



Village Highlights

June 2008

World Wide Village Incorporated Update

"Bondye do ou: fe pa ou, M a fe pa M"
God says: do your part and I'll do mine.
(Haitian Proverb)

Fear of Hunger Causes Panic and Violence

Street riots and civil unrest have put Haiti at the forefront of international media coverage in recent months. The violence could be described as a "food fight" as the soaring costs of basic provisions such as rice and beans lead to panic among otherwise peaceful people. Many Haitians can no longer afford to buy enough food for their families, and according to numerous reports people are starving to death as a result. Children, of course, are the most vulnerable. *(Photo by Troy Livesay)*



Tensions are further exacerbated by a severe leadership crisis, with Prime Minister Edouard Alexis recently ousted by the Haitian Senate and most cabinet members slated for removal as well. President Preval is seeking a new prime minister, but the candidate must be approved by the full Parliament, which includes representatives from more than 30 political parties, so the vacancy is unlikely to be filled any time soon.

Meanwhile, relief organizations that are trying to provide assistance to Haitian communities are also feeling the impact of escalating food costs. Many are diverting funds slated for long-term development projects to meet the more immediate need for food. World Wide Village is committed to providing financial support to help these organizations supply food in several hard-hit communities, but we're grappling with the question of how best to do this. Should we help fund the transport of pre-packaged meals from the United States as we've done in past years? Or should we help fund the purchase of food from local Haitians for distribution? Please pray for this decision-making process and watch for funding appeals related to our food distribution efforts in the near future. Please also pray for wisdom and the funds to make a difference as World Wide Village seeks to develop programs that promote self-sustainability.

New Directors: Diverse, Dynamic and Dedicated

The month of May ushered in a new season in the leadership of World Wide Village with the election of a widely diverse and dynamic new board of directors. We're eager to see the results of the dedication and fresh ideas these talented professionals will bring to the organization. The following individuals have graciously agreed to serve a one-year term:

Clyde Ahlquist, Attorney at Law (Minnesota)

Brian Blair, Engineer, LeJeune Steel Company (Minnesota)

Jean-Paul Bonnet, MD, Physician (New Jersey)

Gary Borgendale, Ministry Director, KKMS Radio (Minnesota)

Lee Buckley, Special Advisor to the Governor - Faith and Community Service Initiatives (Minnesota)

Rene Joseph, Pastor, Loving Hands Ministry (Haiti, Florida)

Harold "Butch" Louisiana, Co-Founder, Hands of Friendship (Minnesota, Haiti)

Sandi Lowe, Primary School Educator (Colorado)

Randy Mortensen, President, World Wide Village (Minnesota)

John Nicholson, Electrical Engineer, Entrepreneur, and Church Business Manager (Minnesota)

Ronald Noden, CEO and President, Rudder Capital Corporation (Minnesota)

Mark Pahl, Owner, Dem-Con Companies (Minnesota)

Rich Reynertson, CEO, Feed Management Systems, Inc. (Minnesota)

Rich Scherber, Pastor, Executive Director, Minnesota Teen Challenge (Minnesota)

Jim Switzer - Horticulturist (Minnesota)

Tom Tranby, DDS., Dentist (Minnesota)

Jeff Turner, Account Representative to Mayo Clinic, Pfizer, Inc. (Minnesota)

Walking for Water



Though Haiti is virtually encircled by a massive ocean, water is often a difficult resource to access in this small island nation. In the humble village of Arnoux, located just 60 miles from the bustling capital city of Port-au-Prince, residents must walk several miles to fill buckets with water for drinking, washing, and cooking. Because of the distance and difficulty in transporting the water by hand or donkey, they must be extremely conservative with this precious resource; a family of five can make five gallons of water last three days.

Until recently, this village of perhaps 15,000 people actually did have public water stations located throughout the community, but fierce tropical storms caused huge landslides that destroyed underground pipes, rendering the system inoperable. With no local funds available to repair it, the people of Arnoux have been left with no choice but to walk (and walk and walk) for their water. *(Photo by Troy Livesay)*

World Wide Village learned of the particularly difficult situation in Arnoux from Bev and Tom Brumbley, 35-year veteran missionaries from the U.S. who are

working with Pastor Wisner Noel, a Haitian called to minister to this community.

Via video, the Brumbleys presented the project to the board of directors to ask for help in restoring water to the village, and the board approved funding for the majority of the materials needed.

Local townspeople are donating the labor for the repairs, but since the work is being done with hand tools progress is slow and the project isn't expected to be completed until next March. Renting a bulldozer would expedite the process significantly, but would also add \$2500 (USD) to the cost of repairs. Please prayerfully consider a donation to World Wide Village so that we might be able to provide these additional funds and more quickly restore the precious water supply to the people of Arnoux.

Meet Our New "Feet on the Street"

We're thrilled to announce that two outstanding individuals, Troy and Tara Livesay, will be joining the World Wide Village team next month. They'll be a huge asset to the organization, acting as our "feet on the street" in Haiti to help implement projects and serve as liaisons between World Wide Village and the local Haitians we strive to serve.



The Livesays and their seven children live full time in Haiti. Troy speaks fluent Creole, one of the official languages of Haiti, as do daughters Brittany, 18, and Paige, 13. Tara is a gifted administrator and writer. Both Tara and Troy are committed Christians who tend to view the challenges of their ministry pragmatically.

Tara says: "Our family has enjoyed more than two years of ministry and excitement as we've served in Haiti. As we began to pray about transitioning to new, more focused ministry, we were thrilled that our path intersected with Pat and Randy Mortensen and World Wide Village."

"Our motto has been: 'To know God and make Him known,' say the Livesays, "and we continue to desire both things. We've learned that coming to Haiti, a place of such great need, drives us to a place of desiring God, needing Him more and therefore learning to know Him better."

"We've had the privilege to see God at work here. We've been able to learn from mistakes and have grown because of it. Haiti can be a difficult place to serve, but each of us is called to do our best and follow the Lord's leading and rest in the knowledge that the results are up to Him. We're anxious to partner with World Wide Village and feel certain that God will continue to make Himself known in Haiti."

The Livesays' deep commitment to the people of Haiti will continue to shine through in their work with World Wide Village. "We've grown to love them over the past few months," says Pat Mortensen, "and look forward to working together for a long time to come."

For an entertaining glimpse into the Livesays' lives, check out their blog at [Livesay Blog](#). But beware! It's compelling, humorous and almost addictive!

Gearing up for a Festival with Flair



Plans are underway to make this fall's Festival for Haiti the biggest and best ever, so mark your calendar now! It'll be held **November 1st** at the Marriott Minneapolis Airport. Prepare for an evening of excitement, enlightenment and entertainment, all to benefit the work of World Wide Village. In light of the

dire circumstances currently facing so many Haitian people, your faithful support is more important than ever.

Festival fun will include a silent auction, which is guaranteed to be an exciting event. **Please consider contributing something enticing to this worthy cause.** Tickets for sporting events are always a big hit. How about a suite for a Vikings or Wild game? Theatre tickets also inspire lively bidding, as do handcrafted items and gift baskets. Other creative ideas are welcome! **If you or someone you know have items to donate, please contact Pat Mortensen at pmortensen@worldwidevillage.org or 651-777-6908.** Thank you!

Children Awaiting Sponsors



We still have many children at the Arcahaie School in need of sponsors.

For **only \$28.00 per month** you can help provide tuition, uniforms and school supplies for a child.

Please visit our website for more information. [Sponsor a Child](#)

Please keep World Wide Village and the people of Haiti in your prayers and consider contributing to its vital work in one of the world's most impoverished nations.

Unitl next time,

Randy & Pat Mortensen