

Buy StreetWise only from a badged vendor

StreetWise

\$2



HAITI

- International boundary
- - - Departmental boundary
- ⊙ National capital
- ⊙ Departmental seat
- Town, village
- Main road
- - - Secondary road
- ✚ Airport



Homelessness: Here & Haiti



Also Inside:
Chicago Auto Show
Carla Bruni-Sarkozy, First Lady of France

chicago StreetWise

MISSION: TO HELP PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY THROUGH GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT

Our Greatest Need



By Bruce Crane
Executive Director

I regularly get asked by friends, readers, donors, and volunteers: "How can I help? What do the vendors need?"

I would certainly be the last to deny that we need more donations to expand our capacity to help our current vendors and to serve more people who could benefit by our programs. But our biggest need, in media parlance, is a larger market share.

We need more people to buy *StreetWise*, plain and simple. If more people would buy the magazine, then more vendors get the growth that comes with interacting with more of the public, and the better self image that comes from fulfilling a useful purpose.

Sure you could buy more magazines from more vendors, and that is valuable to them. But the best way to help us is to talk about *StreetWise* with your friends and co-workers. Help them to learn about the work we do, the process the vendors go through, and the help they would provide if they, too, would say "hello" to a vendor, to make eye contact, and to smile. From there, the next step for the vendor is to have the opportunity to engage them, and offer the magazine for sale. When this process works, the vendor feels empowered, and more confident. Over time, they can use that growth to evaluate their own goals and make the next steps toward their self sufficiency.

Keep *StreetWise* visible. Carry our magazine so others might notice it, leave it out on your coffee table, or leave it in a doctor's office waiting room where other people might be exposed to *StreetWise*. Talk about *StreetWise* at a dinner party, or at your favorite hangout. Talk about *StreetWise* at your place of worship or group

meetings. Hold me to the fire: ask me to come speak to your community, school, or business group. I'm told I can dress up OK and present reasonably well! I would happily bring a vendor to share their story, and how *StreetWise* was the catalyst for change in their life.

If you fall into one of the generations that are adept at the emerging electronic social networking activities, perhaps you would spread the word and help *StreetWise* become "viral."

As you talk with others, help us spread the word that our program hinges on the vendor's ability to learn from the public through their daily interactions with people. Some of our vendors really benefit from the example of these interactions, learning communication skills, appropriate behavior, and effective ways to get along with other people. These vendors need an understanding public willing to help them along the way.

Obviously, many of our vendors have these skills and have developed wonderful relationships with their regular customers, a powerful and wonderful dynamic. But all of our vendors will benefit from a broader market that will stop, say "hello," and buy a magazine. Your help with this part of our mission is our greatest need.

Advertise your Business in *StreetWise* Magazine and support those who are homeless or at risk of being homeless who are working towards self-sufficiency through gainful employment with dignity. Promote your business to a demographic who is socially conscious, educated and always wants to support like minded, local businesses.

Call us at 312-829-2526 or e-mail is at advertising@streetwise.org

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Where the money goes...

Vendors buy *StreetWise* for 75 cents, and the remaining \$1.25 goes directly to the licensed vendor.

features

WorldWise

Carla Bruni-Sarkozy

France's *Macadam* talks to the First Lady about her charitable foundation work, marginalization, and the importance of giving back.



page **4**

Chicago Auto Show

Hot this year: efficiency

In this economy people want cars to go far, fast, at a low "green" cost. See what Detroit and others have come up with.



8 page

Vendor Spotlight

Editor of *Africa Today*

Meet Dr. Wale Idris, who is editor-in-chief and founder of the self-published *Africa Today* newspaper.



page **15**

departments

news

WorldWise page 4-5
Cover Story page 12-14

entertainment

Ginny & the Chef page 6
DineWise page 6-7
Volunteer Spotlight Page 7
TechWise Page 10
Event Calendar Page 11

streetwise

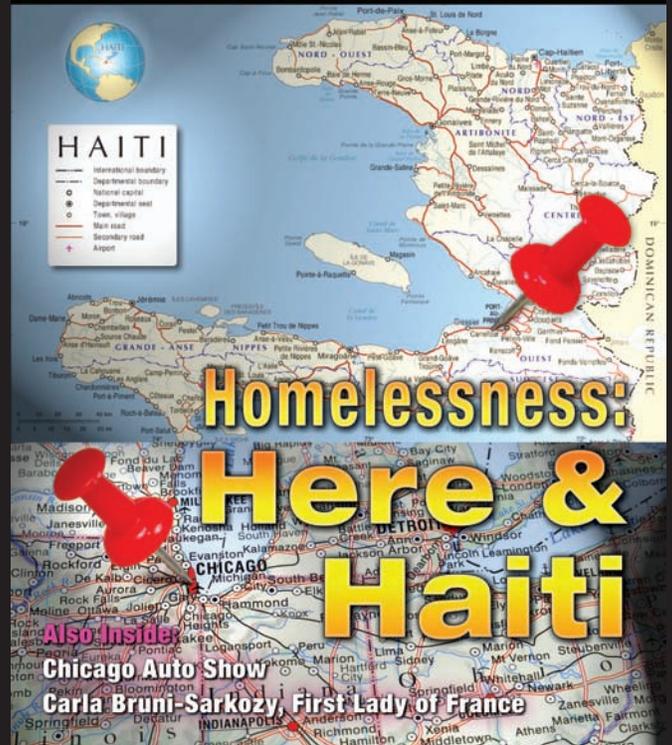
The Playground
will return next week.
Vendor Profile page 15

volunteer

Volunteer Chicago
Online at www.streetwise.org

cover story

chicago StreetWise



Also Inside:
Chicago Auto Show
Carla Bruni-Sarkozy, First Lady of France

Homelessness: Here & Haiti

Chicago recalls its historic ties to Haiti as it joins the world in offering assistance to the earthquake victims. Refugees are using Chicago as a way station as they rebuild their lives.

page **12**

By Saïd Mahrane and François Fillon

Translated by Anna Currie

Reprinted from *Macadam*

Insecurity, marginalization, and the powerful poison of indifference—these are the issues that dominate France, where Carla Bruni-Sarkozy is First Lady.

In 2008 she willingly accepted the role of ambassador for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, two years after losing a brother to the disease. Since moving into the official presidential residence at the Elysée Palace with her husband, Nicolas Sarkozy, Bruni-Sarkozy has striven to stay informed about the realities of French society, fully aware that the majority of those living in poverty don't reside on the Avenue Victor-Hugo.

Last month, pursued by neither microphones nor cameras, she took part in a soup run organized by SAMU Social, a French emergency service that supports homeless people. There was anger in her eyes, as well as distress, as she came face to face with the plight of people who are coldly categorized with an acronym by the National Institute of Statistics and the media: SDF, or *sans domicile fixe*, which means “without fixed abode.”

Although she's barely scratched the surface of this world, Bruni-Sarkozy says she's struck up a friendship—undoubtedly an unconventional one—with a man who lives on the pavement two steps away from her front door. His name is Denis. She adds that “there are a lot of empty promises blown around in philanthropy” and not enough action.

Well, my dear Madame Sarkozy, we are going to hold you to that—this is your cue to act, for the sake of Denis and for all the others who live in poverty.

What are the aims of the Carla Bruni-Sarkozy Foundation?

Carla Bruni-Sarkozy: The foundation has two aims, the first being to give economically disadvantaged people better cultural access, especially young people. I would like to give people a chance to gain entry to prestigious art and design schools. It's often assumed that an aptitude for creativity is something spontaneous, but artistic professions require proper technical training.

We're launching our first scholarship program aimed at students in their final years of secondary school in order to try and reduce the elitism that restricts access to this type of training. We're supporting the creative development of 500 final-year students who, next year, will receive scholarships designed to help them gain a foothold in their dream profession. We also intend to organize master classes with professionals working in creative fields who will give lectures about their profession.



“

I don't think we should ever boast about having achieved balance in our lives. I reckon it's all down to chance. We can all lose our equilibrium from one day to the next; all it needs is one thing to go wrong. And, what might just cause some people immense heartache might mean a downward spiral of misery to rock bottom for others.

The foundation's other aim is to reduce illiteracy levels. It will offer help to anyone who needs it, including adults who have a social life, a job, and a family but are ashamed of not being able to read. I should add that we're not only supporting projects but also organizations that are already carrying out this type of work. That's important, because I find there are a lot of empty promises blown around in philanthropy. We want to provide concrete help, but we aren't going to try and replace people who've already been very active for a long time in this area—we would rather fund them and raise the profile of their work.

How can culture help people who are marginalized? Don't priorities lie elsewhere?

Culture isn't just a means of "integrating yourself"—it's something that enriches lives as much as material possessions do. It's something fundamental to mankind. Culture is just as essential to a marginalized person as it is to someone with a roof over their head or a job. Access to it is a universal right.

You've led a very fortunate life. Is there some kind of guilt gnawing away at you? Or do you just feel it's your duty to share some of your good fortune?

It's a chance to widen the scope of my life beyond myself. The way I see it, it's more of a learning opportunity than a duty, a chance to lead a more interesting life. It's also a means of manipulating the enormous media attention I receive toward more beneficial ends. Giving something back is quite a natural urge for me—almost a need, really. I'm of the opinion that this stems from nothing more than simple human nature, which can be quite destructive when you look at it up close, but is also quite comforting. There are plenty of people much less fortunate than me who dedicate themselves to voluntary work on a full-time basis.

Do you have any message of solidarity for them?

My message is that the people who do the work, who give their time, are the ones setting the example. It's a message of recognition. It's easy to talk about volunteering, but on a cold winter evening they're the ones who leave their houses and go and help others. It's a true vocation lots of people have without making any fuss about it.

Times are hard for volunteers, and this has repercussions for marginalized people. What's your opinion of a society where everybody is more interested in themselves than in others?

Our society is riddled with faults, but all the same it seems to me that people have rarely helped each other out so much as now, historically speaking. I travel a lot with my husband, and I think that our country is quite well off compared to other places in the world. You must admit that France has a strong maternal instinct toward her citizens.

Do you get into these matters with your husband?

There's nothing I don't bring up with my husband. I don't bring up anything at all with "the President of the Republic," because I never see him like that. Sometimes he's able to fill me in on the full details of something, but we speak as equals—we're just like any other couple.

I know that marginalization issues are close to his heart.



The problem with his position is that he has absolute responsibility for everything. When we see people sleeping in the street, any one of us would be affected by it; when he sees them, he is undoubtedly overwhelmed by his responsibilities.

Can you tell us about your recent soup run with SAMU Social?

It was an illuminating experience. I was able to observe the work this organization carries out every day, 24/7. If I've learned anything from SAMU Social, it's that homeless people can only be offered support—they can't be treated or saved from themselves. Their choices and their right to free will have to be respected, because it's one of the only things that they still own.

Did you suddenly become aware of some harsh realities?

I think that although I was aware of them beforehand, I wasn't as well informed as I am now. I think it was my marriage that changed that. I don't fly the flag for any political party on my own account—I took part in that soup run as an individual, not as Mrs. Sarkozy. I could have done a soup run without marrying my husband; I wanted to contribute something as a fellow human being.

The difficult thing about my position is that even if I don't go after politics, they come after me. Politics are very invasive. They affect everything and everybody, and therefore they're everywhere . . . I want to distinguish myself from all that, as I refuse to let the people who work with me live under the threat of being hijacked for political gain.

Tell us about Denis, this man that lives on the pavement not far from your house.

He's a charming man who has actually lived in the neighborhood for a long time. Over time we've built up a bond of friendship. I sometimes stop to say hello to him, and very quickly we'll have moved on to talk about books and music. I'm constantly impressed by how sophisticated his knowledge of culture is; maybe that's an important crutch for him to lean on. Basically, he's no

different than you or me except that he lives outside. Obviously that bothers me, but he has never tried to leave his life on the street.

Maybe he made a mistake in his life that knocked him off balance. I don't think we should ever boast about having achieved balance in our lives; I reckon it's all down to chance. We can all lose our equilibrium from one day to the next—all it needs is one thing to go wrong. And what might cause some people immense heartache [but nothing more] might cause a downward spiral to rock bottom for others.

Is it an unstoppable decline?

You still have freedom—the freedom to choose your life. It might seem indulgent to say it, but I believe that's how things are. It can't be simplified in terms of a tramp quaintly choosing his own bench, but when you speak to homeless people you can see that they still have free will. Admittedly, they exist at the margins of mainstream society, but even on the margins you are still part of society, you still occupy a place in it. It's a very distinct position. The men and women who work to help these people directly know how to show great psychological sensitivity. It's not just a question of hot soup. It has to do with contact, making a connection.

The most dangerous thing that can break down for a human being is their connections. Whenever I speak to Denis, I get the distinct feeling that he's let go of his ties. I don't know his life story, I don't know about his childhood; perhaps no objective explanation exists for his situation. I know people who are like him without being homeless. Artists, for example, are totally cut off from other people. You get the feeling that without their pen, their paintbrush, or their piano, they could very well give up on themselves.

The tragedy in all this is that it's a very harsh life. When you take into account the cold, the heat, the violence on the streets—often alcohol as well—it's no wonder people's health deteriorates. But the help given to homeless people by all these thousands of volunteers and social workers leaves room for hope.

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By Ginny & Chef J
StreetWise Contributors
(www.genetics.org, www.researchchefs.us)

Delicious Aging

Your kitchen can become your own anti-aging pharmacy. Unlike some other solutions, such as Botox, injectables, and plastic surgery, Mother Nature has created a very special solution to your aging needs that won't break your bank account.

Eating processed foods in large amounts over a number of years, particularly ones filled with sugar and white flour, can negatively affect your body and its ability to heal itself. This is why we say, "Choose and consume your foods like your life depended on it."

Healthy food "choices" can be inexpensive and delicious. Our first suggestion is to go with what's in season, such as Florida and California oranges. They're loaded with vitamin C and antioxidants, and they're easy to carry—perfect for a "pack your snack" treat.

Another great in-season item is onions, which contain quercetin, a flavorful, powerful antioxidant. They also contain allyl sulfides, which help

reduce the risk of some cancers, according to research. The onion's best friend is garlic: when prepared properly—finely chopped and left to sit for ten minutes in order to activate enzymes—it's a powerful flavor enhancer, chock-full of powerful phytochemicals that are still not clearly understood by scientists but provide amazing health benefits.

Taking advantage of inexpensive anti-aging foods is easy when you include legumes—i.e., beans—in your daily menu. Beans are not only a delicious vegetable but also a great source of protein. They contain both soluble and insoluble fiber, potassium, folate, magnesium, and a variety of B vitamins. Studies show that beans can positively impact longevity, obesity, heart health, and diabetes. They can be purchased dried or canned, and one half-cup serving is all you need to reap some of their powerful benefits.

Calorie for calorie, greens are some of the most nutrient-dense anti-aging foods you can buy that are still quite inexpensive. Cabbage, collard, kale, and spinach contain vitamin C, folate, potassium, iron, fiber, and anti-cancer compounds. These greens are also versatile in culinary preparation, whether raw, steamed, sautéed, pickled, or dehydrated. Greens should be included in your diet every day.

Lastly, don't forget a little chocolate. Its high flavonol content, including vitamins and minerals, is a great choice for a happy ending to any meal. (Chef and I like to make our own old-fashioned hot chocolate on chilly winter nights.)

With all these colorful, inexpensive foods at your disposal, there's no excuse for you not to use your kitchen to improve your health and your life.

For more food and fitness tips, visit genetics.org.



Cinnamon Infused Hot Chocolate (serves 1)

FoodWise Shopping List:

- 1 cup non-fat milk (or soy milk)
- ¼ teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 2 teaspoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- Shaved dark chocolate for garnish is optional

FoodWise Cooking Instructions:

- In a sauce pan, heat milk until top of milk begins to steam (don't boil).
- While milk is warming, place cinnamon, sugar, and cocoa powder in cup.
- Gradually add hot milk, stirring the entire time.
- Garnish with shaved dark chocolate.
- Enjoy!

NUTRITIONAL INFO

| Serving Size (252g) | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Servings Per Container | |
| Amount Per Serving | |
| Calories 110 | Calories from Fat 5 |
| % Daily Value* | |
| Total Fat 0.5g | 1% |
| Saturated Fat 0g | 0% |
| Cholesterol 5mg | 2% |
| Sodium 130mg | 5% |
| Total Carbohydrate 19g | 6% |
| Dietary Fiber 0g | 0% |
| Sugars 18g | |
| Protein 9g | |
| Vitamin A 10% | Vitamin C 4% |
| Calcium 30% | Iron 0% |

DineWise

By Lee Barrie & Cindy Kurman Barrie
StreetWise Contributors

A Korean-Japanese couple has created two heavenly restaurants that are intimate and special

Her name is Chiyo. She was born in Korea but raised in Japan. Her husband, Iso, is Japanese and a chef. With their two restaurants, a half a block from each other on West Lawrence, Chicagoans have discovered what is often difficult to find: an authentically Japanese food experience, and a spot for Asian BBQ that is lighter and more delicious than most. The food is prepared with a loving touch and the restaurants are handsome, intimate and offer superb service. Quality and service are the hallmarks here.

We first became acquainted with **Chiyo** (the person as well as her namesake restaurant) when our close friends invited us to try a "special" Japanese eatery. Since we love sushi, it was a no-brainer. What we didn't expect was the

warm décor and the cordial attention we received. When we opened the menu—which features far more than sushi, we were amazed at the unique items we had never eaten before.

Chiyo offers a more authentic Japanese food experience than most Chicago restaurants. People visiting Chicago from Japan seek out the restaurant, and food lovers marvel at the unique tastes and textures. From freshly prepared sushi and sashimi to the hot dishes cooked at the table, Chiyo offers a wide choice, making it a very festive dining experience.

The Ippin Ryori, Japanese style tapas, are starters featuring ingredients and tasty flavor combinations you may not have had before. Paired with a bottle of cold sake, they are an adventure unto themselves. Among our favorites are Kanisu (crab meat with cucumbers in vinegar), Ankimo (monkfish liver with ponzu sauce) and the amazing Spicy Seafood Salad.

The house specialties are the hot meals cooked at the table. Shabu Shabu features thin slices of beef cooked in boiling water and dipped in either a sesame or ponzu citrus dipping sauce. Sukiyaki is a beef and vegetable dish in which very thinly sliced beef is simmered with various vegetables and a sweetened, flavored soy sauce. Yose-Nabe is a somewhat lighter dish featuring seafood, chicken, and assorted vegetables cooked in broth together in a hot pot and served with ponzu sauce. All three dishes can be ordered with regular beef or Kobe beef and both choices are good. If you're

in a splurging mood, go for the Kobe.

If you're in the mood for sushi, Chiyo serves a wide assortment, including most of the standards you've come to enjoy at other sushi restaurants. The sushi is fresh and nicely presented without being pretentious.

The hot entrees are also gloriously prepared. You can pick from a number of teriyaki, tempura and sautéed dishes. The servers will help you choose the type of sauces and spiciness that most please your palate.

Dessert is not typically a Japanese specialty but, joyfully, Chiyo is unique: the desserts are very creative and definitely worth saving room for.

Chicago Kalbi is an excellent choice for Yakiniiku, the Japanese version of Korean BBQ, particularly if you would like to eat a lighter (but still delicious) version than is found in many authentically Korean restaurants. Chiyo (the owner) is delightfully straightforward about the Japanese influence of the restaurant. She told us that the food is less heavy and less greasy and diners can take advantage of the many Japanese side dishes that go perfectly with the barbecue.

We recommend that you start your meal with some shared appetizers, which are made to order. We love the Pajun, featuring an assortment of squid, beef and green onions battered with a crepe and grilled to form a pancake. If you're an oyster lover, the delicious Guljun is a similar pancake creation

Be a Frank Lloyd Wright Historical Tour Guide!

The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust is seeking volunteers to assist at both Wright's Robie House in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood (5757 S. Woodlawn Ave.) and the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio in Oak Park (951 Chicago Ave.). A two-week spring volunteer training session at Robie House begins Tuesday, February 23, and at the Home and Studio on Tuesday, March 9.

Volunteers enjoy membership benefits: invitations to exclusive events, including excursions to art and architectural attractions; exclusive educational opportunities, such as architectural-based lectures; a monthly newsletter; and discounts in the museum shops.

Preservation Trust volunteers help keep the legacy of Frank Lloyd Wright alive by leading tours of two world-class museums and their historic neighborhoods, assisting with preservation efforts and educational endeavors, and working in the museum shops.

Wright's Robie House is considered one of the most important buildings in the history of American architecture. It inspired an architectural revolution with its sweeping horizontal lines, dramatic overhangs, stretches of art glass windows, and open floor plan, making it a quintessential Prairie-style house.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio served as the architect's private residence and workplace from 1889 to 1909, the first 20 years of his career. Wright used his home as an architectural laboratory, experimenting with design concepts that contained the seeds of his building philosophy.

Interested parties are encouraged to contact the Preservation Trust by February 15 to receive pre-course materials. For more information about the trust, the museum sites, and volunteer opportunities, please visit gowright.org or call 708-725-3818.

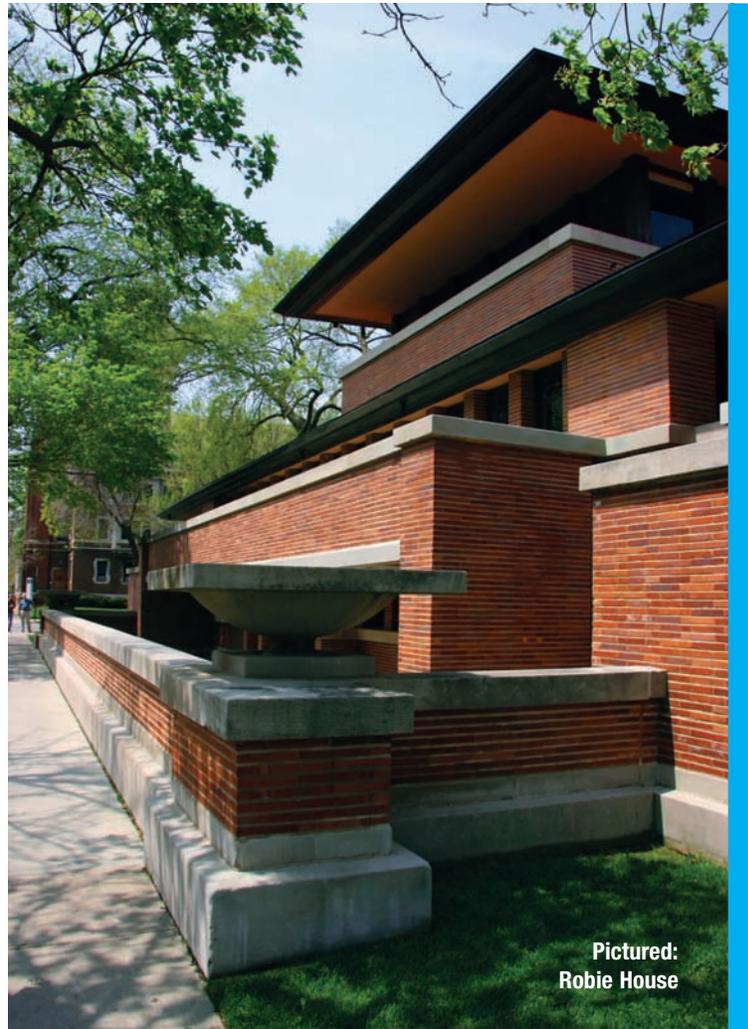
Spring Training Schedule

Robie House Spring 2010

Tuesday, February 23 6-9 p.m.
 Thursday, February 25 6-9 p.m.
 Saturday, February 27 8:30-4 p.m.
 Thursday, March 4 6-9 p.m.
 Saturday, March 6 8:30-4 p.m.
 Tuesday, March 9 6-9 p.m.

Home and Studio Spring 2010

Tuesday, March 9 6-9 p.m.
 Thursday, March 11 6-9 p.m.
 Saturday, March 13 8:30-4 p.m.
 Thursday, March 18 6-9 p.m.
 Saturday, March 20 8:30-4 p.m.
 Tuesday, March 23 6-9 p.m.



Pictured:
Robie House

with oysters. Another delight is the Yakimandu, twice cooked dumplings with beef and vegetables. If you're a tartare fan, you'll enjoy Yuk-Hwe, a Japanese style tartare made from raw seasoned beef tenderloin with a raw egg yolk.

Asian BBQ refers to the tender, thin slices of marinated meat that guests prepare on a wood grill right at the table. You can choose a variety of meats: Kalbi (short ribs), Bulgogi (beef ribeye), Oeji-Gui (sliced pork), Saewoo-Gui (shrimp) and Ojingu-Gui (squid) and just some of the choices. You can order Kobe beef and prime rib eye if you prefer.

Chicago Kalbi also offers a wide range of Korean noodle dishes and sautéed entrées, which are worth a try if you're not in the mood for the BBQ. The creamy green tea ice cream is a refreshing finish to your meal.

And here's a tip: when you sit down at either Chiyo or Chicago Kalbi, ask what's on the "special" menu. That's what the insiders do. You'll discover a new world of authentic dishes that your server will gladly walk you through. Enjoy the journey.

DineWise is a weekly column appearing in StreetWise magazine. Lee Barrie is on the StreetWise board of directors and he and his wife Cindy own Kurman Communications, a Chicago-based public relations agency specializing in lifestyle, restaurant and hospitality strategic branding, marketing promotions, media relations and social networking. If you'd like your restaurant to be featured on the DineWise blog and in StreetWise magazine, please contact dinewise@kurman.com.



Chiyo
 3800 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago
 (773) 267-1555
www.chiyorestaurant.com
 Hours: 4-11 p.m., Tues.-Sat.; 4-10 p.m., Sun. Closed on Mondays.

Chicago Kalbi
 3752 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago
 (773) 604-8183
www.chicago-kalbi.com
 Hours: 5 p.m.-midnight, Mon. and Wed.-Sun. Closed on Tuesdays.



Big Dreams...
Big Show...
Big Fun

Chicago Auto Show

Toyota's LF-CH concept may hint of a new entry into the Prius family of hybrids.

Story and photos by Dave Boe
Streetwise Contributor

The 10-day run of the annual Chicago Auto Show, February 12-21, is anything but virtual reality—it's polished sheet metal so up close and personal that folks can see, touch, and feel it.

What better way to spend a chilly February in Chicago than to stroll the 1.2-million-square-foot gem that is McCormick Place? The family-friendly car extravaganza remains one of the few major events open to the public at Chicago's world-class trade-oriented complex. As in years past, both the North and South halls will be utilized, providing wide, spacious aisles for car geeks and potential buyers to roam. No other auto show in America covers this much square footage with such elegance and comfort.

The domestic auto sector looks to rebound this year after saying farewell to a brutal 2009. In the United States, car and light-truck sales totaled 10.43 million, the lowest yearly total since 1982. By contrast, 2005 saw sales at a historic high—nearly 17 million.

Adding insult to injured pride was the historic and well-publicized forced bankruptcy of General Motors and Chrysler, two of the Big Three auto makers. Thanks to \$64 billion in government-backed loans, the slimmed-down GM and reborn Chrysler LLC, now part of Italy's Fiat, are embarking down a more cost-efficient yet tedious road. Both companies plan to repay their borrowed funds long before the July 2015 due date.

Unlike the 2009 auto-show season, in which uncertainty reigned supreme, 2010 actually has some bounce in its step. No longer is the industry waiting to hit bottom—this year is all about forward thinking and innovation.

However, a sense of mystery remains in the air. Many technologies on display are vying for attention and funding dollars. The next 10 years will see a cataclysmic shift from just a decade ago, when the internal combustion engine—the 20th-century choice—reigned supreme.

New lingo

Consumers may have to get used to a whole new set of acronyms as the next generation of electric propulsion engines comes online, with terms like electric vehicle (EV), plug-in electric hybrid vehicle (PEHV), and battery electric vehicle (BEV).

Just about every manufacturer at the auto

show includes an alternative-power vehicle concept or soon-to-arrive production model at their display. Plug-in electric vehicles, including the much-anticipated Chevrolet Volt and Nissan Leaf, are promised on the road in less than a year. Gas-electric hybrids remain in the pipeline at many companies; Honda's compact 2011 CR-Z gas-electric hybrid sport coupe goes on sale this summer, joining its second-generation Honda Insight stablemate. Clean diesel technology, on the road now, may be scrutinized further at Volkswagen and Mercedes-Benz displays, among others.

Manufacturers use the Chicago Auto Show as a springboard for vehicle debuts. This year Swedish auto maker Volvo will unveil a prototype of its all-electric, C-30 battery electric vehicle for the first time ever. Many other firsts are scheduled as well.

Small seems to be the new big in the eyes of consumers and manufacturers. Check out the revamped, next-generation 2011 Ford Focus, built from a compact global platform and expected in dealer showrooms in about a year. Not to be outdone, Chevrolet's compact 2011 Cruze (also a global platform) promises 40 miles per gallon on the highway and is expected at dealerships by late spring. The even smaller Chevrolet Spark minicar starts production in late 2011, and in less than a year Chrysler will



The much talked about Chevrolet Volt is scheduled to go on sale later this year on the west coast.

have its own version of the Fiat 500, a minicar enjoying big sales in Europe.

Speaking of Chrysler, the company is bringing back its popular test track to the Chicago Auto Show, inviting folks to take real-world rides in Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, and Ram vehicles; last year, more than 64,000 people participated. There's no extra charge for this adventure, just one of many interactive displays at the auto show, but arrive early for shorter wait times: lines can resemble those found at Six Flags Great America during summer months. The Jeep test track alone features a 35-degree incline and 45-degree decline—so buckle up.

What else?

Some "to do" items may be completed as well. Need to renew or replace your driver's license? The Illinois Secretary of State's office has a booth near the huge General Motors display. Always wanted to donate blood? The American Red Cross returns with its mobile blood drive vehicles, ready to attend to all applicants. The Chicago police and fire departments, who remind drivers to always wear their seat belts, will also be present.

The Chicago Auto Show not only boasts just about every new car or light truck available on dealer lots, but classic cars and race cars as well. The Volo Auto Museum's display houses vintage automobiles and movie cars for kids of all ages to enjoy. Die-cast cars and accessories will also be for sale. And the Chicago chapter of the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) will once again showcase its fast-paced wares.

The key aspect setting the Chicago Auto Show apart from all others is you, the consumer. The annual event attracts more regular Joes and Joans than any other car extravaganza in America. Auto manufacturers, keen to this fact, work with the crowds, gathering much-needed, unfiltered feedback. Your voice will be heard.

Parking

Parking options surround McCormick Place, including the Soldier Field parking lot; expect to pay around \$19 for up to 12 hours of parking. On Saturdays and Sundays the Chicago Auto Show continuously runs free shuttle buses from the Millennium Park garage at the corner of Columbus Drive and Monroe Street to McCormick Place and back. The Auto Show's

parking rate at the Millennium Park garage is \$14.

Watch from home

Several local TV outlets will provide coverage from the floor of the Chicago Auto Show. On Saturday, February 13, NBC 5 will feature an hourlong live broadcast from 6 to 7 p.m., with an encore February 14 at noon. In advance of Hispanic Day (Friday, February 19), Telemundo Chicago will air an hourlong program taped during the opening weekend. Also, watch for local morning and evening newscasts with segments highlighting the auto show.

(Helpful hint for those not La-Z-Boy bound: Tuesday and Wednesday generally offer the lightest foot traffic.)

2010 Auto Show at a Glance

Dates: Friday, Feb. 12 through Sunday, Feb. 21

Hours: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Sunday, Feb. 21: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

Where: McCormick Place, 2301 S. Martin Luther King Drive, (Lake Shore Dr. and 23rd St.) Chicago

Tickets: \$11 for adults; \$7 for Seniors 62 and better; \$7 for children 7-12; Free for kids 6 and under

Canned Food Drive: Wednesday through Friday—Three cans of food equals \$4 off regular admission

Show Producer: The Chicago Automobile Trade Association

First Look for Charity

This black tie event the night before the Auto Show opens allows you to stroll around the 1,000 vehicles while sipping champagne, soft drinks, and eating hors d'oeuvres and desserts. There's five "Drive-Thru Gourmet" stations and three "Destination Dining" multi-course areas. One lucky attendee will win a 2010 Chevrolet Equinox. Proceeds benefit 18 Chicago area charities. Tickets \$225 online at chicagoautoshow.com/firstlook through Feb. 10. More information at 630.495.2282.

For more information or to purchase tickets in advance online, visit www.chicagoautoshow.com.



The revamped 2011 Ford Focus is built from a global platform



The Hyundai Equus represents the South Korean automaker's next high-end entry.



The all-new 2011 compact Chevrolet Cruze will be assembled in Lordstown, Ohio.



Automakers get creative in order to drive crowds to their displays and products.

Technology to the rescue in Haiti

By Rafiki Cai
StreetWise Contributor

Technology is meant to be a 'systematic' arranging of knowledge and resources, in such a way that it amplifies our efficiency and our power: our ability to effectively do work. This is especially true in times of emergency and tragedy, as is seen in Haiti at the present moment.

However, for those who might veer too far off into the mantra of ones and zeroes, there is a caution: humans are the first technology. As within all systems, if the foundation is flawed so will be all that follows. There is no doubt that a large scale tech display is playing out in Port-au-Prince, almost likened unto an impromptu world's fair. Non-stop arrival of planes. Impressive payloads of needed deliveries. Record amounts of money flying across SMS networks.

With all of this and more, somehow a constant echo has brought horror to millions: "bottle neck". Bottle neck. Bottle neck. This euphemism has meant that all of the outpouring of love, and break neck speed and power has screeched to a halt on the tarmac, while the maimed, the dehydrated, the hungry sit mere minutes away.

Less we think this to be a result of destroyed roads only, Stanford Digital Vision Fellow Carlos Miranda Levy gives this report from Haiti: "... it hurts, it truly hurts to see the suffering of the people when others are safely waiting for instructions in the comfort of their secured compounds. And Haitians and anyone without an orange jacket or badge of the UN cluster of friends is turned away when they ask for help or supplies. This I've seen with my own two eyes."

In Haiti, the power of technology has arrived, but it is being crippled somewhat by first technology glitches, such as organizational turf (possibly national too), command hierarchies, modern tendencies toward regimented instruction within macro-systems, and an obvious lack of a pre-coordinated international playbook. This is not to be mean-spirited toward the Haitian responders. It is spoken only for the betterment of our total technology, not just the digital and mechanical kind; but toward ourselves, our abilities to interact, coordinate and intuitively improvise.

One lesson being gleaned in Haiti is that micro is good. In many instances, it is micro technology; that is having impact now and will continue to in the critical weeks and months ahead. Here are three micro resources that facilitate those helping on the ground in Haiti and amongst those wanting to help from around the world.

Hope140.Org: Small Apertures On A Gigantic Scene

Twitter's importance in crisis and tragedy is being proven once again. This time around it is via <http://www.Hope140.org>, a micro-portal

established by Twitter itself; which is helping to facilitate clarity and communication. Both seem elusive right now, especially to those too close to the situation to see a clear big picture.

Android and iPhone: Reaching The Next Tent, Not Home

While major news organizations dispatched their journalists to Port-au-Prince equipped with \$3,500 Thrane & Thrane BGAN and Iridium satellite phones (w/\$1-\$2 a minute rates), medical personnel are needing a much more practical solution. There is currently an effort afoot to create a mobile medical protocol that can help gather vital patient information and then port this data back to a central database, via WiFi over a local intranet.

This effort needs a donation of iPhones and/or Nexus Ones, and possibly programmers to help convert the protocol to iPhone and Android apps. For details on how to participate in this effort, please text to 801-618-0824.

Ideas4Haiti.Org: Together Technology is Better Technology

Intellectual property, as the formal phrase goes, drives technology advances. When developed collectively, such creativity rises by magnitudes. This is the intention behind a Public Idea Portal, inspired by Silicon Valley veteran Margarita Quihuis. It is open to all, the tech vet and the non-techie alike. Don't despair if you have no money to contribute to relief response, give of your ideas, your ingenuity or your willingness to conduct research toward fine tuning other's ideas.

ILoveHaiti.Net: A Simple Source for The Long Term Story of Haiti's Recovery and Rise

In due time, Haiti will gain its composure and footing. Its own unique beat of life will sound again, in its art, its music, its organic brilliance. The I Love Haiti extension for Chrome and Firefox will chronicle this process up close, featuring the small victories, the everyday inno-



YORKBLOG.COM

ventions, snippets of the often untold rich legacy of Haiti's noble past. Learn about Haiti. Love on Haiti. One click at a time.

Rafiki Cai is The Digital Doctor, a veteran Internet technologist of 15 years. His column appears courtesy of sponsorship by local Clearwire distributors. He can be reached by email: rafikicai@gmail.com or SMS: 801-618-0824.

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Log on to www.streetwise.org and click on the iGive.com file ad, then shop and give!



iGive.com **chicago StreetWise**

Tuesday

Take advantage of **Jazz, Blues & Beyond Tuesday** with a performance by Come Sunday, a collaboration of seven musicians inspired by jazz legends Duke Ellington and Mahalia Jackson. 12:15 p.m., Randolph Cafe, Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. Free. For more info, visit chicagoculturalcenter.org.

Sway to the beats of Bob Marley and new Caribbean dancehall jams at **Chicago Reggae Tuesdays**. 9 p.m.-2 a.m., the Shambles, 2050 W. Division St. Free. For more info, visit tropicalstormsound.com.

Ongoing

Project Onward artist **Sereno Wilson's *All That Glitters*** pushes the limits of traditional portraiture with glitter and collage. Mon-Thu 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (ends Mon 3/1), Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. Free. For more info, visit chicagoculturalcenter.org.

This year's Black Creativity exhibition at the Museum of Science and Industry, **Taking Charge of YOU!**, focuses on a uniquely African-American perspective for a healthy

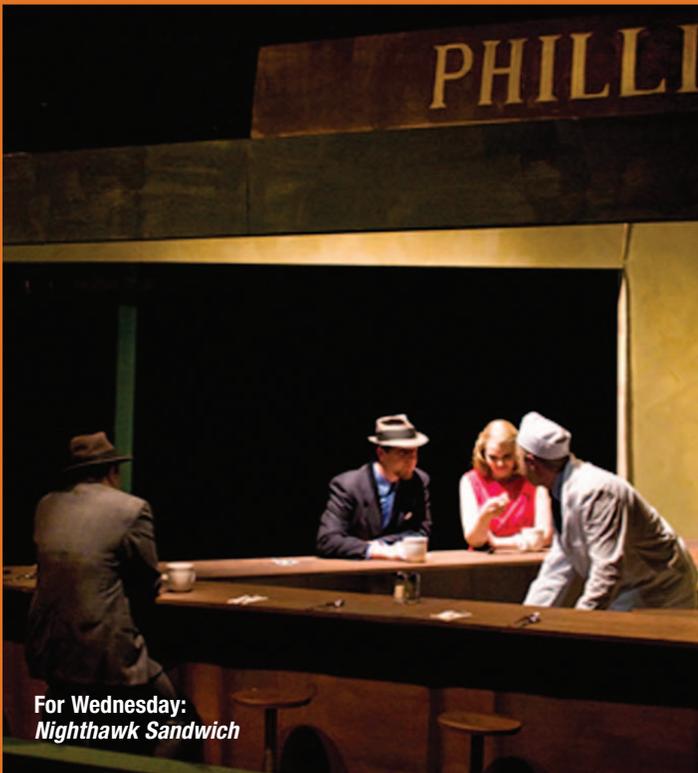
Pictured:
Sonia Sanchez
Part of Freedom
Sisters at the
DuSable Museum
Courtesy Marion Ettlinger



lifestyle and highlights the medical achievements of black health-care pioneers. Mon-Sat 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (ends Sun 2/28), 5700 S. Lake Shore Dr. \$13 adults, \$12 seniors, \$9 kids. For more info, visit msichicago.org.

The exhibit **Freedom's Sisters** invites you to experience the stories of 20 African-American women who've helped shape the civil rights movement since the 19th century, and follow their lives through a series of interactive stations. Tue-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun noon-5 p.m. (ends Sun 4/4), DuSable Museum of African American History, 740 E. 56th Pl. \$3 adults, \$2 students and seniors, \$1 ages 6-13, free for children under 6; free on Sundays. For more info, visit dusablemuseum.org.

—compiled by Samantha Blauw



For Wednesday:
Nighthawk Sandwich

Wednesday

Nighthawk Sandwich brings Edward Hopper's painting *Nighthawks* to the stage as a series of vignettes connected to WNEP Theater's ongoing *The (edward) Hopper Project*. 7:30 p.m. (through 2/17), Storefront Theater, 66 E. Randolph St. \$5. For more info, visit dcatheater.org.

Farmers will learn how to increase efficiency and production and make connections with others in the industry. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Kendall College, 900 N. North Branch. Free. Call 312-744-9493 to preregister; for more info, visit chicagofarmersmarkets.us.

Sunday

Pick up fresh produce and support local farmers at **Logan Square's Indoor Winter Farmers Market**. Products grown and raised in the Midwest, from onions to poultry, will be on sale. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (through 3/28), Congress Theater (lobby), 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. Free. For more info, visit logansquarefarmersmarket.org.

Monday

Listen to live classical music for free at the **Chicago Opera Theater Young Artists Recital**, part of LunchBreak's Classical Mondays concert series. 12:15 p.m., Preston Bradley Hall, Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. For more info, visit chicagoculturalcenter.org.

Friday

The University of Chicago's First Friday lecture series invites you to explore a different side of Saint Augustine in **Saint Augustine's 'Confessions': Struggles, Adversity, Calm, and Relentless Inquiry**. Ray Ciacci, the university's dean of students, examines the theologian's quest to overcome failure. 12:15 p.m., Claudia Cassidy Theater, Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. Free. For more info, visit chicagoculturalcenter.org.

Saturday

Urban farmers looking to connect with chefs and managers can preregister to attend the **Farmer Forum**, which promotes local businesses and food.

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Make a difference.





U.S. Soldiers with Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., hand out food and water to Haitians January 22 in Port-au-Prince, for Operation Unified Response (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jeremy Lock/Released).



Below: U.S. Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) personnel from Los Angeles County Fire Department helping in Haiti. As of January 22, there are 551 U.S. USAR personnel in Haiti (from Fairfax County, Va.; Los Angeles County; Miami; Miami-Dade; Virginia Beach; and New York). As of January 22, U.S. USAR teams had rescued 47 individuals in Haiti.



View of the damage to the National Palace, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.



January 19 members of the Miami-Dade TF1 rescue a 2-year-old from the rubble of a earthquake-destroyed building in Haiti. USAID deployed the Miami-Dade TF1 squad as a part of the comprehensive U.S. response to the January 12 earthquake that struck Haiti.



USAID Urban Search and Rescue team Miami-Dade performs search and rescue operations in Haiti, January 18.

Homelessness: Here & Haiti

By Shannon McFarland and Stephanie A. Taylor
StreetWise Contributors

The air at the DuSable Museum of African American History was thick with sorrow on Sunday, January 17, during the “All Chicago Unity Observance for the Earthquake Victims in Haiti.” By January 19 the death toll in the Caribbean nation had reached 200,000.

U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill.), organizer of the rally, told the audience he was “eternally grateful” for their presence. He said he was in Washington, D.C., when he first heard of the 7.0-magnitude earthquake, whose epicenter was just 10 miles from the highly populated region around the capital of Port-au-Prince. As the congressman led the audience in prayer, a woman wailed out in an anguished cry.

“My whole being is overwhelmed with emotion,” said Janine Raymond, president of the Friends of Haiti. “We must pick up the pieces, dry our tears, and start anew.”

Despite the disastrous circumstances, there

were loving and encouraging words for the former French colony, as well as a sense of unity.

“Make sure to remember all of our brothers and sisters in Haiti,” Gov. Pat Quinn said. “Whether we know them or not, they’re still our brothers and sisters.”

Chicago had welcomed a total of 240 Haitian refugees as of Friday, January 22. They arrived on two United Airlines flights (30 flights were expected in all); return flights were loaded with water and other supplies.

By receiving funding from agencies like the Red Cross, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Chicago Department of Public Health, shelters in Chicago have not seen additional costs as a result of the Haitian evacuees, said Anne Sheahan of the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services (CDFSS).

The Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) was supporting CDFSS by taking care of unaccompanied minors on the incoming flights. So far, four minors on the flights have been reunited with their adoptive families in the U.S., according to DCFS Deputy Director of Communications spokesperson Kendall Marlowe.

However, there were already many adoptions in process between Haiti and the U.S. Many government buildings that housed relevant documents

were destroyed in the earthquake, complicating those adoptions, Marlowe added. While the DCFS hasn’t seen any unaccompanied minors entering Chicago, it has a structure in place to take care of them.

Chicagoans have opened their doors and wallets to Haitian refugees here in the city, rising to the challenge with the help of local shelters, the Red Cross, and volunteers. A Safe Haven, which has a rehabilitation shelter at 2750 W. Roosevelt Rd., has seen firsthand the range of emotional and material comforts that people have been willing to give.

A Safe Haven has provided clothing, food, medical attention, and temporary housing for 170 refugees. According to Lynn Orman Weiss, a spokesperson for the organization, the most empathy has come from the homeless people who stay there.

“A homeless person walked up and gave \$14 out of his own wallet,” she said. “They know what it’s like to live homeless, so they’ve embraced these people.”

Chicago is a pit stop on the way to permanent housing for the Haitian refugees. About 50 were scheduled to leave A Safe Haven on January 22, with more departing the next day. They were headed for New York, Boston, and Miami.



VISION4HAITI.ORG

In addition to welcoming refugees, more than 30 nurses and about half a dozen doctors from the Cook County Health and Hospital system have volunteered to go on relief missions to Haiti. Cook County Board President Todd Stroger said during the DuSable rally that the medical staff would travel there with office supplies, medical supplies, “anything we can give.”

Three days earlier, Stroger said that he would seek to have the nurses’ benefits remain intact during their stay in Haiti. He noted that the county provided similar leave to health workers who volunteered in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, in New York City after 9/11, and in Izmit, Turkey, after an earthquake in ‘99.

Ten days after the earthquake in Haiti, Stroger sent out a fundraising appeal to Cook County employees, asking them to donate to relief organizations, including Partners in Health, the American Red Cross, and the Haitian Crisis Relief Fund, which he called “one of the region’s most respected local relief projects.” He said even though times are hard and Cook County employees are feeling the pinch, they have a history of helping in extraordinary circumstances and donating thousands of dollars.

Stroger’s appeal mentioned the importance of the island country’s history: “For all Americans, we remember and celebrate Haiti’s people as the first in the western hemisphere to throw off the bonds of slavery.”

The Chicago - Haiti Connection

Before leading their revolution for freedom from slavery and France in 1804, more than 500 free Haitian soldiers fought in the American Revolution, according to an Associated Press article about a statue in Georgia that was dedicated in 2007 to the soldiers.

State Sen. Kwame Raoul (D-Chicago) spoke about Haiti’s historic ties to the U.S. during the DuSable rally and about Haiti’s advocacy against slavery here. “Look at Haiti not as a charity case, but as a country we owe,” he said.

“This city exists because of Haiti,” said Dr. Carol Adams, executive director of the DuSable Museum, located at 740 E. 56th Place. She was referring to Chicago’s first non-Native American

settler, Jean Baptiste Point DuSable, a man of Haitian-French ancestry (and the museum’s name-sake).

Born around 1745, DuSable was a fur trader in the area near the bottom of Lake Michigan by 1768. He built an estate on the north bank of the Chicago River, east of what is now Michigan Avenue, around 1778 and lived there until 1800. DuSable died in 1818.

During this period—the late 18th century—Haiti was the world’s richest sugar colony, and provided France with one-quarter of its wealth, according to *The Economist* in its January 16 edition. “That wealth came from 700,000 African slaves, who made up 85 percent of the population. Their war for freedom brought independence in 1804. But the legacy of slavery scarred Haiti ever since. It is a place of subsistence farming, where four-fifths are poor and a few are very rich.”

The United States has meddled in the affairs of Haiti, *The Economist* noted, “often with the best of intentions but the worst of outcomes.” As an example, it cited the ouster in 2004 of Jean Bertrand Aristide, “an elected president turned despot.” The United Nations has led Haiti to modest progress, and Brazil has led a peacekeeping mission.

“At a cruel stroke, nature has undone all this,” the magazine noted. Haiti’s parliament and UN headquarters are gone now, not to mention its cathedral, hospitals, schools, and fire stations.

Chicagoans marshal continued relief

Todd Stroger said he’s assembling a network of ministers and civic activists to bring aid to Haiti. The Evanston-based Haitian Congress to Fortify Haiti (HCFH) is also collecting money and other items through its Haitian Crisis Relief Fund.

“I’m helping a lot by collecting goods from anyone I can,” said Doris Lewis, who is coordinating efforts with HCFH chairman Lionel Jean-Baptiste, an Evanston alderman. Lewis said she’s collecting diapers, toothbrushes, personal hygiene items, flashlights, batteries, nonperishable goods, water, and medical supplies.” She remarked on January 19 that the items would be shipped “as soon as it is clear. We are looking at two to three weeks.”

Lewis did similar work after Hurricane Katrina. Her concern, however, is that the need will contin-

ue long after Haiti has faded from the headlines.

“After the media leave, I’m afraid the Haitian people will be forgotten,” Lewis said. “It is a big media blitz, and if CNN could get in all their equipment, why can’t they get in water and medical supplies?”

Chicago Haitian vocalist Raphael St. Vil, also known as Rafo, performed “Shango for Haiti,” a song he wrote about the devastation in his home country, at the Chicago Music Awards on January 24. Shango is the Yoruba god of thunder and lightning, and a symbol of resistance.

Rev. Cliff Williams, a minister at the First Baptist Congregational Church (1613 W. Washington Blvd.), is also the president of Global Outreach NFP, a Chicago-based organization that had helped in Haiti before the earthquake. Over the past decade Global Outreach NFP has helped around the world, including in Honduras after 1998’s Hurricane Mitch, the deadliest hurricane in 200 years, according to a U.S. government climate agency. They also work with homeless people in Chicago.

Williams plans to leave for Haiti on February 15, over a month after the initial earthquake. He’s purchased tickets and anticipates flying into Port-au-Prince or, alternatively, the neighboring Dominican Republic.

“I can get there several different ways,” he said determinedly. “I’ll get into the country.”

This will be Williams’s fifth trip to Haiti. “I have different inroads there. I worked there after Hurricane Charley [2004]. Where I was positioned, we could see Port-au-Prince.”

He will go with a team of four to six people to help distribute necessities and assist with reconstruction. He said he also has experience working with Haiti’s homeless people.

“We went down after Katrina eight times, and we were able to give people a lot of assistance who weren’t getting help. We work without all the red tape. We have some folks who are ready to adopt some of the orphans.”

World opens its arms to Haiti

The rest of the world has opened its arms to Haiti, according to a U.S. State Department report prepared for members of the Congressional Black



Bob Brewer, Convoy of Hope volunteer, helps distribute water at a Mission of Hope complex in Source Matelas, Haiti January 22. Convoy of Hope has helped provide over one million meals since the earthquake. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Justin E. Stumberg/Released)



PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (Jan. 17) Pallets of USAID-supplied food, water and supplies sit on the flight line at the airport as a MH-53E helicopter awaits to be on loaded with supplies. The U.S. Navy's Carl Vinson and Carrier Air Wing 17 are conducting humanitarian and disaster relief operations in response to the earthquake.



USAID Urban Search and Rescue team Miami-Dade performs search and rescue operations in Haiti, January 18. Page 12,14 photos courtesy of USAID via Flickr

Haiti continued

Caucus. Congressman Rush shared the information with DuSable rally attendees.

The United Kingdom had already sent a plane with 70 rescuers and search dogs behind a four-person emergency assessment team. And Cuba had sent 30 doctors, on top of the 344 doctors and paramedics already there.

Foreign aid promised to Haiti also included 65 clearing specialists and six sniffer dogs from France. Search-and-rescue teams, medical aid, food, and drinking water were coming from China, Russia, Iceland, Canada, Italy, Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico, and Israel. Russia's mobile hospital, staffed by 45 people, offered intensive therapy, surgery, diagnostics, ultrasound, X-ray, electrocardiogram modules, and a blood test laboratory.

Corporate help for Haiti

Companies are also reaching out to help. The Red Cross received \$1 million each from Lowe's and Coca-Cola and \$500,000 from the Walmart Foundation, which is also sending \$100,000 in packaged food kits requested by the Red Cross. United Parcel Services donated another \$1 million through the World Food Program.

FedEx and American Airlines are flying supplies to Haiti. The airline said that it will award 250 bonus miles to customers who give \$50 to the American Red Cross, and 500 miles to those who donate \$100 before February 28.

The Economist made a case for U.S. aid to the nine million people of Haiti, first on humanitarian grounds and then on the basis of national security: "Haiti was already a source of illegal immigrants and a crossroads for drugs."

Haitians can pull together if led by their popular president, Rene Preval, the magazine noted. Their efforts will include up to one million Haitians who live in the United States, 50,000 of whom live in Chicago.

Many of them were at the DuSable rally on January 17. The mood there seemed to switch to rejoicing when the choir from Englewood's Beloved Community Christian Church sang an upbeat gospel tune called "Trouble Don't Last Always." Congressman Rush is a pastor at the church. After that the Rev. Michael Pflieger of St. Sabina's Church roared with a boisterous voice, "Forgive the way we disrespected Haiti. Wrap your arms around Haiti. The eyes of the world are now drawn on Haiti . . . We thank you for the opportunity to build a greater Haiti."

—Amanda Anderson and Samantha Blauw contributing

Homeless shelters almost closed

By Suzanne Hanney
Editor-in-Chief

A stubborn \$150,000 budget deficit nearly forced a West Side nonprofit to shut down five South Side homeless family shelters on January 31.

"It's a very real possibility," said Brady Harden, president of Inner Voice, in a telephone interview January 25. "There's a glimmer of hope today, but only a glimmer. Right now I am calling everybody that I can reach to see [if funds can be raised]. It will probably be a last-minute decision that I will have a tough weekend making. That's the kind of responses I'm getting. We're not giving up until the very last day. It has to be that way—there's too much at stake."

The five endangered shelters, which encompass 350 beds, include:

- * It Takes a Village, 544 W. 123rd
- * Family Restoration House, 9519 S. Commercial
- * Ubuntu Community Center, 2905 W. 43rd
- * TAB1, 8718 S. Paulina
- * TAB2, 313 E. 137th

Inner Voice's headquarters aren't endangered, however, nor are its offices for case management, education, and employment at 1621 and 1639 W. Walnut St. Also safe are its four other shelters, which include Pioneer House for men (4458 W. Jackson) and "Vet House," transitional housing for veterans (2425 W. Jackson Blvd). These shelters have more than 500 beds.

All Inner Voice programs subcontracted through the city of Chicago will also remain open. Inner Voice directs Chicago's Emergency Shelter Response Network, which has the capacity for 350 people in seven shelters.

By January 26 Inner Voice's partnership with the city came to the rescue. Anne Sheahan, director of information for the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services, said the City has assumed direct management of 200 beds, which are being converted to interim, (120-day) housing, so that Inner Voice will be left with 150 emergency beds.

"In the unfortunate event that Inner Voice is forced to close shelters, the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services is able to add additional beds within hours through current contracts with other

shelter providers to ensure no one in need goes without a bed," Sheahan added.

"Additionally, it is important to note that at no time within the last year or more has our shelter system of nearly 4,100 beds hit capacity, so we have many beds available to those in need on any given night," she said.

Harden said Inner Voice would work with the Department of Family and Support Services to get people close to schools of origin, their jobs and families.

The problem with closing shelters is less about brick-and-mortar capacity than it is a concern about moving a great number of clients and transitioning their support services, Harden said. The closings would mean changes for families, which have different educational needs for each of their children, and varying distances from a family's old shelter and resulting transportation changes could affect jobs. Clients would also have to begin all over again with new case managers.

Because of the impact on so many people, Harden said he would likely close the shelters on a phased basis, if necessary: "We would work with each family until they are transitioned out."

Harden attributes Inner Voice's budget crisis to Chicago's hard-hit economy. Over the past three to four years foundation grants have fallen, which has created a deficit and a lack of cash reserves for unexpected needs. Since 2008 there's also been a shortfall in individual donors as well as matching corporate support. Founded by the late Rev. Robert Johnson in 1984 as a drop-in center, Inner Voice has no faith-based roots to fall back on.

It faced a larger deficit last year but has made personnel and salary cuts totaling more than \$200,000 since October. The organization has received \$70,000 in donations since a December press conference but none in the past week, Harden said.

"We need help like we've never needed it before," he added. "We can demonstrate that we make the most of the support we've got. With previous support we made adjustments and cuts to reduce the deficit greatly, based on the support of staff. We'll take promises, too. A firm commitment is as good as a donation from a reputable source. It would give us hope, and time to make the adjustment. We need recognition those dollars are coming [in order] to go forward to another month of programming and complete our fiscal year, which ends in June."

Editor of *Africa Today* sells part-time

By Ben Cook
StreetWise Staff

"I have been in Chicago for a long time—since September 1982," says Dr. Wale Idris.

"I went to school here in Chicago. I went to Northeastern Illinois University after graduating from Illinois Central College, a two-year school in Peoria. I got my bachelor's degree in accounting, but I changed my major from accounting to political science because of a man who came to my school back in those days. His name was Harold Washington. I liked the way he was talking, the way he was in control of the English language. I really felt connected to him.

"So, instead of going for my CPA I went straight into political science and got my master's from the same school. Since then there have been many ups and downs. I raised my family here in Chicago; I have five beautiful children and three grandchildren. All of my children are in university now at the University of Illinois in Champaign, and Purdue University [in Indiana]. The day job I took, in terms of political science, wasn't really profitable for me, so I was doing a few jobs here and there—some political campaigns and political fundraising for many politicians."

Dr. Idris came to StreetWise to learn more about publishing. He'd already written for several magazines, and he recently founded his own free monthly newspaper, *Africa Today*. All of the money he earns selling issues of *StreetWise* will be invested in his paper, which is very much a source of pride.

"I started working with some of my colleagues in the Nigerian communities, and we did a few newspapers together. But then I decided that I wanted to publish my own newspaper and stand on my own," Dr. Idris says.

"I like the newspaper because it gives me the opportunity to . . . interview people about political issues. The paper is mostly about

political issues. I love writing about political issues, and I love predicting the outcomes of political elections. I'm very good at it.

"I'm excited—the next issue is going to be dynamite. I love it. The only problem is that I'm doing everything by myself." (The only other staff members are a graphic artist, who does the layout, and a delivery man, who distributes the paper in Uptown and a few south suburbs as well as at Old World Market, Truman College, the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition's offices, and Cisco Center.)

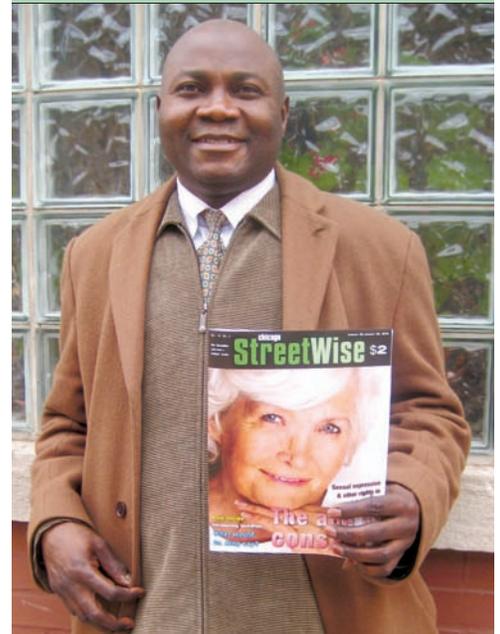
Although he's still learning as he goes, Dr. Idris is optimistic about his paper's prospects. "It's a great thing to follow what you want to do, no matter how difficult it is. One day I know I'm going to get my niche I'm looking for. I know that the contents in my publication are very interesting too, but it's comforting to me to know that *StreetWise* is selling for \$2.

"Some of my supporters and advisers asked me why I would want to sell *StreetWise*. I say, 'For the fun of it.' I also want to learn about how I can boost my own publishing . . . I know that Rome was not built in a day. I'm using my own money to fund my paper, so I think I'm going to try something different this time around. I would never ever give up on my vision of running my own newspaper.

"I'm not where I want to be right now, but slowly and steadily I'm going to get there."

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Meet: Dr. Wale Idris



“

I would never ever give up on my vision of running my own newspaper ever. I'm not where I want to be right now, but slowly and steadily I'm going to get there.

—Dr. Wale Idris

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922 N. Green Bay Rd (Waukegan)
- Thursday, February 11th**
7530 S. Stony Island (Chicago)
- Friday, February 12th**
7525 Lake St. (River Forest)
- Saturday, February 13th**
5516 N. Clark (Chicago)
- Sunday, February 14th**
11730 S. Marshfield (Chicago)
- Thursday, February 18th**
443 E. 34th Street (Chicago)
- Friday, February 19th**
800 W. North Ave (Melrose Park)
- Saturday, February 20th**
87 W. 87th Street (Chicago)
- Sunday, February 21st**
6057 S. Western (Chicago)
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9400 S. Ashland (Chicago)
- Friday, February 26th**
3153 W. 183rd (Homewood)
- Saturday, February 27th**
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- Sunday, February 28th**
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No Purchase necessary. Contest ends Sunday, February 28, 2010. See entry blank or www.ourjewelosco.com for details.