

Gleanings

February 2010



INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE: HELPING HAITI



Dr. Laguerre, now the President of Solano Community College, is native to the country of Haiti. Born and raised there, he attended schooling all the way through his years in the university. His heart for education led him to the field of teaching, and he continued his career in the United States in 1982. As you might imagine, Dr. Laguerre's heart has been torn over the destruction of his home.

On Thursday, February 11, 2010, Dr. Laguerre visited the children of The Leaven. He spoke openly about the heartache in Haiti, the damage to his home town, and the deaths of many of his friends. In the face of the international crisis, he challenged the children to pursue their dreams, to take control of their lives, and to make decisions everyday that will guide them toward a bright future. He offered them the promise of hope and the belief that they can make a difference in their lives and in the world.

As a result of Dr. Laguerre's visit, the children of The Leaven have started counting their pennies for their own fundraiser. They have over one hundred dollars in their piggy bank, and all of the money will serve children in a Haitian orphanage.

For more on this story of Dr. Laguerre's visit to The Leaven, and The Leaven's outreach to the world, visit www.TheLeaven.info > Stories > News Snippets.

"The heart of the world is pouring into Haiti, and we need to remember to use our personal resources close to home as well. We need to help each other, any way we can, as often as we can."

— Dr. Jowel Laguerre,
President of Solano Community College
and Haiti native



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Special thanks to The Harvest Society TITLE SPONSORS



A COMMUNITY EFFORT IN THE HARVEST SOCIETY

As the President of Solano Community College and a leader in our community, Dr. Laguerre sponsors multiple children through The Harvest Society. Even with the crisis in his native country, he is intentionally investing in the lives of the children who live in his own community. Dr. Laguerre said, "The heart of the world is pouring into Haiti, and we need to remember to use our personal resources close to home as well. We need to help each other, any way we can, as often as we can."

Dr. Laguerre knows firsthand about the benefits of a supportive community, and he has found his role as a leader with the help of so many throughout his lifetime. He said, "So many have invested in me, and it is my turn to invest in others. Whether is it financial, educational, or moral, I have the responsibility to make an investment every single day."

He has visions for a deep future between Solano Community College and the community at The Leaven. He



would love to see the students and faculty become more involved with the children of The Leaven, reaching out to help these children see their value and worth. His principles are aligned with those of The Leaven: he believes in their transformational approach



PACE Leaven Site Director Paulina Polk gives Dr. Laguerre a piggy bank full of donations from kids at The Leaven to help Haitian orphans.

to students' lives. "After all," he said, "today's students will become tomorrow's leaders, and we must work together to make sure their foundation is solid."

Dr. Laguerre is making a difference, today and every day. If you would like to contribute to the Leaven, or if you wish to sponsor a child through The Harvest Society, please contact us at 707-422-KIDZ, or at www.TheLeaven.info.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB, NEW HARVEST SOCIETY MEMBERS!

The Harvest Society is honored to welcome these new members for the month of January 2010:

Valero Benicia Refinery (Title Sponsor)

Dr. and Mrs. Jowel Laguerre (Title Sponsor)

Carla J Antonio

Lief Barnett

Leslie Fay

Brad and Dorothy Flynn

Carolgene Hunter

Marilyn Manfredi

Dionne Elaine McCullar

Sean and Jan Quinn

Chuck Timm

Kimberley Thomas

Eileen Witt-Albedi

THE
HARVEST
SOCIETY

SPONSOR-A-CHILD

Only **29** kids
still need sponsors!

Sponsor a child today.

Go to www.theleaven.info
or call 707-422-5439 (KIDZ).