

# Upper Columbia Conference Education Newsletter

Upper Columbia Conference

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## SVAS Students in Action!

Students in **Mr. Logan's** 5th and 6th grade class at **Spokane Valley Adventist School** have actively participated in the Spokane Valley Adventist Church reaping series. Students studied the book of Daniel, highlighted any information they thought they should feature and wrote four skits. The students presented the skits to six-eight year-old children whose parents were attending the evangelistic series.

The first skit was a modern-day Daniel. Students wrote and illustrated a story and then shared it with the kids.

The second was an interview done by a reporter from the Babylon Times. Mr. Logan, the reporter, interviewed the

characters from the Fiery Furnace.

The third was a modern-day skit of Daniel and his friends refusing to eat the king's diet.

The fourth and last skit was Daniel in the Lion's Den.

There were only six actors, so each student had a major character to play. The students learned research, writing, speaking and presentation skills.

Parents who observed their children performing, actively lauded their efforts.

The students were thrilled with this opportunity.



## Pastor Enoc Marquez & Grandview Students Plan Second Evangelistic Effort

Last January, students from Grandview Adventist School, under the direction of Pastor Enoc Marquez, prepared sermons for an evangelistic effort at Grandview Adventist Church. "The students did it all," said teacher **Sandy Olson**. "They preached, provided music and everything that goes

into an evangelistic series. They filled the church every night!" Students preached in Spanish, with an English translator, also a student. Some students preached in English while another student translated into Spanish. At the end of the series there were 10 baptisms, three children and seven adults. Pastor Marquez and Grandview

students are planning and training for another evangelistic effort this January.



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*A smile  
Is the light  
in the window  
of our faces  
that tell people  
we're home.*

# Students at Rogers Adventist School Making a Difference

“Okay, you want cows in Tajikistan or potatoes in Peru?” The student-led microfinance committee is hard at work. Today they have \$214 to invest in small businesses within developing countries.

“I think we should go with the clothing sales in Rwanda,” says Jon, “Look, the guy’s got eight kids. We could help him expand his business so he can earn money for food and school supplies.”

The students make one decision after another as they invest in real people around the planet. They read many business proposals and consider the risk factors for various countries. If war breaks out, or a tsunami hits, they may not get their money back. “I’m okay with taking some risks,” says Chad. “After all, it’s money we’re donating.”

“Yes,” says Jon, “it’s like an offering that keeps coming back to us, and if some of it doesn’t... well, that’s okay.”

Students at Rogers Adventist School began lending through [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org) last April. Each Friday students and teachers donate a few dollars toward the Kiva fund. The big boost came when the graduating class

of 2009 contributed \$250 of their class fundraising. So far the students have lent \$550. No entrepreneur has defaulted on a loan, so as loans are paid off, Rogers students reinvest the money thereby helping more small-businesspeople to support their families.

In addition to that, students manage their own lending portfolio and begin to understand how microfinance works. They team with other lenders in developed nations to fund projects too large for Rogers to shoulder. “This is not a simulation,” says Principal **Jim Weller**. “It’s a great, real-life experience.”

“What I like about this investment project is that our students know they are involved in lives around the globe,” says Weller, “and they get to see what challenges people face in countries they’ve never heard of.”



**Rogers students helped Norman Duhaylungsod expand his general store in the Philippines.**

## Where in the world are we helping?



**The students’ 12 Kiva projects are spread around the world.**

Our intention is to instill a habit of personal involvement for the sake of God’s bigger family.”

**Rogers Adventist School**

“Kindness is a language the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

# Upper Columbia Schools Plan Spring Mission Trips

## Palisades Christian Academy:

Ninth and tenth-grade students from **PSA**, headed by **Mrs. Ruth Lenz**, are going to Chiapas, Mexico, the southern most state of Mexico, March 17-30, 2010.

“We are going to build a church, do

Vacation Bible School and conduct a student-led evangelistic series using the “Preach-It” Honor developed by UCC Pathfinders Director, Wayne Hicks,” says Mrs. Lenz. Students will be preaching under the direction of Myron Iseminger, UCC Treasurer.

## Cascade Christian Academy:

Pending K-12 approval, CCA will be doing their mission trip stateside in New Orleans,

March 19-27. John Solomon and his high school students are partnering with **Beacon of Hope Resource Center**, [www.lakewoodbeacon.org](http://www.lakewoodbeacon.org), to work with homeowners with painting, landscaping, minor demolition, clearing overgrown properties, and rebuilding. They will be working in 21 neighborhoods in the city of New Orleans. Ministry and outreach will be done on Sabbath and some week evenings. Details are being worked out with area Adventist churches and other

# Cascade Christian Academy Makes a Big Impact With Community Service

The high school students from Cascade Christian Academy have adopted the neighborhood Rotary Park as a regular service project. On September 18 they stormed the park for 90 minutes, raking leaves, picking up trash and using soap and water to clean picnic tables and the play area. City staff also helped with the cleanup.

When interviewed by Wenatchee World features editor, Marco Martinez, John Solomon, career counselor for CCA, said the work is “part of a big picture we have at our school. Our theme this year is to make a difference in our immediate community.

One question we’ve asked students is ‘If Cascade Christian closed its doors, would anyone notice we were gone from the community?’ ”

Marco Martinez observed that seniors living in the mobile home park across from the school would definitely notice if the school went away, because there wouldn’t be anymore freshly-baked cookies delivered to their doors. Students delivered cookies to the seniors on September 18 as part of their community service day.



## SVAS Bell Choir

Spokane Valley Adventist School Bell Choir, directed by **Marilyn Jorgensen**, played for the Spokane Valley Newcomers Luncheon and Auction. This annual event raises money for charities. This year's auction was for Meals on Wheels and Valley Partners. The bells provided entertainment for the luncheon. They impressed the audience so much that they got an immediate request to play at the Davenport Hotel at Christmas.

**Terry Lee**, Principal SVAS



## Lessons From Ruth

Week of Prayer at Spokane Valley Adventist School was presented by **Christina Soule**, intern, from the UCC Youth Dept. The theme of the week was “Lessons We Can Learn from the Story of Ruth.” Students learned the importance of:

- Passion
- Commitment
- Perseverance
- Faith

- Service
- They also learned that God has a plan for their lives. Jer. 29:11. “The ultimate goal is service to others.” stated Soule.

**Right: Youth Department intern, Christina Soule, speaks with students from grades 3 - 4 at Spokane Valley Adventist School**



## UCC Mission Trips Continued From Page 2

mission-oriented organizations.

### Upper Columbia Academy

- Peru, March 17-27, 2010
- Namu - Marshall Islands, March 14-28, 2010.
- Fiji, March 14-28, 2010
- Borneo, March 14-28, 2010

### Tri-City Jr. Academy

Tesopaco, Mexico, March 17-30, 2010, under the direction of **Principal Anthony Oucharek**. They will be working at a school on dorms and other needed projects.

## Beacon Students Report on Women's Suffrage Movement

The seventh and eighth grade American history class recently completed projects on the women's suffrage movement during the mid - 1800's and early - 1900's, culminating in 1920 with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which stated:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Richard Rasmussen



Left:  
Actors Ronni Sue and Coleman recreate the roles of women suffragist leaders Rose Winslow and Alice Paul.

## Yakima Apple Juice Fundraiser



**YACS** ninth and tenth-grade students completed another successful apple juice fundraiser. Growers donated six bins of apples; two bins red delicious, two bins golden delicious, and two bins of Fuji apples, approximately 6,000 apples in all.

**Rick & Linda Sloop** allowed students to use their workspace and apple press. Students processed the apples, heated the juice to 165 degrees, and bottled the juice. The school purchased the bottles.

Students made 230 gallons and, as of press time, have sold all but 25 gallons. These funds will be used for the NW history-science trip this year.

Teacher, **Mr. Delmar Wolfkill**, would like to thank the adult volunteers who made this possible: Rick & Linda Sloop, Todd & Patty Titus, Pastor Chris Loewen, and Gayla Newland.



## Beacon Christian School - American History for 500

The seventh-eighth grade social studies class played an interactive version of the popular TV game show "Jeopardy" as a fun way to review the chapter being studied before the test.

I created an interactive game board using Microsoft PowerPoint and had it displayed on the projection screen using a video projector. Seven contestants used electronic scoring devices to buzz in when they had

formed their answers in the form of a question, so we could determine who came up with the answer first, just like in Jeopardy. The game had authentic Jeopardy music sound effects and two Daily Doubles. The Final Jeopardy round was won by Mason Parks; Coleman Dietrich came in second.

- **Richard Rasmussen**



## YACS Finds Great Fundraiser

**Mrs. Bailey**, administrative assistant for Mr. Frey has found an easy fundraiser for Yakima Adventist Christian School. Partner with Amazon.com to raise money for your school. Join the Amazon Associate Program. "It was easy," said **Mrs. Bailey**, YACS secretary, "We became an Amazon Associate. We had to fill out a little questionnaire and they gave us an icon that links to their Web site. They have nice little icon things and you can link to teacher's wish list from the classrooms."

The return for the school ranges between 4 percent and 15 percent. The school receives a referral fee from Amazon. The percentage is based on the number of buyers who link to Amazon from your Web site. The more people who come through your site, the bigger your percentage. It's a win-win situation for the school, not only do you get money for your school, you get more people visiting your school Web site. Your school can send out fliers to families and also put a notice on your Web site. To

"Marketing is choosing who we want to be and then becoming that so *authentically* that engaged consumers will serve as our best advocates."

Dick Duerksen

sign up, Amazon Program. "Join It's free! just in holiday



Google Associate Click on Now." You'll be time for shopping!

## Volunteers Raise Money for Schools

There are many ways to make money for a school, but Sandpoint, Yakima Adventist Christian School and Cascade Christian Academy have come up with a creative and fun way to raise money during the holidays. Sandpoint has it down to a science. Volunteers turn the gym into a huge pie-making operation. Tables are set up where apples are peeled, sliced, sugared and spiced. Pie dough is made, rolled out, pies filled and topped. The pies are then readied for the freezer and boxed, complete with baking instructions. Pies are

pre-ordered. This year Sandpoint made and sold 600 pies.

Yakima Adventist Christian School also made and sold 200 pies and Cascade Christian Academy made and sold 200 pies.



Volunteers from Sandpoint Jr. Academy busily making pies.

## Mr. Wolfkill's Class Benefits from Large Donation of Period Newspapers

Delmar Wolfkill's ninth and tenth grade class has been pouring over period newspapers from 1936 - 1937. Mr. Wolfkill received approximately 200 newspapers from the pre-WWII time period. Students have been looking for the current date and reading what happened in the world on the corresponding date some 72 years ago. They've found it fascinating.

The papers are from the now defunct Seattle Star. These are primary sources and are of great historical value.

There are many applications that can be done using these historical documents.



## Tri-City Jr. Academy Honors Veterans and Grandparents

A veteran and grandparent tribute breakfast was held on Veteran's Day, November 11, at Tri-City Jr. Academy. This yearly event is done at TCJA under the direction of **Principal Anthony Oucherek** and staff.

Veterans are invited from the local churches, and they are encouraged to invite other veterans they know. Attendance was approximately 280-300 family members of students, grandparents and veterans. This

year approximately 35 veterans attended.

A free breakfast began at 7:00 a.m.. A patriotic program was provided by the school. Elementary classrooms sang, the band played and the choir sang. As the TCJA choir sang a medley of songs honoring each branch of the U.S. military service, Mr. Oucherek asked veterans to stand as their branch of service was honored. The veterans appreciated the special program recognizing their contribution to the freedom of our country.

### Howdy grades 3-9 teachers,

I'm inviting you and your class to join **Westward HO!** [www.cyberbee.com/wwho](http://www.cyberbee.com/wwho) this year and travel the Oregon Trail with hundreds of other students and classrooms with the virtual Westward HO! wagon train. I have participated in Westward Ho! for about 12 years now, and have found it to be among the best online programs integrating technology with the curriculum in many subject areas, although the theme is the Oregon Trail. It inspired me to develop and collect many resources on the Oregon Trail to share with teachers and students across the U.S. See my "[Rodeo Rich's Oregon Trail Web Page](http://www.beacon-christian.org/article.php?id=7)" at [www.beacon-christian.org/article.php?id=7](http://www.beacon-christian.org/article.php?id=7).

## Principal's Corner

A few weeks ago, I attended Sunday church – a church with three services of over 1,000 attendees each. Now numbers alone don't impress me, but as I waited for Rich Stearns to speak, an announcement on the big screen did catch my attention. It read, "We love kids!" followed by one children's program description fading into another. Not surprisingly 20-40 year olds dominated the crowd. It is clear there is a correlation between growing churches and their intentionality with children's ministries.



UCC's *Share the Life* initiative encourages members to make meaningful relationships with friends, neighbors, co-workers, those with whom we do business and whomever else God puts in our path. Some of these new friends will have children. And children count! From a recent on-line *Review* come these insights about children, parents and growing souls for the kingdom . . .

### Childhood's Window of Opportunity

**Bill Hybels, one of America's best-known pastors, says, "The single remaining common interest or entrance point for non-churched people into the life of the church is children. . . . We have a wide-open door to almost every family in every community worldwide when we love and serve their kids." Parents want their children involved in outstanding programs. And if the kids love being there, parents will keep bringing them back. Eventually the whole family will stay for church.**

**Barna Research Group, in November 1999, reported their findings that childhood is the most important time for deciding for Christ. A century ago Ellen White wrote: "It is in these early years that the affections are the most ardent, the heart most susceptible of improvement."**

**Barna's nationwide survey showed the probability of people accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior in relation to their age. Children from 5 to 13 have a 32 percent probability of accepting Jesus; ages 14 to 18, only 4 percent; 19 and older, 6 percent. This data flies in the face of the way we do church.**

**If childhood is evangelism's window of opportunity, should we not be more intentional about allocating budgets and evangelism efforts where they will be most productive, rather than to an audience that is six to eight times less open?**

What about your church? Will it be ready for new friends with children? Do you "love kids?" Does your church choose the brightest and the best people for your children's divisions? Does your church budget reflect this love?

For the sake of the children,

**Patty**

Patty Marsh, Director  
Children's Ministries

\*Author, *The Hole in the Gospel*



## Organization

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**Educating for Eternity**

## COMMISSION REPORT

The NPUC and the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools (NAAS) have presented their report of the accreditation health of Upper Columbia Conference Schools. The NAAS accepts the commission report from NPUC. The NPUC is a third-party accrediting body. There are four levels of accreditation: approved; approved with comment; warned; un-approved.

The purpose of the NPUC School Commission is to ensure that schools are on a *Journey to Excellence*. This **Annual Report** fosters on-going school improvement by holding schools accountable to standards. The report is organized by school-wide standards which are essential for quality educational programs. These standards are to be met by all Adventist accredited schools. This report also seeks school accountability through a report on the implementation of school improvement action plans. In addition, this report facilitates the review of the secondary curriculum.

The following schools achieved accreditation from NAAS and NPUC:

Cascade Christian Academy, Walla Walla Valley Academy and Upper Columbia Academy.

Palisades Christian Academy, Cornerstone Christian Adventist Elementary School, Sandpoint Jr. Academy, Pend Oreille Valley Adventist School, Lake City Jr. Academy, Palouse Hills Adventist School, St Maries Adventist School and Beacon Christian School, all North Idaho Adventist schools, have received accreditation, as well as Colville Valley Adventist School.