



# WORKING TOGETHER

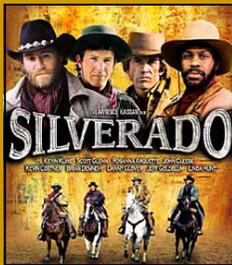
## Tiyende Pamodzi

Volume I, Issue 7-8

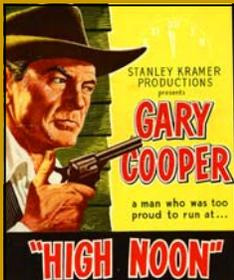
<http://zambia.usembassy.gov>

July-August, 2007

### NOW SHOWING



July 12: *Silverado*  
July 26: *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*



August 9: *High Noon*  
August 23: *Unforgiven*  
5:30 PM FREE  
American Center

American Embassy Lusaka  
Public Affairs Section  
American Center  
COMESA Building  
Ben Bella Road  
P.O. Box 32053, 10101  
Lusaka, Zambia  
Phone 260-1-227-993/4

**HIV** **Free on**  
**24hrs** **alkline**  
"talk to a friend"  
**Call 990**  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS



### Page 3: First Lady Laura Bush's Lusaka visit



Above: Linda Makosa from State Lodge Basic School, with her poem *Bridge to Africa*.  
Inset: Sanya Hunsucker (bottom right) with colleagues at State Lodge Basic School.

## BRIDGES TO AFRICA

When something blossoms all by itself, it's a delightful surprise and the *Bridge to Africa* project is a perfect example! A cultural exchange between two first grade classes, one in California and one in Lusaka, has touched the minds and hearts of over a thousand people from two continents. U.S. Embassy Office Management Specialist Sanya Hunsucker helped to forge a bond between a school in Palo Alto, California and two Zambian schools in Lusaka.

*Continued next page »*

### A Message from Ambassador Carmen Martinez



June was all about woman power! We began the month with a visit from Carol Thompson, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State. Ms. Thompson got a first-hand opportunity to see the wonderful and lasting impact of many of our programs here, including the profound improvements achieved by PEPFAR.

We also hosted a trio of Olympic gold medal-winning basketball players from the U.S., who held basketball clinics for Lusaka youth, and took time out to talk about the importance of sports and healthy living.

Of course, we saved the best for last: First Lady Laura Bush's historic visit to Zambia gave the world a window to witness the amazing work we are achieving, hand-in-hand with our Zambian counterparts, in the areas of health, education and public/private partnerships. Mrs. Bush was extremely impressed at the positive outcomes of our *working together*.

# GETTING TO KNOW...

## Beatrice Mweene



Ms. Beatrice Chimpandu Mweene is the Education Specialist for the Quality Education Service Through Technology (QUESTT) Project at USAID. The QUESTT Project provides basic education through Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) to vulnerable children not in conventional schools and also assists the

Ministry of Education to develop IRI radio programs which are broadcast by ZNBC radio.

Ms. Mweene, who holds a Master of Arts in Population Studies, from the University of Ghana, works to ensure that more children have access to education. Presently, there are 11 community radio stations that broadcast the popular "Learning at Taonga Market" (IRI) Program. The project has so far reached about 80,000 learners in community schools. In January 2007, IRI was rolled out to Zambian schools. Ms. Mweene says that although the provision of education through innovative technology such as IRI is quite challenging because of the poor radio reception in most parts of the country, QUESTT is determined to ensure that vulnerable children have access to basic education and are empowered for life.

# BRIDGES TO AFRICA continued...



What started out as two classes exchanging drawings, has developed into a project that has involved all 17 classes at the Palo Verde school (left)! With so many American students on board, it was time to expand in Zambia. Chainda

Community School, a project of Embassy family member Cune Bednar, joined the exchange. Pretty soon both State Lodge and Chainda schools had involved their entire student bodies as well.



Students at Palo Verde learned the value of giving and the way of life in another country. One class devoted a unit to life in Africa. Students in Lusaka learned about the U.S. and appreciated numerous opportunities to expand their learning. The Palo Verde students developed two entrepreneurial projects all by themselves. One class decided to make bracelets with Zambian and Palo Verde colors, and sold them for money to donate to the schools. Between the bracelets and a lemonade stand, the U.S. students raised \$500 to help both Zambian schools. In March, Ms. Hunsucker was awarded a prestigious \$3000 J. Kirby Simon Foreign Service Trust from the State Department to continue to help the two Lusaka schools.

# GETTING TOGETHER



Above: Members of the U.S. Mission team at the annual Inter-Company Relay Race. The team took first in the Diplomatic Organizations category. The race is a fundraiser for the fight against HIV/AIDS, organized by the Zambian Amateur Athletic Association.

Right: Ambassador Carmen Martinez with Zambian pop music sensation Danny, at a press briefing for the USAID-funded "One4One" HIV/AIDS benefit concert in Livingstone. The 2nd annual concert was held at the Zambezi Sun hotel.



Above: Dr. Kenneth Kaunda jumps for joy after receiving a U.S. Embassy baseball cap from the Ambassador. Above right: MC Wabwino, Alice Chali, K'Millian and Danny entertain kids at the Lubosi Orphanage in Livingstone.



# *Tiyende Pamodzi Special Section*

## FIRST LADY LAURA BUSH'S VISIT



### First Lady Laura Bush's speech at Mututa Day Care Center:

MRS. BUSH: Thank you very much for the warm welcome to Zambia. Zambia is a strong partner with the United States. Together, our countries are working to advance goals shared by people everywhere: improved opportunities for families, economic empowerment, and most of all, good health.

Our countries have formed partnerships to address malaria, which is a treatable and preventable disease that claims more than a million lives every year. Zambia has an ambitious national malaria control program, and through effective new medicines, and the increased use of mosquito sprays and bed nets, Zambia is making great strides against this epidemic.

These efforts are supported by the U.S. government through the President's Malaria Initiative. This five-year program has one goal: eliminating malaria in Africa. Working with Zambia's national malaria-control program, the President's Malaria Initiative will help conduct indoor residual spraying, provide life-saving bed nets and medicines, and treat pregnant women who are especially vulnerable to this disease.

Here at Mututa, patients benefit from insecticide-treated bed nets supplied through the Zambia Partnership. It's an unprecedented partnership between governments, businesses, and religious groups to reduce the suffering caused by malaria. The U.S. government supports this initiative through the President's Malaria Initiative and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Thirteen members of the Global Business Council have contributed over a million and a half dollars to the project. They're joined by World Vision's RAPIDS Consortium, which unites several faith institutions, including Catholic Relief Services, the Salvation Army, Expanded Church Response, CARE, and Africare.

Through the Zambia Partnership, 500,000 mosquito nets will be distributed to the country's most vulnerable households before the next malaria season in November. They'll reach about a million young children, pregnant mothers, and people infected with HIV/AIDS.

## First Lady Laura Bush's trip to Zambia: June 27—29, 2007

Through partnerships between Zambia and the United States, we're addressing one of the greatest humanitarian crises of all times: the challenge of HIV/AIDS. Through the President's Emergency Plan, our country has provided hundreds of millions of dollars to combat HIV/AIDS in Zambia. In partnership with the Zambia National HIV/AIDS Strategic Framework, these resources support programs that prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission, and they've supplied nearly 100,000 people with antiretroviral treatment.

Working with our government's Africa Education Initiative, PEPFAR has also provided scholarships to HIV-positive orphans and vulnerable children, helping them to stay in school and teach other children how to avoid HIV. And later today, I'll see the benefits of PEPFAR in Zambia at the Flame Community Center, where I'll meet with women participating in the WORTH program. WORTH extends micro-credit to Zambian women, empowering them to provide for themselves and their families.



Because of these partnerships, there's now great optimism to the challenge of HIV/AIDS. And one of the greatest sources of hope is the compassion of people of faith. In the United States and around the world, I've seen how houses of worship inspire volunteers with their messages of charity and hope. Millions of people have heard these messages, and they're putting their faith into practice across the continent of Africa. They've recognized that the private sector must play a role in these historic efforts.

And they know that religious institutions bring a personal, healing touch to the fight against AIDS. Their compassion is right on display here in Zambia. Later today, I'll visit Chreso Ministries,

where volunteers from the Gospel Outreach Fellowship distribute antiretroviral treatments provided through PEPFAR.

And I've just come from the Regiment School, where I helped open the first PEPFAR-funded PlayPump. PlayPumps are children's merry-go-rounds attached to a water pump and a storage tank. When children play on the merry-go-round and the wheel turns, PlayPumps -- clean drinking water is produced. PlayPumps are fueled by the great limitless source of energy: children at play. And they're a great example of how governments, foundations, businesses, and religious groups have joined to address the lack of clean water across Africa, which is a major obstacle to defeating malaria and AIDS.



Top: Mrs. Laura Bush and Charity Brolund, Flame's founder. Above: Mrs. Bush with a WORTH beneficiary. Right: Dancing with Ms. Brolund, Mrs. Mwanawasa and WORTH Director Jacqueline Siame.

## First Lady Laura Bush's trip to Zambia: June 27—29, 2007



Her husband abandoned her, taking all of their household items with him. She struggled to care for herself, but she was too sick and weak. For two weeks she lay bed-ridden, alone and afraid. "Eventually," Esnart said, "I just accepted that I was going to die."

That's when Esnart met Leontina, a World Vision caregiver from Mututa. Leontina was in Esnart's neighborhood, going door to door, asking whether anyone needed medical attention. By chance, she happened upon Esnart. Leontina and her fellow caregivers bathed Esnart and tenderly cleaned her sores. They gave her blankets and a jacket. They encouraged her to get tested for HIV. And when she learned she was positive, they provided her with antiretroviral treatment. Soon after she went on the medicines, Esnart found the energy she hadn't felt for ages.

Here at Mututa, parents and caregivers know very well the healing power of faith. Dedicated caregivers fan out into the local communities, on bicycle and foot, to provide home-based care for chronically ill AIDS patients. Volunteers nurture orphans and vulnerable children. The center offers support groups for women victims of violence, and promotes HIV-prevention campaigns for young people, so Zambia's next generation can stay HIV free. With help from PEPFAR and RAPIDS, Mututa is helping more than 150 people live positively with HIV.

One of these people is Esnart Banda. Three years ago, Esnart didn't know she had HIV -- but she knew she was sick. Esnart suffered recurring bouts of tuberculosis, and her body was covered with sores.



Top: Meeting with Regiment Basic School students. Left: The first ladies admire the Play Pump, while Jenna Bush helps spin the children. Middle: Mrs. Bush speaks with a caregiver at Mututa. Above: Regiment students wait for Mrs. Bush.

## First Lady Laura Bush's trip to Zambia: June 27—29, 2007

With money she received from Mututa, she started a business. Every night she cooks samoosas, chapat, and gamola -- Asian sweets that are very popular in her community. In the morning, she's a regular on the road to the nearby market, selling her treats. "Before, I didn't have the strength," she explains. "But now I can do whatever I need to." Her transformation, she says, "was a miracle."

Today, Esmart belongs to a support group that encourages other people in her community to get tested for HIV. Stigma remains a silent but powerful opponent in the fight against HIV/AIDS. But these women are living proof that a diagnosis is not a death sentence. Esmart and Leontina use a phrase heard increasingly throughout Africa: They speak of a "Lazarus effect," where people who once waited quietly for death celebrate a second chance at life.

These daily miracles are made possible by the partnerships that we talked about, and the compassion of people like you, and the determination of citizens throughout Zambia.

One of these determined citizens, as you've just heard, is your first lady, Mrs. Mwanawasa. In 2002, nearly 40 first ladies founded the Organization of African First Ladies Against AIDS to raise awareness of an issue that's too often shrouded in denial. In 2005, the first ladies launched the "Treat Every Child as Your Own" initiative, which educates adults around the world about their responsibility to protect all children from HIV/AIDS. Mrs. Mwanawasa is the chair of this group, and she's an excellent example for leaders in every nation.

In recognition of her leadership today, I'm pleased to announce that UNAIDS and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief are providing \$300,000 to support the important work of the Organization of African First Ladies Against AIDS. This new partnership was made possible by another accomplished Zambian woman, Elisabeth Mataka, the U.N. Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa, and vice chair of the Global Fund. I'd like to thank Elisabeth and Mrs. Mwanawasa, and the Organization of the First Ladies of Africa for your important work. Thank you all very much.



And thanks to each of you for your commitment to bringing better health and renewed hope to the people of Zambian. Through initiatives like the Africa Education Initiative, the President's Malaria Initiative, and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the American people are proud to stand with you. They share the same goals as the citizens of this beautiful country: healthy lives today, and a more hopeful world for our children.



Top right: Jenna Bush hands out school supplies to students at Flame Community School. Above: Mrs. Bush and Mrs. Mwanawasa, at Chreso Ministries, with Jonathan Nkhata from Chreso. Right: *American Idol* runner-up Melinda Doolittle sings "Amazing Grace" with students from Chaında Community School, during the First Lady's event at Mututa Community Center.



## USAID SUPPORT FOR DEWORMING EXERCISE HELPS TO KEEP SCHOOL CHILDREN ACTIVE



Mrs. Finess Chichelo (left), a mother of eight, always worries when any of her children loses interest in school. She knows that education can provide a secure and prosperous future for her children. So

she began to worry when her 11-year-old twins, both in Grade Five at Maluma Basic School, suddenly didn't want to go to school and seemed tired early in the morning. At a school meeting, she learned that her children might be harboring intestinal worms, or suffering from bilharzia. The headmaster, Mr. Simon Moomba, explained that worms were the most common causes for degenerative behavior among pupils. He invited parents to bring their children to school for deworming. "That's why I'm here," Mrs. Chichelo explained, "I want my children to be dewormed so they can always be active." The children were also treated for bilharzia, a disease caused by parasitic worms, common in tropical regions where ponds, streams and irrigation canals harbor bilharzia-transmitting snails. Children who have been dewormed are more attentive and skip class less often.

USAID supports the deworming program in 400 schools every year. The program also provides children with vitamin A supplements and parents receive instructions on skills-based health education, HIV/AIDS prevention, and malaria prevention and treatment.



A three year study has demonstrated a significant reduction in the prevalence of both hookworm and urinary schistosomiasis among the pupils, after two annual rounds of deworming. The interventions have had a significant impact on children's educational ability, prompting the Ministry of Education to commit more funds and extend the program, aiming for full national coverage by 2008.

## WHAT'S AHEAD

### AUGUST 12: INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

Designated by the United Nations in 1999, International Youth Day is an opportunity to focus on youth issues. Around the world people organize workshops, cultural events, concerts, and meetings involving national and local government officials, youth organizations and young people.



### SPOTLIGHT:

## VOICE OF AMERICA

The Voice of America recently affiliated with some of Zambia's major radio and TV stations. Through these affiliations, local audiences can benefit from a wide range of Pan-African and International news and information programming.

In April 2007, VOA signed an affiliation with Breeze FM, a private station with a strong community spirit, located in Chipata. Breeze rebroadcasts VOA's English-language programs *Reporters Roundtable* and *Inquiry*.



Other recent VOA affiliations in Zambia include Muvi TV (free to air), Mobi TV (cable) and Q-FM (private commercial). All three stations are headed by enterprising, tenacious entrepreneurs, and have gained tremendous popularity. Watch these stations to catch popular VOA programs like *Straight Talk Africa* "Live" with host Shaka Ssali (both on radio & TV), and *Daybreak Africa* (VOA's radio breakfast show). Last, but certainly not least, VOA still prides itself on its long-standing affiliation with Zambia National Broadcasting Cooperation (ZNBC) TV and Radio, home to VOA-TV's *Healthy Living* (current news on African health issues) and *Straight Talk Africa*.

For more information about VOA please log on to [www.voanews.com](http://www.voanews.com)

## U.S. BASKETBALL STARS DAZZLE ZAMBIAN HOOPSTERS, YOUNGSTERS ALIKE



Team USA Olympians Dawn Staley and Carla McGhee visited Lusaka in June. *Clockwise from above:* A local youth shows his skills; Staley poses with members of the Zambian National Women's team; McGhee passes the ball to Deputy Sports Minister Angela Cifire; Staley and McGhee pose with the Munali Girls School team. *Center:* Ambassador Martinez at the free throw line; U.S. Mission summer hire Alex Reimer tries to get past McGhee.

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

From May 31-June 3, the American Corner Zambia (ACZ) had a popular exhibition at the 50<sup>th</sup> Copperbelt Mining and Agriculture Show in Kitwe. The ACZ, which clocks two years of existence this June, used the show as an opportunity to highlight its services to the public as well as to distribute publications and promotional literature. The ACZ also showed videos of Martin Luther King Jr., Malcom X and other famous African Americans. The Mining and Agriculture Show recorded over 4,000 guests, many of whom passed through the ACZ Stand. The Corner, and the Dag Hammarskjöld Library that houses it, has witnessed an increase in its patronage over the past year. The show, whose theme was "The Golden Jubilee- History for our Future", was officiated by the Republican Vice President Mr. Rupiah Banda while senior Cabinet Officials attended the official opening ceremony. Over eighty companies exhibited their services and products this year's show.

