

EDITORIAL

Monday, September 6, 2004 will long be remembered as the most important day in Cigar Family History! This marks the opening of the Cigar Family school on our 46-acre Cigar Family Community Complex in the Dominican Republic. Three years ago when we discovered that the existing school in the Caribe community was only large enough to accommodate half the children, we came up with an idea to simply build a wing on the school. Today, thanks to the generous support of so many Cigar Family members, 280 children from the 5 communities surrounding Caribe will be attending our own school in our Cigar Family Community Complex.

In addition to the school, the Cigar Family medical clinic and multi-purpose community center will also be completed this year. However, Cigar Family is already making a dramatic impact in the community. On April 14 and May 7, we sponsored two Cigar Family Medical Assistance programs that you will read about in this issue. This program provided many of the people the opportunity to see a doctor and/or a dentist for the first time in their lives!

All of us should be so proud - but our work has just begun. This issue, demonstrates this project is not cheap. Although almost \$1,000,000 has been raised to date, the budget just to build and develop the entire complex is in excess of \$1,400,00, and that doesn't include the \$70,000 needed to equip the school, the \$130,000 annual budget it is going to take just to operate the school, nor the hundred thousands of dollars needed to equip and operate the other facilities in the company.

Get your friends and neighbors involved. Ask them to join you as a member of our Cigar Family Charitable Foundation. Be sure to support our second annual Toast Across America in October.

Thank you for your continued support. Without you and the rest of our Cigar Family, there would be no school...nor clean water...nor doctors and nurses helping out. We have so much of to be proud. Together we can make it happen.

Carlos Fuente Jr. and Eric Newman



Eric Newman and Carlos Fuente Jr.

CIGAR FAMILY SCHOOL TO OPEN IN SEPTEMBER

A Cigar Family Community Complex Update

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provide a location for a variety of activities, including community project committee meetings, parties, and training sessions. It will also help people identify with the project more as they will have a common place to use for a variety of purposes.

Other aspects of the project are in full development such as the drainage, roads and electrical systems, which have nearly reached the completion stage.



Cigar Family Medical Clinic
Opening this Fall

BECOME A MEMBER

Tell your friends and family about the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation, and how they can make a difference in the lives of the Dominican people. We need all the help we can get to finish construction of our community complex, and ultimately, make it fully operational.

Remind them that 100% of the net membership dollars collected goes directly to the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation. All administrative, legal, accounting, office, website and general marketing costs are totally underwritten by the Fuente and Newman families.

Potential members can pick up a membership form at a participating smokeshop, or simply email us at cfcf@cigarfamily.com to receive an enrollment form. Thank you for your help.

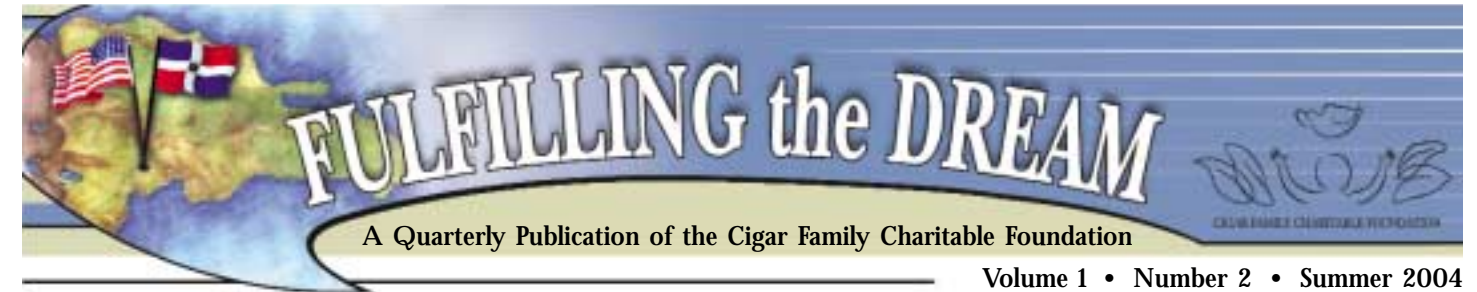


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TOAST ACROSS AMERICA 2004

Planning Has Begun!

Planning for the second annual Cigar Family Toast Across America is well underway. This year's event is expected to be even more spectacular than the last. On Thursday, October 7, 2004, over 5,000 cigar aficionados, in all 50 states, will raise their cigars in a toast to the people of the Dominican Republic. The toast represents a symbol of support by cigar enthusiasts for the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation and those in the Dominican Republic who have given their hard work to provide us with the best cigars in the world.

Over 100 smokeshops nationwide will host this exclusive event. Many smokeshops have planned extensive evenings, including entertainment, wine tastings, steak dinners, and silent auctions. Each person who attends is asked to make a minimum donation of \$50 to the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation to



receive his two commemorative, unreleased cigars - a Fuente Fuente OpusX Figurado (7"x 48) and a Diamond Crown MAXIMUS Figurado (7"x 48), exclusively made for this event and not commercially available.

Last year's Toast Across America raised over \$300,000. This year the foundation hopes to go beyond this amount to reach \$350,000. To locate a participating retailer near you, please visit our website at www.cigarfamilycharitablefoundation.org.

Toast Headquartered in Washington Heights

At the very northern tip of Manhattan Island, along the Hudson River, with a view of the George Washington Bridge, is an amazing community known as Washington Heights. This interesting and ethnically diverse community is home to the largest Dominican population outside the Dominican Republic. No other location could be more fitting to be the national headquarters and host for the 2004 Toast Across America than Washington Heights.

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CFCF SPONSOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

From the very early morning of April 14, 2004, more than 340 patients began to fill up the elementary school of Caribe, anxiously waiting to visit with a doctor for free medical attention. In an effort organized by the Dominican Institute of Integral Development (IDDI), the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation sponsored two medical assistance programs for the residents of five villages (Jengibre, Los Arroyos, El Verde, Rancho Nuevo and Caribe,) during the months of April and May 2004. On April 14th, five visiting doctors from the cities of Santo Domingo and Bonao, met with more than 340 patients.

The medical assistance program extended until the late afternoon where doctors not only examined patients but also prescribed medicine through a provisional pharmacy set up in one of the school's classrooms. The attending doctors represented different fields of medicine including dentistry, pediatrics,

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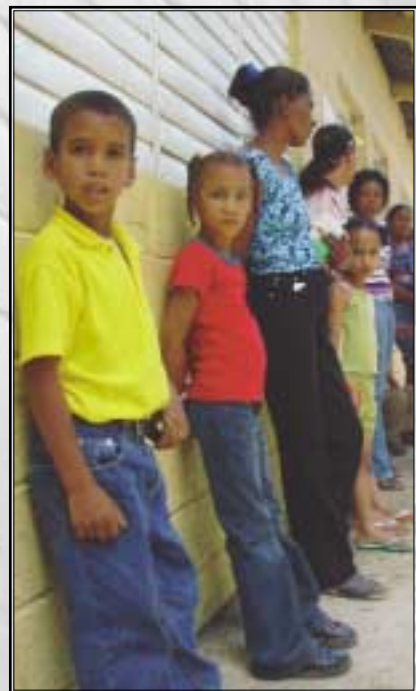


CFCF SPONSOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE

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gynecology, and general medicine, donating their time to this cause. Among the many services provided were teeth cleanings and tooth extractions to pap smears and routine blood pressure checkups. Most of these children have never seen a dentist and some had as many as 14 cavities.

Additionally, community business owners also offered their services to enhance the development of the program, like Mrs. Fresa Duran, who offered her pharmacy. Carlos Fuente, Jr. also assisted by lending a helping hand to the doctors and other volunteers working in the operative.



On May 7, 2004, the second assistance program took place and



focused on additional dental care for the residents of the five villages. This program was carried out by eight dentists and two assistants. A grand total of 118 patients

received free dental care, a majority of these patients were children with serious dental problems.

The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation looks forward to the day the health clinic at the community complex opens so they may continuously serve the health needs of the five surrounding villages.



MEET DAVID LUTHER

The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation could not achieve its goals without the partnership of IDDI, Institute for Integral Dominican Development, a not-for-profit organization whose sole purpose is to fight poverty in urban as well as rural areas. At the forefront of this fortuitous organization is a remarkable man, David Luther, the organization's Executive Director, and founder.

Fulfilling the Dream: What motivated you to start IDDI?

David Luther: IDDI was started as a result of the reconstruction effort that followed Hurricane David in 1979 when all the focus of the country was on rebuilding the country (the Dominican Republic). I was involved in housing specifically and after the emergency phase we began the reconstruction and then development of the participating communities. This progression led me to try to sustain all these activities; the result was the creation of IDDI.

Fulfilling the Dream: What were some of the challenges you had to confront in creating this organization?

David Luther: Probably the greatest challenge was financing. When I started IDDI in 1984, we discovered that nothing serious was really being done to improve the quality of living of those that live in the slums of Santo Domingo. As a result, we began to work in one of the squatter settlements called La Zurza, with no money, no real practical experience in urban development, in one of the worst slums, dangerous and very politicized, basically naïve to the extreme. As a result, our work was difficult to implement and hard to raise funds for.

Fulfilling the Dream: Would it have been perhaps easier to have created IDDI in another country in Latin America?

David Luther: Because I have lived in the Dominican Republic for close to 50 years it was easier to establish it here. Besides, the Dominicans are really friendly people and easy to work with as they are not violent in nature, are quick to learn and are willing partners in the process of their own development.

Fulfilling the Dream: If any, what are some of the present challenges for you and your organization, IDDI?

David Luther: There are probably two major challenges to us. One is definitely to assure the long-term sustainability of the organization. The other challenge certainly has to do with the paternalistic mindset that is so prevalent in Dominican society. This culture of dependency must be broken if the country is to have a healthy, democratic and productive future.

Fulfilling the Dream: What do you feel has been the most fulfilling reward throughout your years with IDDI?

David Luther: To know that we have reached a point where our credibility is unquestioned and that we are making a difference in the lives of the people that we are working with.

Fulfilling the Dream: This year (2004) marks IDDI's 20th Anniversary. Where do you see your organization in the next 20 years?

David Luther: Completely self-sustained financially and having made a significant contribution to the development of the Dominican Republic.

Fulfilling the Dream: How did you meet Carlos Fuente, Jr.?

David Luther: At one of the Juan Marichal Charitable Golf Tournaments that IDDI has organized over the past thirteen years. The Tabacalera A. Fuente is one of the primary sponsors of this event.

Fulfilling the Dream: What prompted your interest in becoming involved with the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation?

David Luther: The primary reason is that I found in Carlito, a person who believes in helping others, and as he always says, "Giving Back" to those who have helped you. Carlito is a person with a big heart and tremendous passion for his work. He is the kind of person who is a pleasure to work with.



Stay tuned for the conclusion of our interview with David. In the next issue of Fulfilling the Dream, David speaks to us about the Cigar Family Community Complex and its surrounding villages.

CIGAR FAMILY SCHOOL TO OPEN IN SEPTEMBER

A Cigar Family Community Complex Update

The construction of the first Cigar Family Community Complex is well underway. For months, construction crews have been working diligently to make this dream a reality. The Cigar Family School is scheduled to open on September 6, 2004, for 280 children of Caribe and the surrounding communities. The completion of the school is the number one priority for the work crews and the IDDI team, for whom we owe a world of thanks since they have been instrumental in getting the school operational by the September 6th opening day.

In addition to the school, work on two other buildings within the complex will also be completed this year due to their immediate impact and importance to the families in the communities. The medical clinic was made a top priority due to the acute shortage of adequate health care in that part of the country. Finally, the completion of the multi-purpose center has proven to be a vital part of the project as it will

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Cigar Family School
Opening September 6, 2004

TOAST ACROSS AMERICA 2004 (continued from front cover)

"The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation is about the spirit of giving back to the Dominican people. Washington Heights is the heart of Dominican community in the United States. I can think of no better place to have this event," expressed Carlos Fuente Jr., president of Tabacalera A. Fuente.

The Washington Heights event has attracted great support from the larger Dominican community, including Congressman Charles Rangel, Assemblyman Adriano Espaillat to the internationally renowned merengue band, Oro Sólido. This band will donate their talent as part of this exciting event, providing guests with a private concert. Many other notable government and business leaders are expected to attend including, Carlos Fuente Jr., president of Tabacalera A. Fuente and Eric Newman, president of J.C. Newman Cigar Company. Tickets are on sale for \$200.00 per person which includes a private concert with Oro Sólido, a Dominican dinner buffet, open bar (sponsored by Johny Walker), and two exclusive cigars - Fuente Fuente OpusX Figurado and Diamond Crown MAXIMUS Figurado. (For tickets contact: cfcf@cigarfamily.com)

