



## YOUR SHOTS FROM THE PHOTO CONTEST

## Bridges bring school, jobs a step closer

This seven-year-old captain used to ferry villagers across the Luena River in Zambia every day. Today, a new footbridge means he can trade his perch in the canoe for a seat in a classroom. Rotarians in Zambia and the U.S. states of Virginia and Washington worked together to obtain a \$300,000 Rotary Foundation Health, Hunger and Humanity Grant to train locals in bridge design, construction, and maintenance. The project has also received funding from Rotary clubs and private companies. The bridge, linking several villages to the town of Mangango, gives residents easier access to a hospital, market, and schools. This boy told Zoe Pacciani, director of the Zambia Footbridge Program, that he couldn't wait for the new bridge to be built so he wouldn't have to miss so much school. The program is part of Bridges to Prosperity, a nonprofit cofounded by Ken Frantz, a member of the Rotary Club of Newport News, Va.

— VANESSA GLAVINSKAS

**213**

Length, in feet, of the new Rotarian-built footbridge over the Luena River

**61**

Cost, in U.S. dollars per foot, of the materials needed to build a footbridge

**6**

Number of bridges built so far through the Zambian 3-H grant project

**24**

Average percent increase in women's employment in areas with new bridges