so effectively honed and demonstrated over the last decade in her ministry to Lamson residents," says Frances Faehner, vice president of Student Life at Andrews University and chair of the Search Committee.

Price holds a master's degree in counseling with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy from Southern Adventist University

"My passion in life is the pursuit of God and His transforming power in our lives through changing the way we think."

in Collegedale, Tennessee. Prior to her arrival at Andrews in 2006, Price was the women's dean at Bass Memorial Adventist Academy in Mississippi, where she also taught Bible and psychology. Previously she served as a school counselor and practiced as a clinician providing individual as well as marriage and family therapy.

During her tenure in Lamson Hall, Price designed a host of vibrant initiatives to help residents deepen their relationship with God. Students as well as colleagues have found Price to be a valued and trusted spiritual mentor.

"June brings the heart of a pastor, the skills of a dean and the passion of a spiritual leader to her new calling," says Dwight Nelson, senior pastor at Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University. "We're excited about this new chapter and eager to partner with our new lead chaplain."

Price fills this role following the departure of Chaplain Japhet De Oliveira, who left the position last January to pastor in Boulder, Colorado.

"My passion in life is the pursuit of God and His transforming power in our lives through changing the way we think," says Price. "I am humbled and honored to serve the family of God as chaplain at Andrews



June Price

University, and I pray that the Father will make me useful and pleasing to His Kingdom agenda."

"Please join us in prayer and support for Chaplain Price and the Campus Ministries team as we work together in pursuing God's dreams and plans for Andrews University," says Andrea Luxton, provost.

 andrews.edu/cm

Felipe Tan provides specialized training

Senior cataloger at James White Library travels to Middle East University

Felipe Tan, senior cataloger at the James White Library, visited Middle East University in Beirut, Lebanon, in March to host a workshop for the personnel of the George Arthur Keough Library. "The overall goal was to help the MEU personnel re-catalog the growing collection of Islamic, Arabic and theology collections of the library," explains Tan. "I provided them with the know-how and tools to accomplish this task."

The Dewey Decimal Classification is a commonly used scheme that, according to Larry Lichtenwalter, dean of the faculty of philosophy and theology at MEU, "scatters books under broad headings." The Library of Congress Classification, however, has been designed for academic and research collections in specialized disciplines. It is used by most academic

libraries in the United States and in several other countries. Lichtenwalter hinted at his own partiality towards the newly implemented system, emphasizing that it will make all of the holdings within his department easier to find.

Lichtenwalter asked Tan to reorganize the library collection to foster a more effective research environment for graduate and undergraduate students in anticipation of more cooperative programs with Andrews.

Farid Khoury, head librarian, emphasized that this transition will serve as a "pilot step after which the overall process will be revisited and evaluated," and that the entire library would not be converted until the staff had experienced and evaluated the changes brought about by the switch firsthand.

"Felipe was very professional and knowl-

edgeable and helped us to consider things we didn't realize needed to be considered," says Lyndi Khalil, assistant librarian.

MEU is constantly seeking for innovative ways in which their facilities and infrastructure can be positively altered, however, the re-cataloging of the library archives of an entire faculty is exceptionally noteworthy because it would make MEU's George Arthur Keough Library the first academic library in Lebanon to utilize the precise and acute Library of Congress Classification System.

"I found the MEU library personnel intelligent and eager to learn," says Tan. "I enjoyed the exposure to the culture of the Middle East and learned a lot from mingling with the people. I was glad for the opportunity to help Middle East University."

Show retires from Medical Laboratory Sciences

He served in the department for 26 years

Richard D. Show moved with his family to the Berrien Springs area in the fall of 1955, and started school in the fifth grade. He graduated with the last Emmanuel Missionary College Academy class in 1963, and then enrolled at Andrews. He earned a bachelor's degree in medical technology in 1967, then accepted a position as a medical technologist at Hinsdale Adventist Hospital in Illinois.

Show worked there in the Department of Pathology for the next 20 years, serving in the clinical chemistry, hematology and microbiology sections. He took a brief hiatus from the hospital to serve two years as a medical technologist at the United States Army Hospital at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, from 1968–70, before returning to Hinsdale Hospital. After his return he received a series of promotions, working as the microbiology supervisor, chemistry supervisor, and finally assistant administrative director.

Show gained instructional experience both at Hinsdale and in the military, teaching classes in clinical chemistry and microbiology to undergraduate medical technology students, and teaching U.S. Army medical laboratory technicians as on-the-job trainees. He also earned his master's degree in medical technology from Andrews in 1983.

In 1987 Show received an invitation to teach in the Allied Health Department at Andrews, which he accepted, joining the faculty on Jan. 1, 1988. Over the 26 years he worked at Andrews, he taught various medical laboratory science courses, including clinical chemistry, body fluids and clinical laboratory management. In 2013, he received the Andrews University Excellence in Teaching Award.

"The best part of teaching," Show says unequivocally, "is the students. I find it immensely rewarding to see the 'light bulb' turn on in their eyes as they grasp a concept."

He appreciates the length of his career at Andrews, not only because he loves teaching, but also because it allows him to connect "with former students and watch them succeed in their careers."

Show has been actively involved in the community since he began working at Andrews, serving as a deacon at Pioneer Memorial Church and volunteering at Neighbor to Neighbor, a local non-profit organization that provides secondhand household items and clothing to the community at affordable prices. When he joined the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences he began working as a consultant for the University Medical Specialties laboratory, and from 2004–2006



Richard Show

he served as laboratory manager. Show was also a member of the board and consultant for International Aid's Laboratory in a Suitcase from 2005–2010.

"I view retirement with mixed feelings," he says. While he will miss the experiences and opportunities inherent in his job, he is looking forward to having "time to do some of the things I have wanted to do for a while." Show's favorite hobby is woodworking, and he hopes to be able to devote more time to making keepsakes for his three young grandsons.

nary colleagues and others with specialties in various areas of biblical studies and systematic and applied theology.

The result of their work is a highly readable book of 21 chapters in 450 pages that is easily accessible to the educated church member, and specifically useful as a textbook, according to Ronald Knott, director of Andrews University Press. Knott noted that each chapter concludes with a reflection section that provides helpful questions for applying the content to one's personal life and to situations in organizational leadership.

The book is available now in print and digital editions from major online book retailers, and in print directly from Andrews University Press at universitypress.andrews.edu.

Freed retires as professor of leadership and qualitative research

Instrumental in beginning graduate and undergraduate leadership programs at Andrews

Shirley Freed, recently retired professor of leadership and qualitative research for the School of Education, has enjoyed a career filled with satisfying teaching opportunities around the world.

Born in Alberta, Canada, she taught math and sciences at Kingsway College and Canadian University College in Canada while serving as dean of women. She also taught education and biology at Pakistan Adventist Seminary, and finished her career at Andrews University.

"When we returned from serving in Pakistan in 1989 we needed to find a way to get our household under one roof," says Freed. Their children had been attending Far Eastern Academy. "We wanted our family to be together again," she says.

They took the educational option and came to Andrews. Freed had earned a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from Andrews in 1967 and knew they would find a comfortable home in the international environment here.

"Christian education was our only option for our children," she says. "They had been in Adventist schools since first grade and we weren't about to change that."

So Freed and her husband started doctoral degrees and placed their children in Andrews Academy and the University. Though the GC stayed in touch with them and recruited them back to Pakistan, to the Philippines and other places, the Freeds felt the need to stay together at Andrews. And though they fully intended to eventually return to the mission field, when she received her doctorate in curriculum and instruction from Andrews in 1991 the University asked Freed to help with teacher education, focusing primarily in literacy. She accepted and their future with



Shirley Freed (right), chats with friends and colleagues who came to wish her well at a retirement celebration held April 28, 2014.

Andrews was solidified.

Freed began teaching methods classes such as beginning reading, math methods, secondary education and content reading, and was responsible for the masters in reading program. Soon she took on teaching qualitative research and leadership foundations. She enjoyed it all.

Qualitative research was a relatively new concept in the late 1980s, and Freed enjoyed being a part of something cutting-edge. She was also one of the first to utilize online teaching, for which she received an award from WebCT. Her experience and position at the University allowed her the opportunity to be part of the team that started the graduate leadership program at Andrews in 1994 and the undergraduate leadership program in 2008. In addition, she worked with others to set up several international leadership cohorts: two in Europe, one in Peru and the newest one in Brazil.

"I have a really low tolerance for 'stuck places and people' and Andrews allowed for forms of innovation that have been deeply satisfying for me," she says. "It wasn't easy,

but definitely meaningful and joyful."

She continues, "The best part of my career teaching at Andrews was definitely the students," she says. "Our leadership program attracts a wide variety of active professionals, all of whom teach me a lot about leadership and research."

Despite her heavy teaching workload, Freed always made time for students, no matter where they were located.

"It's hard to walk away from emails from doctoral students in faraway places when they're asking for help," she says. "I just can't

do that, so it has meant many long hours. It's been a challenge, but one in which I have found much satisfaction."

Over the years Freed has served on more than 100 doctoral dissertations, chairing over half of them. She also coedited and authored 100 "little books" for an early literacy project with colleague Louise Moon. She has authored many academic and professional articles and conducted inservice trainings for many diverse groups. She has served as the managing editor for the *Journal of Applied Christian Leadership* (JACL) for the past several years and will continue in that role in retirement.

Freed is committed to helping several doctoral students finish their dissertations. She also hopes to spend more time at home with her family.

"I'll clean my house and find that recipe book I had once called 'Cooking for Two,'" she says. "My husband will like that. So will I."

Skip Bell edits book on biblical leadership

Published by Andrews University Press, this 450-page volume can also be used as a textbook

Leadership probably isn't what we think it is, at least according to the Bible.

That's the surprising conclusion many readers will draw from a new book edited by Skip Bell, professor of leadership studies and director of the Doctor of Ministry program at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. *Servants and Friends: A Biblical Theology of Leadership* was released in May by Andrews University Press.

The book is intended to fill a large void in Christian leadership studies, according to Bell.

"Leadership is getting a lot of attention from society and the church," Bell says. "As culture trends toward fragmentation, we want to know how to navigate, and to find or develop people who provide helpful leader-

ship within their context. Society often looks to the current roster of motivational speaker celebrities or to what is trending in secular pop psychology. But the body of Christ—followers of Jesus, serving in the community, the workplace, as in the church and its institutions—must look seriously and deeply to the Bible."

Bell notes that Christians studying leadership have long considered the case studies of many Biblical figures and drawn helpful homiletical lessons. But there has been very little work that has addressed the foundational theological meaning that Scripture has to offer, and that is what Bell and his colleagues have done in *Servants and Friends*.

Bell began organizing the project in 2010. He brought together a large group of his Semi-

Beikmann leaves legacy of landscape design

Including the PMC plaza, Trashcan Junction and new campus entry

Born and raised on a grain and livestock farm in Washington, Kansas, attending Lutheran parochial schools, Stanley Beikmann never dreamed he would work at Andrews University.

“By the time I was a freshman in high school I wanted to be a meteorologist, a Lutheran pastor or a horticulturist,” he recalls. “I had a great-grandfather, uncles, and other relatives who were pastors and teachers, and they inspired me.”

By the time he was 17, Beikmann had built his first garden and had a collection of 200 irises. In 1970 he graduated from Kansas State University with a bachelor’s degree in horticulture and began working for the Kansas Highway Commission as a landscape architect. A year later he married his college sweetheart, Sheri, who is a wedding florist and has her own company.

“...it gave me great pleasure to help students improve, grow and even thrive.”

“You can see which major career interest won out,” says Beikmann with a smile.

Shortly after they were married, the Beikmanns moved to Ohio where Stan worked as an interpretive horticulturist for Kingwood Center, a public botanic garden.

While at Fernwood Botanical Garden in Niles giving a garden lecture in 1972, Beikmann was invited to apply for a job as a horticulturist there. During the following 21 years he served not only as a horticulturist but also as executive director of the gardens.

It was during his tenure at Fernwood that Beikmann’s career with Andrews University began. At first he was an adjunct professor teaching one or two landscape classes each year for the Department of Agriculture.

In 1996 the chair of the department approached Beikmann with the idea of teaching full-time.

“When I reminded him I was Missouri Synod Lutheran, not Adventist, he told me they knew who I was and there was no one within the conference with my qualifications,” says Beikmann. So Beikmann agreed to teach in the school year and maintain his landscaping company in the summers.

“I was an anomaly—a Lutheran amidst

an Adventist university culture,” he recalls. “This peculiarity only confirmed my belief that I was here by God’s will. I found myself in stimulating discussions with my colleagues and my students about what the Adventist tenets, principles and practices were. Comparing them to my own faith I found unexpected similarities, and an accepting, spiritually and vocationally rewarding university culture here.”

While teaching horticulture, Beikmann expanded the one landscape class offered into a full program. In addition he taught urban landscape design, history of landscape design, plant identification courses, greenhouse environment and construction, home horticulture, weed control and more.

“About the same time I began teaching at Andrews my sons left for college,” says Beikmann. “I missed them so much that my students became my surrogate children. I’ve always cared about them and it gave me great pleasure to help students improve, grow and even thrive.”

His hard work did not go unnoticed; in 2007 Beikmann received the Daniel A. Augsburger Excellence in Teaching Award.

Teaching wasn’t the only thing Beikmann contributed to the Andrews campus. For the last 15 years he has done most of the landscape design work, including the PMC plaza, helping to situate Alan Collins’ sculpture of J.N. Andrews, Trashcan Junction, and designing the new campus entry drive, which included saving a huge sugar maple that still stands just inside campus near the gate house.

“I love the history of Andrews,” he says. “Preserving some of that with the campus landscaping created some of my fondest memories here.”

Beikmann has been involved in more than 30 landscape design projects in the last two decades at Andrews, including projects he did with the University’s Arboretum Council and the long-range campus planning committee.

“An arboretum not only enhances the importance of our campus’ sense of place that resonates with students and alumni, but is also a wonderful academic resource for horticulture, botany, landscape and environmental classes,” says Beikmann.



Stan Beikmann at his retirement reception, April 30, 2014

In 2009, Beikmann was awarded the J.N. Andrews Medallion for the Advancement of Knowledge and Environmental Stewardship. Though he still feels he didn’t deserve to be named among other Who’s Who awardees over the years, he feels very honored.

“I don’t know who the colleagues were who chose to award me that year,” he says, “but I consider it the finest honor of my career and I am continually grateful. I give all credit to God for getting me to this point.”

Though Beikmann retired in the spring, he will continue teaching one on-site class and is working on developing the first online class for the Department of Agriculture, slated to be offered spring semester 2015. He took a group of students to Jordan for three weeks in May and will also continue to consult with Arboretum and Grounds seasonally.

In his free time Beikmann hybridizes hostas and other garden plants. He and his wife want to travel and see more of their children and perhaps continue to assist with Tel Hesban field school projects in Jordan, where they hope to ultimately establish an agricultural education center.

“I consider this time a transitional time,” he says. “I think it’s better than quitting everything cold. I’m not sure I know what retirement really is. I’ve worked for 45 years and have never not worked. A friend of mine uses the phrase ‘emergent’ for a lot of life’s events, and I think that works for me. Retirement is ‘emergent’ and I like the prospect of what’s next.”

Eileen Lesher retires after 30 years of service

Known as the resident expert on international educational systems

When Eileen Lesher was 8 years old her parents, Richard and Veda Lesher, moved their family to the Middle East to serve as missionaries. They spent three years in Lebanon and five years in Egypt, also traveling to several different countries during their time there.

In 1984, Lesher began her dedicated journey with Andrews University when she started serving as secretary to the registrar. In this role she answered letters sent from international applicants and completed their verification of enrollment. Over the years she continued to serve international students at Andrews in various capacities, including that which she retired from in 2014: international transcript analyst for on- and off-campus graduate programs.

“I’m sure my growing-up years were helpful in dealing with international applicants at Andrews,” she says. “Our travels throughout the Middle East started my love of history and geography, and helped me better understand international applicants and what they were facing when coming to a country that was new to them.”

From 1986 to 2000 Lesher served as the graduate admissions supervisor, processing applications, answering mail, sending files to the appropriate academic departments when an application was complete, and evaluating all domestic and international transcripts.

“The best part of my jobs was working with the applicants and being able to help them reach their goals of continuing their education,” she says.

The number of applications Lesher processed over the years is innumerable. Since she evaluated all applications, not just those that were accepted or eventually enrolled, the number is quite high.

She started working at Andrews with the intention of acquiring her master’s degree by using her benefits for a small number of free credits each semester. She had already completed both an associate’s and bachelor’s degree in nursing from Atlantic Union College and Walla Walla University (respectively), but wanted a higher degree to enhance her education.

Utilizing her nursing skills, Lesher worked throughout the 1970s in various places and capacities in hospitals, nursing homes, state infirmaries for the mentally challenged, and

private duty nursing.

She was not able to complete her master’s due to the amount of time her job required. All the documents and letters had to be done by hand. Each applicant’s file had to be searched by hand to determine what was still needed, and then each had to have a separate handwritten letter to notify them of these needs.

“When the University purchased computers for our offices and the whole system was computerized things changed drastically for the better,” recalls Lesher.

Lesher was part of the change from a homegrown system to the electronic Banner

“The best part of my jobs was working with the applicants and being able to help them reach their goals of continuing their education.”

system still in use at the University today. She also significantly helped the University during the switch from a quarter system to a semester system, going through the graduate policies to ensure the quarter credits listed were changed to semester credits, among other things.

Another major project Lesher worked on was converting the educational systems in 35 countries to the U.S. system. The list also included Adventist schools in those countries, and grading conversion scales.

For her final decade and a half at Andrews, Lesher served as the resident expert on international educational systems at both the undergraduate and graduate level. The knowledge of her expertise quickly spread and soon Lesher was fielding questions on international transcripts from admission offices and registrars of colleges and universities across the country.

Due to challenges with arthritis Lesher has suffered from since her teen years, she had her left hip replaced while working at



Eileen Lesher (seated), surrounded by her colleagues from Graduate Enrollment.

Andrews. In order to put less weight on her loosening joints Lesher was forced to first walk with crutches and then utilize a wheelchair. She found people across campus to be extremely helpful during this challenging time.

“I am so grateful to all those who opened doors for me, helped me carry things, and did even more during the past ten years when my mobility was challenged,” she says. “I’m certain their kindness was part of the reason I was able to continue to work full-time for as long as I have.”

In early May, Lesher retired after 30 years of service to Andrews University. At the end of the month she moved with her parents to Loma Linda, California, where her sister and brother-in-law live with their family.

“I have lots of reading and crafts to do which I have postponed over the years,” she says. “I also plan to join Facebook and start corresponding with friends I haven’t connected with during the last few years.”

Though she will be living more than 2,000 miles away, Lesher will not be disconnected from her Andrews family. She plans to stay in touch with the team in the Office of Graduate Enrollment to help with any questions they may have concerning international transcript evaluations, and emphasizes that she would love to have her friends from Andrews visit her in California.

“I am looking forward to this new part of my life,” she says with a smile. “I will be very happy to get rid of my alarm clock!”

Snorrason retires

After assisting hundred of students at the Student Success Center

At age 19, just after completing junior college, Erling B. Snorrason entered denominational employment as the teacher in a one-room school in the Westman Islands, Iceland.

Following this adventure he graduated in 1966 with a bachelor’s degree in theology from Newbold College in England, and in 1970 completed a master’s in education at Andrews University. It was at Andrews where he met his wife, Jeanette, and for the next three years they taught in the Illinois Conference, during which time Snorrason obtained a master’s degree in religion from Andrews.

In 1973 the Snorrasons returned to Iceland, intending to teach for a few years then return to Andrews for further education.

“Those ‘few years’ in Iceland became 20,” he says, “and both of our daughters were born there.”

While in Iceland Snorrason worked as teacher, principal, departmental director, and served as both secretary and then president of the Iceland Conference. Then they returned to Michigan so their girls (and they) could attend Andrews.

In 1996 he began working as assistant director for Academic Support & Advising Services, now the Student Success Center, where he worked until his retirement in the spring of 2014. During this time Snorrason earned his doctoral degree in education from Andrews.

His work at Student Success was twofold: Running tutorial services and coordinating general and interdisciplinary studies.

“Early on, Tutorial Services consisted of group tutoring for classes that students

found to be difficult, such as sciences, Greek and Hebrew, languages and research methodology,” Snorrason recalls. “Later we also offered one-on-one tutoring.”

Snorrason and his team grew the tutoring program into what it is today. Currently, nearly 100 tutors serve around 120 students each semester.

The central part of his work in general and interdisciplinary studies was developing and streamlining the General Studies degree program. During his time in the program, Snorrason saw over 170 students graduate with a general studies degree.

“The major level courses, known as the focus of the degree, are individually designed to fit the student’s interest and future plans,” he says. “Working with these students requires considerable advising and counseling, as well as developing a final degree plan to serve as a checklist for graduation requirements.”

Of course, not all students who inquire about or even change their major to general studies continue in the program to graduate. So the number of students Snorrason has met with and advised over the years is in the hundreds.

“The greatest satisfaction in this work is seeing students who might otherwise have dropped out of college persist to graduation,” he says.



Erling Snorrason (middle) chats with President Andreassen at his retirement reception on April 17, while his wife Jeanette looks on.

One of his favorite stories from his work is about a student with no idea what he wanted to do who came to Snorrason with two options: drop out of college, or give General Studies a try. He opted for the latter, graduated, and contacted Snorrason two years later to tell him he was at the top of his class in law school.

“My years at Andrews University have been challenging and very rewarding,” says Snorrason. “To see young people succeed and become contributing members of society, and especially followers of Christ, means more to me than words can express.”

His plans for retirement include volunteer work in the church, missionary work, becoming reacquainted with his local library, traveling, gardening and carpentry.

“And of course,” he adds, “the all-important ‘honey-do’ list!”

Panigot named Advisor of the Year

At the annual Awards Assembly held April 22, 2014

Jillian Panigot, physical therapy admissions director, was named the Undergraduate Advisor of the Year for the 2013–14 school year. The award is based on results of online evaluations that students complete in March. Comments included: “Nothing could be done to improve my advising experience—my advisor is the best!” “My advisor prays with me after our sessions which I find to be very thoughtful and helpful with the rest of my day.” “I can always count on Jillian to brighten my day, give fantastic advice, and offer to pray for me. She truly cares about her students and I believe her students care about her. Believe me, I’m one of them. I couldn’t have asked for a better advisor.” Jillian says, “It’s a privilege to serve my students and I especially appreciate it when some offer to pray for me as well!”



Kris Knutson (left), director of the Student Success Center, congratulates Jillian Panigot, physical therapy admissions director, as Advisor of the Year

GRADUATE DIMENSIONS

Each graduate’s journey is unique. Here are just three from the hundreds of individual stories that could be told from the spring 2014 graduation.

On Sunday, May 4, graduates from the class of 2014 received their hard-earned degrees in different academic fields from Andrews University. Among those who marched across the platform in Pioneer Memorial Church and received their degree was Tariq Ismati, the Deputy Minister for Programs at the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) in Afghanistan. Ismati serves as a senior government official under H.E. President Hamid Karzai's administration in Afghanistan.

As deputy minister for programs, Ismati serves the rural needy population of Afghanistan with rehabilitation and development programs that target the improvement of human wellbeing among 70 percent of the population of Afghanistan. Ismati ensures the social, economic and political wellbeing of rural society, especially the poor and vulnerable, through the provision of basic services, strengthening of local governance and promoting sustainable livelihoods free from a dependency on illicit poppy cultivation.

Ismati has already pursued his first executive master's degree with specialization in general management with high standings. With the degree he received this spring in international development, Ismati now holds two advanced degrees, which will benefit him greatly in his career.

Ismati leads five programs designed to benefit the rural communities through the socio-economic projects and development interventions his ministry serves. Each year his ministry puts \$350-400 million into tangible developments for more than 40,000 villages in the country.

"We provide mutual advantages not only for implementing MRRD's programs, but also, by partnering with governmental and non-governmental organizations, facilitate appropriate rural development interventions in close coordination to build a platform of collective mechanisms for fighting against poverty," Ismati adds.

In 2005, Ismati decided to accelerate his efforts to obtain the highest academic achievements and to develop his professional skills to benefit his career and his future. He began searching through various media outlets to identify educational programs that would fit

his interests and line of work. Within a short period of time, Ismati stumbled on the term IDP—International Development Program. Shortly thereafter he discovered the IDP at Andrews University.

"For the last 15 years I have been engaged with community development work and humanitarian assistance, mostly through non-governmental organizations (NGOs)," says Ismati. "Before I even became involved in the government, even during Taliban regime, this was my focus and my passion. I hoped for something that would help me bring a more international experience to help build the programs in which I was involved."

In 2008, after working through all the issues surrounding enrollment in an international educational program, Ismati began taking classes through Andrews University.

"Throughout the courses I attended I further developed my skills, improved my current practices, and exchanged knowledge and insights with experts in my field from many different backgrounds," he says. "While my experience in the IDP at Andrews will indeed benefit my future, it has already proven to be invaluable to me in my career as I have applied what I have learned in a very practical way."

Ismati would like to see a more physical Andrews University presence in Afghanistan. "Compared to any other developing country, Afghanistan has the highest number of international aid workers, development efforts and grants," he says. "People around the world have invested much in trying to help us get out of our misery as a results of the conflict we have endured, and a development program such as the one Andrews provides would greatly benefit the Afghan people."

His vision is not solely for his own countrymen, however. Ismati would also like to see neighboring countries capitalize on an IDP in Afghanistan once it was established.

"I think a reputable program such as this would attract many," says Ismati. "Countries such as Pakistan are going through crises very similar to what we are just coming out of. They will need international aid like we did and do, and providing the opportunity to train young people and government officials to lead in the development of their countries is invaluable."

He would like to remain in the government in such positions where he can help his country and its people to the best of his ability utilizing the knowledge he has gained through his experiences both in his career and in class.

"I've learned that in my senior strategic position I am able to help more than I could without it," he says. "I believe very strongly in humanity and humanitarian support, and I want to serve my people through such positions that directly affect the rural lives of the Afghans. I want to improve their livelihoods and assist them in their fight against poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic issues."

A love for learning is something Ismati is proud to claim, and he encourages the younger generations to not take for granted the education they have worked so hard to receive. He adds that wisdom is the power that enables us to use knowledge for the benefit of ourselves and others.

"A degree isn't just a nice-looking document to hang on the wall," he says. "It's a load of knowledge you have received and now it's your job to transfer it in a most practical and efficient way. Graduating doesn't mean you're finished; rather it is a commitment to another responsibility to transfer the knowledge to others. And that load is heavier than the load of the studies you went through. Don't neglect this responsibility and it will serve you and your fellow man well."

Becky St. Clair is the media communications manager for the Andrews University Division of Integrated Marketing & Communication.

Tariq Ismati, the Deputy Minister for Programs at the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) in Afghanistan, earned a Master of International Development Administration. L-R: President Niels-Erik Andreasen, Tariq Ismati, Dawn Dulhunty, director of the International Development Program

A THREE-GENERATION LEGACY

by Arielle Pickett

For many people, Andrews is an Adventist heritage site—but for me, it’s a personal heritage site too. When I started classes as a freshman at Andrews four years ago, it was the beginning of my college career, yes—but it was also the continuation of a tradition three generations old.

FIRST GENERATION

My grandparents, Norma & Earle Greenidge, and my mother, Jan Pickett, moved from Barbados to the United States in 1962. After living in the Philadelphia area for a number of years, they decided to transition to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan in 1975.

My grandpa took classes in the seminary and my mom attended Andrews Academy. Grandpa took a break from classes and worked at Andrews University Press and then as the principal at Beverly Hills SDA School in Illinois. Later he decided his interest was in the teaching ministry, so he returned to Andrews University where he received his Master of Arts in education in 1986.

About a year after moving to Berrien Springs, my grandma had a desire to go back to school. Someone suggested she take the reference class at James White Library, which was a requirement for students who wanted to work there. She took the class and was hired when she started school full-time. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in behavioral sciences and a minor in library science in 1980 and then continued working full-time at the library while taking free classes. She received her master’s in developmental psychology in 1992 and then her PhD in educational psychology in 2000.

She has seen many graduates move away, but then return when their children were ready for school, or send their young adults back to Andrews. My grandma believes that Berrien Springs is one of the best places to raise a family and the University schools and Andrews can provide them with an excellent education, so she is especially happy that her own family returned and her grandchildren are being educated here.

SECOND GENERATION

My uncle, John Greenidge, has always loved drawing and painting. He spent hours perfect-

ing his artwork and designs. After graduating from Andrews Academy, he wasn’t sure what he wanted his major to be in college. He finally decided to major in what he loved—art. In 1995 he graduated from Andrews University with an associate’s degree in graphic design.

From the time he started high school until he left Berrien Springs my uncle was on the Gymnics team. For many years he also taught the younger kids who were on the team. He enjoyed performing, both with the entire team and his men’s four group. Gymnics had a great impact and influence on his future activities, including coaching gymnastics at Hinsdale Adventist Academy, training cheerleaders at various high schools, and now working as a personal trainer.

My dad, Andrew Pickett, decided to go to Andrews University through the influence of his friends. For financial reasons he went into the military first, right out of high school for four years (1979–1983). He attended Andrews from 1983–1989, graduating with a BA in architecture. He was also a member of Gymnics all through college. He loved the special opportunities and experiences he had, such as traveling to Hawaii and Tobago to perform. “I loved the food!” he remembers. “They always fed us well on the team.”

After graduating from Andrews Academy, my mom decided to continue on to Andrews University. She had been interested in being involved in adoptions since she was young, so she majored in social work. She graduated with a BSW in 1983, took a year off, and then got her master’s in education with an emphasis in community counseling in 1986.

She always knew she wanted her children to attend Andrews because of the excellent education she received and the wonderful memories she had from her time there. So she returned to Berrien Springs in 2011 and enrolled my brother in Andrews Academy.

THIRD GENERATION

I basically grew up around Andrews University. My family and I visited my grandma, who lives very close to the campus, almost every other week. Even though I lived in Illinois, I was a member of PMC Sabbath School. I always liked to be updated and notified about everything that had to do with Andrews. From

the time I was about 6 years old, I would tell everyone that I was going to Andrews University when I was old enough to go to college.

Like my uncle, I loved art from the time I was a kid. Unfortunately, there weren’t any art classes offered at my school. During the last two years of high school, I joined the yearbook staff and enjoyed taking pictures and designing layouts. I graduated from Hinsdale Adventist Academy in 2010 and then excitedly went to Andrews University for college.

My experience at Andrews University was a growing experience and a great blessing. Every day I was met with different challenges and sources of knowledge. The campus is very diverse so I was able to meet and learn about new people. I was extremely shy when I first arrived, but because of the events, my classes, and all the interactive opportunities, I gradually overcame my shyness and started truly enjoying myself with the many friends I made.

Andrews was a home away from home for me, mostly due to the fact that I had family nearby. Almost every other Sabbath, my grandma would open up her home to my friends and me. She would serve up to 20 college students home cooked meals that I grew up eating, and my friends instantly loved it all. Over time, they began addressing her as “Grandma” just as I did—they weren’t just guests anymore. These gatherings encouraged me to be more comfortable and welcoming to people. My family became my friends’ family; my home was their home.

I learned a lot at Andrews, studying under brilliant professors and building my portfolio. There were a lot of tears and stress, but I believe that all of it helped me become a good designer. Every day being in the studio, taking classes, and just spending time around other designers left me so inspired.

Three generations of my family all agree that Andrews University is a great training ground for your future. The faculty and staff are committed to helping you succeed and achieve your goals in a continuing tradition of excellence. Andrews is a great place for you to express yourself and become the great success God wills for you to be.

Newly minted graphic design graduate Arielle Pickett (BFA ’14) is looking for a job in advertising.



Arielle Pickett graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in visual communication/graphic design. Three generations of her family have graduated from Andrews University. **Back row, L–R:** Earle Greenidge, Andrew Pickett, John Greenidge **Front row, L–R:** Jan Pickett, Arielle Pickett, Norma Greenidge

A SIX YEAR RUN

by Iván Ruiz

As we walk up to march into Pioneer Memorial Church at the time of our graduation, someone notices that my dear friend and fellow pseudo-film major Tiffany is out of order and kindly asks her to return to her place, one spot farther away than where she was. She plays it off perfectly, as if she hadn't realized her mistake, and obediently switches places with the person in front of her. We are both devastated. This is our last time seeing each other for a very long time, and after having realized earlier that we were only one person away from sitting next to each other, we had quite intentionally gotten ourselves out of order.

I met Tiffany sometime in two thousand ten or eleven, after I had returned from being a student missionary in Palau. She had just transferred that year from the fashion design program at Parsons, and our groups of friends briefly mixed. One of the few moments we shared that year involved a game of capture the flag, which we played in Riffel Hall, in the dark, on both levels—all of us running half-blind at full speed the entire game. I was partly responsible at one point for Tiffany busting her lip against a wall, as she tried to avoid running into me. After checking to make sure she was okay, I put her in jail.

We didn't run into each other very much after that, for various reasons, until this past year. We were both on AUSA and both working on senior documentary film projects. We spent a lot of nights editing together: talking about our future in film, our goals for our lives, our opinions on all the important trivial things going on, and—occasionally—remembering the past.

I took six years to make it through school, passing through five majors, at least four distinctly different friend groups, three student publication positions, two years off, multiple side projects, a number of student jobs, the famously challenging and rewarding J.N. Andrews Honors Program, and, of course, the yearly year-long winters.

I wondered on those nights at how different every year had been. I remembered the stressful late-nights spent studying for

Western Heritage exams. I remembered the many discussions with best friends about theology that lasted into the early hours of the morning. I remembered the thrill of Jerončić classes. I remembered working on the yearbook, the road trips, the vespers programs, the Sabbath afternoons at the beach, and all the awkward conversations with academic advisors about switching my major—again—and I remembered the spontaneous game nights in Riffel Hall.

Andrews, as I thought of it, could never quite be defined. It was not the same place to any two people, and even to myself it had been different every year. For any of us soon to be alumni, I wondered whether it could be said that we truly shared anything in common, besides a similar setting for widely differing narratives. Because it's the people that make the place, isn't it? And the people keep moving on—they graduate, they transfer, they retire—they continue with their stories, departing from these snowy shores to start different lives with different people in different places. So what does that mean about this place? Can a vision and a legacy live on in an educational institution in perpetuity? Can it truly shape the people who pass through it? Is there anything distinctly different about the Andrews experience versus that of a sister school?

Tiffany and I became good friends as we worked through our films. Though very different, they both touched on the tension that sometimes arises between love and ambition, and as we cut scenes, constantly reviewing and revising and envisioning the endings to them, we wondered at what life would be like on the other side of that Sunday morning in May—how our time at Andrews would end.

And now we are here. After we walk into the church, and stand in our rows, and watch hundreds of friends and classmates and people we've never met walk in, and after various processional, liturgical, pompous and circumstantial proceedings take place, we sit. After a short while, I hear a small commotion, and hold back laughter as Tiffany disruptively crawls over the person in between us to sit down next to me.

We take selfies. We text our friends, sitting in other sections of the crowd. We listen attentively as the speaker uses hashtags as a running metaphor. We weep. We rejoice. And every five minutes one of us leans over to the other and asks, in amazement and disbelief, if we actually made it—if we're actually graduating—if this is how the ending goes.

And then it's over. We are carried outside by the sounds of loud pipes and the smiles of too many familiar faces. In the crowd that spills down the steps and over the lawns we lose each other and find ourselves with family members and dear friends. Pictures are taken, congratulations are given, and slowly the crowd scatters, until there is almost no one left. Numerous goodbyes go unsaid as people are swept away by their families and taken away before any more words can be exchanged.

The campus is left melancholy as I walk with Livvy, my fiancée of three days, to the open-house of one of our dear friends. As I look across the campus mall, I think the story of my time here ended well. I came to this school, seeking knowledge, a Savior, and some chance at shaping the future, and though I don't understand the mechanics of how it happened, I know that Andrews University was a major part of helping me find all those things.

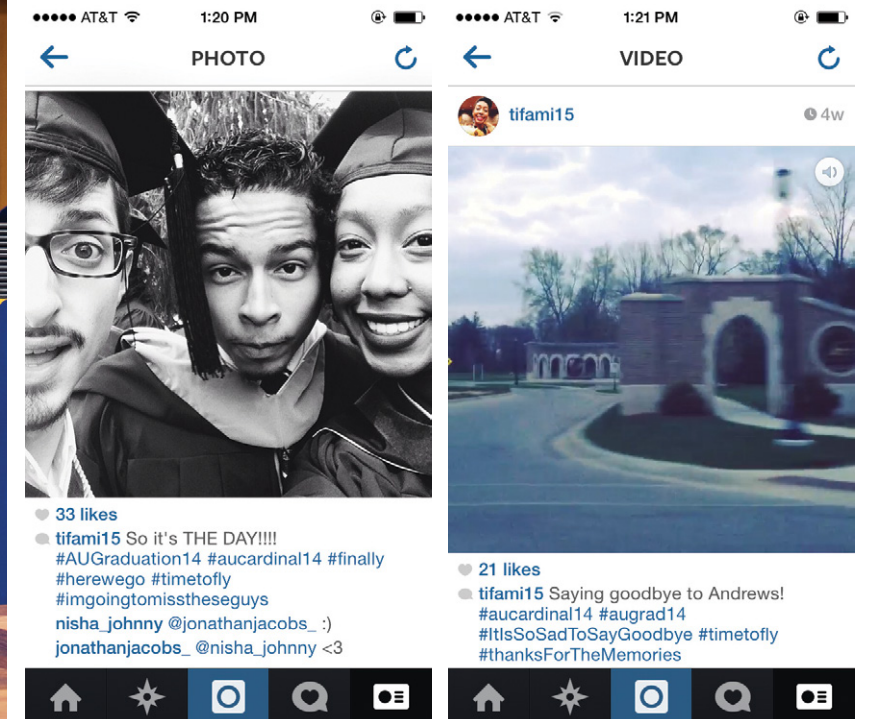
The next few weeks are disorienting. Two days after picking up my diploma cover, I start working full-time in the field that I studied, and begin making wedding plans. I am happy, but I notice the absence of friends more strongly than I have in summers past. For the longest time, Facebook is nothing but a constant feed of people dressed in black, smiling. Instagram becomes a bittersweet stream of last photos and video clips: recently emptied dorm rooms, recently packed cars, and shots of campus in the rear-view mirror. And that is how I find out that Tiffany has left—one long shot of campus passing by, in the early morning, the day after graduation.

We haven't run into each other since.

Iván Ruiz (BFA '14) is a writer with a degree in visual communication, and is currently working at a design studio in Saint Joseph, Michigan.



Iván Ruiz graduated *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in visual communication/graphic design on May 4, 2014. He was a J.N. Andrews Honors Scholar and his project was "Te Amo Mujer." **Left to right:** Iván receives his diploma from President Andreasen, Iván, Jonathan Jacobs and Tiffany Evering celebrate on Instagram, a farewell shot of Andrews University **Bottom:** Iván with his parents, Alfredo and Juanita Ruiz, and his fiancée Olivia Knott





Alumni Homecoming

September 25–28, 2014



Honor Class Reunions

1944, 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1989, 1994, and 2004

Please go online to update your class member information and the missing classmates list.

Highlights of the weekend will include:

- Wes Christiansen Memorial Golf Outing
- Harvest Picnic and Wagon Tours
- Grand Opening of the Andrews Trails
- 5K/10K Run and Fitness Expo
- Homecoming Gala Concert
- ...and much more

Honored Alumni 2014

- Glenn (BA '54, MA '68) and Mary Alice (BA '54, MA '68) Hill
- Dwight Rose (MA '74)
- Samir Serrano (BA '94, BS '94)

Artwork by Angela Canada Hopkins. Learn more about this year's artist on the following page.

For up-to-date information, schedule of events, or to RSVP and access forms, please visit alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming.



ALUMNI HOMECOMING FEATURED ARTIST

Angela Canada Hopkins

Angela Canada Hopkins was born and raised in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Between 1997 and 2001 Angela earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Andrews University.

In 2003, Angela and her husband James moved to Chicago, Illinois. She worked as a florist and product designer while James attended law school. She also continued focusing on fine art by exhibiting in galleries and alternative spaces while she lived in Chicago. After losing her father to cancer in her last year of art school, the bittersweet and therapeutic irony began to spill out onto the canvas. She visually deconstructs the cancer cell and re-builds them with a vibrant triumphant message of hope.

In 2006, after tiring of the anonymity and loneliness of a metropolis, Angela and James settled in Loveland, Colorado. This change created the opportunity for Angela to focus solely on fine art.

She currently is dedicated full-time to creating new works of art in her downtown studio. View more of her work at CanadaHopkins.com.



Note on this commissioned work: Unlike much of her work, the organic cell-like shapes are not “cancer cells.” The artist is building on past work and has referenced the broad spectrum of the micro-cosmic world.

1960s

Ervin K. Thomsen (BA '64, MA '66, BD '67, DMin '77) served for more than 40 years as a pastor of churches in Michigan, Arizona, California and Texas. He has specialized in the study of the book of Revelation as the revelation of Jesus Christ. He is best known for his “Victory Over the Beast” seminars, with their intensively practical applications, taught in churches and conventions in the United States, New Zealand and Denmark. His most recent book, *Identity Protection, The Supremacy of God's Firewall*, exposes the damages of spiritual identity theft in our lives. It is available on amazon.com or Kindle.

Don Siewert (BA '66) celebrated his 89th birthday on May 11, 2014. He pastored a number of years in the Michigan Conference and served as an interim pastor for 22 Michigan congregations after retirement. Failing eyesight prevented him from continuing to work. He and his wife, **Myrtle** (att.) will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary on July 30, 2014. They have two grown children, Susan and Richard. They lost another son, John, in November 2013. They have five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Don and Myrtle are now living in Moberly, Missouri to be near their son Richard.

1970s

Rex D. Edwards (MA '71, MDiv '74) recently published two books through the Review and Herald Publishing Association. *Every Believer the Church* is a sequel to *Every Believer a Minister* (published in 1979). This sequel unveils a comprehensive, biblically centered and relevant model of the church and differentiates between what is permanent and essential from what is historically conditioned. *Paul's Journey from Tarsus to Rome: To Live is Christ* is a dramatic portrayal of seven major events in the life of the apostle whose ministry bridged different continents. This journey links the theological challenges facing the first century church with the practical issues confronting contemporary Christians. Edwards earned a doctoral degree from Vanderbilt University. His ministry spans 56 years on three continents. He has served as a pastor, evangelist, college professor, church administrator (including 18 years in the General Conference Ministerial Department and eight years as vice president of religious studies for Griggs University), and recently volunteer research assistant at the GC Biblical Research Institute.

1980s

Tracy Weakly (BA '88), lives in McMinnville, Oregon, and recently published a book through TEACH Services, Inc., titled *The Mission Through God's Eyes*. Tracy holds a bachelor's degree in English and education from Andrews University and a master's degree in special education from the University of Oregon. The mother of three children, she teaches in an Adventist elementary school in Oregon. She is also a musician and an artist.

James Merrills (BA '85, MDiv '94) recently self-published a book titled *Victory in Christ: A Christ-Centered Approach to the Four Horsemen*. Written especially for the non-Adventist student of Revelation, it has been endorsed by Jon Paulien and Richard Davidson. For further information visit www.4horsemenofrevelation.com. James is currently a national school speaker on prevention.

1990s

Joel Avery (BArch '92), has been involved with NOMA (The National Organization of Minority Architects) for more than 12 years. He served as president of the Philadelphia chapter at the turn of the millennium and has spoken at their numerous conferences around the country on more than ten separate



The Siewert Family



The Hamann Family



The Engelmann Family



Kathlyn & Stephen Mayer

occasions. He has been asked to be the chairperson for the 2014 conference in Philadelphia, Oct. 1–5, 2014. At a typical conference there are anywhere from 350 to 500 students and professionals from around the country that gather for CEUs, a student design competition, great presentations, fellowship with other designers, and a community service project. The theme for this year's conference is "For the Love of It" focusing on the passion that drives individuals in the profession of architecture. During the course of planning, Joel's seminar sub-committee saw an opportunity to focus on an aspect that is rarely addressed in any of the current architecture-related conferences: personal faith and architecture. Part of this was spurred by the involvement in last year's conference by EMI (<http://emiworld.org>). Their exhibition on Christians in Architecture was very well received and actually helped shape the theme for this year's conference. Joel is working with the Andrews University School of Architecture, Art & Design on the possibility of them presenting at this fall's conference.

Arthur Hamann (MA '91) lives in Beloit, Wisconsin and is in his 18th year of teaching special education social studies classes to at-risk kids at The Dolan Education Center in Durand, Illinois. In addition to teaching, he enjoys Bible study, coin collecting with his son Stephen, gardening and biking. His wife Madeline has worked for 14 years as a registered nurse at Beloit Memorial Hospital in Beloit, Wisconsin. She also homeschools their children Ysabella and Stephen, and is studying to be a nurse practitioner. Ysabella is 11 years old and enjoys reading and her school-work, and playing piano and violin. She is very active in the Monroe Trailblazers Pathfinder Club and recently participated in the NAD Bible Experience Finals in Takoma Park, Maryland, where her team placed first for the second year in a row. II Samuel was this year's Bible book of study. Stephen is 8 years old and loves learning at his homeschool too. He enjoys biking and playing outside, and loves doing yard work as well as having a garden plot of his own. Stephen plays the piano, violin and cello. He uses his talents often during worship service at church. The family enjoys visiting Andrews every now and then. They came this March for round three of the Lake Union finals of the Bible Experience, and they'll be visiting again in July for meetings about 1888 and Righteousness by Faith.

2000s

Wendy and **Marc Engelmann** (MAYM '05) are happy to announce the birth of their second son, Caleb Leonardo Engelmann, born on Oct 3, 2013. Marc is still enjoying the work of a youth director in the Baden-Wuerttemberg Conference in Germany.

2010s

Kathlyn (Bearce) Mayer (BSELED '14) and **Stephen Mayer** (BS '10) are happy to announce that they were married on Dec. 22, 2013 at the Andrews University Seminary Chapel. They currently reside in Chicago, Illinois.

Regional events



1 Nashville, Tennessee

Monday, March 31, 2014

Alumni and friends met at the Old Spaghetti Factory, a new location for us this year in Nashville. Guests enjoyed catching up with each other and sharing their favorite Andrews experience/story. Local alumnus and former administrator **Bill Richardson** (BA '59, MA '60, MDiv '70, PhD '83) offered prayer for our group, and Audrey Castelbuono (BS '78), **Tami Condon** (BS '91, MA '13), and **Hebe Soares** (att.) shared updates and news from campus. Pictured are **Tara McGee** (BS '06) and **Monique Cadet** (BS '05).

2 Chattanooga, Tennessee

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Approximately 120 alumni and friends joined us at the Residence Inn and Conference Center. We enjoyed this new venue this year, where we served a vegetarian buffet dinner in their lovely new banquet room. Local alumnus



4 Centerville, Ohio

Sunday, April 13, 2014

Nearly 40 guests joined us at The Golf Club at Yankee Trace for a lovely Sunday brunch. Local alumnus and President's Council member **Dan Hoteling** (BBA '84) shared exciting news on the progress of the Wellness initiative at Andrews. Audrey Castelbuono, David Faehner, **John Hilderbrandt** (BS '79), and **Andriy Kharkovyy** (BA '06, MBA '09) helped host guests.

Graduation Ceremonies

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Tami Condon, director of Alumni Services, welcomed three new groups of graduates to membership in the Alumni Association. Each graduate also received a leather portfolio as they marched out of Pioneer Memorial Church.

Alumni calendar of events

For more information visit us online at www.andrews.edu/alumni/ or contact the Office of Alumni Services at 269-471-3591 or alumni@andrews.edu.

June

- 14

Indiana Camp Meeting Event
5 p.m.
Indiana Academy
Cicero, Indiana
- 21

Lake Region Camp Meeting Event
5 p.m.
Camp Wagner
Cassopolis, Michigan
- 21

Michigan Camp Meeting Event
5 p.m.
Fellowship Hall, Cedar Lake Church
Cedar Lake, Michigan
- 28

Wisconsin Camp Meeting Event
5 p.m.
Andrews University cabin
Camp Wakonda, Westfield, Wisconsin
- 28

Southern New England Camp Meeting Event
5:30 p.m.
SNE Campground
South Lancaster, Massachusetts

July

- 5

Northern New England Camp Meeting Event
2:30 p.m.
Pine Tree Academy
Freeport, Maine
- 13

Michigan Regional Event
1 p.m.
Bucca di Beppo, the Cardinal Room
38888 Six Mile Rd, Livonia, Michigan
- 25

Illinois Camp Meeting Event
5 p.m.
Camp Akita
1684 Knox Rd, 1200 N, Gilson, Illinois

August

- 2

Michigan Upper Peninsula Camp Meeting Event
Immediately following lunch
Camp Sagola
Crystal Falls, Michigan

- 3

Combined Commencement Service
9 a.m.
Pioneer Memorial Church
Andrews University
Berrien Springs, Michigan
- 7

ASI/Michigan Regional Event
5 p.m.
DeVoss Place Convention Center
1303 Monroe Ave NW
Grand Rapids, Michigan
We look forward to meeting with local alumni and those who will be attending the ASI Conference. More information will be available at the Andrews University booth for conference attendees.

September

- 25–28

Homecoming Weekend
See page 26 for details.

Please Note: Locations and times are subject to change. As the date of the event you're interested in gets closer, be sure to double-check the alumni website or call the office for updates.

Deaths

Bob Garner (att.), 68, died on Wednesday, May 15, 2014, in his home in Martinsville, Ohio, following a courageous battle with cancer.

After graduating from Mount Vernon Academy in 1963, Bob attended Andrews University from 1964–67. He went on to earn a PhD in psychology and initially began his career as a school psychologist in Ohio, working with mentally challenged children. After a number of years, Bob moved to Alaska, working in the same capacity. Following a couple of years in Alaska, Bob returned to Ohio to be near his ailing parents. From 1986 until his retirement in 2009, Bob worked with mentally challenged adults.

He is survived by his brother, James, of Oregon and his adopted son who lives in Florida.

Erlinda Rugless (BS '76) died on April 26, 2014, after a 15-month battle with cancer. She was 64.

Erlinda was born in Kingston, Jamaica on Nov. 28, 1949 to parents Earl Jennings Parchment and Linda Beatrice (Myers) Parchment, the second of four children.

As a child, she lived in Barbados, Trinidad, British Guyana and Jamaica, before the family moved to Ontario, Canada in 1966. In Canada, Erlinda studied at Kingsway College, and then graduated from the Branson School of Nursing in Toronto in 1971. In 1974 she completed a Bachelor of Science in nursing at Andrews University. She worked for a number of years at Branson Hospital in Toronto, serving in many hospital departments, including intensive care, cardiac care, geriatrics and psychology.

In 1976 she moved to Man-deville, Jamaica, where she served for five years as director of Health Services at West Indies

College, as well as teaching in the Nursing Department. Under her leadership, Health Services expanded its treatment options.

While she was teaching at West Indies College, Erlinda met **Oswald (Oz) Rugless** (BA '73 MA '75). They were married on April 15, 1981, and moved to Takoma Park, Maryland in July of that year for Oz to teach computer programming and analysis and Erlinda to work at Washington Adventist Hospital. In 1989, in response to the failing health of parents on both sides, they moved to the Orlando area so they could more closely care for them. Erlinda worked as a nurse at Florida Hospital, Sunbelt Health & Rehabilitation Center, and various other agencies. Erlinda enjoyed gardening, spending time with people, and visiting family and friends in Jamaica. She knitted scarves and blankets for soldiers, and was actively involved in her church.

Erlinda is survived by her husband Oz Rugless, brothers **Orville** (MDiv '73) (**Norma Jean**, att.) and **Anthony** (att.) (**Joy**, BS '78) **Parchment** and Anthony Parchment, sister Avonie Parchment, a large extended family, and many friends.

Hector Guillermo Lopez Gittens (MSA '95) passed away unexpectedly April 8, 2014.

He was born in Venezuela on Sept. 23, 1960, to the late Hector Lopez and Adriana Amelia Gittens de Lopez. In 1980, Hector moved to the U.S. He married the love of his life, Karen Holtberg de Lopez, on August 1, 1982. They were the perfect couple, always complimenting one another, and always by each other's side.

He graduated from Indiana State University with a Bachelor of Electronics Technology and a Master of Science Administration in engineering from Andrews University. He was a division

manager/engineer at I/N TEK I/N KOTE for more than 24 years.

Hector was a wonderful husband and father. Family was the first priority in his life. He was very intelligent and wanted to make a good life for his family and lead a good example to his sons. He was kind, funny and generous.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Holtberg de Lopez, along with their two sons, Dr. Joel Lopez and Miguel Lopez. A brother, Jorge Enrique (Leomeris) Lopez Gittens, also survives.

Karon Schwartz (MS '90) of Centreville, Michigan, 70, passed away April 8, 2014, at her home.

Karon was born in Muskegon, Michigan, on Nov. 10, 1943, a daughter of Samuel and Jewel (Zeckzer) Stitt. On Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23, 1972, she married James A. Schwartz in Goshen, Indiana.

Karon graduated from Mt. Carmel High School in Vancleve, Kentucky, in 1961. She continued her education at Kentucky Mountain Bible College in Vancleve, receiving an associate's degree in religion in 1964. Karon later attended Goshen College receiving her bachelor's degree in sociology in 1971. She then pursued the nursing profession, receiving a master's in nursing from Andrews University in 1990 and a PhD in nursing from Wayne State University in 2002.

Karon began her career as nursing instructor at Glen Oaks Community College serving from 1990 to 1997 and at Western Michigan University from 1990 to 2001. She has held the title of graduate program nursing director at Bethel College since 2005 and served as dean of nursing from 2008 to 2010. Karon has also served as a nurse at Three Rivers Health since 1997 and was active in the hospice program from 1989 to 2001.

Surviving are her husband James A. Schwartz; sons James (Kelly) Schwartz Jr. and their children Leonard and Joel; TJ (Tracy) Schwartz and their children Colton and Dakota; sisters Nancy Miller, Leah (Robert) Antoniewicz and Esther (George) Davis; brothers James (Olivia) Stitt, Ronald (Pauline) Stitt, Terry (Shirley) Stitt, Bert (Linda) Stitt, Sam (Peggy) Stitt III and Michael (Chris) Stitt; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Gloria Spence (BS '76), age 79, passed away on April 3, 2014, in Sebring, Florida.

She was born the first child of Cyril George and Enid Levy on October 24, 1934, in the district of Russells, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica W.I. Early education began at the Primary School and ended at age 13 when the required eight years of elementary education ended. Additional studies after school hours ended when she received a three-year scholarship to the Shortwood Teacher Training College in Kingston Jamaica.

Three years later in December of 1956 came graduation day when college was over and the work world became a reality. One year was spent in Kellitts as a release teacher for the headmaster U.C. Wolfe who was president of the Jamaica Union of Teachers. Her next teaching position was Port Maria primary in St. Mary, for one year and four months.

Marriage to **D.O. Spence** (MA '72) took place in April 1959 in Kingston, Jamaica. A year later on May 19 their son Richard was born. Teaching jobs in Bogue St. Elizabeth and Balaclava spanned the years until 1962 when her husband was transferred to Hanover. They lived in Montego Bay where she taught at Bogue Hill School and later on at the Girls School in Montego Bay.

Who are alumni?

If you've attended, worked or taught at Andrews University we consider you alumni! And if you're a parent or a potential student considering Andrews, you're invited to be our honored guest at any of the above alumni gatherings.



L–R: Brendon Gelford (BS '86), Stefi (Hulin) Affron (BS '01), Tristan Hamilton (BArch '01), Rachael (Unutoa) Silafau (BSW '01, MSW '03), Maria Matthews (MMus '81)

Would you be interested in serving as a local host for an alumni gathering? Or maybe you'd be willing to sponsor an event in your area? How about serving on our Alumni Board of Directors? Connecting with students as a mentor? We'd love to hear from you! Email alumni@andrews.edu or call 269-471-3591.

Gary Gene Land (former faculty) was born as Gary Gene Booth in San Francisco, California, on August 22, 1944 to Elliott Booth, a longshoreman and Navy veteran, and Virginia May (Bradley) Booth, a nurse. After the couple divorced, Gary lived briefly with his father and stepmother until they too separated. Then for a short time he lived with his Aunt Bernice and Uncle Bo. By age 3 he had been sent to live with his mother's sister, Barbara Pennington, and her husband who lived in Riverside, California. But when they decided to place him in an orphanage, his Uncle Bob Bradley and Aunt Audrey, Seventh-day Adventists of Napa, adopted him and sent him to kindergarten as Gary Bradley. Within a couple of years, however, as their family grew, they sent Gary to live with Audrey's father and stepmother, Aubrey and Thelma (Gillespie) Land, Seventh-day Adventists who lived nearby. When their marriage ended a few years later, Gary stayed with Thelma, becoming Gary Land.

Gary attended school at Napa Junior Academy and in 1962 graduated from Monterey Bay Academy. From 1962–66 he attended Pacific Union College where Walter Utt inspired in him a love of history. In 1966 he received his BA in history at PUC. He then attended the University of California at Santa Barbara where he earned an MA in history in 1967 and a PhD in history in 1973, specializing in American intellectual and cultural history.

In 1970, he joined the Department of History & Political Science at Andrews University where he would teach two generations



of students over the next 40 years, 22 of them as chair of the department. On August 19, 1973, Gary married Edith Marie Stone, and together they had two children: Jeffery Alexander, born Oct. 14, 1978, and Jessamyn Elizabeth, born March 1, 1981.

During his academic career, Land was a prolific scholar, authoring eight books and contributing to 137 other books and publications on Adventist, American and baseball history. His articles appeared in the *Journal of Adventist Education*, *College and University Dialogue*, *Spectrum*, *Adventist Heritage*, *The American Historical Review*, among many others.

He also served as a graduate programs

director and assistant dean in the College of Arts & Sciences. Andrews University bestowed on him its prestigious J.N. Andrews Medallion and the Researcher of the Year Award for his outstanding contributions to the University. Active in community service, Gary was a member of the Berrien County Historical Association's Board of Directors; a children's Sabbath school director and teacher at Pioneer Memorial Church; a member of the *Spectrum* editorial board; and served on the organizing committee for the Ellen White Project.

Gary retired in 2010 as emeritus professor of history and spent the next four years battling intestinal cancer with chemotherapy, radiation and acupuncture. During 2013–14, he had the satisfaction of completing his last three books: a biography of Uriah Smith (forthcoming with the Review and Herald Publishing Association), a greatly expanded second edition of his *Dictionary of Seventh-day Adventists*, and the coedited *Ellen Harmon White: American Prophet* (with Oxford University Press).

Gary passed to his rest at the St. Joseph Medical Center in Mishawaka, Indiana, on Sabbath afternoon, April 26, 2014.

He is survived by his wife Edie, his daughter Jessamyn of Hollywood, California and his son and daughter-in-law, Jeffery and Cassandra Land of Seattle, Washington. He will always be remembered as one who held a deep love of baseball, music, books, stamp collecting, model building, and thought-provoking conversations with good friends.

The year 1968 brought new change, her husband returned to West Indies College for a Bachelor of Theology. In July of 1970 they left Jamaica for the United States and Seattle, Washington, where they lived until September 1971 when they moved to Berrien Springs so he could get a master's degree. She also returned to school at Andrews University, earning a Bachelor of Science in education and later a master's degree from Michigan State University. For 24½ years she worked with Benton

Harbor Area Schools, first as a paraprofessional, then later as a classroom teacher. Retirement from the school system came in June of 1997 with the hope of seeing some other parts of this great wide world.

Roberta M. "Bertie" Foster (BA '50) of Dayton, Ohio, died on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014, at the age of 86.

Roberta graduated from Emmanuel Missionary College in Michigan and Loma Linda University School of Medical

Technology in California. She was a founding member of the Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church and Kettering Medical Center. Roberta implemented the chemistry department at the hospital and retired from the hospital after 29 years of service. She was a lifetime member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church where she was involved in many activities.

She enjoyed photography, bird watching, golfing and traveling. She was a devoted sister-in-law, aunt and great friend to many

and will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by one sister-in-law, Maxine Foster; three nephews, Larry (Susan) Foster, Gary (Pattijo) Slabach and Kenny Slabach; two nieces, Paula (Edward) Lamb and Debra (Harvey) Gryttenholm. Roberta is preceded in death by her parents, Arvilla (nee Wheaton) and Harry Foster; her beloved twin brother, Robert Foster; and sister, Betty Slabach.

John D. Welch (Honorary DFA '97), 85, died on Jan. 26, 2014, in White Rock, British Columbia, Canada.

John was born on June 27, 1928, in Portsmouth, England, the only child of Harold and Margaret Welch.

In 1946 he graduated from the Department of Architecture at the Southern College of Art in Portsmouth, and in 1949 graduated from the Architectural Association School in London, receiving membership as an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

From 1949–1959 he worked in private architectural firms and lectured part-time, then moved to Kumasi, Ghana, to work as a professor at the University of Science and Technology, where he stayed until 1966.

In 1966 he moved to Manitoba, Canada, to teach architecture at the University of Winnipeg,

where he would stay until his retirement in 1998 at age 70.

During his career, John received many awards and guest lectureships, directed or consulted on multiple government and private building projects, and served on numerous committees, notably as founding director of the Solar Energy Society of Canada.

He received an honorary Doctor of Arts from Andrews University in 1997. John remained active in his retirement, designing and renovating his personal residence and several church and school projects, and traveling to Alaska, Hawaii, Panama, South America and Antarctica.

John is survived by his beloved wife Shirley Essery, who he married on July 29, 1956 in Watford England. He is also survived by their four children—Kevin, **Michael** (att.), Karen and

Claire—and five grandchildren.

John C. Keppel (former staff), 94, passed away on Jan. 22, 2014, at Century Villa Health Care and Rehabilitation. He was born April 3, 1919, in Chester, Pennsylvania, to the late Francis and Theodora (Winkler) Keppel. On Nov. 25, 1945, he married Frances (Bullock) Keppel.

John served in the United States Navy. He retired in 1984 after 20 years of service from Andrews University as an electrician. After retirement, he was a member of Maranatha Volunteers for 15-plus years, building churches and schools. He participated in numerous projects in the United States and other countries including Mexico, Haiti, Venezuela, India, Guatemala, Jamaica and many more, where he was able to put his talent as an electrician to use.

His faith was very important to him. He served as deacon at various Seventh-day Adventist churches he belonged to over the course of his lifetime. At the time of his death, he was a member of the Cicero Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Surviving are two sons, John Charles Keppel Jr. and Lowell Joseph Keppel; two daughters and a son-in-law, **Vicki Vonderahe** (BS '77) and Gale C. Keppel and husband, George Devine. Also surviving are four grandchildren, Matthew K. Allred, Michael Thompson, Aaron Keppel, Rachel Rowley, and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one grandson, Sean Allred; and one sister. His wife Frances B. Keppel followed him in death on Feb. 7, 2014, at the age of 87.



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Sharing God's Love in Tamale, Ghana

On October 1, 2013, my husband, Morris, and I traveled from Huntsville, Alabama, to Tamale, a predominantly Muslim city in northern Ghana, West Africa, on our mission of global outreach. We teamed up with 25 Maranatha volunteers to build a 12-classroom elementary school and to conduct Vacation Bible Schools and outreach ministries.

We arrived safely at the hotel where we would spend two weeks in the mission of sharing God's love. Excited volunteers from across the United States and Canada boarded the bus for the construction site. Upon arrival, local workers were busy preparing slabs and putting together materials for the classrooms. The construction supervisor presented an overview of the project, and volunteers enthusiastically began their mission of building classrooms. I was deeply impressed by the energy and knowledge with which they tackled the assignment.

Volunteers worked extremely hard. Some carried materials from the storage building to the construction site using their heads, shoulders or hands; set up metal frames, raised metal siding, installed windows and assembled desks and benches, etc. It was strenuous manual labor carrying sheets of metal siding in extremely high temperatures, but the inspiration we felt gave us the stamina to endure. Most importantly, God was with us, and that made the difference.

Our first Sabbath was spent in a village a far distance from our hotel. Roads were covered with water-filled potholes making for a bumpy ride on the bus; however, we enjoyed the scenic views. Church members welcomed us, and we joined them for outdoor worship under tall stately trees and white fluffy clouds cascading the bright blue skies. This lovely outdoor natural setting gave a feeling of closeness to heaven.

Following divine worship and lunch, volunteers distributed clothes, shoes, books, crayons, balloons, etc. to the children. Afterwards we walked to the village to meet the chief and to request permission to distribute rice and beans. He and his representatives were pleased to learn of the work of Maranatha volunteers and happily granted permission. An exhilarating moment was watching



Morris and Shirley Iheanacho in front of a new classroom built by Maranatha volunteers

the faces of women and children light up with joy as they received gifts.

We learned from one of the pastors that the greatest need of his church was seating accommodations for his new membership, which had grown from 25 to 75 after a recent evangelistic campaign. We provided funds to purchase new benches.

Let me share two episodes of God's intervention and awesome power during this mission trip. The first occurred when, midway through the construction, Ron Kedas, the Maranatha support leader, received word that

“So often in our frail human nature, we tend to forget that He is a limitless God who specializes in impossibilities.”

one of the chiefs in another village was planning to stop the construction of the school. This created deep concern. He requested that volunteers pray earnestly about this unexpected challenge.

Church administrators and volunteers accompanied him to the chief's headquarters. He explained the purpose of the project and presented a compelling appeal for permis-

by Shirley C. (Howell) Iheanacho

sion to complete the classrooms. The chief was on pilgrimage to Mecca; however, one of his representatives spoke highly of Adventist education and shared that his children had attended Adventist schools and he was pleased with their education. The men were impressed with the work of Maranatha volunteers and granted permission to continue the project. We were delighted!

The night prior to our last day of work, a heavy downpour of rain flooded the construction site, leaving water and red mud everywhere. It seemed impossible to complete the project; but the spirited enthusiasm of the volunteers was undaunted. They worked feverishly to drain off the water, determined to complete the project come rain, sun or mud. Through it all, their faith and trust in God remained intact. Amazingly, later the sun dried up the water, and we were able to accomplish our mission. It was marvelous to watch God do His thing. So often in our frail human nature, we tend to forget that He is a limitless God who specializes in impossibilities.

In addition to building classrooms, female volunteers conducted outreach ministries and Vacation Bible Schools in four villages. Hundreds of children with bright eyes and beautiful smiles were blessed to hear Bible stories, sing, and make interesting crafts. Another highlight of our mission trip was the dedicatory service. Workers and volunteers gathered together in a candlelit classroom where we sang, shared testimonies, prayed, and rededicated ourselves to continue to make a difference for God's kingdom.

According to Pastor Fred Agyeibaah, “Because of the work of Maranatha Volunteers, we now have our own school, owned and operated by Seventh-day Adventists; and we can choose our own Adventist teachers to teach our children.” Pastor Phil Aboungo wrote: “We can never

forget you and your team in Tamale. It made such an impact that the community still makes comments about it.” We give profound gratitude to our great God for the opportunity to share His love!

Shirley C. (Howell) Iheanacho (BA '68), was a Maranatha volunteer to Tamale, Ghana.

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Photo by Darren Heslop, IMC staff photographer

W. Richard Leshner, president of Andrews University from 1984–1994, and his wife Veda were honored at a farewell reception held outside the Office of the President on Thursday, May 8. They are moving, along with their daughter Eileen, to Loma Linda, California. Many came by to wish them the best and thank them for their service to the University and broader Andrews community.