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July 2022 Newsletter

Happy 246th Birthday of the United States of America



The New Colossus

BY [EMMA LAZARUS](#)

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch,
whose flame is the imprisoned lightning,
and her name, Mother of Exiles.

From her beacon-hand glows world-wide welcome;
her mild eyes command.
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
“Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!”
cries she with silent lips.

“Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

You can enjoy a half hour video discussion of this poem produced by PBS by click on this link. [Poetry in America Season 1, Episode 112: The New Colossus \[FULL EPISODE with captions\] - Bing video](#)

STORIES OF HOPE

Being Part of the “Wretched Refuse” By Robert Beezat

Immigrants to the USA over the years have very frequently been attacked and considered to be a detriment to our country.

I was a “Dumb Polack” growing up in the 1940’s and 1950’s. Some of my friends and neighbors were “Dumb Dagos.” Others were “Shanty Irish.” Puerto Ricans were “Spics.” Mexicans were “Wetbacks.” The list goes on and on over the years as new groups of immigrants have come to our shores.

My grandmother was a Polish immigrant. My other grandmother and my two grandfathers were the children of immigrants from Poland. They were part of the “wretched refuse” who came to America for a better life for themselves, and, very importantly, for their children and grandchildren.

My great grandparents, grandparents, my parents, and to some extent, my sisters, brothers, and me, had to put up with and overcome demeaning images and ideas of who they were as immigrants in America.

But my grandparents, their children, their grandchildren, and their great-grandchildren have all been positive contributors to our country’s growth and well-being. All of us (*Your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free...*) have helped make America a beacon of light and freedom to the rest of the world.

So have the many immigrant families I grew up with, along with the many newer immigrants with whom I have lived and worked with over the years.

Generations of immigrants since our country was founded have contributed to our country’s greatness.

The diversity of people, their ideas, their histories, their customs, and their hard work have helped make the America a beacon of light and freedom to the rest of the world.

I love my country.

I am glad and thankful that I was born, raised, and continue to live my life in the U.S.

But we are not perfect as individuals, and we are not perfect as a country.

Our light and lamp of freedom and opportunity are fading for many people within our country and to many people across the world.

We are the wealthiest country in the world. We need to invest some of that wealth to “Re-imagine and Re-invent” our country so that we continue to be and be seen as the “*Golden Door*” contributing to national and international peace and opportunity.

God Bless America



A song of hope and inspiration written by a Russian-Jewish immigrant to the USA, Irving Berlin.
Click on this link to see and hear an early version of this song: [Kate Smith: God Bless America - 1943 - Bing video](#)

Teachers are the start of much Hope From the Bottom Up

Three Racine Unified School District Music Teachers named quarterfinalists for special teaching GRAMMY award

Ryan Patterson Jun 19, 2022 in the Racine Journal Times



Amberleigh Cellak



Elizabeth Steege



Laura Shapovalov

Quote from Amberleigh: “All the music teachers are amazing in our school system,” Cellak said. “I am not more special than anybody just because of this award.” Cellak said she felt “pretty Zen” about the recognition but was honored to be nominated by colleagues who “appreciate what I do.”

Quote from Elizabeth: “So many kids tell me if it wasn’t for choir, they wouldn’t be there, or they would never have graduated,” Steege said. Steege said the best part of her job is connecting with students and seeing the crucial role music can play in their lives.

Quote from Laura: “It’s rewarding to see them work hard and achieve what they have worked hard on,” Shapovalov said. “It’s not what I’m doing. It’s what I showed them how to do, and they were able to do it themselves, and that’s really cool.”

To read more about the teachers and their GRAMMY award nominations, click on this link: [Three RUSD music teachers named quarterfinalists for special teaching GRAMMY award | A+ | journaltimes.com](https://www.journaltimes.com/story/news/local/2022/06/19/racine-unified-school-district-music-teachers-named-quarterfinalists-for-special-teaching-grammy-award/7011117002/)

50th Anniversary of Title IX Of The Civil Rights Act Of 1964

“No person in the United States shall, based on sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

This legislation passed by Congress and signed by President Nixon on June 23, 1972.

The purpose of the Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 was to update [Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964](#), which banned several forms of discrimination in employment, but did not address or mention discrimination in education. Contrary to popular belief, the creation of Title IX had nothing to do with sports.

However, even though the law applied to many aspects of women’s lives, one area which stood out then and continues to be very important today is the impact it had, and still has, on the funding of school sports programs for women students and adults.

To read more about Title IX and its history, click on this link: [Vintage Chicago Tribune: 50th anniversary of Title IX](#)



A young woman enjoying playing competitive high school sports.

I have always enjoyed sports because it gave me the opportunities to enjoy physical activity, be part of a team, and to celebrate together the outcomes of sporting events.

When I was young, back in the 1940's, 50's, and 60's, girls and women did not have the same opportunities to play and enjoy sports the way boys and men did.

There are still more positive things to be accomplished regarding equal opportunity for women but participating in sports has been a definite step forward which started from the bottom up.

First Choice Pre-Apprenticeship Training

The First Choice Pre-Apprenticeship Program was put on the Hope-Filled Organization section of the Hope From the Bottom Up website a couple of months ago. Here is a link to the website with information about First Choice <https://hopefromthebottomup.com/hope-filled-organizations#first-choice>

Below are brief stories about three of the participants.



Anna Fell

Anna Fell is a Safety Professional at the moment working on various jobs in the Midwest. Anna enrolled in the program in 2009, got hired during the I-94 reconstruction project by Walsh Construction, and Hoffman Construction. She completed her apprenticeship becoming a journeyman in the industry.



Carlos Mateo

Carlos Mateo followed his passion to become a carpenter apprentice. He is currently 2 years in his indenture as an apprentice with CG Schmidt. He is a face the city promotes as a model apprentice.



Ricardo

Ricardo is a model pre-apprentice electrician. He completed the 3 month Professional Safety Development in addition to our 6 weeks pre-apprenticeship program. He was named a valuable employee for many months at Westphal & Co.

For some additional information about these people, click on this link:

<https://hopefromthebottomup.com/sites/default/files/inline-files/pre-apprenticeship%20bios.pdf>

HOPE FILLED ORGANIZATIONS: The following Hope-Filled Organizations were added to the website in June. Please click on this link to read about these groups and connect to links with more information about each group.

<https://hopefromthebottomup.com/hope-filled-organizations>



Our Vision: All Wisconsin students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills and dispositions of core universal values through a self-sustaining culture encouraged and modeled by teachers and administrators.

Our Mission: We promote, support, and advance the intentional effort by leaders to exemplify universal ethical virtues such as integrity, honesty, justice, kindness, and respect while assisting schools and community leaders with the development and delivery of character education through culturally relevant, comprehensive frameworks to positively impact schools and communities throughout Wisconsin.

Our Goal: Our goal is to ensure greatness to our posterity by raising the profile of goodness as our standard of public behavior, and integrity as the touchstone of all social interactions.



To learn more about WCEP, click on this link: [Wisconsin Character Education Partnership | Enhancing a Legacy of Education Innovation \(wicharacter.org\)](#) To learn more about the 11 Principles of Character Education, click on this link: [The Eleven Principles | Wisconsin Character Education Partnership \(wicharacter.org\)](#)



"Improving the lives of the 5 billion people whose main concern is to stay alive by the end of each day on our planet is no longer an option for engineers; it is an obligation."

Dr. Bernard Amadei, EWB-USA Founder

Engineers Without Borders USA builds a better world through engineering projects that empower communities to meet their basic human needs. Our highly skilled volunteers work with communities to find appropriate solutions for their infrastructure needs.

Engineers Without Borders USA (EWB-USA) is partnering with communities around the world to meet their basic human needs. We're building footbridges to provide pathways to opportunities. We're installing solar panels to bring light where it is dark. We're digging for water so hope can spring from the ground. Each project builds the foundation for a community to thrive for years to come.

But it takes more than materials to build a strong foundation.

EWB-USA's volunteers are the heartbeat of our organization. These champions volunteer their time, their energy and their expertise in pursuit of our vision of a world where every community has the capacity to sustainably meet their basic human needs.



Our History: In April 2000, Dr. Bernard Amadei, professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado Boulder, visited a community in San Pablo, Belize, to assess their water supply. He learned that the 950 Mayan Indians living in the heart of the Belize jungle lacked clean water and sanitation infrastructure, and that most of the community's children did not attend school because their time was dedicated to collecting water from miles away.

While the community had the natural resources and motivation to build a reliable water supply system, they lacked the technical skills to design a lasting solution. Professor Amadei went home and consulted colleagues on potential solutions, then returned to the community with a prototype and fourteen of his students to put the plan into action. The team installed a clean water system supplied and powered by a waterfall a quarter-mile from the community. *This simple and low-cost solution was the first EWB-USA project!* To find out more about Engineers Without Borders, click on this link: <https://www.ewb-usa.org/>

Mt. Pleasant, WI Lakeside COP House



The officer-staffed Lakeside COP (Community Oriented Policing) House located at 2237 Mead Street functions as a safe hub for services to residents in the Lakeside neighborhood. This space is used for community engagement and programming. Lakeside COP House also serves as a base of operations for the village-wide COP effort.

Officers at the COP house have established and maintained meaningful partnerships with local government, community members and private organizations in order to bring services to the area that will improve the quality of life for area residents. Nuisance problems and criminal activity are often kept to a minimum due to tips from citizens combined with effective enforcement action. To read more about the COP House, click on this link:

[Lakeside COP House | Mount Pleasant, WI - Official Website \(mtpleasantwi.gov\)](https://www.mtpleasantwi.gov)

The Mt. Pleasant COP House and Journey Church Disaster Response Team hosted their first resource fair and neighborhood block party for the Lakeside community and surrounding areas on June 25, 2022.

The Village of Mount Pleasant Police Department, South Shore Fire Department, Journey Disaster Response Team, Aurora Health Care, Latanyas Bags of Love, Food for the Soul – Nehemiah Project, Faith, Hope and Love, Racine County Veteran’s Services, Feeding America – SNAP, Second Chance Prison Ministry were all represented at the event.



If you are a Facebook user, click on this link for more pictures and information about the June 25 resource fair: [\(20+\) Village of Mount Pleasant Police - Lakeside COP House | Facebook](#)

Share this Newsletter

If you find this Newsletter to be a positive contribution to promote Hope and positive changes for now and in the future, please forward this Newsletter to people you think would enjoy it and who may want to share their hopeful stories and programs for future Newsletters. They can sign up for the monthly Newsletters by doing the following:



www.hopefromthebottomup.com

Or

Send me an email (robert@robertbeezat.com) with the name and email address of the person you think would be interested. I will then contact them. **Thank You**