



LARRY EDSALL

Megan Smith (left) and Charlotte Donaldson

## Nova Scotia Teens Win Innovation Award

Megan Smith, a member of Faith Christian Reformed Church in Milford, Nova Scotia, and her friend Charlotte Donaldson won the Young Canadian Innovation Award in the Canadian National Science Fair Competition for their aquatic spinal board design.

Smith and Donaldson created a prototype that, unlike conventional rescue boards, can be adjusted to fit the person being rescued.

The girls have filed for a Canadian patent for their invention.

—Brenda Visser



## Classis Red Mesa Grows Its Own Pulpit Supply

The Leadership Development Network (LDN) in Classis Red Mesa (regional group of churches), recently graduated its first class, licensing them to preach in local churches. Classis Red Mesa is predominately Native American, and many of its congregations lack seminary-trained pastors. It launched its LDN to fill some of those church leadership roles. Graduates pictured above (l-r): Evelyn Benally, Francis Nelson, Martha Frank, Don Edwards, James Litson, Sharon Jim, and Willie Benally.

—Larry Edsall

## Maine Professor Wins Outstanding Faculty Award

Brian Frederick, a chemistry professor at the University of Maine, received the 2011 Outstanding Research and Creative Achievement Award from the University of Maine in Orono. Frederick is a member of New Hope Christian Reformed Church in Bangor, Maine.

—Calvin Hulstein



PHOTO BY MIKE MARDOSA



YANET RIVAS

Wilton and Susana Méndez participate in parenting classes.

## Bringing Help and Hope in New Jersey

New Hope Ministries, a diaconal outreach of several Christian Reformed Churches in New Jersey, is providing help both to parents and those seeking employment.

Ministry Associate Felipe Cortes teaches parenting classes on topics such as changes during the teenage years, listening skills, different parenting styles, and discipline that makes sense.

Cynthia Segovia, a mother of two children ages 11 and 18, said, "I now know it is never too late to learn more effective approaches to help our children," she said.

Mary Dombrosky found a job as an oncology assistant at a local animal hospital after receiving help from Stephanie Steen, the community and employment director at New Hope. Steen showed Dombrosky how to incorporate all her relevant experience into resumes that focused on her work with animals.

"I couldn't be more thankful for all of her help!" Dombrosky said.

New Hope's program offers practice for job interviews, computer and internet access for online job applications, and training.

—Calvin Hulstein



## Deconstructing an Illinois Church

Instead of just demolishing its former worship center, Grace Valley Christian Reformed Church in German Valley, Ill., took it down piece by piece to recycle. The deconstruction cost about five times less than demolition and was more stewardly, said Rev. Jake Ritzema. The majority of the building materials could be salvaged for future use.

—Melissa Holtrop