

# the Chronicle

*The Newsletter of the CH-EH Neighborhood*



**G**ather your family and friends to enjoy the first annual CH-EH Chili Cook-Off 3-5 p.m. November 4 at Crown Heights Park. Come hungry and sample various examples of chili from cook-off contestants from the neighborhood. Whether you're looking for a spicy,

meaty chili or a scrumptious vegetarian chili, the CH-EH Chili Cook-Off has what you are craving. At the end of the event, contestants will be given an award for best chili, voted on by our celebrity judges, and a people's choice award. Attendees can sample three

bowls of chili for a \$10 donation or a \$5 donation for children age 10 and under. Come for the chili; stay for the music and camaraderie! 🍷



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# PAMBE Ghana's Global Market Opens November 1 in Midtown

By Linda Temple

**P**AMBE Ghana's Global Market is coming soon! The market will open Nov. 1 on the first floor of The Sieber apartments at 12th Street and Hudson Avenue. Marva Ellard, owner of The Sieber, has once again generously donated this great space. The market is Oklahoma's largest volunteer-staffed fair trade store with over 50 volunteers keeping it open noon-6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays in November and December. The grand opening party is 6-8 p.m. Nov. 8 at 1307 N. Hudson Ave. The public is invited. The market closes for the season 3 p.m. Dec. 24.

For the past 10 years, Global Market has provided Oklahomans with an opportunity to purchase unique art and unusual gifts made by artisans in developing countries while supporting an elementary school in northern Ghana.

Proceeds from the market go to La'Angum Learning Center, a school for children in pre-school through sixth grade in rural Ghana. The school's founder, Alice Iddi-Gubbels, first came to Oklahoma City in 2000 with her husband, Peter, who worked at World Neighbors. While here, Alice earned a master's degree in early childhood education from Oklahoma City University and a certification in Montessori teaching in preschool and lower elementary levels in 2003. While teaching in the primary school at Westminster, she dreamed of starting a Montessori school for children in her village in northern Ghana. In 2007, she began to realize that dream, creating PAMBE Ghana as a registered nonprofit organization. PAMBE Ghana is an acronym for Partnership for Mother Tongue-Based Bilingual Education in Ghana. PAMBE is also a word in the local Mamprusi language meaning "abundance."

In 2008, the first classroom of the school was built by members of the community. It started with 40 students in preschool and a trained faculty of three teachers. A grade was added each year, and now there are

276 students from preschool through grade six, 10 teachers and eight teaching assistants as well as enough classrooms for all. Three classes have graduated to a neighboring secondary school. The local communities chose the name La'Angum because the word means, "working together." The school receives support from many different communities: the local communities surrounding the school who provide the engineering and labor for building the school and the daily lunchtime meals, a community of financial support in Canada and financial support from the founding community in Oklahoma City as well as Global Market.

Global Market began in 2009 as a means of introducing Oklahomans to PAMBE Ghana's La'Angum Learning Center and fair trade. This unique combination ensures that all purchases serve a triple benefit by pleasing the recipient, supporting the artist who made it and benefiting PAMBE Ghana.

PAMBE Ghana's retiring executive director Alice Iddi-Gubbels and her recently hired replacement, Eric Gumah, who takes the reins in 2019, will attend the market's grand opening November 8. They, plus PAMBE Ghana's board of directors, the market's store manager Sara Braden and many donors and volunteers, will be available to provide more information and answer questions about La'Angum Learning Center and Global Market. Learn more about PAMBE Ghana and Global Market at [pambeghana.org](http://pambeghana.org).

"Volunteering for PAMBE Ghana is a win-win-win situation. First, there is the deep pleasure of being a part of a group that helps children who, without our efforts, would have no chance at an education. Second, there is being a part of a really fun community and all the wonderful friends I have acquired therein. Third, I get to shorten my Christmas list by buying really wonderful and unique presents from the market!"

—Brenda Walters, CH-EH resident

"I started out with PAMBE Ghana as a Global Market volunteer six years ago. I loved the quirkiness of the market's products and the idea it raised money for a good cause. As I learned more about the school, I just got sucked in. It feels really good to know that what I'm doing helps give the kids opportunities they'd never had before. And I like the idea that we're working together with the community in Ghana to reach the same goals. Community is important to me. That's why I moved to Crown Heights."

—Judy Federa, CH-EH resident

"Unlike many charitable causes where the fate of the donation is not always clear, with PAMBE Ghana, anyone involved as a donor or volunteer can see how their donations are put to use. Alice visits once a year and brings news about the school and inspirational stories about the children and staff."

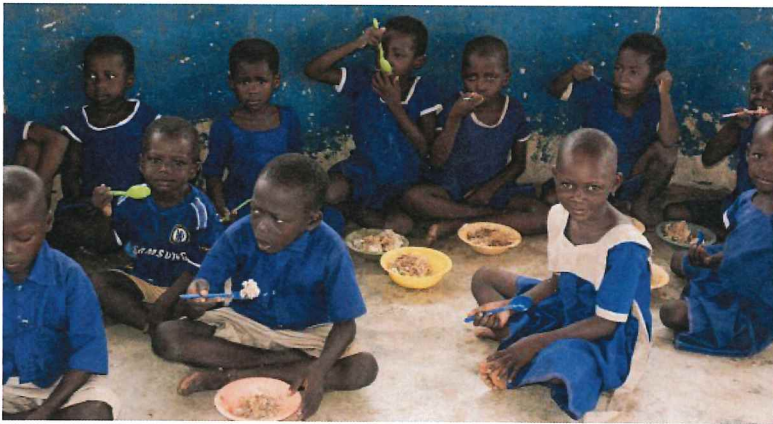
—Dorothy Thadani, CH-EH resident

Contact Linda Temple, [lgtempleok@gmail.com](mailto:lgtempleok@gmail.com) or 405-921-1064 for more info. 🌱



Students in the solar-powered computer lab





Lunch is provided each day for all of the children and staff by members in the community. Community members also donate much of the food. For some children, it is their main meal of the day.



Board member Judy Federa, CH-EH resident, dancing at a celebration at La'Angum Learning Center during a visit in 2015.



Student body of La'Angum Learning Center in northern Ghana (2017)



Alice Iddi-Gubbels at Global Market



Baskets from Ghana



Felt coin purses from Nepal