Litter and Glitter in Toronto

L-R, Toronto Councillor Joe Cressy, *Litterland* founder Sheila White and volunteer Mark Stephenson at the after-party at Splendido for Litter and Glitter, a model, marquee cleanup event in Harbord Village, Toronto.

WORLD NEWS IN A WARMED-OVER BASKET

We've been stockpiling hot stories again

**Canadians lifting their butts off the ground May 2**

Butt Blitz on Sat., May 2 is Canada’s first-ever national cigarette butt collection drive. Hoping to light up a wave of volunteers to help, Toronto-based group, A Greener Future, is recruiting for participants at www.agreenerfuture.ca.

**Chinese scale down mountains to remove litter**

In China workers go above and beyond to rescue litter that tourists throw down the mountains. The UK Daily Mail ran a photo spread recently of cleanup crews dangling from ropes and abseiling 4,500-feet to rescue wrappers and make every sightseeing scene pristine on the cliffs of Mount Tianmen.

**Michigan milestone marked with litter cleanup**

Happy 25 years to Michigan DOT’s Adopt-A-Highway, over which time volunteers have given $100 million in services.

**Scotland’s camera sense causing a stir**

Talk about a sharp focus, Scotland intends to intensify its use of CCTV cameras to stymie litterers. Cringing right-to-privacy types promise to fight it, but the national government is gung-ho. Zero Waste Scotland has tendered for a system of image detection cameras that will spy and snap litter as it is thrown. Explains David Barnes, the agency’s litter and fly-tipping manager: “We are trying to put Scotland at the forefront of litter prevention.” He says photo data will guide the creation of effective fixes to share with the rest of the world.

**Clean Ghana!**

Entrepreneur Elijah Mensah, 29, founded Help Change Ghana to clean up his African homeland and has spawned the sprouts of a litter prevention movement there. His core group of dedicated youth has begun the mammoth task of undoing the nation’s littering habits one person at a time. Having invested $5,000 and countless hours personally, Mensah is now trying to unlock some third-party sponsorship dollars to advance the work of the Youth Litter Prevention Program, which recently hosted a symposium at University of Ghana, has conducted field trips, communications and community engagement projects under the banner, “Stop the Drop, because you can.” Give the man a hand!

www.helpchangeghana.org

**Calendar Note for Earth Day Night**