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ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

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Education for Time and Eternity A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute January/February 2015



You can make the difference in a young life!
 Do you know of a teenager who could benefit from the ministry we provide? Tell the family about OBI.

Save the date!
Homecoming 2015
 will be
October 24

Oneida Baptist Institute Athletic Hall of Fame 2015 nomination form Deadline for nomination is April 1, 2015

Name of nominee _____

Decade of participation: 1930's 1940's 1950's 1960's 1970's 1980's 1990's 2000's 2010's

Sport(s) nominee participated in or coached _____

Your name _____

Your complete address _____

Your phone number _____

Why you are nominating this person (awards, records set, etc.) _____

See criteria on page 3. Fill out the above form, clip and mail to OBI, Attn: Athletic Director.

Aqua-what? Oneida farm tries new endeavors

For several months, the Oneida agriculture program has been involved in a new project -- aquaponics. Aquaponics is a food production method that raises aquatic life and water-grown plants together in one system. Our two aquatic crops are currently lettuce and rainbow trout. Bacteria break down the fish waste, converting it to nutrients for the lettuce. The water is then recycled through the network. We are also watering tomato plants with the fish water.

Farm Manager, **Marty Bevil**, said he decided to try aquaponics after a former student suggested it. The boy had tried out the method on a small scale before coming to OBI. Bevil was pleased that students were interested in trying something new, and he had heard good things about aquaponics. "It's a new and upcoming way of agriculture," he stated.

Ag students built the structure, which initially housed lettuce and tilapia. "Our first crop of lettuce was beautiful," Bevil recalled. "But then it got more difficult, and we're just now harvesting our second crop." After the tilapia were harvested, Bevil switched to rainbow trout because they could do better in our winter temperatures. A fish hatchery donated 150 trout to get us started.

The farm's next step will be hydroponics. Students are already busy with the system's construction. Bevil explained that they may eventually switch from aquaponics to hydroponics; "Hydroponics is less complicated." His goal is to be able to supply the school's food service with all of its lettuce and tomatoes. □



Breana Artiles cleans the lettuce. Because of the fish, no chemicals can be used on the plants. The students rinse the lettuce in the fish water to rid the plants of bugs -- and then the fish eat the bugs.

Two students attend national "Action/2015" event



On January 15, two OBI students had a remarkable opportunity. Senior **Tolu Sola-Adeyemi** and freshman **Aisha Biyo** attended a campaign launch day event of "Action/2015" in Washington, D.C. Action/2015 is a worldwide coalition of organizations that will encourage governments to make commitments to end poverty, address inequality and ensure sustainable development. The launch of Action/2015 involved over 1,000 organizations in 125 countries.

Our involvement came about through the influence of OBI faculty member **Jonathan Barnes**. Barnes is a congressional district leader for ONE Campaign, one of the groups participating in Action/2015. ONE Campaign is an advocacy organization seeking to end extreme poverty and preventable disease.

Barnes' regional ONE Campaign field director knew of his Oneida ministry and was particularly interested in our African students. The plan was to form teams around the world of 15 students each, all 15 years old, who could meet with their nations' leaders on January 15. They were to encourage these influential adults to continue progressing on the goals set by the Millennium Challenge in 2000 -- the challenge of eliminating extreme poverty by the year 2030. This year marks the halfway point on the Challenge timeline.

Tolu is from Nigeria. (See "Action 2015" p. 2)

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Music students sing in All-Festival Chorus



Six OBI students were accepted into the All-Festival Chorus, a regional choir sponsored by the Southeastern Kentucky Music Association. They auditioned for the chorus and then learned the music in practice sessions led by OBI choral director, **Tim Cochran**.

The All-Festival Chorus experience included rehearsing college-level music for three days in November before performing in a concert directed by a noted guest conductor. This year's conductor for the soprano/alto/tenor/bass choir was **Dr. Karen Cooksey**, the Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Transylvania University. □

("Action/2015," cont. from page 1)

Aisha was born in the U.S. Her family is from Congo and now lives in Tanzania. Barnes' wife, **Michelle**, also an OBI teacher, accompanied the girls on the trip. Mrs. Barnes said Action/2015 issues included "global health, agriculture and food sustainability, energy access, and gender equality." Aisha was on the food and agriculture team, while Tolu was part of the energy team. Tolu was also selected to speak for her team at the State Department.

She said being chosen to speak was the most exciting part of the experience. "I spoke about energy access," she explained. "I was able to talk to people who have no idea what it's like to not have power 24/7."

At the State Department, the students met with Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, **Heather Higgenbottom** and Administrator of USAID **Dr. Rajiv Shah**. After the meeting, Tolu and Aisha were interviewed by NBC News. They went to lunch with **Carolyn Miles**, President and CEO of Save the Children, and **Michael Elliott**, President and CEO of ONE Campaign. Then they attended a meeting at The World Bank with **Cyril Muller**, Vice President, External and Corporate Relations.

Aisha stated that Action/2015 was "one of the best opportunities I could have had." She continued, "Being an advocate really opened my eyes. When we talked with the Deputy Secretary of State and Dr. Shah, I realized I wasn't speaking for myself, but for thousands of other people."

The girls' adventure continued after they returned to campus; on January 19, Tolu was interviewed by National Public Radio. □



Bits and tidbits

Our mission statement

The mission of Oneida Baptist Institute is to provide a Christian living, learning and working environment in which each of its students, Christian or non-Christian, is diligently challenged to grow mentally, physically, socially and spiritually in order to acquire an *Education for Time and Eternity*.

Want to receive the Mountaineer or Alumni News by e-mail?

Send your name, mailing address, e-mail address and the 5-digit number above your name on this issue's mailing label to: peggy.jackson@oneidaschool.org Let her know if you'd like the e-Mountaineer or e-Alumni News or both. **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to add mountaineer@oneidaschool.org to your contact list in your e-mail program, or it may reject our publications as spam.

Need to contact us?

Phone: 606-847-4111 Fax: 606-847-4496

Does your church have a web site?

If so, ask them to link to OBI:

Web: www.oneidaschool.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/OBI.KY>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist

Box Tops for Education earn record amount



OBI received a Christmas surprise thanks to our donors and volunteers. Our bonus check for the General Mills Box Tops for Education™ we submitted for the last six months was over \$9,600. **Keshia Woods**, Oneida Donations Coordinator, said this was the most we had ever earned from the General Mills box tops program since we began.

Box Tops for Education™ earnings are always spent on something that will benefit our students. Different departments of the school are given the biggest part of the sum on a rotation basis.

OBI also participates in the Campbell's Labels for Education™ and Tyson Project A+™ programs. Mrs. Woods and her husband, **Mark**, oversee all three promotions. With Labels for Education™, we earn points and then shop from their catalog, while Project A+™ and Box Tops for Education™ send a check to the school. The Campbell's and Tyson labels have no expiration dates, but the General Mills box tops do. There is also a limit on the amount a school can earn from Box Tops for Education™ -- \$20,000 per year. The Woods keep a sharp eye out for deadlines and expiration dates, because the box tops are worth a minimum of 10 cents each. That can add up quickly, particularly with faithful donors sending them in and volunteers clipping them to promotion specifications.

What does Mrs. Woods want label/box top donors to know? "Send us the whole label," she advised. "Sometimes they change what part of the label they accept, so send the whole thing and we will clip them." She added, "These programs are not a drive; we participate year-round." So send those labels today! □



Our festive Christmas season included door decorating in the girls' dorm and our ag program's annual Walk to Bethlehem.



Athletic Hall of Fame nomination criteria



The purpose of the OBI Athletic Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor our outstanding coaches and athletes. The Hall of Fame Committee consists of the President, Principal(s), Athletic Director and coaches who have coached a state-recognized sport for five years or more at OBI and are still employed by our school. Nominations may be made by any person. The inductees will be chosen by the Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

Requirements for eligibility for nomination of an athlete:

1. The nominee must have been outstanding in one or more sports while a student at OBI.
2. The nominee must have left OBI in good standing.
3. A nominee must have graduated from high school--not necessarily from OBI--at least five years before he/she is inducted into the Hall of Fame. Only his/her OBI achievements will be considered.

Requirements for eligibility for nomination of coaches:

1. Any coach whose team wins a KHSAA-sanctioned state championship is automatically considered for induction.
2. Any other coach to be considered must have been a varsity head coach at OBI for at least three years.

Additional requirements for eligibility for nomination:

1. Nominee must be present at the induction ceremony. If unable to attend due to illness, the nominee may be represented by a family member.
2. The nominee may be someone already deceased. In this event, he/she will be represented by a family member at the induction ceremony. Persons interested in nominating a former OBI athlete or coach should send information such as newspaper clippings, statistics, a picture of the nominee (preferably a photo made at or around the time the person was at OBI), and/or other items of documentation that make the nominee worthy of consideration. Enclose information with the nomination form on page 4.

OBI DRAMA
cordially invites you to our
spring production of . . .

ALTAR EGOS
The I Do's and Don'ts of
an American Wedding
By Pat Cook

April 9, 10 & 11 at 7:00 PM

The Alumni & Friends Dinner is April 11 at 5:30 PM. Please R.S.V.P. to Alumni Director Amanda Roberts at 606-847-4111 ext. 268 or email: amanda.roberts@oneidaschool.org All are invited! Dinner and show are FREE!