



Tiyende Pamodzi



U.S. MISSION TO ZAMBIA

Promoting Peace, Health, & Development through Partnerships with the Zambian People

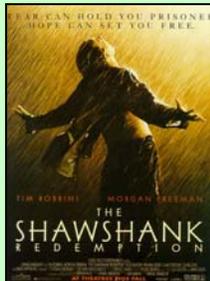
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NOW SHOWING

MAY 8: *The Shawshank Redemption*

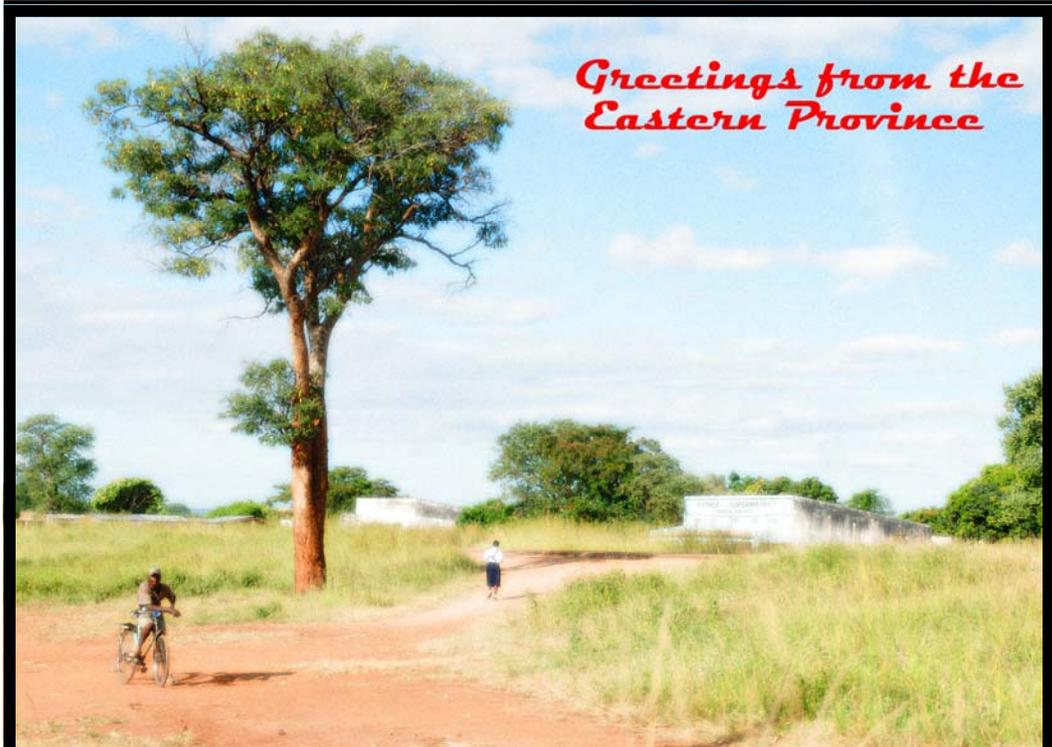


**MAY 22:
*The Green Mile***



**American Center 5:30 PM
FREE**

American Embassy Lusaka
Public Affairs Section
American Center
COMESA Building
Ben Bella Road
P.O. Box 32053, 10101
Lusaka, Zambia



Greetings from the Eastern Province

Inside: Highlights from the U.S. Mission's recent "road trip" to the Eastern Province. A Mission team visited officials, projects and community radio stations in Nyimba, Petauke, Katete, Chipata and Lundazi.

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A Message from Ambassador Carmen Martinez



I've often said that our job here in Zambia is to put ourselves out of the aid business. Our government's great resources alone cannot resolve the deepest and most stubborn challenges that people face. Instead, we need to create real and strong partnerships, right from the community level.

I was reminded of this, and at the same time given renewed optimism during a recent Lusaka conference of African Health Initiatives, hosted by the U.S. White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. The conference highlighted and sought to expand the growing leadership of faith-based and community organizations in disease control, treatment and prevention efforts. We are proud to support the inspiring work of many such organizations through our health programs here, and we are always looking to expand these partnerships.

Religious and community organizations can mobilize grassroots volunteers and provide access to important leaders who play a large role in shaping people's opinions and behaviors. As locally and faith-based organizations grow and expand, they build sustainable and healthy communities. They do this, as we do, by *working together*.

Fulbright Alumnus: Mr. Joshua Milinga



Konkola Copper Mines (KCM)'s Training Manager, Joshua Milinga is a former Fulbright Scholar currently working at one of the biggest mines in Zambia. Mr. Milinga spent two years in the US and received his Masters in Business Administration at Clark Atlanta University. His experience has impacted him personally and

professionally. Shortly after his return, Mr. Milinga received a promotion from Management Consultant to Coordinator for Research, Consultancy and Development Services at the Zambia Institute of Management (ZAMIM), one of the largest business management colleges in Zambia, where he was working at the time.

Eleven years after his return Mr. Milinga says that he has learned to be assertive and determined to improve the quality of business managers in Zambia. He said his exposure to the US has given him a new perspective in his role as Coordinator of Training and Development. Mr. Milinga said that it was not just an academic experience, but also a cultural experience that enlightened him to the American way of life. While in Atlanta, he was surprised to see that the larger population of people, were African American, but yet their lifestyle was completely different from Zambia's lifestyle. He continues to impart the knowledge he gained in the US as a success in Zambia.

EASTWARD

—By Political Officer Mikael Cleverley



On March 31, Public Affairs Officer Christopher Wurst led an Embassy delegation on an outreach tour of Eastern Province. In one week, the delegation traversed 1952 km, visiting Nyimba, Petauke, Katete, Chipata, Lundazi and a host of villages and farms in between.

The delegation met with Zambian officials in every district, including District Commissioners, Eastern Province Deputy PS Eularia Simuziya, Province Minister Charles Shawa, and the Mayor of Chipata. The officials outlined opportunities and challenges facing their region, and shared

their views on the value of the bilateral partnership.

The entourage first visited the Minga Mission Hospital, where singers met the team and led it by foot and song the to the steps of the Minga Mission.



Students at Mungu Community School in Chipata enjoy the interactive radio.

GETTING TOGETHER



Below: USAID Director Melissa Williams meets with staff and patients while touring Chongwe District Health Center. She was there with a delegation to observe US-funded malaria control efforts.

Above: U.S. Ambassador Carmen Martinez; Jay Hein, the Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives; and Zambian First Lady Maureen Mwanawasa, at the opening of a recent White House-sponsored conference in Lusaka on faith-based programs.



Above: Public Affairs Officer Christopher Wurst meets with members of a dairy farming cooperative near Chipata. The program, funded by the U.S. African Development Foundation, is helping small-scale farmers to find markets and maximize profits. They are finding there is profit in numbers!

BOUND

Like a scene from a Roland Joffé movie, the choir accompanied the U.S. Government representatives from building to building as they experienced the gratitude of health workers, patients, and villagers alike, and observed projects funded by American citizens through U.S. development assistance and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).



Fish farmers outside Chipata show off bags of fingerling fish.

The Mission doctor, an expatriate Netherlander, described how patients no longer come to the hospice to pass away. Now they come to be healed, he explained. When asked how long he has been in Africa, he answered, over a decade. "I am addicted to Africa," he explained, perhaps meaning he was absorbed by the marvel and enjoyment of changing—and saving—lives.

One of the trip's most memorable moments was stopping along the road to Minga Hospice long enough for Embassy driver Africa Sakala (*below*) to have his picture taken in front of the church where he was baptized as an infant, many years before.



The visit set the tone for the rest of the trip. From one stop to the next, the delegation was met with warm hospitality, gratitude, and openness. The group went on to make over 15 site visits to U.S. funded projects, ranging from community centers administering HIV/AIDS educational projects, to agricultural and livestock cooperatives, to local schools participating in radio-based learning programs. The delegation also met with Peace Corps Volunteers, who are making valuable

contributions in the villages where they live and serve. One of the Volunteers exhibited a fish farming project that—if replicated—has enormous potential benefits, including increased income, additional sources of nutrition, and irrigation resources.

From the Gallery



Take Me To School by Andrew Mwananshiku (2008)

SPOTLIGHT:

ZIMBABWE JOURNALISTS

The U.S. Mission Public Affairs Sections in Lusaka and Harare collaborated in a timely manner recently. On the eve of the SADC Extra-ordinary Summit about the Zimbabwe elections, held in Lusaka, the two PAS sections helped facilitate the Zambia visit of four Zimbabwean journalists and civil society activists.

The visiting group from Zimbabwe featured *Zimbabwe Independent* editor Vincent Kahiya, MISA Zimbabwe Acting National Director Takura Zhangazha, Youth Initiative for Democracy in Zimbabwe founder Sydney Chisi, and Jabusile Shumba, who works for an NGO promoting democracy and good governance.

During a brief, but busy, 24 hour tour, the group had several lively public events. They started the day by meeting ZAMCOM certificate students. They gave a brief description of the elections and some of the scenarios that have abounded during the delay in a results announcement.

They then met with seven Zambian civil society groups, at a roundtable discussion hosted by the Southern African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of



Zimbabwe Independent editor Vincent Kahiya meets with students at ZAMCOM.

Disputes (SACCORD), where the Zambian groups came together to draft a statement calling for the support of democracy in Zimbabwe. The group finished their tour at a roundtable sponsored by *The Post* newspaper's Post Freedom Committee, where they met journalists and discussed the importance role the media plays in reporting during the election process.

EASTWARD BOUND: a week in the Eastern Province



Above: Political Officer Mikael Cleverley attempts to pound maize, at a village near Lundazi. Top right: A village listening group near Petauke. The members benefit from programs created by QUESTT, a USAID partner. Right: In a village outside Chipata.

Delegation members also gave over a dozen interviews on community radio stations, calling for continued and increased civic engagement and drawing attention to U.S. Mission priorities, including economic development, health, good governance, anti-corruption efforts, and greater media freedoms and responsibility.

The Embassy Officers were impressed by the level of economic and agricultural activity in Eastern Province, and equally struck by its beauty. It also became clear, soon enough, that our schedule would barely allow us to scratch the surface of U.S. engagement in Eastern Province.

The delegation, which included USAID Deputy Director Sheila Lutjens, USAID Education Team Leader Rick Henning, USAID Agricultural Specialist Mlotha Damaseke, Embassy Political/Economic Officer Mikael Cleverley, and Public Affairs Assistant Zophele Ngoma, owed much of its success to drivers Killion Lungu, Africa Sakala, and Chibwana Shaibu, for whom bad roads were but minor obstacles.



AIRC Corner: What's Happening at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library

Proactive MLK Library Outreach Targets Future Leaders in Secondary School



Students from various high schools have taken the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial library by storm following a vigorous outreach program on American culture. This program, which has featured nearly a dozen American Mission staff, has positively impacted many students who desire to know more about the U.S. and are using the American Center Library more and more.

In addition to providing information, Public Affairs Staff (PAS) staff offer training to students to help build their Internet searching skills. Some students who haven't had an opportunity to lay their hands on a computer are able to do so now after undergoing training. "It's unbelievable that I'm able to conduct online searches on my own for my school projects," observed a Kamwala High School student. The Martin Luther King Jr. library has opened its doors to both teachers and students in an effort to promote the quality of education. It's only through an informed and educated society that we can attain peace, good health and development. Library membership is free: call 227-993/4 for more information.

Above left: Deputy Chief of Mission Michael Koplovsky at Munali Girls. Left: Vice Consul Jeff Allen at Munali Boys. Right: MLK Staffer Joseph Ngwira with students from Lusaka High School.

