



# NEWS NUGGETS

**The Rocky Mountain Conference wishes to congratulate all students and teachers as they begin the new school year!**

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**Back to School at Vista Ridge Academy**  Students, parents and teachers came to school August 17 excited and nervous. Courtney McLachlan, seventh and eighth grade teacher, greeted students and parents as they arrived. "I love the first day of school! It's a party day getting to know all the students and seeing them get to know each other," said McLachlan.

As parents dropped off their children, there were goodbye waves, hugs and tears. Monica Wernick has two sons






attending VRA -- Jonathan is starting third grade; David is in pre-K/Kindergarten. "This is an exciting new beginning to have both our sons at VRA," Wernick said, although she also said it was difficult to let her sons go that morning, but she knows her boys will do well.

Sixth grader, Aiyana Nunez, was celebrating her birthday as she began a new school year. "I'm looking forward to meeting new people, learning new things and having fun," Nunez said.

At the morning's assembly, Principal Sandy Hodgson introduced teachers and presented a devotional from the book of Ecclesiastes in the Bible. After reading a passage about everything being meaningless, Hodgson asked the students,

*Friday, August 19, 2016*

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## [Upcoming Events](#)

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### **GVR Board**

*August 30, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30*

"If everything is meaningless, 'Why do I have to do math? Why do I have to write a report? And, why do I have to take a nap?'"

The students laughed in anticipation of what Hodgson would say next. Principal Hodgson went on to say that the most important thing the wisest king had learned was to honor God and to keep His commandments. "As we start the school year, let's remember that the most important thing we can do is honor God. We can honor God by the way we play on the playground, walk in the hallways and help each other." Hodgson said.

David Smith, family pastor at Boulder Adventist Church, concluded the assembly with a prayer asking God to be with the students and teachers this school year. Smith has two daughters attending Vista Ridge Academy this year. His daughter, Jocelyn, is starting first grade; Aubrey is in kindergarten.

"All the kids seem super excited for the beginning of the year. I'm confident in my kids' teachers and I look forward to the meaningful learning that will happen here," Smith said.

On August 20, students, parents, teachers and members of the school's constituent churches (Boulder Adventist Church, Chapel Haven Seventh-day Adventist Church, and Twin Peaks Seventh-day Adventist Church) will meet at the school for a potluck lunch and prayer of dedication to celebrate the beginning of the school year. [Marsha Bartulec; photo by James Christianson]

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### **Grassroots Youth Group Forms at Chapel Haven Â»**

Twelve youth from the Chapel Haven Church recently banded together in a grassroots effort to reach those inside and outside the church for Jesus. The church board affirmed their choice of leader for the youth and young adults as Nicole Yoshida, a young adult herself who has a master's™ in social work and a passion for ministry. She currently works for a background check processing company.

Called Blazing Youth Connections (BYC), the group meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Friday of each month for a program they call *The Blaze Worship Night*. "Their mission," explains Pastor Roy Weeden, "is to offer inreach to our members, outreach to the community and recreational times of enjoyment together."

"I felt God nudging me to do more ministry, being able to share my faith with people," Nicole explains.

*p.m.*

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### **Daughters of Grace Retreat**

*September 16 - 18*

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### **Western Colorado Men's Advance**

*September 16 - 18*

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### **Hispanic Women's Retreat**

*September 30 - October 2*

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### **Give Them Hope Health Summit**

*October 13 - 16*

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**Find out more...**

[Click here](#) for info on any of these events.

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### **Story Guidelines: We want to share your**

**news! Â»** News Nuggets is your publication. We strive to provide news and information expressing our church life. Every church, every family, every individual has a story to tell. We are inviting pastors and secretaries of churches and institutions within the Rocky Mountain Conference to share



She remembers growing up at Chapel Haven, being involved with the Pathfinder club and going on campouts. We used to have a youth pastor, but after

that ended, we â€œlacked in having a young adult ministry,â€ Nicole explains.

She wants to build that family-oriented community for the youth.

Their first activity was held August 7 when they met for brunch and a devotional, and attended a Rockies game during Faith Day, a yearly event where Colorado churches and Christians from all over the state have the chance to come together for a time of fellowship at the ballpark.

BYC members prayed for opportunities to share their faith and gave out personal business cards inviting others to join them in their gatherings.

Fort Collins pastor Daniel Birai will speak at the September 2 *The Blaze Worship Night*.

A barbecue outreach is planned for September 4 with a devotional and games. The youth are handing out fliers at a nearby park to youth and young adults in the community. They are hoping for 50-70 young people.

Pastor Weeden is providing spiritual and resource support for the group.

[Carol Bolden; photos by Nicole Yoshida]

with us relevant information -- about developments, issues, notable events, as well as experiences of church members.

Please email your story to [nuggets@rmcsda.org](mailto:nuggets@rmcsda.org) so we can share how God is working through His people in your territory. When submitting your story, please include the following: the Ws (who, what, where, when, why...also how), a personal quote, a photo and the name of the photographer.

Please consider time constraints and always send in fresh new stories instead of outdated ones. **Submission deadlines are Wednesdays by noon.**

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## **Montrose Church Members Share Timelessness of Scripture at County Fair Â»**



The Montrose Church took part in the Montrose County Fair during the fair's 129th year, staffing a booth from July 22-31. To illustrate the fair theme, "Timeless Traditions," church members presented a pictorial Bible timeline emphasizing the timelessness of Scripture.

After sharing more than 3,000 books and magazines, 300 radio station fliers and 890 water bottles, evangelism team coordinator Sharon Fisher remarked, "God blessed the efforts of the 20-plus volunteers who helped in our booth."

It was an opportunity to meet and mix, and to share Jesus with Montrose area families and individuals.

[Karyl Krieger and Sharon Fisher; photo by Michele Grimmett]

## **A View From the Pew: A Millennial's Look at Boulder 1:1 Â»**

Prior to attending Boulder 1:1 on August 14 at the Boulder Seventh-day Adventist Church, I had never before been to a gathering of the One Project. Before participating in the gathering, some comments I had heard from others were not great. Either it was too liberal or it strayed from the Truth. Or, not all of the speakers are Adventist.

All I want is to celebrate and worship Jesus. To feel His love,



and embrace it in my community. I think the One Project does just that.

Boulder 1:1 was reminiscent of a less glamorized, undocumented TED Talk, using sound Christian principles

and Scriptural doctrine applied in our everyday context. Legalism is thrown out the window. Is it liberal? I don't think so. I'm not a theologian so I can't support or reject every theological claim put forth by the speakers, but I know enough Jesus truth to say their hearts are focused on Jesus.

The eight speakers shared their testimonies of Jesus working in their lives. Each story was different and powerful. And then we are given an opportunity to reflect and recalibrate with others on the topics presented.

My favorite part of it all was the closing, when a small group of participants gathered around and we prayed together for Jesus's blessing. How nice it is to be surrounded by people who care and want you to have a good life with Jesus by your side!

I concede that some might be offended that five of the eight speakers were women from the local area. But I think that's representative of the Boulder Seventh-day Adventist Church's embracing of its members; we all have a story and a right to share it in efforts to bring others to Jesus.



Jesus is for all. And Jesus is All.

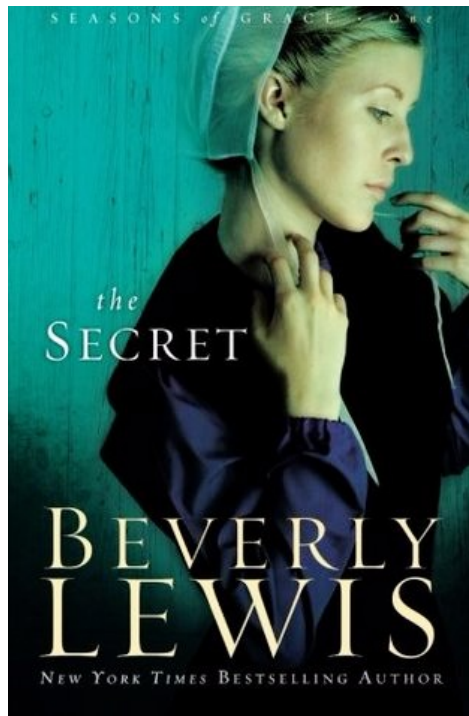
In a world of political and religious unrest, it's important to me to have a chance to commune, recalibrate, and focus on Jesus with brothers and sisters seeking the Same.  
[Stefani Leeper; photos by Rajmund Dabrowski]

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### **Book Review: *Seasons of Grace* »**

“Look,” I whispered to my parents as we snaked through the Omaha Zoo's desert dome, my eyes locked on a group ahead of us. “Amish people!” As I watched the small band, I couldn't help but wonder How did they get here? Why do they dress that way? Have they

been to a zoo before? My curiosity piqued, I was not exactly hesitant to read up a little on a people who live in the world



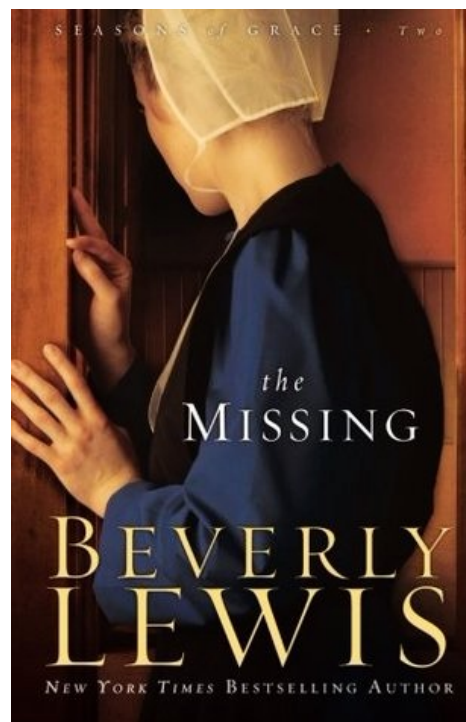
but not of the world.

*Seasons of Grace*, a 2009 to 2010 Amish-Christian fiction trilogy by *New York Times* bestselling author Beverly Lewis, explores simple Amish life in the heart of Bird-in-Hand, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania as contrasted with the sins of sexual immorality, deceit, and disobedience exemplified in church member Lettie Byler. Seeking to right her past wrongs, Lettie sets off in

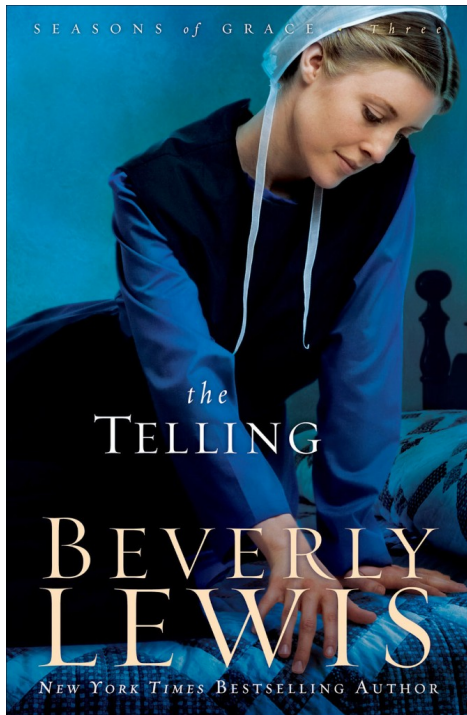
search of shaping her own redemption, leaving her community to ponder her mysterious disappearance, and her family to fear a potential *Bann* (removal) of Lettie's church membership.

Lettie's 21-year-old daughter, Grace Byler, resumes responsibility of the household, despite a burning urge to take off in search of her mother. As luck would have it, agnostic *Englischer* Heather Nelson decides to visit Lancaster County in search of naturopathic remedies to terminal cancer. It is here that the two unlikely friends meet and pool their diminishing energies to bring Lettie Byler back and in the process uncover secrets hidden in their own lives. As their lives intertwine, the three notice the need for a stronger reliance on God and less on themselves as they recognize and question inconsistencies in their own lifestyles and belief systems.

A Lancaster native with Plain roots in her blood, Beverly enlivens *The Secret*, *The Missing* and *The Telling*, which make up *Seasons of Grace*, with a healthy dose of *Deutsch*-Pennsylvania Dutch and Scripture



verses, vivid, knowledgeable descriptions of everyday Plains and “worldly” life, and heartwarming examples of God’s love. The protagonists resonate with young adult Christian women. It was fascinating, and sometimes eerily scary, to see how well Beverly illuminates my own life in that of Heather Nelson, down to the description of the wording of her text messages, use of online chat sites and making of long-distance friendships, dress, and fretting over a thesis, all the while Grace is her completely realistic counterpart.



The outcome was predictable, perhaps due to overexposure to Nicholas Sparks stories and *Lifetime* and *Hallmark* movies, dramatic irony (audience knows the situation but the characters do not), and subtle foreshadowing. Nevertheless, I could not predict the drama-lacking conclusion, and despite this I was easily brought to tears.

Central themes focus on the importance of

forgiveness, redemption, grace, familial love and total reliance on God, not on self. It also exposes the pain of gossip within the church family, and a need for communication. The lessons found here transcend any Christian denomination, and the expertise of Beverly’s storytelling make this series one I would recommend to any reader who loves the Lord and enjoys anthropology.

Beverly first published works in *Highlights for Children*, *Dolphin Log*, and *Guideposts for Kids*. Her first book followed in 1993—*Mountain Bikes and Garbanzo Beans*—retitled *Big Bad Beans*. Beverly’s 80 plus stories have been published in more than 10 languages worldwide, and her bestselling *The Shunning* has sold more than 1 million copies. She is a member of the National League of American Pen Women, as well as a distinguished alumnus of Evangel University.

For more information about Beverly Lewis and her books, visit her website at <http://www.beverlylewis.com/>.

[Stefani Leeper; photos obtained from [Goodreads.com](http://www.Goodreads.com).]

## CORRECTION

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In editing the article submitted last week by Ronald Johnson, several details were inadvertently misrepresented.



45 attended the first evening of Cowboy Camp Meeting, July 6-7. Sabbath morning was greeted with 110 worshippers.

Music was provided by

Leroy Archer's New Horizon Band joined by Don and Donna Mohl from Fair Grove, Missouri. Jim Burr presented Bible-based astronomy lectures in the evening and set up his binocular telescope for viewing the star-filled sky.



The Western Slope Camp Meeting was held August 3-7 at MountainTop Retreat, and saw an attendance of 190 on Sabbath morning.



Both of these camp meetings are anticipated to continue in the future.

[Corrections and photos by Ronald Johnson]

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**NewsNuggets Archive Now Online Â»** The NewsNuggets archive is now online, and can be found at <https://www-rmcda-org.netadvent.org/newsnuggets-archive>.

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**Host Family Needed Â»** Mile High Academy is currently in need of a caring family willing to host an exchange student



from China. As a host family you will:

- experience another culture in your own home
- open your children's eyes to the wider world
- share your traditions in a meaningful way with someone else
- create a lasting relationship with someone from across the globe

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please contact us at [info@milehighacademy.org](mailto:info@milehighacademy.org) or call [303.744.1069](tel:303.744.1069).



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### **Denver West Church Seeks Musicians Â»**

The worship team at Denver West Church is looking for talented musicians to add to their team. If you are a flutist, pianist/keys, violinist, guitarist, etc., and love to worship our Creator God with all your heart, soul and talent, contact

Ben at 720-290-0781.

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### **Global Health Initiatives Inaugural Photo Gallery Â»**

Inaugural photo exhibit at Porter Adventist Hospital, August 2016.

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**Bible Study Seminar Â»** On August 20, starting at 3 p.m., *It is Written's* Curt Dolensky will host a 3-session seminar on how to give Bible studies. All are welcome to this seminar, held at Lakewood Fellowship Seventh-day Adventist Church, 8001 W 23rd Ave. Lakewood, Colorado.

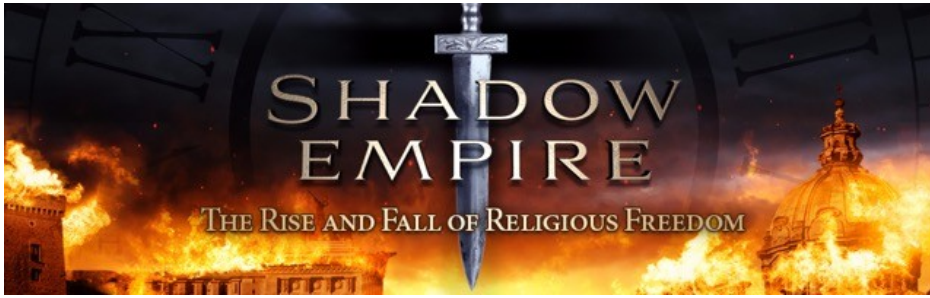
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**Fort Lupton Prophetic Code Seminar and *The King's Heralds* Concert Â»** At 6:30 p.m. on September 9, 6 p.m. on September 10, and 6:30 p.m. on September 11, Fort Lupton Seventh-day Adventist Church will host Amazing Facts' "Cracking the Prophetic Code." Admission and the children's program are free. To pre-register, call [720.466.5634](tel:720.466.5634) or go to [ftlupton22.adventistchurch.org](http://ftlupton22.adventistchurch.org). And don't miss *The King's Heralds* in concert, Saturday, September 10 at 7:15 p.m.

The seminar and concert will be held in the Fort Lupton Seventh-day Adventist Church auditorium, located at 900 Northrup Ave., Fort Lupton, Colorado 80621.

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**Host *Shadow Empire* at Your Church Â»** The Voice of Prophecyâ€™s *Shadow Empire* series returns September 15-17 to local churches, and pastors will again have the opportunity to be the event co-speaker with Pastor Shawn Boonstra.



This series, which addresses modern-day religious freedom by exploring the life of Constantine the Great, was filmed on location in Europe and the Middle East, and offers a fresh, Bible-based perspective on historical and current events.

Pastors can find all the details they need at

[www.ShadowEmpire.com/Event](http://www.ShadowEmpire.com/Event).

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### **Daughters of Grace Women's Ministries Retreat Â»**



The conference-wide womenâ€™s retreat at Glacier View Ranch, September 16-18, will feature Elizabeth Talbot, director of *Jesus 101 Biblical Institute*, and the author of several books. The retreat will include praise and worship music, inspiring skits, book giveaways, friendship circles, Saturday night

activities, and a service project opportunity. The Adventist Book Center will feature a display of several publications by Elizabeth Talbot for sale. Registration and information brochures were sent to Womenâ€™s Ministries leaders in participating churches. Call or email Ginger Bell for more information, and to receive a brochure via email, at [720-980-9006](tel:720-980-9006) or [rexngingerbell@msn.com](mailto:rexngingerbell@msn.com).

Registration deadline is September 1.

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**2016 Western Colorado Men's Advance Â»** Join us in Pitkin for our Jeep trip as we pray, study, fish, hike, and enjoy the colors in the mountains, September 16-18 (tentative, based on snow melt). Learn how to restore relationships with ourselves, others, and God. Study and prayer time held on

Friday evening and Saturday. Bring your Jeep, motorcycle, mountain bike, fishing pole, hiking shoes, and Bible. Meals and rooms included in the flat fee of \$170.00. To register or for more information, contact Wayne Oldham at [970-209-7911](tel:970-209-7911) or [woldham170@gmail.com](mailto:woldham170@gmail.com).

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**La Vida Camp Meeting Â»** Celebrate 100 years of Adventist Mission in Navajo Land, September 16-18, at the 2016 La Vida Camp Meeting. Our guest speaker is NPUC Native Ministries Director Pastor Monte Church. Attendees will stay in our guest house, dorms, and staff houses, or you can bring tents or RVs. Please call or email to reserve your spot with us at [dorie@lavidamission.org](mailto:dorie@lavidamission.org) or [505-215-6642](tel:505-215-6642).

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**Seeing Jesus through Muslim Eyes Â»** The Seeing Jesus through Muslim Eyes seminar, 2 p.m. on September 17 at the Denver South Seventh-day Adventist Church, will equip attendees for reaching out to Muslims, helping to fulfill the Gospel Commission. Gerald Babanezhad, Coordinator of Muslim Outreach at Pacific Union Conference, will share the historical setting and perspective of Islam, the role of the Adventist Church in sharing the Three Angels's™ Messages with Muslims, Muslim's understanding of Seventh-day Adventists, testimonies and much more, followed with question and answer session. Location: 2675 S. Downing St., Denver, Colorado 80210. For more information, call [303-744-1271](tel:303-744-1271).

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**Grandparent's Day Â»** You are invited to spend the day at Mile High Academy with your grandchild, eat breakfast, enjoy a special chapel, visit classrooms, meet teachers, and more. This 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. September 27 event is your opportunity to become better acquainted with your grandchild's school world through a peek at their day-to-day experience. For details or to save your spot, call us at 303-744-1069 or save your spot online at [milehighacademy.org/campus-life/grandparents-day-registration](http://milehighacademy.org/campus-life/grandparents-day-registration).

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**Hispanic Women's Retreat Â»** September 30 - October 2, Sara Bullon will be speaking at the Hispanic Women's Retreat. Location: Glacier View Ranch - 8748 Overland Rd, Ward, CO 80481. For additional information, contact Patty Rivera at [303-910-3548](tel:303-910-3548).

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## **Give Them Hope Health**

**Summit Â»** Learn how to reflect God's character in health ministries through ongoing support at the Give Them Hope Health Summit, held October 13-16 in Breckenridge, Colorado. Through the acquired skills of ongoing

support, you can bring hope to your church and community through the prevention and reversal of diseases such as heart disease, cancer, Type II diabetes, and Alzheimerâ€™s. For more information about this health summit, visit our website at <http://www.rmcsda.org/hope> or call the RMC health ministry department at [303-282-3604](tel:303-282-3604).

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**Awaken Wyoming Testimonies Â»** Per request and as seen at the Wyoming Camp Meeting, July 16.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGTcbpAGmaw>

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**Mills Spring Ranch Summer Camp Â»** Watch our new Glacier View Ranch summer camp promo video at [rmcyouth.org/gvrpromovideo](http://rmcyouth.org/gvrpromovideo). For more information, go to [rmcyouth.org/camp](http://rmcyouth.org/camp) or visit the new website at <http://www.glacierviewranch.com/>.

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## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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**Mile High Academy** Positions are open at Mile High Academy as a part-time receptionist. The receptionist's weekly schedule will be Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Receptionist applicants should have a high school diploma and a

minimum of three years of relevant experience. Interested individuals for any listed positions must be Seventh-day Adventist members in good standing, and possess current authorization to work in the U.S. Please send your resume to Jocelyn at [jaalborg@milehighacademy.org](mailto:jaalborg@milehighacademy.org), and visit our website at <http://www.milehighacademy.org/employment-opportunities/> for more information on the requirements and qualifications for these positions.

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**Daystar School** in Pueblo is looking for a part-time aide for K-3 for the 2016-17 school year. If you are interested in finding out more about this position, you can contact Michelle Velbis by email at



**Voice of Prophecy:** The Voice of Prophecy is looking to fill four positions: gift planning departmental assistant with accounting experience,

mailroom assistant supervisor, digital content specialist/webmaster, and a donor relations coordinator. For more information, visit <http://vop.com/jobs>.

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## **SIGN UP FOR NEWSNUGGETS**



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## **FROM THE EDITOR**

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

In order to make our eNewsletter accommodate an increased volume of announcements, our editorial work

proposes to present information in a more efficient approach, ensuring that all timely promotions and announcements be included in a weekly, Friday release of *NewsNuggets*. **Submission deadline for stories, news, and announcements is at noon on every Wednesday. Please send all your submissions to [nuggets@rmcsda.org](mailto:nuggets@rmcsda.org).**

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

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

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**Share the News Nuggets with your congregation** » Add a note to your church bulletin or newsletter with the following URL: [www.bit.ly/RMCnews](http://www.bit.ly/RMCnews)

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

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**Rocky Mountain Conference Mission Statement**  
**Tagline:**  
*Knowing Christ and Making Him Fully Known*

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