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ROSELYNN OKOBIA MAKES HISTORY IN SCARBOROUGH

By N.Ugoh

It was indeed a historic day and another moment to relish outstanding achievements of Nigerians in Canada. On February 25, 2018, Ms Roselynn Okobia was elected the Vice Chair of Scarborough - Rogue Park Federal Liberal Association (EDA)

executive board. She becomes the first Vice Chair from Nigeria to be so elected.

As a consultant, she has contributed tremendously to advocacies, community development. She is also a devout mother. The Nigerian Canadian News Canada is excited and we thereby congratulate our own for

making the Nigerian Community proud and putting forward the country's name in gold. We wish her a successful and fruitful term as she leads in her new capacity.

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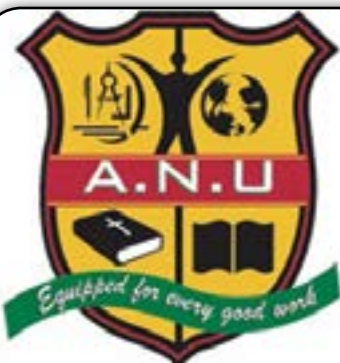
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TRUDEAU QUESTIONED AFTER INFAMOUS INDIA VISIT

By Daniel Forrester

Nearly a week after the premier's return from a trip to India, opposition parties have begun to criticize the prime minister and his Liberal government over the "fiasco" that dogged Trudeau during his first official visit to India to drum up trade and investment.

Canadian-Indian businessman Jaspal Atwal was sentenced in Canada to 20 years in prison for a 1986 assassination attempt on an Indian politician, as part of a violent campaign to establish an independent Sikh state of Khalistan.

Yet, he managed to get himself invited to the Mumbai as well as one to a dinner with Trudeau, which was rescinded at the last minute when Canadian media pointed out Atwal's criminal past.

Trudeau, however, admitted that a senior member of his caucus had mistakenly extended the invitation in a swift move to defend his national security advi-

sor. The said advisor had maintained that political factions in India orchestrated the embarrassing invitation in order to make Canada appear sympathetic to Sikh extremism.

Trudeau has said he does not support Sikh extremists, despite appearing in several photographs with Atwal published by Canadian media – while New Delhi has rejected the conspiracy theory put forward by Trudeau's top intelligence official.

Canadian Sikhs account for roughly 1.4 per cent of Canada's population, according to a 2016 census.

Many who supported the Sikh nationalist movement were accused in the 1985 Air India bombings that killed 331 people, but only one person was ever convicted in the attack. Many observers say the current scandal amounts to carelessness on the part of politicians who have associated themselves with the extremist group.

WHISTLEBLOWER CALGARY COP ON TRIAL

By Julius Oyekunle

The alleged victim of police corruption in the infamous Calgary cop trial has come out to testify that she had become close friends with one of the three current and former Calgary police officers on trial, accused of following her and bribing her friends, Akele Taylor couldn't say with 100 per cent certainty she'd ever seen the other two.

"I'm not going to say for sure it was him and get them in trouble for something they didn't do," Taylor told the lawyer for Brad McNish.

McNish, Anthony Braile and Bryan Morton worked with the Calgary police department when they worked for a private investigation firm that was hired by multi-millionaire Ken Carter. Carter is accused of using the company and its employees to stalk and harass his ex.

Taylor and Carter had a 13-month-old daughter together when they broke up in 2012. For the next two years, she described being terrorized; followed,

threatened and taken to court.

After their breakup Carter, a former Jenny Craig franchise owner who is said to be worth \$80 million, hired a PI firm run by retired Calgary police officer Steve Walton and his wife Heather, which employed Braile, Morton and McNish. Taylor testified that Carter wanted her to take a financial settlement to move away and leave their 13-month-old daughter with him. When she refused, he declared war.

Taylor described being followed (a GPS unit was later found on her car), she had police called on her, and several friends were offered money — in one case a close friend testified Heather Walton offered her \$10,000 for dirt on her, which would help Carter gain full custody of their daughter.

All the while, the former couple was in and out of family court as Carter tried to take away her parental rights.

Braile admitted to wrongful doing and began to feel guilty for following Taylor as both later became

AMBODE SIGNS BILL ON POWER SUPPLY GENERATION

By Shalewa Ayodele

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode, has signed the State Electric Power Reform bill into law. The law is specifically designed to generate at least 4, 000 megawatts of electricity under an embedded power initiative.

After signing the bills into laws earlier in the month, Ambode noted that each of the legislation "is expected to contribute to the growth and development of the state. Electricity reform law gives legal backing to the embedded power initiative. It is designed to generate 1,000 megawatts of electricity in 2018 and 3,000 megawatts by 2022."

The governor also signed six other bills into laws namely: the Amended Land Use Charge Bill,



Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode
Lagos State Governor

School of Nursing Bill, Cooperative College Bill, Cancer Research Institute bill, Amended Customary Court Bill, and the Yoruba Language Preservation and Promotion Bill.

He hinted that the power reform law "criminalizes power infractions and creates penalties for offenders in the state. "This law strengthens our resolve to commence the journey to provide unin-

terrupted power supply to businesses and homes in Lagos State."

Giving insight into the embedded power initiative after the bills were assented to, Oluwo said the law would allow the state government to intervene in major areas of the power value chain to the overall benefit of the people.

He, thus, spoke on the benefits of the embedded power initiative, noting that the law would help the government extend its guarantee "to private sector participants who will come and generate power for us. By this guarantee, we are putting the balance sheet of our state on the table and assuring investors that as they generate power, they will get paid."

He, also, noted that the law would help the

distribution companies "to upgrade their infrastructure because if they generate the power and their infrastructure is still where it is today, clearly they will not have the capacity to carry the incremental power."

He added that the third area of intervention "is that it empowers us to be able to open up the gas market in Lagos so that we can have gas on a consistent basis and that is how we can attain the 24-hour power supply."

The law would also enable the state government "to collaborate with the distribution companies to collect tariff from customers efficiently in a way that the said guarantee would not crystallise, while in the area of enforcement, the law will prevent power theft.

MYSTERY SNAKE SWALLOWS 36 MILLION NAIRA IN JAMB OFFICE

A mystery snake is said to have sneaked into the accounts office of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board, JAMB, in Makurdi, the Benue State capital and made away with N36 million cash in what has become a wonder of the 21st century.

Before now, JAMB candidates purchased scratch cards from JAMB state offices and other designated centers, to gain access to the Board's website for either registration or to check their admission status but the reforms introduced by JAMB registrar, Prof. Ishaq Oloyede, recommended an end to the use of scratch cards.

A team of auditors was dispatched to different state offices of JAMB to take inventory of the sold and unsold scratch cards and recover whatever money that might have either been generated or mismanaged during the period of the sale of scratch cards.

On their visit to Makurdi office of JAMB, a sales clerk, Philomina Chieshe, told JAMB registrar and his team that she could not account for N36 million she made in previous years before the abolition of scratch cards.

In the course of interrogation, Philomina

friends and eventually became the whistleblower on the case. Braile confessed he and others had been following her for two years. They'd go on double dates



confessed that it was her housemaid that connived with another JAMB staff, Joan Asen, to "spiritually" steal the money from the vault in the accounts office.

She insisted, "I was one of the four sales clerks attached to JAMB office in Makurdi. My responsibility was to sell scratch cards to candidates and not involved in handling the revenues. It was the responsibility of Joan Asen and my other senior colleagues. I only remit money when am done selling the cards.

"The state Coordinator, Obilo, was not around when the audit team came. But in the course of the audit, N36 million was discov-

ered to have been missing from the account. An investigation was launched. In the course of the investigation, it was discovered that Joan Asen, who is account staff and a lady outside JAMB have connived to steal the money."

Philomina had earlier confessed that Joan Asen and her accomplices had been stealing the money "spiritually" through a mysterious snake that always sneak into the office to swallow the money from the vault.

In her statement, "It was a mystery to me too. I have been saving the money in the bank, but I found it difficult to account

for it. So I started saving it in a vault in the office. But each time I open the vault, I will find nothing. I became worried and surprised how the millions of Naira could be disappearing from the vault. I began to interrogate everybody in the house and office, and no one could agree on what might have happened to the money. I continued to press until my housemaid confessed. She said that the money disappeared "spiritually". She said that a "mysterious snake" sneaked into the house and swallowed the money in the vaults. Meanwhile, JAMB authorities have vowed to continue with the investigation.

also face charges of criminal harassment, while Morton and McNish each face a charge of breach of trust.

Their offences stem from activity between

2012 and 2015, during which time all three were Calgary Police Service officers, though Braile had been suspended for unrelated matters.

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Editorial

THE DIASPORA AND NIGERIA'S TECHNOCRATS ON THE RESERVE 'BENCH'

Elections in Nigeria are fast approaching and it is most likely that political parties will present to the electorates same guardians who have always been there. The nature of party politics in Nigeria calls for re-examination if new and vibrant hands are to be elected to various political offices. As it is, the two main political parties are structured in a way that allows only the favored ones to stand a chance of being selected. Talented young Nigerians find it hard to break the glass ceilings already put in place by party hierarchies and king-makers. Party politics is an anathema to the Nigerian project. Whether Nigerians like it or not, they may have to choose between two 'devils' or two 'angels' in 2019. The options are slim and so are the chances of change.

Why do the Nigerian technocrats leave politics in the hands of crooks? Perhaps, this is another reason why the educated ones who are willing to make a change should become even more proactive. The nature of politics in the country requires courage and strong will. Breaking the barriers constituted by the powers that be is the first test to anyone's resolve to make impact. Young, skillful and educated Nigerians willing to venture into politics should take a clue from revolutionary zealots through history. Men and women who seek change don't fold their hands and wish for it. The kind of change Nigeria deserves does not come from staying aloof but through political participation.

The diaspora community may find it extremely difficult to make meaningful contributions to the political process. Many are just onlookers who are ready to take advantage of ample business opportunities and

connect with the same set of people they condemn. The reserve mentality is not good enough just as in a team, when the results are beyond control. There's no better time than now to do the needful. While it is true that financial strength can determine to a large extent the chances of an individual, election of candidates would not have been predictable if there was active participation especially from the grassroots.

Today, many youths are carried away by Big Brother Naija and are actively involved in the showbiz and entertainment industry. They have chosen to ignore politics, yet they are always at the receiving end of government ineptitude. Once again, it is the political sons and daughters of the legion of economic cankerworms that will be installed by the godfathers and so; the cycle continues.

Zuma's Ouster: When Democracy Wins

Unlike in Nigeria, where party politics could be likened to an occult group or secret society, where the individual is accountable to the party and its king-makers than the electorates, the resignation of former South African President, Jacob Zuma is a reflection of the power of the people "to alter and replace" as envisaged by Thomas Jefferson in the American Declaration of Independence. In an ideal state, governments should be subjected to scrutiny and checks if unable to meet the yearnings and aspirations of the people. Political parties cannot afford to take off their eyes when individuals who win elections under their platforms fail to scold their own. It boils down to a cultural default and an undesirable, anti-progressive one for that matter. This value is about placing the individual

above the entire workings of the democratic system. He/she is seen as the 'generalissimo' and can never be questioned or brought to book. Political parties possess the power to ask a president to resign, criticize or advise a government for its ineffectiveness.

The ANC leadership had failed to address the myriad of problems faced by South Africa and of course, corruption has been a major contributing factor to the country's ailing economy. Kudos must be given, however, to some of the members of the ANC who have remained resolute in their resolve to bring normalcy to the abnormalities in Zuma's inglorious administration. Such spirit of persistent outcry should not be seen as a form of disloyalty to the party, but its most worthy duty.

The thin line between integration and security

No doubt the Liberal government under the leadership of Justin Trudeau has been particularly predisposed towards integration of people of ethnic background, which indeed has portrayed once again the leading role of Canada as a cultural melting pot. However, in the wake of recent criticism leveled against the PM on his recent visit to India and the invitation of a Sikh extremist and Canadian-Indian businessman, Jaspal Atwal to Mumbai, there's a need for caution. Liberalism without caution is dangerous and unhealthy. The line between integration and the general safety of all Canadians must be drawn.

The argument put forward by Trudeau's close aids and political advisors that political factions in India had orchestrated the invitation is unacceptable and utterly regrettable. The

Liberal government must be reminded that it is accountable first to its people and should not trade the safety of Canadians in order to win trade deals and woo investors. There seems to be no justification for Trudeau's claim that he does not still support such extremist groups in his quest to integrate them. For a line of questioning, the Liberals must ask; are extremist groups such as that in which Jaspal belong ready for integration? What are some of their tenets and creed? Does their overt and covert action pinpoint

their avowed commitment to the functioning of the state or they insist on self-determination, thereby breaking the federation? If these questions are unanswered, then, it is unwise for any government, regardless of motive to associate itself with such people or group.

The quest to appear liberal and or pursue liberal agenda must not be taken too far. The pursuit of safety and happiness of all must be paramount, for in this lies the prosperity of all and the ultimate trust we have in government.

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HEALTHY LIVING

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Disclaimer: In no way are any of the suggestion herein meant to take the place of advice given by a licensed health care professional. Please always consult your doctor before commencing any medical treatment.

QUICK, SIMPLE TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR ORAL HEALTH



(NC) As we head into the holidays and enjoy more sugary treats, remember it only takes a few minutes each day. Protect yourself from tooth decay and gum disease with these tips from the Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association.

- Brush twice a day with a soft toothbrush using fluoridated toothpaste. Replace your toothbrush or power brush head every two to three months or after a cold or flu, as it can harbour bacteria.
- Keep your tongue clean. The top of the tongue continually forms a coating of dead cells, food debris and bacteria. Scrape or brush it once a day to remove the coating and prevent bad breath.
- Sipping on mineral water or sugar-free ice tea will help keep your mouth fresh and odour-free.
- Clean between teeth with floss or use a one-handed flosser, end-tuft brush, sulcus brush, proxa-

brush or a rubber-tipped simulator.

- People of all ages should always wear a mouth guard to protect teeth during recreational and athletic sports.
 - Avoid frequent consumption of acidic food such as pop, juice and citrus fruit, which can eventually weaken tooth enamel and cause sensitivity, unsightly appearance and tooth loss. Rinse with water or chew sugarless gum after eating to help stimulate saliva and reduce acids that cause enamel erosion and tooth decay.
 - Schedule regular dental hygiene checkups throughout your lifetime, even if you wear dentures.
- For those who have difficulty accessing or affording oral care services, check out one of the many independent dental hygiene clinics or mobile practices located across Ontario.

Find one in your area at www.odha.on.ca.

5 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR BEFORE ANY TEST OR TREATMENT

(NC) The cold winter months usually see us spending more time in doctors' offices. Whether you're getting a flu shot or checking on a lingering cough, the more information you have the better decisions you can make about your healthcare. Here are five questions you should ask your healthcare practitioner before any test or treatment.

1. Do I actually need this test or treatment?

Tests are used as diagnostic tools to help you doctor determine the best course of treatment, but in many cases they can use less invasive criteria to make a recommendation. Similarly, certain treatments are elective, so it's good to know if something is necessary or optional.

2. Have physiological differences been taken into account?

Diseases, treatments and chemicals affect men and women differently, with most drug trials and medical research focusing only on the male body while not considering the differences that are unique to women and their health. This is why you

likely need to remind your doctor to account for gender differences when prescribing a test or treatment.

"Many healthcare practitioners are not aware of the gender bias in clinical studies and the implications for women's health," explains Karen Jensen, a naturopathic doctor whose new book, *Women's Health Matters: The Influence of Gender on Disease*, explores this issue in detail. "As a result, it becomes a bottom-up situation, requiring the public, and women in particular to educate themselves."

3. What are the risks and potential side effects?

Understanding the risks of a specific test or treatment can give you a clearer picture of possible advantages and drawbacks, while knowing the side effects lets you know what's normal, what's to be expected and what requires reaching out to your doctor.

4. Are there alternatives?

This gives you a chance to learn about newer test or treatment options that may offer comparable results, as well as find out if

continued on p(39)

SAVING MONEY ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

With the cost of prescription drugs skyrocketing, many people find that affording their medication has become a hardship or even impossible.

Many people have turned to other countries or the Internet for their prescriptions, but there are less drastic measures that can help save money.

First, particularly if you are prescribed a medication to take for only a short period of time, ask your doctor if he or she has any samples available. Representative from pharmaceutical companies often give these to doctors, who are usually happy to pass

them along. However, you might have to ask, since doctors are understandably busy during your visit and might not think of it.

If you are taking a particular medication for a longer period of time and have a prescription drug plan, make sure you understand your benefits thoroughly. Your plan may have a list of preferred medications called a formulary. Drugs from this list are generally cheaper than comparable drugs that aren't on the list. If you find that your prescribed medication isn't on the formulary, ask your doctor if a drug on the list

continued on p(39)

SUNLIGHT CAN TRIGGER LUPUS SYMPTOMS

By Carla Neeley Freitag

Abnormal sensitivity to sunlight, known as photosensitivity, affects over one half of people with lupus. Exposure to sunlight can cause a skin rash or trigger a flare-up of internal lupus resulting in joint pain and fatigue. Because sunlight cannot be avoided

altogether, it is very important for individuals with lupus to take precautions to minimize the symptoms of photosensitivity.

Effects of Exposure

Sunlight exposure can cause different types of rash, including the common (butterfly rash) on the

continued on p(39)

WHAT ARE THE BEST SOURCES OF THIAMIN?

By Dr. Kristie

Vitamins are nutrients your body needs to carry out reactions that are essential for life but can't make in sufficient amounts. To avoid a vitamin deficiency, you need to get adequate amounts of vitamins from dietary sources, preferably from unprocessed foods. Water-soluble vitamins need to be replaced frequently since they aren't stored well by the body. Such is the case with the vitamin known as thiamin, also called vitamin B1. Thiamin stores can be depleted in as little as two weeks if you don't get enough through diet.

What Are the Functions of Thiamin?

Thiamin plays a key role in energy metabolism. Specifically, it acts as a co-

enzyme in several key reactions involved in cellular energy production. It's also plays a role in the synthesis of DNA and RNA, the genetic material inside cells that serves as blueprint for making the proteins your body needs to operate properly. It's also involved in nerve function - although its exact role hasn't been determined yet.

Needless to say, thiamin is a critical vitamin for good health because of its involvement with energy metabolism. After all, your body requires a constant supply of energy for long-term survival. What happens if you don't get enough? A deficiency of thiamin leads to a condition known as beri beri. Symptoms of beri beri include severe muscle weakness, heart enlargement, fluid accumulation, and fatigue.

Beri beri is a disease that's fatal unless thiamin stores are replaced through diet or supplements. A thiamin deficiency may also cause peripheral nerve damage characterized by tingling in the legs and feet as well as muscle weakness. Thiamin deficiency symptoms can occur in as little as one week of consuming no thiamin.

What are the Best Food Sources of Thiamin?

You can find thiamin a variety of foods, although not always in high concentrations. The best food sources are pork, beef, chicken, sunflower seed, bran flakes, and whole grains. Processed grains have lower levels of thiamin than whole grain foods unless the vitamin is added back in through fortification. Vegetables, fruits and dairy products typically have low levels of thiamin. Thiamin is fragile when exposed to heat, so cooking foods to high temperatures can destroy it. Some thiamin is also lost when foods are thawed. How much do you need? The recommended daily allowance of thiamin for adults is 1.4 milligrams.

What are the Causes of Thiamin Deficiency?

The most common reason for thiamin deficiency is alcoholism. Alcoholics don't get enough thiamin in their diet nor do they absorb or metabolize it well. That's unfortunate since alcoholics who are thiamin deficient can develop a more severe form of deficiency disease called Wernicke's encephalopathy, a serious health condition characterized by mental status, vomiting, and abnormal eye movements. Wernicke's can progress further to a form of dementia that may be permanent called Korsakoff syndrome.

People who have certain diseases of the digestive tract such as inflammatory bowel disease may absorb thiamin poorly and develop a deficiency as a result. Individuals with an eating disorder like anorexia nervosa are also at risk because they don't consume enough calories to meet their thiamin requirements.

People who eat a diet high in refined carbohydrates like white rice are also at risk for thiamin deficiency since most refined carbs are a poor source of this vitamin.

Preventing Thiamin Deficiency

Are you getting enough thiamin? The best way to ensure you're meeting your requirements is to eat a diet rich in unprocessed foods, whole grains, and lean protein on a daily basis. Avoid empty calories that offer little or no nutritional value.

Short Summary:

Your body needs thiamin, also known as vitamin B1, for health. A deficiency of this vitamin can have serious consequences. How do you know if you're getting enough? Learn more about the best sources of thiamin and the consequences of not getting enough.

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FG WRITE OFF \$200M IN STUDENT LOANS FEDS WILL NEVER COLLECT

It is the third time in four years that the government has had to write off outstanding student loans

The federal government is writing off more than \$200 million in outstanding student loan payments that officials will never be able to collect.

Recently released spending documents show the government won't collect \$203.5 million in debts from 34,240 students

It is the third time in the last four years that the government has had to write off outstanding student loans even as officials make concerted efforts to round up more money from borrowers.

The government annually has to write off some of the \$19 billion owing in student loans for a number of reasons: a debtor may file for bankruptcy, the debt itself passes a six-year legal limit on collection, or the debtor can't be found.

The Liberals have looked to make it easier for graduates to pay off their loans — and for the government to collect the cash — by increasing the minimum annual income they have to earn before they are required to make debt

payments.

The limit is now set at \$25,000.

Nine years to pay off

The most recent annual report on the Canada Student Loans Program said that in the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the government provided 489,000 full-time students with \$2.7 billion in loans and a further \$20.9 million in loans to 12,100 part-time students.

Borrowers typically take between nine and 15 years to fully pay off their loan and the period usually overlaps with when Canadians are most likely to start a family.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations called on the government late last month to also give new parents a break from student loan payments when they are on parental leave, even if they are receiving employment insurance benefits.

Student groups have also asked the Liberals to make higher education more affordable, and have requested more financial help for Indigenous students.

Source: www.cbc.ca

STUDENT FLOGGED TO DEATH IN ZAMFARA

By Shalewa Ayodele

A Government Day Secondary School teacher in Sankalawa in Bungudu Local Government Area of Zamfara State has allegedly flogged a student to death.

The incident was revealed by Alhaji Muhammad Abubakar-Gummi, Deputy Speaker of the State House of Assembly.

The deputy speaker, who spoke under matters of urgent public importance during the assembly's sitting in Gusau, said that the house had received several reports on the issue.

According to him, another incident at Government Female Day Secondary School, Kwatarkwashi, had led to the injury of a student in the school after the Vice Principal allegedly subjected her to heavy punishment.

Gummi said: "These problems apart from discouraging our children from acquiring education, also revealed poor attitude to

work on the part of teachers in this state."

He urged the House to invite the Commissioner for Education, Science, and Technology to explain steps taken to address the issues.

The Speaker, Alhaji Sanusi Rikiji, described the actions of the teachers as unfortunate and vowed that the assembly would not allow the matter to pass.

"It is part of our responsibilities to ensure effective security and good learning atmosphere for our children for their future development, therefore, we cannot allow teachers to continue harassing our children from schools," he said.

The Speaker directed the House Committee on Education, Science, and Technology to invite the commissioner to appear before it on the matter.

Meanwhile, the Assembly has passed into law the bill for the establishment of Zamfara State University, Talata-Mafara.

KWARA ASSEMBLY PASSES BILL BANNING ALCOHOL

By N.Ugoh

Kwara Assembly Passes Bill Stopping Payment of Pensions to former governors and deputies

A bill that seeks to put a stop to the payment of pension to former governors and their deputies has been passed by the Kwara state House of Assembly. Earlier, the house had constituted

a committee which was saddled with the task of reviewing the law for relevant amendment.

The house committee on the establishment and public service at the committee of the whole house sitting in Ilorin made a recommendation to the house while submitting its report recently.

Segilola Abdulkadir,

deputy house leader, moved the motion for the adoption of the bill and was unanimously adopted by members. The plenary was presided over by Mathew Okedare, deputy speaker and has since directed Mohammed Katsina, clerk of the house, to prepare a clean copy of the bill to the governor for his assent.

The executive arm had

forwarded the bill seeking to review the existing law where payment of pension for former governors and deputy governors after their tenures would be suspended. In the wake of the paucity of funds and inability of the state government to pay salaries, there was public outcry and criticisms over the huge amount budgeted for former governors and their deputies.

NIGERIAN START UP DEVELOPS AI FOR ASPHYXIA

By Julius Oyekunle

It will now require about 10 seconds to successfully carry out an Asphyxia test, thanks to a Nigerian startup which has recently developed a machine learning system to detect child birth asphyxia earlier and hopes to save thousands of babies when the technology finally gets a nod.

The founders say the AI solution has achieved over 95% prediction accuracy in trials with nearly 1,400 pre-recorded baby cries. The startup is now raising funds to acquire more data to improve accuracy and obtain clinical approval from health institutions.

Birth asphyxia is the third highest cause death for children below the age five and is responsible for almost one million neonatal deaths annually, according to WHO. It has also been linked to 1.1 million in-trapartum stillbirths, long-term neurological disability



and impairment.

Early detection has been a major issue in Nigeria and other parts of Africa where the focus usually shifts to preparation for religious and cultural rites right after a child is born. A leading medical practitioner explained that medical expertise is needed to positively establish diagnosis using blood gas analysis, administer oxygen support and to treat the underlying cause.

Currently deployed as an Android app, Ubenwa, which means baby's cry, helps parents and caregivers detect asphyxia earlier, without having to wait on

doctors.

Charles Onu, Ubenwa's founder and principal innovator, explained that machine learning system takes an infant's cry as input, analyses the amplitude and frequency patterns of the cry and provides instant diagnosis of birth asphyxia.

Onu observed that only few public hospitals in the country had the equipment due to its high cost, poor electricity service and an unrealistic routine application for every child.

Ubenwa's co-founder and engineering lead, Udeogu Innocent, said after being able to achieve a level of success with the model,

the startup then deployed its technology to a mobile app for easier mobile diagnosis of birth asphyxia. It builds on techniques that have been developed for speech recognition.

Currently, the Ubenwa team is at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital and in Canada at the McGill University Health Center, where they are conducting clinical validation tests.

Onu stated, "We want to do the tests in the hospital, interact directly with the babies, and compare how Ubenwa performs given all the new environmental challenges that would come up. The reason we are able to pursue this real-time validation in the clinical setting is as a result of the success of our earlier work."

"We are still finalizing a hybrid model. But in the meantime, we are planning to make it free for individuals and paid for organizations such as hospitals, clinics, governments, and others," Onu said.

WHY ONTARIO NEW HOUSING LAWS DELIGHT TENANTS

By Daniel Forrester

Illegal terms on rental agreements will soon stop. This is thanks to Ontario's new standardized lease agreement.

The agreement, which takes effect April 30, will see the same

contract used for every

rental. At present, Ontario doesn't have any standardized contracts in place. Instead, landlords and tenants often create make-shift agreements, sometimes using downloadable online forms — and sometimes using il-

legal terms.

The standardized lease will clearly indicate what landlords can and cannot include in the lease: total rent, dwelling rules, rights and responsibilities allotted to both landlord and tenant, and more. Additional clauses will have to be attached in a separate document.

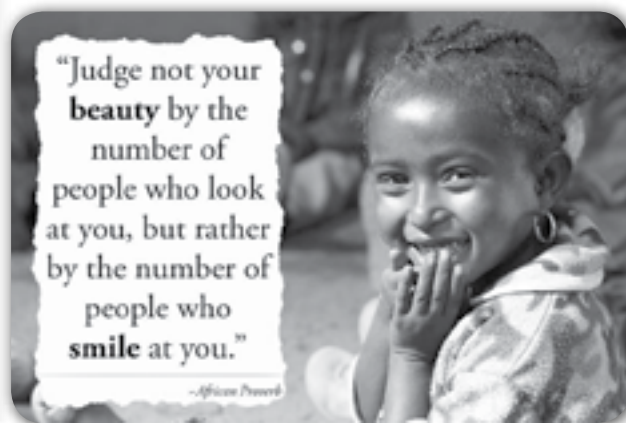
Any agreement made before 30th April will remain valid and enforceable, so long as they comply with the Residential Tenancy Act. But once the new standardized lease agreement is put in effect, it will apply to all new tenancies.

Should landlords fail to comply, tenants can

send a written request to provide a standard lease. If landlords still fail to use the legal contract within 21 days, tenants will be allowed to withhold one month's rent. This will give the landlord another 30 days to use the new standardized lease agreement.

Tenants do not have to repay that rent if landlords don't provide the lease at that time.

Most social and supportive housing, retirement homes, nursing homes, mobile home parks, land lease communities, and commercial properties will be exempt from using this new contract.



NEWS RELEASE

ONTARIO BAN ON DOOR-TO-DOOR SALES IN EFFECT AS OF MARCH 1ST

February 23, 2018

New Law will Protect Consumers at Home

Starting March 1, 2018, Ontario will ban unsolicited, door-to-door sales of certain household appliances to better protect consumers from aggressive and misleading contracting at home.

Businesses will only be able to enter into a contract in the consumer's home if the consumer has contacted the business ahead of time and invited them into their home for the purpose of entering into a contract. Contracts that are in violation of the new rules relating to door-to-door contract solicitation will be considered void, and consumers will be able to keep the goods and services with no obligations.

The new rules will apply to:

- Air cleaners
- Air conditioners
- Air purifiers
- Duct cleaning services

- Furnaces
- Water filters
- Water heaters
- Water purifiers
- Water softeners
- Water treatment devices
- Bundles of these goods and services

In addition, businesses will be required to keep a record of how contact with the consumer entering the contract was made, and all contracts signed in the home for these goods and services will also have a 10-day cooling-off period, allowing consumers to cancel the contract for any reason without penalty.

Protecting consumers is part of Ontario's plan to create fairness and opportunity during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, easier access to affordable child care, and free prescription drugs for everyone under

25 through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation.

QUICK FACTS

Door-to-door contracts have been among the top complaints received by the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services.

Ontario is the second province in Canada to restrict door-to-door solicitation and contracts.

If a consumer calls for a repair, maintenance or any other reason, businesses will only be allowed to leave information about the products and services they offer, unless the business has a written contract in place with the consumer and secures the consumer's approval in advance of the visit to solicit a contract for the restricted goods or services.

Businesses will need to keep a record of how contact with the consumer was made and provide consumers with clear information about their rights.

ONTARIO TRANSFORMING ADULT CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM

Proposed Legislation Will Improve Conditions and Increase Transparency

Ontario is transforming its adult correctional system to achieve better outcomes for individuals in custody, and those being released.

The province has introduced legislation that is the foundation of the boldest transformation of our corrections system in a generation. The legislation would apply a consistent and evidence-based approach to rehabilitation, ensuring both public safety and the protection of the human rights and dignity of persons in custody. The proposed legislation has been informed by consultations with stakeholders, partners including corrections staff, and several comprehensive expert reviews. These include two reports from the Independent Advisor on Corrections Reform, a submission from the Ontario Human Rights Commission, an investigation by the Ontario Ombudsman on segregation, and the final Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre Task Force Report.

If passed, the proposed legislation will:

- Set rules around, and clearly define, segregation by aligning with international standards and

phasing in time limits and prohibitions on segregation for vulnerable inmates, including pregnant inmates and those with a significant mental illness.

- Improve conditions of confinement by requiring minimum standards for living conditions that would apply to all adults in custody. This will ensure better outcomes and greater consistency across Ontario's correctional system.

- Increase transparency and accountability by establishing an Inspector General to ensure compliance with the new legislation and all policies. Independent review panels will review segregation cases and ensure that inmates are held in the least restrictive conditions possible. To ensure the safety of inmates and staff, disciplinary hearings officers will make decisions about sanctions for serious acts of misconduct by inmates.

- Clearly define in legislation the health care services that incarcerated individuals should have access to, including treatment of disease or injury, health promotion, disease prevention, dental care, vision care, mental health and addiction care, and tradition-

al Indigenous healing and medicines.

- Better support rehabilitation and reintegration through individualized, evidence-based assessments that will be completed for every new admission as part of an evidence-based approach. Tailored case management plans will address the unique needs of each inmate and aid in rehabilitation. Increased culturally specific programming and supports for Indigenous individuals and other over-represented groups will be available to achieve successful reintegration.

As part of the government's commitment to transform corrections and address key recommendations from reports by the Independent Advisor on Corrections Reform, the province is also:

- Investing in modern infrastructure, including new facilities in Thunder Bay and Ottawa

- Improving health outcomes for those in custody that will be informed by a new expert advisory committee, public consultations, and a comprehensive review of the health care needs of inmates and current services provided in

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WI-FI COMING TO GO TRANSIT

Province Improving Customer Service and Convenience This Spring

Ontario is introducing Wi-Fi on GO trains and buses and launching an improved GO Transit website and trip planner, making it easier and more convenient for commuters and families to use GO Transit.

As a first step towards introducing Wi-Fi service on all GO Transit vehicles, Metrolinx will test the service on two GO trains and four GO buses to examine service quality and collect feedback from transit users. Free Wi-Fi is already available at the majority of GO stations and bus terminals across the system.

This March, Metrolinx will also launch a new, easy-to-use GO Transit website. The website will provide a better customer experience through new features including an improved trip planner, updated fare calculator, and en-



hanced service and station information to help people plan their trips.

These improvements will make using public transit easier and more convenient for commuters and families. Increasing public transit ridership also plays an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and managing congestion on Ontario roads.

Making public transit more convenient is part of Ontario's plan to create fairness and opportunity during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of

students, easier access to affordable child care, and free prescription drugs for everyone under 25 through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation.

QUICK FACTS

Signage will be used to identify which vehicles offer the Wi-Fi service.

Ontario is investing \$21.3 billion to transform GO Transit from a commuter transit service to a regional rapid transit system. Weekly trips across the entire GO rail network will grow from about 1,500 when the program began in 2015 to nearly 6,000 by 2024-25, with more all-day service across the system.

each correctional facility

- Modernizing technology by introducing advanced data collection and management to support evidence-based decision making

- Investing in staff through enhanced training programs including mandatory training on anti-rac-

ism, cultural competency, disabilities, mental health and human rights

- Establishing an advisory committee with the Ministry of the Attorney General, Anti-Racism Directorate, and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services to address the over-representation of black inmates

in corrections and support their reintegration into the community.

These measures will modernize corrections and support a system built around dignity, human rights, and accountability that will effectively

continued on p(47)

TAXATION

FOR THE RECORD



Dami Okunade B. Comm (McGill), CPA, CA, CFA

Good record keeping today can prevent CRA penalties tomorrow.

We live in a digital world where everything is captured electronically in real time. Paper financial statements have become relics from the past; unfortunately, the requirement to produce evidence for the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for HST or income tax has not.

The CRA accepts records in:

- paper format
- paper format later converted to and stored in an accessible and readable electronic format
- an accessible and readable electronic format.

As explained on the CRA website, Keeping Records: "We consider you to have electronic records if you create, process, maintain, and store your information in an electronic format. You are required to retain these records in an electronically readable format, even if you have paper printouts of these records. If any of your source documents are initially created, transmitted, or received electronically, they must be retained in an electronic format. Scanned images of paper documents, records, or books of account that are maintained in electronic format are acceptable if proper imaging practices are followed and documented." (Canada Revenue Agency, Keeping Records, <https://www.capacity-canada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/CRA-Record-Keeping-Guidelines.pdf>)

For complete details of what is required, see Information Circular IC78-10R5, Books and Records Retention/Destruction, and GST/HST Memorandum 15.1 General Requirements for Books and Records and Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) publication, CAN/CGSB 72.11 Microfilm and Electronic Images as Documentary Evidence, and its latest amendment.

Orderly Fashion

Both corporate and individual tax payers should be aware of the following:

1. Records must be kept at your place of business or residence. They may not be kept outside Canada unless you receive CRA permission. This suggests that Cloud accounting to servers outside Canada does

not meet the CRA's criteria and that businesses need to keep the general ledger in CSV (comma-separated values) or PDF format on their own computers.

2. Bank statements and credit card statement amounts, with the exception of bank charges and overdraft interest, will not satisfy the CRA. Original source documents that support e-transfer, cheque or deposit information are required.

3. Payments of credit card balances are often lumped together with other expenditures when payments are made to the credit card company. In the event of a review, not only will you be required to produce the statements, you will have to produce the backup (i.e., invoices) for amounts shown on the credit card. Thus, original purchase invoices will be required.

4. Receipts for debit card purchases for small items are often discarded. Without an original source document, these expenditures may be disallowed by the CRA.

5. Accounting programs are available that attach the original electronic invoice to the specific purchase or sale. This is helpful when backtracking to the original electronic invoice. But what about purchases made off the business premises? Documents for these purchases should be scanned or photographed and placed into an appropriate folder that establishes the date of the transaction, the amount, and a description of the item(s). If using PDF software, indicate the journal entry on the PDF so that a review of the general ledger can quickly source the document.

Keep all original copies in case of a lawsuit.

Retention of Legal Documents

Documents such as purchase contracts, financing covenants, shareholder agreements, etc., should be scanned and saved in perpetuity. Hard copies of such documents should also be kept because the original source document will be required in the event of a lawsuit.

Since source documents must be maintained for a minimum of six years, it is advisable to:

- ensure all records are electronically copied to an external hard drive stored off-site
- back up data to a local offsite facility or the Cloud as well as an external hard drive
- ensure data is stored in a format useful if you need to produce historic fi-

PERSONAL FINANCE AND BUSINESS

HOW TO START SAVING NO MATTER YOUR SALARY



(NC) If not earning enough money is among your top reasons for not saving, think again.

A recent survey from CIBC revealed that the most Canadians admit they could get by with less each month — on average \$360 less — before feeling the pinch. What's more, almost two-thirds get roughly \$2,300 of extra money each year as cash gifts, employer bonuses and tax refunds.

The problem is that few of us put the money away before we have a chance to spend it.

"People think it's too

hard to save or feel they can't save, but it really just boils down to shifting your mindset and getting into the habit of saving regularly," says David Nicholson, vice president at CIBC.

The trick is to make saving a priority, not an afterthought, by automating your contributions just as you would your bill payments, he says.

To start building your savings today, simply set a goal, decide how much you can cut back, make it automatic and frequent, and keep your spending and credit in check.

6 TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR FINANCIAL HEALTH IN 2018

(NC) It's the time of year when we make promises to do better, eat healthier or exercise. Yet, research shows a clear link between the state of our finances and our mental, emotional and physical health. So even if you do nothing else, tuning up your finances may be the ticket to a better year ahead.

"The start of the year is the perfect time to take a look at our budget and monthly cash flow to see where we can do better to meet our financial goals," says David Nicholson, vice president at CIBC. "Make the most of that new year

optimism by putting a clear action plan in place to keep you on track throughout the year."

Here are six tips to improve your financial health this year:

1. Know your money. Take a look at your income and expenses and write them down. Having a clear picture of your financial situation can reveal some surprises and get you in the right frame of mind.

2. Get a handle on high-interest debt. Stop carrying a balance on your credit card. Some store credit cards can charge up to 30 per cent interest, so make it a priority to pay off

financial records. Because some software providers can only provide backup of financial data in CSV, charts, formulas, row styling, images, and other presentations will not be forthcoming when using a CSV data dump.

- back up on a regular basis. Software is available that will automatically back up data as frequently as you need.

- ensure that a new computer, software or operating system will allow updating of the old database.

It may be advisable to hold onto the older computers to ensure access to old records if required. Ensure that all old passwords are stored with the old devices.

- ensure computers used in discontinued operations are not discarded and data stored in the Cloud is recovered and stored on an external hard drive and/or payments for the Cloud service are maintained.

Failure to record and retain records properly can be costly. Consider this: *continued on p(39)*

CHEQUE CASHING FEES: IS THE CONVENIENCE WORTH THE PRICE?

(NC) Cashing a cheque at a payday loan centre may seem quick and easy, but the fees you'll be charged for these services can add up.

Let's say you are receiving a monthly cheque for \$500 for one year. If you cash your cheques at your bank, you get the full \$6,000 over the 12-month period.

However, a cheque-cashing service will charge you an item fee, as well as a percentage of the cheque's value. Continuing with the monthly \$500 cheque example, if you have an item fee of \$2.40 per cheque and owe a percentage rate of 3.6, altogether you would be paying \$243.72 a year to access your funds — quite a dent in your wallet.

Item fees and percentages differ slightly between services, but the averages used here are based on the rates charged by five of Canada's largest cheque-cashing/payday loans businesses.

When you cash your cheque with a teller at your bank, you have a right to access the first \$100 immediately, without paying any fees. Any remaining funds will be released after a maximum of four business days. If you are able plan ahead for this, you can avoid spending your money on cheque-cashing services.

Learn more about your rights and responsibilities around cheque hold policies and access to funds at www.canada.ca/it-pays-to-know.

any high-interest debt and/or consolidate your debts into one loan at a lower interest rate.

3. Think twice about spending. Don't spend money on things you don't need; rather picture the things you really want and save a little more for them instead. Delaying purchases is another way to reduce spending on non-essentials.

4. Automate your savings. The most effective way to save is to "pay yourself first" by setting up an automated transfer on the day your paycheque is deposited. For an added boost, direct those funds into a TFSA, RESP or RRSP to take advantage of any government grants and tax savings.

5. Start investing now. Whether you have

a few thousand saved or you can only afford to sock away your lunch money each week, every dollar you invest can increase your wealth and give you more flexibility in the future. How to invest comes down to your risk tolerance and time horizon. Just remember, the earlier you start, the more you have to gain thanks to the power of compound interest.

6. Get an expert opinion. Most banks offer free financial planning to help you map out your short- and long term goals, project what your desired retirement lifestyle will cost you, and build a plan that's unique to your financial situation. If you find it tough to stick to your plan or if something changes, be sure to modify your plan and keep yourself on track.

LOOKING FOR AN OPTOMETRIST - SEE BACK PAGE

ANDREW ENOFE REAL ESTATE SEMINAR - PAGE 29

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!

LEADERSHIP

WHY YOU SHOULD KEEP GOOD COMPANY

By Richard Branson

The company we keep in our companies is often the key to our success. You don't have to be the fastest runner in the relay team or the best speaker on the debate panel, as long as you surround yourself with great people and contribute in your own way.

It's no secret that I wasn't the most academic student. Dyslexia held me back from focusing on school work and achieving good grades. However, I learned that if I flanked myself with people that complemented my weaknesses and shared my passions, I could work with them towards greater achievements.

Over the past 50 years in business, I have used this as my model for collaboration – simply put: I just choose great people and shine in their shadows.

In the very early days at Virgin Records, I entrusted my fresh-out-of-university cousin, Simon Draper, to take the lead on buying music for the company. While I had always appreciated music, Simon lived for it.

He didn't just casually enjoy an album, he understood it. Simon's taste in music became the single most critical element of the Virgin ethos. Our record shops were not just stores, but arbiters of taste.

Simon's keen ear for talent, shown by his appre-

ciation for Mike Oldfield, eventually led us to create Virgin Music – without which we could have never started or propelled Virgin Atlantic.

While the Virgin Group has always been my vision, a number of people have significantly influenced the journey along the way. There are far too many to name-check, however over the course of my career I have worked hand-in-hand with many inspired minds to bring innovative ideas to life. And I'm not alone... Many of the world's most powerful and successful people do the same. Steve Jobs had Steve Wozniak. Microsoft was the joint effort of Bill Gates and Paul Allen. Larry Page had Sergey Brin and they worked together to develop Google. Every leader has a team.

Finding the spotlight isn't about standing in it. There's so much to be gained from working with a collective of people who support each other to achieve great things. We all eventually become a product of the people we associate closely with.

Their actions and behaviours resonate with us and subconsciously influence our everyday choices. It's therefore incredibly important to surround yourself with people who complement you, aid your self-development, and most importantly allow you to shine – even if it's in their shadow.

31 NEWFOUNDLAND WORKERS WIN BIG IN LOTTERY DRAW

By Daniel Forrester

Twin brothers, a married couple, a father and son and three people who live on the same street in a tiny Newfoundland town were among the 31 individuals who won a lottery to emerge new millionaires.

The winners and about 300 jubilant family members gathered at St. John's convention centre to receive \$60 million from Atlantic Lottery Corp. after the group bought the winning Lotto Max ticket last week at a gas station in Holyrood.

All road led to St. John's conversation center

where winners and about 300 jubilant family members gathered to receive a whooping sum and a record \$60 million from Atlantic Lottery Corp.

Some of the winners expressed their shock their shock upon finding out they had the matching numbers for the biggest jackpot in Atlantic Canada to date and one of the top five in Canada.

Sherry Moore Hickey, who has been buying tickets for co-workers since November, expressing her joy says, "I had a \$60-million ticket in my hand and I was afraid to lay it down. I was afraid to walk away from it. I

AFRICAN CENTER IN EDMONTON CLOSE TO COMPLETION

An African center in Edmonton is close to completion if authorities are able to close deals with the design team. The center is to promote African culture, history and showcase the African culture to the world and ensure its passage to future generations.

Architect Samuel Oboh, whose firm in collaboration with Francis Kéré, AECOM, and HCMA won the proposal for the design said in a recent statement, "We really wanted to create a centre that is authentic ... that is unapologetically and unmistakably African."

The multimillion-dollar center will provide a melting pot for Africans and researchers and further put Edmonton at the epi-

center of African heritage. Oboh further stated, "It's quite humbling ... we're entrusted with something unique and special, it will be a regenerative force that will transform that area."

City Director of facility planning and design, Pascale Ladouceur noted, "The quality of the team we were able to attract to Edmonton is really what we're most excited about at this point." 15 teams submitted applications for the design and Nigerian-born Oboh, who is based in Edmonton, and Kéré, originally from Burkina Faso, were chosen because their proposal best captured the city's overall vision, she said.

\$22.3 million in total



Architect Samuel Oboh

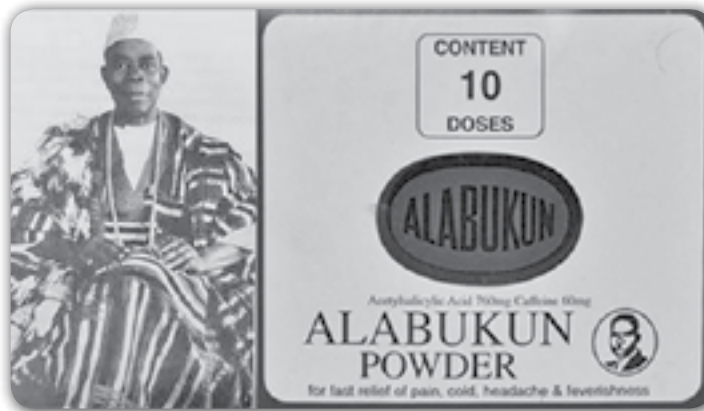
was budgeted for the project which will take up to five years to build.

The Director also noted, "It is both a multicultural-

al centre and a community centre, so that touches a broad group within the city and has a neighbourhood feeling to it."

UNKNOWN NIGERIAN

Jacob Odulate, The Man Who Invented Alabukun Powder Over 100 Years Ago



To so many Nigerians in the diaspora, Alabukun may not resonate any significance, especially for the millennials. Alabukun, one of the oldest drugs in Nigeria and even is still very relevant and popular today. However, not many know the Jacob Odulate aka Blessed Jacob, a Nigerian pharmacist, inventor, and entrepreneur and the brain behind the brand that has remained relevant selling in all parts of Nigeria, Benin Republic, Cameroon, Ghana and some parts of Europe.

1. Jacob Sogboyega

had to contact everyone because there's 31 in our group ... They would say silly things like, 'Are you drinking?' I told them all the same story -- we're millionaires. This is not a joke. We are millionaires!"

Some of the winners retired from their jobs immediately after getting word that they would get about \$1.9 million each. For Moore Hickey, that's multiplied by two since her husband also kicked in \$5 for a group purchase of \$155 worth of tickets.

Odulate aka Blessed Jacob was born into a polygamous family in 1884.

2. He was originally from Ikorodu in Lagos State but later moved to the neighbouring Ogun State.

3. At age 14, he trekked for three months from Ikorodu before reaching Abeokuta to establish himself.

4. Blessed Jacob managed to create a brand from what served as his consulting room and workshop in Abeokuta. His modest headquarters was at the Sapon Area, not far from where he later built his famous three-storey building in Ijemo Agbadu.

5. In 1918, he in-

vented the legendary Alabukun powder which is now a hit in the world's most populous nation and in other West African nations.

6. He sent his children to study at some of the best universities in Durham, Newcastle, United States of America and London. e.g Mrs. Folake Odulate

(later to become Chief. Mrs. Folake Solanke) who is the first female lawyer in Nigeria to wear the silk and she also became the first female

Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN). In 1966, she established the first law firm by a Nigerian female at Ibadan, Oyo State and named it Alabukun Chambers in honour of her great father.

7. Apart from making the drugs, the energetic Blessed Jacob also produced other brands like Alabukun mentholine, other preparations and an annual journal called Alabukun Almanac which was widely distributed in Abeokuta and eventually all over Nigeria between the 1920s and 1950s.

8. He died in 1962 at age 78.

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HOW DIFFICULT IS IT TO FORGIVE INFIDELITY?

By Jide Animashaun and
Chinwe Annie Amaechi

It is not impossible to forgive

Having an affair is a life changing event for everyone involved, but getting to the root cause of the problem will help in resolving whether one will learn to forgive the partner or not. It impacts on the issues of commitment and basic trust partners have for each other.

The victim of the affair most times is often disturbed with the imagery of the thoughts of the betrayal. Inconsequential former quarrels will be seen in new light. Basic character changes will now be seen as evidence of the betrayal. And forgiving the act is a hard process that if thought carefully through, may be achieved.

Most times people talk about infidelity as if it's a sickness of the male ilk. That men may be polygamous in nature may not be too much in doubt, especially African men.

But infidelity has nothing to do with that. When the issue of infidelity rears its ugly head, most often, accusing fingers are pointed at the man as if he has committed a crime against mankind. Granted that infidelity is a crime against your vows, but can we really say that it cannot be forgiven when and if it does happen? Most people who have ever been guilty of it will always give reasons. Some reasons are so mundane while others may sound reasonable or logical. But whatever the reasons may be, they will always have one.

I will not belabour you with the excuses people use as reasons so as not to furnish prospective offenders who want to do it excuses they can use as ammunition when they eventually get caught. Infidelity or cheating as it is commonly called is a state of your mind at a particular period towards your partner.

The funny thing about it is that most men who commit it most times will not be thinking about their partners until the deed has been done and the image of the devil is the last thing on their minds. It is funny then when they get caught that they will say it was the devil.

People have different things that they like in the opposite sex and when it gets flaunted in their faces and they think they can have their way and get away with it, the chances are that they will do it. A lot of women reading this will say it's only a man who will

think like this and that they as women can never be unfaithful to their partners.

All I have to say here is that just pray you never get into that kind of position or situation. And unless you are a saint, you should never judge. For most men, it is a crime of lust and passion simply put.

A man sees something he likes and without rational thoughts, goes and gets it. For women, it is more thought out and rationalized before it becomes a deed and that's why most men will rather not want to forgive their partners apart from the issue of their manhood being involved. Men believe that for a woman to cheat on them, she would have to compare them to the person she's committing the act with, and they would have come short of her expectations.

Men believe right-fully or not, that a woman shouldn't even see other men as objects of affection or desires once they have gotten married, forgetting that women are humans too. Women too are mostly not realistic enough to understand that in this part of the world infidelity is a 'night market'.

You mustn't be caught doing it. Be that as it may, especially since it's a crime mostly committed without reason, shouldn't it be forgiven?

What I mean is that can one or should one forgive a partner caught in it? The first thing that comes to mind is to say no, but one has to look at other factors beyond the lust and passion before one can genuinely say that. Most people would rather quote the holy books to support not forgiving one's partner who may have been caught in the act.

They forget that these books also give a tough act to follow by saying whosoever hasn't committed this act even in thoughts and deeds should be the first to cast the first stone.

Personally, I believe what is forgivable is better left to the individual doing the forgiving and how remorseful the person that committed the act is, even if it is impossible to forget.

So tough to forgive

Every woman goes into a marriage hoping that her husband will remain faithful to her for the rest of their lives together. No woman wants to share her man with any other woman. Nothing breaks a woman's heart like infidelity on the part of her husband.

When a woman finds out that her husband has been with another woman, it tears her apart; she feels as if the man took a part of

Continued from the last issue.

By Taiwo Iredele Odubiyi

A confirmation of pregnancy would have brought so much joy to some people who were expecting to have children. They might even throw a party and give testimony in church to thank God for answered prayers.

But for those who should not get pregnant, the news would have shocked them and made them burst into tears. She belonged to this group. She was definitely shocked but she didn't feel like crying.

She loved children and had been thinking of when she would get pregnant and have her own. But not like this! If she had been married, she would have been elated but she wasn't. Worse still, she was a Christian and she had no business going 'there' with Albert whom she met just about three months ago.

She began to think about her relationship with him ...

... Twenty seven-year-old Albert was the youngest child of Chief Asika, a businessman, and he worked for Reflections, a national newspaper as a reporter.

Grace met him two months after she began to work at Lawal & Adesola Chambers, a law firm. She had gone over to see Albert to discuss some legal issues. Someone had threatened to sue the newspaper for a story that Albert did.

As she sat in his office, asking him questions and writing in her notebook, his eyes sent messages of interest to her which she understood and liked. He was her kind of man: intelligent and handsome. He was also doing well in his career, having made a name for himself. She hoped he was a Christian.

When she eventually stopped and sat back, he asked, "Do you have any more questions for me?"

She shook her head.

"No. I'm through for now."

"Good. I'm hungry. Have lunch with me." He said.

Straight to the point. He seemed to be sure of himself and what he wanted, Grace thought and laughed. "Lunch? Er - I'm not sure." She reluctantly

told him with a smile.

"Why not?"
"Er ... well, one, I'm a Christian -"

"What makes you think I'm a pagan?" He asked.

"Are you a Christian?"
"Sure." He answered smoothly.

Her eyes searched his table and the frames that adorned the wall. Nothing indicated his religious inclination.

Realising what she was doing, he said, "You won't find a Bible or such things on my table if that's what you are looking for."

"Why not?"
He shook his head.

"I'm just not into all that."
"Where do you worship?"

"Calvary Tabernacle."

She smiled broadly.

"Really? That's fine. Are you in any department?"

"No."

"Hmm. Too busy?"

"Yes. I sometimes work on Sundays. You know how it is." He told her and changed the subject back to the lunch invitation. "It's not every day I'm able to go out for lunch, so I hope you'll join me. There's a good restaurant just across the street."

She eventually agreed to a dinner in a restaurant not too far from her office. On her way back to her office that day, her heart told her to be wary of him. He didn't appear like a strong Christian.

She was attracted to him though. Suddenly, her mind went to her mother and she could almost hear her mother's voice, warning her to control her emotions rather than allow her emotions to control her. Her mother would not want her to have a relationship with such a man.

But why couldn't she have a relationship with such a man? Grace thought. If every Christian avoided a man like Albert, who would help him grow spiritually? She might be able to influence him to be a stronger Christian if she got close to him.

Grace considered her mother too serious about Christianity, almost judgmental. The way her mother sometimes talked to her, it was as though she didn't think Grace was seriously committed to God.

This was her life anyway, Grace thought

was "caught in the act".

In other words, there is a general consensus that it is easier to forgive a man's unfaithfulness if he told his wife about it himself. In such an instance, a woman is more convinced



Pastor Taiwo Odubiyi

with pursed lips. And what she did with it would be her decision. She was no longer a child and her mother shouldn't be dictating to her, telling her what to do. She could take care of herself. Besides, she felt like seeing Albert again. She was certain she could handle him.

Grace knew she was beautiful and doing well in her career but that was more than she could say about her love life. Most of her friends were going steady while two were already married. Her very close friends, Ayoade and Jennifer were also attached and Jennifer would be getting married in July. But here she was, without a man she could call her own. If she wasn't careful, she might end up unmarried like her mother. Whenever the possibility of being a spinster for life crossed her mind, she felt concerned.

When she was in her second year in University, she liked one of the young men in her fellowship but he liked another girl. In her final year, she met another young man who was a good Christian, the type her mother would approve of but it didn't work out. He kept complaining about her and they eventually stopped seeing each other. Toward the end of that same year, she met another man who was a Christian with a good job. He wanted sex and when she refused, he ended the relationship.

And now, Albert had invited her to dinner. Well, she was willing to see how things would go.

She ignored the voice in her head and went out with him. As they chatted over dinner, it was obvious to Grace that Albert was not a committed Christian and didn't know much about God but when he asked to see her again the next day, she agreed, telling herself she could help him grow spiritually. He was very nice with a good sense of

humour. She also liked the way he looked at her. It was as though he couldn't keep his eyes off her.

That was how she began to see him. She wasn't sure if she could say she loved him but she liked him a lot.

He kept inviting her to his rented two bedroom apartment but she didn't go until after a month. That day, he was a perfect gentleman. She brought her Bible out and shared some scriptures with him before they prayed for a few minutes. Afterward, they watched a movie.

The second time she visited him, he told her clearly to make her Bible-sharing brief as he had other things in mind.

"What other things?" He told her his opinion about premarital sex: he didn't think it was wrong and he would expect it in their relationship.

"As Christians, we shouldn't do it." She pointed out.

He shrugged. "Well, I'm not going to argue with you about it, after all your mother is a pastor. My own mother is not, and hey, this is me! This is what I want. I'm a man."

"This is what you want? I wonder what your pastor would say if he heard that you wanted sex. Or your editor whom I was told is a Christian."

"My editor? Who gives a flip? It's no one's business." He said and stopped. He added, "The choice is yours."

He had declared his intention.

When he kissed her, sparks of desire ignited in her, and she eagerly responded to her surprise. She had never experienced the feelings that ran through her body. That day, she was able to put him off but with great difficulty.

When she was leaving, she invited him to her house. That would be better and keep them safe, she reasoned.

To be continued

This story is from the novel - With This Ring by Taiwo Iredele Odubiyi

To read the novel, pls visit: www.amazon.com/Taiwo-Odubiyi/e/BOOG6MU03I Or: www.okadabooks.com/search?term=odubiyi Website: www.pastortaiwoodubiyi.org

YOU *& the* LAW

DEBT – COLLECTION AGENCY

QUESTION: A COLLECTION AGENCY CALLED ME. DO I HAVE TO TALK TO THEM?

ANSWER

If a collection agency contacts you, don't ignore them. If you ignore them, serious things can happen. For example, your credit rating could drop and you might get sued in court.

You can contact the collection agency at any time. But, there are rules about when the collection agency can contact you. For example, they must send you a written notice and wait at least 6 days before they call, email, or text you.

Talking to the collection agency

When a collection agency contacts you, try to speak with them as soon as you can. You

may be able to make a plan to pay off your debt in a way that you can afford.

If you call them within a few days, they might be able to reduce the effect that the debt has on your credit score. But for this to happen, you need to pay the debt off right away.

Once a collection agency contacts you, you have to deal with them. But, there may be ways to handle your debt in the future so you don't have to deal with a collection agency.

Getting help

If you're having problems dealing with the collection agency, a non-profit credit counsellor may be able to help you.

QUESTION: A COLLECTION AGENCY CALLED ABOUT A DEBT I DON'T OWE. WHAT CAN I DO?

ANSWER

If a collection agency calls you about a debt that you don't think you owe, don't give them money or personal information.

Your creditor or the collection agency may have made a mistake. A creditor is a person or business you owe money to.

Contact the collection agency and explain that:

- you don't owe the money, or
- the information they have is wrong.

Then, the collection agency can contact your creditor to find out why they claim that you do owe the money.

If the collection agency is trying to collect a debt that you already paid, you may also want to contact the creditor.

Disputing the debt

If these things don't work, you can send a formal letter by registered mail to the collection agency saying that you "dispute the debt" and that you want a court to decide the problem.

If you do this, the collection agency can only contact you if they plan to take you to court.

Making sure it's a real collection agency

Make sure that the caller is from a real collection agency before you give them any personal information.

A real collection agency will already have details about you and the person or company who hired them to collect the debt.

CAN I SUE MY LAWYER FOR NEGLIGENCE?

Just like doctors, lawyers can be sued for malpractice. If you feel your lawyer's carelessness or negligence cost you a case or affected a claim, you can take them to court.

Here's what you need to know.

As in almost any type of negligence case, you have to prove three things:

- the defendant owed you a "duty of care";
- they violated that duty;
- you suffered some financial loss as a result.

Lawyers in Canada are bound to a Professional Code of Conduct that outlines their ethical obligations, and they also have a duty of care to their clients. The 1964 Supreme Court of Canada case Millican et al. v. Tiffin Holdings Ltd., defined that duty.

In that decision, the court said a lawyer's obligations are:

- To be skilful and careful.
- To advise his client on all matters relevant to his retainer, so far as may be reasonably necessary.
- To protect the interests of his client.
- To carry out his instructions by all proper means.
- To consult with his client on all questions of doubt which do not fall within the express or implied discretion left to him.

To keep his client informed to such an extent as may be reasonably necessary according to the same criteria.

Lawyers aren't expected to be perfect and you can't sue them just for making a mistake or losing a case.

A lawyer is expected to perform with the same skill and care as a "reasonably competent and diligent solicitor." A truly negligent lawyer would make errors or display ignorance that a reasonably competent lawyer wouldn't.

A common example is a missed limitation date or deadline. Showing up to court unprepared, not performing services paid for or sleeping in court — yes, that's actually happened — are other examples.

In the June 2015 decision Knapp v. O'Neill a Yukon woman successfully sued her lawyer over his handling of her injury claim. Part of the lawyer's negligence was advising the client to pursue an early settlement for an "inordinately low amount" given her injuries and not advising her on the potential damages if the case had gone to trial. In doing so, the lawyer violated his duty of care and that violation led to a financial loss for the client.

courts.findlaw.ca

QUESTION: WHAT RULES DO COLLECTION AGENCIES HAVE TO FOLLOW AND WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS WHEN DEALING WITH THEM?

ANSWER

A collection agency collects debts for other people or businesses.

So, if you owe money and don't pay it back on time, the person or company you owe the money to may hire a collection agency.

But, there are rules that collection agencies must follow and limits to what they can do.

Collection agencies must be registered with the government of Ontario. If they're not registered, it's against the law for them to try to collect money from you.

Rules about contacting you

Usually, collection agencies have to send you a written notice about a debt, before they can contact you by phone, text, or email, or in person.

And after sending the notice, they must wait at least 6 days before they can contact you.

When the collection agency contacts you, there are other rules they must follow. For example, they must contact you:

- only at certain times of the day
- no more than 3 times in a week

If you don't owe money If a collection agency contacts you about a debt that you don't think you owe, don't give them money or any personal information.

The collection agency, or your creditor who hired the collection agency, may have made a mistake. So contact both of them and explain why you don't owe the money.

When you do this, it's called disputing the debt.

Make sure it's a collection agency

Sometimes, people pretend to be collection agencies as a way to get money from you. These people are often called "scam artists".

Source: stepstojustice.ca

CAN YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS BE USED AGAINST YOU?



Did you know that if you are involved in a legal case, now or in the future, what you say on social media could be used against you?

If the information is posted somewhere on the Internet, it could be used against you. A person may not realize that a post may be used against them at the time they are putting it up but posts can be used against a person at a later time. Especially if the post can prove a person committed a crime or is being untruthful in court.

Why are my social media posts can be used against me?

Most social media accounts are public, meaning they can be viewed by anyone. Anyone includes law enforcement, lawyers and the court.

Many cases today use Facebook evidence, especially when it comes to personal injury cases.

The 2007 case Kourtesis v. Joris shows how insurance companies may use a person's Facebook account against them. It's also one of the first personal injury cases in Ontario to use Facebook evidence against an insurance claimant.

In the case, a woman claimed that after her accident, her injuries were serious enough to ruin her life and she sued the insurance company for pain and suffering.

However, the insurance lawyers got access to her Facebook pictures. She had put her privacy settings to "friends of friends" and then got a court order to access more of her Facebook pictures. The pictures contradicted her claim and she

lost the case.

The use of social media accounts against people is not limited to personal injury cases alone. They can be used in many other legal areas such as criminal law and family law.

If I set my accounts to private am I protected?

It may give you some protection from law enforcement, lawyers or the courts.

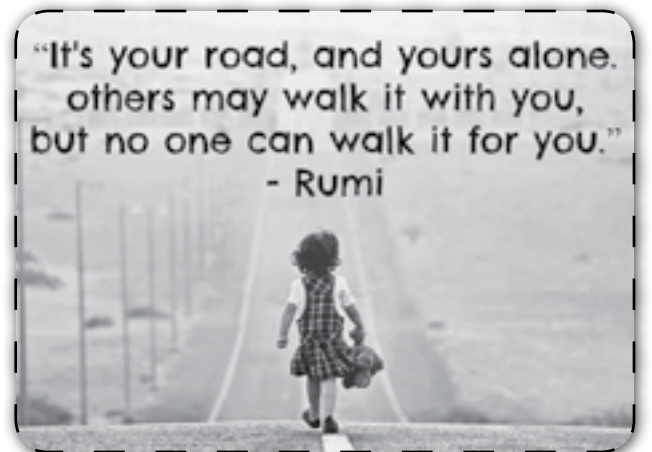
While it may initially make it difficult for them to get your information, it's relatively easy for Canadian law enforcement to obtain evidence from social media sites even where the settings were changed to private.

All they have to do is get a court order or a subpoena and they can get access to your content, information and history from your social media accounts. However, the court may not issue a court order in every case, as they also has to take into consideration privacy rights of people involved, as well as the relevance of the evidence to the case.

In Canada, law enforcement officials have another way to get your information, as the Personal Information and Electronic Documents Act permits Canadian companies to voluntarily provide some information on without the authorities having obtained warrants first, although companies can refuse.

It's best to consult with a lawyer if you are involved in a court case or lawsuit and are worried about your social media accounts being used against you as evidence.

courts.findlaw.ca



FAMILY

HOW TO HOUSE TRAIN YOUR RABBIT



Rabbits have a natural tendency to want to eliminate in a specific area, so they are surprisingly easy to house train. Watch your rabbit in his cage for a few days and determine where he typically eliminates. This will often be one corner of the cage. Place a litter pan there, filled with the same material that is in his cage.

When you let your rabbit out of his cage for exercise and play time, keep him confined to one room in the beginning. Place litter pans in each

corner or anywhere you notice that he tends to eliminate. Don't yell at or startle your rabbit if he goes outside a litter pan; you'll only frighten him and make the process harder. Instead, scoop up (or soak up) the waste and place it and the paper towels in one of his litter pans. Having the smell there will help him understand where he's supposed to go.

You may need to work on this process for several days or more before your rabbit gets the hang of it. Be patient. Some rabbits

will catch on very quickly while others will need a little more time. You'll need to keep several litter boxes available whenever your rabbit is out of his cage.

MATERIALS

If his cage isn't large enough for a litter pan, then his cage is too small and should be replaced. Often starter cages are sold for baby rabbits, but these are not large enough for an adult rabbit. Some rabbits enjoy multi-level cages, and most of these will offer ample room for a litter pan.

As for cage filler, use a paper based product that will not harm your rabbit if he eats it, and he will eat it. Never use cat litter in your rabbit's litter pan; it can kill him. Keep in mind that anything in the litter box will also be eaten. This is perfectly normal for your rabbit. Some people use grass pellets in the litter pan for this reason. They're relatively absorbent and, obviously, edible. How-

ever, they offer little in the way of odor control and need to be emptied daily.

MAINTENANCE

Let your rabbit out to exercise daily. He needs time out of the cage, and if you fail to do so, he'll often forget his litter box training if caged too long.

You'll also need to keep his cage and litter boxes clean. Daily cleaning is best for keeping down odor, and your rabbit will be much happier for it. You'll also find that he'll not want to use a very dirty litter box, so he may revert to eliminating somewhere you don't want him to.

If your rabbit does make a mistake, clean it up and place the waste and paper towels in a litter pan to remind him where he should be going. With patience and time, you'll be able to trust your rabbit to be out of his cage for extended periods, which is better for him and you.

TIPS FOR TRANSITIONING BACK TO WORK AFTER A BABY



(NC) For many moms, heading back to work after maternity leave is something that has always been a part of the plan, but that doesn't mean it's easy. While it's common to have concerns about not having enough time to bond with baby, stress about pumping at work and maintaining your milk supply, there are ways to help make the transition easier for you and your little one.

Ease into your new routine. If possible, schedule your return date for the middle of the week rather than a Monday, or work alternate days for the first few weeks. Being thrown into a full work week will not only be exhausting, but emotionally draining as well. By taking only a few days away from baby at the beginning, you can slowly ease back into work and make the return more manageable.

Purchase pumping essentials. While pumping at work can be challenging, many companies work with returning moms to find a private location to pump. A discreet pumping accessory, such as NUK Simply Natural Freemie Collection Cups, allows moms to pump hands-free with their shirt on. Compatible with leading double

electric breast pumps, these collection cups also help easily transfer milk into storage containers or storage bags to bring home. A supply of absorbent nursing pads is also an essential to keep on hand to help stay dry throughout the day.

Keep the connection. One of the hardest parts about returning to work is leaving your son or daughter. Don't be shy about asking their caregiver to send updates once or twice a day with texts and pictures for peace of mind. One way to help ease the stress of being back at work is to actually see that your baby is doing well with the new routine.

Maintain the Bond. Changes to feeding can be just as hard on your little. To help baby ease into the new routine, use products that offer a more natural transition between breast and bottle, like NUK Simply Natural Bottles that are modelled after the shape of breasts, with up to nine nipple holes. Introducing more family members or friends to giving baby a bottle about a month before going back to work will also help moms feel confident that the process is going smoothly before returning to work.

IS A TOLL-FREE NUMBER RIGHT FOR YOUR FAMILY?

You're familiar with toll-free numbers for businesses and advertisers, and the obvious benefits they provide. However, have you considered the possibility that a toll-free number might benefit your family?

HOW DOES A TOLL-FREE NUMBER WORK?

A toll-free number allows people to dial an 800 number to reach your home phone. Some plans will also allow you to answer the toll-free number on your cell phone as well. Instead of the caller paying the bill, you will, so you should select a plan that fits your budget.

CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

If you have children or grandchildren you'd like to call more often, a toll-free number may be the answer. This works well if you can afford a few cents per minute, but they can not. College students and

young adults just getting started will appreciate your providing an easy way for them to call you that doesn't break their budget or yours.

Most people carry cell phones routinely, but the cost of a cell phone plan can easily rival the cost of a toll-free number, so it may be more cost-effective for you to set up your toll-free number and ask people contribute to its cost. Let your children conserve their cell minutes, and their money.

OTHER RELATIVES

Do you have older relatives who might not be able to afford to phone you as often as they'd like? Would you like them to not have to wait for your phone calls but to be able to talk whenever they choose? A toll-free number can be a wonderful gift to older relatives who would appreciate the money savings and opportunity to talk with you more.

TRAVELING

If someone in your family travels frequently, a toll-free number can be more convenient and less expensive than other alternatives. Cell phones are sometimes unpredictable and difficult to charge while traveling, and hotel telephone charges can be prohibitively high. A toll-free number will ensure that you or your family member can call home whenever you'd like, or need to.

EMERGENCIES

As much as we'd like to not think about it, emergencies do happen. Sometimes, cell phones aren't charged, or are unreliable. Not all pay phones allow collect calls, so having a toll-free number at home will save you hunting for change and credit cards to make that important call.

HOME BUSINESS

If you have a home business, then having a

toll-free number will allow your clients to contact you more easily. Whether you freelance, sell make-up or home décor, or sell from one of the auction sites, your clients will be more willing to purchase from you if you're easy to contact.

A toll-free number also indicates to your customers that you're serious about your business, and that you'll be available to them should a problem arise.

COST CONSIDERATION

If you're considering a toll-free number, you should shop around for plans available in your area. They can vary widely in features and cost. Some will charge by the minute and others will charge a flat fee. Some offer voice mail and other features you may or may not want. If you shop carefully, the cost of a toll-free number can easily fit within your family budget.

3 WAYS TO KEEP KIDS SAFE FROM ELECTRIC SHOCK AT HOME

(NC) Children are natural explorers who can get their hands on just about everything. Parents do a lot to protect those hands — mak-

ing sure they are washed regularly, removing splinters and bandaging cuts. But there are invisible dangers lurking in your home, and electricity is

one of them.

On average, more than 110 kids under 15 end up in the emergency room each year in Ontario because of an

electrical injury. More than half are under the age of five. And although people may brush off a little buzz from an outlet, new research shows

that even low-voltage shocks can have serious long-term effects like memory loss, anxiety and pins and needles.

"No shock is a safe shock, and all are preventable," says Dr. Joel Moody, director of safety risk, policy and innovation at Electrical Safety Authority.

The ESA recommends three easy home fixes to help prevent shocks for you and your kids:

1. *If your outlet has a missing or broken cover plate, replace it immediately.* Outlet covers create a barrier between people and exposed wires.

2. *Install tamper-re-*

sistant receptacles to protect younger children from shocks. They have special shutters that cover the plug slots and help prevent little fingers or objects from going into the outlet.

3. *Check all of your cords.* If one is frayed or damaged, replace it. Tape won't protect anyone from a shock. Extension cords — which should only be used temporarily — are prone to damage and can lead to a shock or fire.

If you or someone you know receives a shock, seek medical attention. Find more tips online at esasafe.com/nosafeshock.

REAL ESTATE

READERS FEEDBACK & QUESTIONS

By Steve Ezeude

"Stupidity is when you have a Land Rover + Land Cruiser and still have a Land Lord...Wise Up".
- Anonymous

In the last two months, we have received questions from our esteemed and ardent readers on the articles published in this forum. This edition is dedicated to answering some of the questions.

Question: *Why should I invest in a Student housing?*

Answer: Student housing offers a great return on investment to investors. It is always a rule of thumb for every investor to invest where returns are best. Attributes of best in this context would entail security of property, minimal risks, location, and potential viability of the property. A growing University, inadequate campus housing, vacancy rate, financial aid opportunities, turnkey opportunities are few example that come to mind as reasons for investing in a Student housing. Universities like Queen's, Waterloo, McMaster, Toronto, to name but a few, are ever growing but lacking adequate campus housing to accommodate their student population. According to Andrew La Fleur, "95% of Queen's University Student population are from outside of Kingston and out of over 24,000 student population of Queens, the housing units on campus is only 4,618. There is need for off campus student housing to support this growing student population". With respect to vacancy rate, most University towns have less than 1.0% vacancy rate.

Financial aid opportunities that are prevalent in some University towns is one reason to invest in these areas. Large endowment fund per student drives the University growth thus making investments viable in University towns.

Question: *What should I know about closing costs for pre-*

construction condos?:

Answer: Closing costs vary and depend on developer, size of unit and location of the property. The charges you are likely to pay for when buying a pre-construction condo are:

a). Land Transfer Taxes: You will pay one land transfer tax which is the municipal tax in all Ontario provinces except in Toronto where you pay a municipal tax in addition to the provincial tax.

b). Development Charges: These charges vary from project to project and builder to builder and usually come in the form of levies, educational levies, section 37 levies). It is advised that you ensure that your development charges are capped. If not, please run.

c). Legal Fees to your lawyer. You will be paying a fee for your lawyer to assist you in closing a transaction. The lawyer's fee is in addition to miscellaneous fees and charges that include but not limited to law society fee, deposit cheque administration fees, mortgage discharge fees, and status certificate fees.

d). Utility Hook ups: Utility hook up charges are normal when closing a pre-construction condo. However, some developers may waive these fees or offer them as incentives with the utility companies.

e). Tarion Warranty: For every new home, there is a Tarion Warranty fee. Please check with Tarion website for the enrolment process.

Question: *Is HST included in the purchase price of a Condo?:*

Answer: Condo purchase prices include HST if you are or someone in the family is going to live in that unit but does not if you buy as investor and decide not to live in the unit. If you are not going to live in it but plans to rent it, you do not qualify for HST rebate. You will qualify if you or your family members will live in it but you have to pay for it and thereafter apply for the



Steve Ezeude

rebate.

Question: *What is a Joint Venture and how does it work?:*

Answer: A Joint Venture (JV) is situation where two or more people come together to purchase a piece of property. It usually project specific and has tenure. Reasons for JV can be to share risks, responsibilities, and capital. Other reasons could be lack of time, skills and experience required for management of the property. Types of JV could be money partner and working partner or a combination of both. A working partner has the time, skills and experience whereas the money partner has the money but not the other attributes.

Question: *Who manages a JV?:*

Answer: The working partner usually manages the venture or both or all the partners can elect to hire a property management company.

Question: *Who goes on title in a JV arrangement?:*

Answer: Every partner in the JV goes on title except if any of the partner(s) chooses not to.

Question: *If there is rental vacancy in a JV investment, who pays the mortgage?:*

Answer: The JV partners. It is usually advised that a carrying cost or contingency fund be allocated by the partners to cover any vacancy or unforeseen costs.

Question: *When mortgage is paid up, what happens to the*

Property?:

Answer: At that point, you become mortgage free. No more debt and you know the feeling when you have no debt.

Question: *Will the right of first purchase be granted to any of the parties?:*

Answer: Yes, when 2 or more people are in a JV, the parties all have rights of first purchase except if the agreement states otherwise.

Question: *What happens if there is dispute in a JV arrangement?:*

Answer: There is always provisions made for dispute resolution in the Agreement.

Question: *Condos do not appreciate as much as other types of properties like single detached, semis and town houses, what's your take?:*

Answer: This has been a myth but we have seen a great shift in this regards in the last 2 years which is purely driven by affordability. Condos appreciated 14% above all other housing types in the last quarter of 2017 and has continued to do so as evident in the first two months of 2018. According to Better Dwelling (2018), "Toronto real estate prices has stopped declining entirely due to condos". Regardless of the housing type, when a tenant pays down your mortgage, your equity in the house is going up monthly and with time, you will get recover your initial capital and reinvest it.

We thank all those that sent in their questions and look forward to receiving more in the future.

Steve Ezeude is a Realtor with Royal LePage Signature Realty and a Real Estate Investment Syndicator. For questions and/or feedback, please send email to steveezeude@yahoo.ca or call 6478608304. www.mitorontohomes.com

7 SECRETS TO SELL YOUR HOME SUCCESSFULLY



(NC) Here are some tips from the Ontario Real Estate Association that will help your home stand out when you decide to sell.

1. Focus on first impressions. You only get one, so make sure everything potential buyers see first is in top shape. During winter, keep your driveway shovelled and hats and mittens neatly stored for a clutter-free entryway.

2. Empty your closets. A great trick is to create the illusion of extra storage space with half-empty closets, drawers and cabinets.

3. Upgrade strategically. Skip costly major overhauls — quick fixes are cheaper, easier and can often deliver a better return on your investment. Things like a fresh coat of paint, cleaning the carpets, and replacing door and cabinet handles in the kitchen are big-impact projects that can be accomplished in a weekend.

4. Edit personal touches. Buyers are more likely to make an offer if they can visualize themselves living in your home, so put away family photos and kitschy personal mementoes. Stick to simple artwork and accessories that make the space feel

lived-in, but neutral.

5. Understand legal documents. When you list and sell your home, there are several real estate documents you need to complete the transaction, like the Agreement of Purchase and Sale and the Listing Agreement. Work with your Realtor to make sure you understand the important information in these agreements and that they contain the specific wording that suits your needs.

6. Make sure the price is right. You don't want to leave money on the table but you also shouldn't set the price unreasonably high, or you may scare away buyers and keep your house on the market longer than necessary. Your Realtor can help you determine what's right for your local market.

7. Light it up. A home that looks bright, airy and spacious is more welcoming and feels larger. Get the look by opening the curtains before viewings, choosing pared-down window treatments in light colours, and adding a few strategic lamps, which you can borrow from a friend until you sell.

Find more information at www.orea.com.

ternational guests are great personal touches.

4. Invest in a smart home monitoring system. Some systems can tell you if a door has been left open or if the air conditioning has been left on. You can track things like carbon dioxide and fire alarms as well as security cameras right from your mobile device.

5. Use white linens for guest beds and towels. While it's tempting to let your inner Martha Stewart come out and play, keeping everything white means you can bleach stains easily and keep your laundry load light.

6. Minimize risk by removing high value or treasured items. While insurance can help you



recoup costs, don't leave anything that would cause financial or emotional hardship if lost or damaged.

Last but not least, check with your insurance broker to see if your policy covers short-term rentals. Aviva is proud to offer a variety of home sharing insurance options to protect you and your property.

Learn more at www.avivacanada.com/home-sharing.

6 TIPS FOR RENTING YOUR HOME ON A HOME SHARING NETWORK

(NC) Renting your home on a sharing network such as AirBnB or HomeAway can be a rewarding way to earn some extra income. As more people use these services to travel and explore the world, there are ways you can minimize your risk and become an outstand-

ing host. Here's how to get started:

1. Emphasize what's unique about your listing. Is there a beach or park nearby? Perhaps there are some great local treasures like coffee shops or museums. Is your rental family-friendly or a character home? Put

what's special about your property front and centre in your listing.

2. Keep it clean. Great guest reviews on platforms such as AirBnB can have a tremendous impact on the desirability and popularity of your listing, so making sure your place is spotless for every

guest is an absolute must.

3. Go the extra mile by stocking your pantry and fridge with common breakfast items. Consider putting together a welcome basket based on who's coming to stay — a bottle of wine for a couple on holiday or some local goodies for in-

FOOD

REASONS TO ADD WATERCRESS TO YOUR NEXT SALAD

By Dr. Kristie

Green, leafy vegetables are a rich source of antioxidants - and you need antioxidants to protect your cells against the oxidative damage they're exposed to every day. When cells take a beating, it pays to give them a little extra antioxidant reinforcement by adding more green, leafy veggies to your diet. When most people make a salad, they add a variety of lettuces and sometimes spinach, but they forget about another leafy vegetable that's loaded with health benefits - watercress.

This green veggie with its unique, peppery flavor adds extra punch to summer salads while offering extra protection against disease. Here are five reasons to add watercress to your next salad.

IT HAS ANTI-CANCER BENEFITS

Watercress is a cruciferous vegetable just like broccoli and cauliflower. This family of veggies is a powerful source of natural compounds called glucosinolates. Glucosinolates are converted to anti-cancer compounds called isothiocyanates when you eat them. Isothiocyanates offer protection against a variety of cancer types, especially ones that are fueled by hormones like breast and prostate cancer. Watercress is an especially good choice for women concerned about their risk for breast cancer. Compounds in cruciferous vegetables convert estro-

gens in the body to a less powerful form that's less likely to over-stimulate breast cells.

IT'S A NATURAL DETOXIFIER

Watercress contains a dietary com-



ponent called **naturtiin**. Naturtiin is converted to a modified form of isothiocyanate called PEITC. Once PEITC is formed, it turns off enzymes produced by the liver that activate carcinogens and other toxins, while turning on enzymes that help your body eliminate toxins and pollutants you're exposed to every day. Who needs a colon cleanse when you can enjoy a watercress salad instead?

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR VISION AND HEART HEALTHY TOO

Two of the most common visual problems in older adults are cataracts and macular degeneration of the eye. Watercress is a good source of three vision-protecting carotenoids - beta-carotene, zeaxanthin,

and lutein. Getting more carotenoids in your diet from sources like watercress helps to protect your eyes against these common diseases. The same carotenoids that keep your eyes healthy also help to

protect your heart and blood vessels from plaque build-up that can lead to heart disease and stroke. Chalk two up for the carotenoids in watercress.

WATERCRESS HELPS YOU RECOVER AFTER A WORKOUT

Exercising places cells under tremendous stress. This causes cell-damaging free radicals and muscle cell damage. Sounds like a good reason to top off your workout with a watercress salad.

OTHER HEALTH BENEFITS OF WATERCRESS

Watercress has other health benefits that make it

a good addition to the grocery cart. It's a caloric bargain with only 4 calories in a single cup. Plus, it's a good source of vitamin K, a vitamin that's important for normal blood clotting and for healthy bones. It's also a rich source of the antioxidant vitamin, vitamin C. In addition to its antioxidant activity, vitamin C is important for a healthy immune system and for keeping skin wrinkle-free due to its role in synthesizing collagen.

HOW TO GET THE BENEFITS OF WATERCRESS

You can enjoy watercress either raw or steamed, but eating it raw maximizes its health benefits. Exposing watercress to heat inactivates the enzyme that converts glucosinolates to cancer-fighting isothiocyanates, so when you cook it you reduce its anti-cancer benefits. Enjoy it raw in a salad or as a replacement for lettuce on a sandwich or in a wrap. Use it as a pizza topping or puree it and add yogurt, milk and spices for a cool and refreshing summer soup. Enjoy the taste - and the many health benefits of this often overlooked and underappreciated green, leafy vegetable.

SHORT SUMMARY:

Tired of eating the same old boring salads? Pump up the flavor in your salad - and the health benefits - by adding watercress. Watercress is a powerhouse of disease-fighting chemicals. Here are five reasons to add watercress to your next garden salad.

THE MAKING OF ISAPA SOUP

By Shalewa Ayodele

Are you thinking of preparing a special delicacy and move away from the normal everyday predictable menu?

Isapa soup is common in Southwest Nigeria, especially in Ekiti state. It is eaten mostly during festive periods. Making it can be a bit stressful but at the end of its preparation, it is very delicious and will make your day.

Ingredients for Isapa soup

1. Isapa
2. Melon
3. Tomatoes, rodo (red pepper), onions
4. Stockfish, crayfish
5. Locust beans (iru)
6. Seasoning, salt
7. Red palm oil
8. Meat or beef as desired.

Before cooking:

- Blend the tomatoes, rodo, and onions together and you can also blend some locust beans with it and crayfish. After blending pour into a bowl and keep aside.
- Wash your melon

and blend; don't add too much water so it can fry well. After blending, pour into another bowl and rinse the blender. Keep the water from the blender separate.

- Boil the meats together and keep the stock from it.

- Put your fry pan on fire; add some red palm oil to the frying pan. After the oil is hot, put your blended egusi bit by bit for it to fry in balls.

How to cook:

Put your cooking pot on fire; add some quantity of red palm oil. After the oil is hot, pour the blended pepper, tomatoes, and onions and cook for about 15 minutes. After, add the water from the blended egusi, add the stock, add locust beans, add crayfish and the meats, put salt and seasoning as you desire and cover the pot until the oil begins to surface.

Pour Isapa into the pot, stir very well and add your fried Egusi. allow to cook for some minutes and your soup is ready.

You can enjoy the delicacy with pounded yam or white rice as you desire. You will surely ask for more.

WHAT ARE SALMON OIL BENEFITS?

Salmon oil is highly recommended by many nutritionists as an excellent source of omega-3 fatty acids. This substance has been proven to play a pivotal role in decreasing triglycerides and increasing the amount of beneficial HDL cholesterol in one's bloodstream. The American Heart Association has recommended that people with certain cardiac problems ingest omega-3 supplements such as salmon oil.

Salmon oil benefits may arrive in a variety of health-related areas. It is widely believed that salmon oil can play a large role in cancer prevention. Some studies have shown that it is particularly effective

in helping to prevent prostate, colorectal, and skin cancer. Risk of these cancers is reduced by the high concentrations of omega-3 found in the supplement.

Other salmon oil benefits pertain to the eyes. It has been suggested that consuming salmon oil on a regular basis can alleviate some of the risks of macular degeneration. If true, this usage would be of great importance. Macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in adults over the age of 50.

In terms of one's heart, salmon oil benefits may be for several reasons. The supplement is naturally rich in vitamin B-12, which is known to be helpful in

- 6 oz (175 g) candy-coated chocolate pieces

Directions:

Prepare popcorn according to package directions. Remove all un-popped kernels. Place popped corn in large bowl. Let cool slightly.

Add raisins, gummy bears and chocolate pieces. Toss together and serve immediately. Store remainder in tightly sealed container up to three days.

Photo credit: Shutterstock.

HOST A STRESS-FREE GAME NIGHT PARTY

(NC) Hosting any celebration can cause a lot of stress and mess. For this year's big game, save your game-time stress for what's happening on the field, not the party planning.

Instead of preparing everything yourself, make it a potluck. There are plenty of online tools to organize a potluck, including shared sign-up lists that make sure food, drinks and snacks are covered.

If you aren't watching on cable, make sure you have a reliable stream set up for the game. There is nothing like having the game cut out at a pivotal moment.

If the guests linger after the game, don't panic, just have a few extra snacks



on hand to keep them satisfied. Orville Redenbacher buttery microwaveable popcorn, made without any ar-

tificial colours, flavours or preservatives, is the perfect ingredient to help you put together a quick post-game

snack. As a light and simple base, popcorn provides the perfect start to a variety of unique creations.

Make a popcorn mix with your favourite toppings or follow the recipe below for a sweet and savoury delight.

Movie Theatre Popcorn Candy Bowl

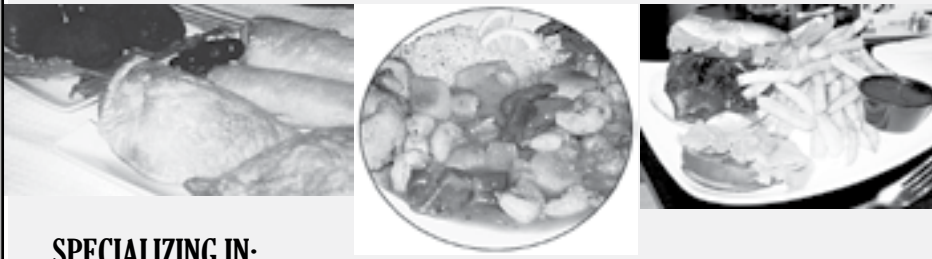
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serves: 12

Ingredients:

- 1 bag (82 g) Orville Redenbacher gourmet buttery microwave popcorn
- 7 oz (210 g) chocolate-covered raisins
- 6 oz (175 g) gummy bears

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achieving heart health. Moreover, the high percentage of omega-3 fatty acids in salmon oil can help reduce blood pressure and greatly reduce the possibility of cardiac arrhythmia and death via heart attack.

People who live with diabetes may also enjoy salmon oil benefits. The substance allegedly helps diabetics process insulin by stimulating the release of certain essential hormones. Additional salmon oil benefits include a lessening of painful symptoms for

those who are afflicted with asthma, gallstones, arthritis, and several types of respiratory and inflammatory diseases.

The research appears to show that salmon oil benefits may not be restricted to just physical disease. When taken in the right dosage, the supplement may bring about a reduction in the symptoms of depression. Those who battle Alzheimer's Disease might also be helped by a health regimen that includes salmon oil, as

there is some thought that it might slow memory loss.

It should be noted that, in order to receive the highest degree of salmon oil benefits, the supplement should be taken under medical supervision. Taking an incorrect amount of salmon oil can lead to upset stomach, nausea, belching, and diarrhea. People taking a blood thinner should be especially careful about consuming salmon oil, as combining the two substances can have serious side effects.

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AUTO NEWS

STUDDED VS. NON-STUDDED TIRES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

(NC) With the winter driving season upon us, those in the market for a new set often have one common question when deciding what to buy — do I choose studded, or non-studded tires?

Studded tires are exactly what they sound like — winter tires that have metal studs embedded in the treads. The studs provide extra grip when digging into snow or ice to help keep your vehicle stable, especially during slippery driving conditions.

Non-studded winter tires also provide control and stability on ice and snow, and in cold weather in general. Like studded tires, they have tread patterns and sipes that are designed to push water aside and dig down through the snow to the asphalt.

Here are a few things to consider when deciding which type is best for your vehicle:

Ice vs. snow. It's a common myth that studded tires are mainly for drivers who are traversing country roads with lots of snow. In fact, the opposite is true. Studded tires provide a superior grip on ice and hard-packed snow — common city driving conditions — while non-studded tires are best for generally cold conditions.

Price. In the past there

used to be a big difference in cost, but today it's minimal. If you decide to choose a studded option, opt for a good quality brand that is factory-studded, such as the Nokian Hakkapeliitta 9. You may end up paying the same or even more by studding an entry-level product through a third-party dealer.

Longevity. Studded tires are made from a slightly harder rubber compound than their non-studded counterparts, so their lifespan is about five to 10 per cent longer. According to international practice, the maximum recommended life for a tire in use is six years, but this also depends on your driving habits and environment. The best way to judge if your tire is worn is to measure its tread depth. Some tires, like the Nokian Hakkapeliitta products, come with the Driving Safety Indicator, a patented technology that lets you know when the tires need to be changed.

Rules and regulations. If you're driving out of province, be sure to check local jurisdictions for regulations around studded tires. Many municipalities have restrictions on when and where studded tires can be used. Similarly, if you park in underground lots such as in a condominium, be sure to check if studded tires are acceptable.

USE THIS CHECKLIST BEFORE HEADING SOUTH THIS WINTER

(NC) If you are going on vacation for the holidays or planning on heading south for the winter, Hydro One has some helpful tips to save energy and keep your home safe:

- Electronic devices left plugged in, even when turned off, still draw power. That's called phantom or standby power, and it's costing you money. Unplug the following electronics while you are away: television, home theatre system, computer, monitor, printer, electronic chargers and other appliances you don't need while you are on vacation.

- For increased security, use timers for lighting inside and outside your home. Using timers is much less costly than leaving your lights on all day. Fluorescent lighting requires special dim-

mers or timers, so make sure you use the correct ones.

- Turn down the temperature in your home to 16°C.

- Turn off the power supply to your major appliances at your main panel. If you are disconnecting power to your refrigerator, ensure it is emptied and leave the door slightly ajar.

- Turn off the power supply to any space heaters; otherwise, they may automatically turn on during cold weather.

- Have a neighbour or family member check in on your home and bring in your mail while you are away.

Find for more energy saving tips for home and business at www.hydroone.com/saveenergy.

TRAVEL

5 SPECTACULAR DESTINATIONS FOR YOUR WINTER HOLIDAY

(NC) Whether you're looking for a romantic getaway or a family vacation, why not explore a unique spot right here in Canada for your winter holiday? Cities across the country are bursting with indoor and outdoor events and festivals all season long. If more than one destination is on your bucket list, consider an Air Canada flight pass, which is a prepaid series of electronic flight credits offering flexible and cost-effective travel within a selected geographic zone at a locked-in cost. Here are five must-see places to discover.

Quebec City. This charming spot is a true winter wonderland all season long. Explore Old Quebec in December when it's transformed into a real Christmas village complete with markets, lights, concerts and activities; or visit in February for the world's biggest winter carnival. You'll also find ski and snowmobile trails, Nordic spas and dog-sledding a short drive from the city centre.

Vancouver. This coastal city has lots to offer during the chillier months. Enjoy skiing on some urban slopes; free ice skating



in Robson Square, which reopened for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics; and Dine Out Vancouver, a city-wide winter culinary event. More adventurous types will enjoy winter ziplining atop Grouse Mountain or snow camping, where you build your own igloo or snow-cave and then spend the night in it.

Yellowknife. With non-stop Air Canada flights from Vancouver, Edmonton and Calgary, this northern destination is more accessible than ever. The capital of the Northwest Territories has local fishing lodges, bush plane tours and several heritage centres to check

out. Another favourite is the Snowking Winter Festival, which has a month of cultural activities and features a cool snow castle on Great Slave Lake.

Ontario. Between Toronto, Air Canada's gateway to 64 Canadian destinations and the perfect first-stop for a cross-country tour, and Ottawa the site of many festivities for Canada's 150th anniversary, Ontario has lots to offer. Hockey enthusiasts will want to check out the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto, while everyday fans may find it easier to snag a ticket to the Ottawa Senators, where they can also find the world's largest

outdoor skating rink along the Rideau Canal. Art and history lovers will enjoy the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto or the Canadian Museum of History in Ottawa.

Montreal. Winter in Montreal is idyllic, filled with delicious dinners and hot chocolate after a day spent snow tubing, tobogganing, skiing or skating on one of the city's 150 rinks. The highlight of the season is the Montreal en Lumiere festival, a mid-winter extravaganza of food, exhibits, music and winter sports. Igloofest is another big hit — kind of like a Canadian Coachella, but with people dancing in ski gear.

TIPS FOR A HEALTHY FAMILY VACATION

(NC) With temperatures dropping and holiday school closures, many families decide to head to destinations where the sun, sand and beaches are aplenty. To fully enjoy your long-awaited vacation, make sure your family stays healthy.

Knowing what supplements to take and what foods to eat while you're away can make a big difference. Here are tips from the Canadian Health Food Association to help you stay healthy and enjoy your time off.

Keep a healthy digestive system with probiotics. Prevention is key, so be sure your family takes a probiotic with active cultures at least two weeks before your trip and throughout. These good bacteria will help to provide the proper balance of good flora, and combat foreign bacteria from the water and food you may encounter on your vacation. When purchasing supplements, always look for the eight-digit Natural

Product Number (NPN). This certifies that Health Canada has reviewed and approved the product for safety, efficacy and quality.

Stay hydrated. Make sure to drink water or try flavoured waters like coconut water and maple water, both of which are rich in natural minerals to replace lost electrolytes. Always remember to pack a water bottle for each person when you're out enjoying the sights so you stay hydrated in hot weather.

Curb those cravings. Keep healthy snacks in your bag to curb salty snack and sugary drink cravings while waiting in a line or in between meals. Dehydrated or baked kelp chips contain the goodness of a whole serving of veggies and are a healthier alternative to potato chips. You can also make your own trail mix with nuts, dried fruit and dark chocolate. Consuming 25 to 40 grams of dark chocolate

can improve blood flow, while nuts are packed with protein, fibre and essential fats to keep kids full until dinner.

Hemp is also an excellent source of protein, has a balance of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids,

and is high in polyunsaturated fatty acids. You can find hemp snacks at your local CHFA Member health food store, a great place to stock up before hitting the road.

To find a store near you, visit chfa.ca.

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REFLECTIONS ON RELATIONSHIPS

HOW CAN I FORGIVE A PERSON WHO HAS HURT ME AND WON'T EVEN ASK FOR FORGIVENESS?

By:
Pastor Taiwo Iredele Odubiyi
Website: www.pastortaiwoodubiyi.org

As Mercy looked into Dayo's eyes, she felt she could share her issues with him. She spoke again and revealed, "To be honest, I'd say that my past has kept me from forming any serious relationship."

Her past? "What do you mean?" He prompted gently, realising that her voice had dropped.

For a moment she didn't talk. Then she said, "I don't want a man like my dad." She let her gaze fall to the floor.

Her dad? What happened? He wondered as he waited for her to continue.

When she did not, he asked, "I hope I'm not getting too personal but may I ask why?" His body tensed as he waited for her answer.

She didn't answer immediately as she wondered how much to tell him. She sipped a little water.

He spoke again. "What did he do? Did he ... abuse you sexually or something?"

She shook her head as she said, "No, no. It was nothing like that."

She smiled but Dayo could tell it was forced. It was not as brightly as usual.

She took her fork and continued eating.

"What was it?" He leaned toward her as he searched her eyes and he saw emotions played out on her face.

"There's really not much to tell." She said and sighed. "It was just that he left us, abandoned us, and shattered my belief in love and forever."

He didn't talk as he waited for her to continue.

He knew she had more to say.

Putting down her cutlery, she smiled in a sad way and went on. "In fact, at the time, I promised myself that I would never get married. But with time, God healed my heart and I changed my mind. It happened about ten years ago. We finally managed to put everything behind us only for him to surface last year in March, claiming to be our father. He also wanted us to accept and relate with his wife and children. Just like that?!" She smiled and added, "What a joke!" She waved her hand in dismissal.

(Culled from the novel: The Forever Kind of Love)

If you're trying to understand how to forgive an offender, that is an indication that your spirit is alive to God, and it's a good thing. It also means that there's war in the spiritual realm - satan wants to have his way, and God wants to win the battle. When you yield to your feelings, satan wins, but when you yield to the word of God and forgive, God wins.

For some people, unforgiveness is normal but it shouldn't be because it is dangerous and destructive.

The offender may be your sibling, spouse, friend, neighbour, parent, etc, God wants you to forgive them. You need to know that forgiveness is a command by God. It may seem difficult to do but it brings freedom when it's done, and it makes you a true child of God.

We will find it difficult to forgive when we consider and focus on our hurt feelings and it will seem more difficult when the offender does not ask for forgiveness. The person may



Pastor Taiwo Odubiyi

not deserve your forgiveness but God wants you to forgive anyway so we can enjoy His forgiveness. He forgave us when we did not deserve it, and we should do the same if we carry His spirit in us. Jesus forgave the people who were nailing Him to the cross even though they did not ask to be forgiven.

What to do:

Focus on God and His word, not on your feelings or the problems.

Then start by talking to God, let Him know how you feel - you've been hurt.

Tell Him that you know He wants you to forgive, and that you forgive the person now.

Mention the name of the offender and say that you forgive him or her in Jesus name.

Ask God to help you overcome the pain, hurt, shame, and whatever it is that you feel inside.

Praying this prayer will give you the strength to act right when you see the person. And in the spiritual realm, Satan is put to shame while God is glorified because a test was set before you, and you passed the test.

Issues will come up from time to time, people will offend us, and we will have cause to be bitter but we must not allow it as a woman told Mercy in that

novel, The Forever Kind of Love.

"I too had cause to be bitter but I didn't allow it." Ibie revealed and talked a little about how her heart was broken by her daughter's father.

Ibie continued. "You see, at one point or the other, we'd have our feelings hurt by someone we love, someone close to us. We'd feel disappointed, betrayed or let down by someone or circumstance. It's not funny and it's not okay because it would hurt but one has to forgive and move forward. If we don't, we'd be in bitterness and resentment, and those are not good feelings. They are dangerous and destructive to anyone who harbours them. ... We must not allow it to grow and if it's been there, we have to weed it out completely ... daily weed out the roots of bitterness from our hearts, more so as Christians. For example, it was bitterness that made you say you would never get married but you moved past it. It might be difficult but it can be done and it must be done."

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (Colossians 3:13)

He does not punish us as we deserve or repay us according to our sins and wrongs. - (Psalm 103:10)

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (Ephesians 4:31-32)



Pastor & Mrs. Joseph Osaosa

on this new relationship. Your girls have understood that there's room for more than one love story in a life and clearly want to see you romantically provided for. Theirs is the rational and sensible response, but we all know that when it comes to love those words are rarely applicable.

Sons and mothers, I sometimes think, is the greatest love story never told. I just need to see a little boy's eyes lighting up in the playground when his mum arrives to collect him to get goose bumps. In childhood, they are the perfect man - pint sized, sweet smelling, unconditionally loving and open to guidance and influence - almost every facet the opposite of the adult version. What woman wouldn't dote on such a creature, entirely portable and built for devotion?

When they get to their teens and their armpits smell, they're strangers to their toothbrush and their face resembles a relief map of the Sierra Nevada. Often you're the only person still focused on those familiar beloved characteristics lurking below the hormonal turmoil. The conflict endured by most teenage

boys, between wanting to protect you and maintain their "special relationship" with you and dump you for a teenage siren, makes for sympathetic and even amusing viewing, despite the element of heartbreak. Even when the biological bond is stretched to its furthest point to ensure that separation in adulthood isn't too painful for either party, sons often pay further homage by settling down with a woman just like their mother! As with the melancholic Prince of Denmark, we mums remain a centrifugal force for far longer than most of us deserve, despite losing our sons' early ardour to sexual opportunity and new alliances.

Your situation is complicated naturally by your husband's passing. If you were simply getting divorced your boy might rage and rant, but eventually accept the idea. But your husband's death has offered him a heightened emotional landscape and scope for indulgence. As with so many human foibles your son's raging is doubtless born of fear. He's lost one parent and now, when he thought

continued on p(47)

MY HUSBAND DIED AND MY SON IS ANGRY I'M IN A NEW RELATIONSHIP

Mothers and sons is the greatest love story never told, says Mariella Frost-rup. Stay patient but don't stop seeing your new lover.

The dilemma My husband died suddenly early last year. It has been tough for me and for my teen/20s children. We've worked hard to support our grief and have been close. They have lovely friends

and special loves who have been wonderful and supportive - and they are OK, me too.

I have become close to someone I have known vaguely for 10 years. He is lovely and we seem to have embarked on something special. In our 50s neither of us want to fanny about and he seems willing to accept the baggage I carry (and he has some, too). I

feel the same.

The last years of my marriage were lonely as my husband preferred to drink than to engage lovingly with me. This new low-key friendship/relationship has been a breath of fresh air. My daughters are happy someone is there for me, but my son is furious. He has threatened it's "him or me" and more hostile language. I have tried to

explain, but to no avail. I don't want to end my relationship, but I don't want to destabilise my son.

Mariella replies Nor should you. It's the sort of behaviour that the expression "boys will be boys" was invented for and, while I understand it's upsetting, it's also so predictable! I'm glad to hear your daughters have a different take



AFRICAN NEWS

ETHIOPIA ON CROSSROADS AFTER PM RESIGNS PRIME

By Julius Oyekunle

Minister Hailemariam Desalegn's announcement that he was calling it quits came after years of growing instability and protests in the Oromia and Amhara regions of the country, and heavy-handed response from security forces.

Reports suggest that about 800 protesters were killed in 2015 and 2016, and thousands more were jailed, many of them without trial including top notch politicians and government critics.

Desalegn announced his resignation on television, saying it was "vital in the bid to carry out reforms that would lead to sustain-

able peace and democracy." It was however unclear how the transition would pan out.

His departure as prime minister and chair of the ruling Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front coalition comes as Ethiopia faces a crisis on how to deal with the mass protests by members of the nation's two largest ethnic groups, the Oromo and Amhara.

Government has been unable to regain control or to respond adequately to protesters' demands for freedom of speech and the entrenchment of democratic ideals.

A state of emergency has since been declared

by the Ethiopian Cabinet, known as the Council of Ministers due to the vacuum.

The hard-line approach to the protests has divided the government. Under intense pressure from the Oromo and Amhara parties in the EPRDF coalition, Desalegn announced reforms last month, promising that all political prisoners would be freed and that a jail in the capital, Addis Ababa, known for torture of dissidents would be closed.

Meanwhile, jubilations erupted in the streets after the announcement of his resignation, which came on a day a prominent group of journalists

and opposition figures was freed from jail.

Desalegn stated that the country was at a "gravely concerning stage," adding that it was important to offer answers to the questions Ethiopians were raising and the need for fresh hands in taking the country through reforms and economic progress.

His departure throws open a succession struggle that will determine whether the nation whose political climate has been unstable and has experienced successive droughts will adopt a more reformist, democratic approach or pursue the authoritarian repressions of government critics.

EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES ARREST OPPOSITION FIGURE

By Julius Oyekunle



Abdul Moneim Aboul Fotouh

Police in Egypt have arrested Abdul Moneim Aboul Fotouh, a leading opposition figure and former presidential candidate, over his alleged ties with the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood group.

On the orders of the country's public prosecutor, six other senior members of Fotouh's Strong Egypt Party (SEP) were also detained in a recent swoop against the outlawed members of the Muslim Brotherhood.

Fotouh's son has also confirmed his father's arrest from his home in Cairo on his Facebook page, stating that other party members detained include Ahmed Abdel Jawad, Ahmed Salem, Mohamed Osman, Abdul Rahman Haridi, Ahmed Imam, and Tamer Gilani.

The arrests come days after an Egyptian lawyer submitted a complaint to the public prosecutor, calling for the arrest of Aboul Fotouh after the latter appeared on an Al Jazeera television show from London in a recent interview.

In his complaint, lawyer Samir Sabry accused Aboul Fotouh of "spreading fake news" and demeaning Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi.

A former member of the Muslim Brotherhood and leader of the centrist Strong Egypt Party, Aboul Fotouh ran as an independent candidate in the 2012 presidential elections, gaining nearly a fifth of the vote in the first round.

The vote six years ago marked Egypt's first competitive elections following the 2011 revolution, which overthrew former leader Hosni Mubarak. The el-Sisi led government have cracked down on political leaders including the detention of former President, Hosni Mubarak.

S'AFRICANS JUBILATE AS RAMAPHOSA SUCCEEDS ZUMA

NCNC Staff

Cyril Ramaphosa has become South Africa's president a day after embattled leader Jacob Zuma resigned, the BBC has reported.

Ramaphosa was the only candidate nominated by parliament, which is dominated by his African National Congress. MPs broke into a song at the announcement.

In his first presidential speech, Ramaphosa, 65, said he would tackle corruption which allegedly became widespread under Zuma.

The ANC had told Zuma to step down or face a vote of no-confidence.

Zuma faces numerous corruption allegations but denies any wrongdoing.

One allegation is that he allowed the wealthy Gupta family, with whom he has personal ties, to wield influence over policy,

in an example of "state capture."

An arrest warrant has been issued for Ajay Gupta, one of the three most prominent Gupta brothers, officials said on Thursday.

This follows a raid by the Hawks, an elite police unit, on their home on Wednesday. The family has denied corruption allegations.

President Ramaphosa told parliament that corruption and state capture were "on our radar screen."

He is due to deliver a State of the Nation address on Friday (today). This was delayed last week amid uncertainty about who should deliver it and Zuma's reluctance to step down.

One opposition party, the Economic Freedom Fighters, walked out of the parliamentary debate. It wants new elections, rather than the ANC deciding on the identity of the new president.

President Buhari looks forward to working with the new President of

South Africa to enhance cooperation of the Governments of Africa's two leading economies."

In a related development, the Ethiopian Prime Minister, Hailemariam Desalegn, has resigned unexpectedly, saying he hoped to end years of unrest and political upheaval.

In a televised address, he said his resignation was "vital in the bid to carry out reforms that would lead to sustainable peace and democracy."

Desalegn, who has led the country since 2012, also stepped down as the chairman of the ruling coalition.

"Unrest and a political crisis have led to the loss of lives and displacement of many," Desalegn said.

"I see my resignation as vital in the bid to carry out reforms that would lead to sustainable peace and democracy."

GAMBIA PREPARES TO ABOLISH DEATH PENALTY

By R.Njeru

Gambia recently became the latest African country to fight against capital punishment after it's president, Adama Barrow said that his government had suspended it.

This declaration fol-

lows the removal of the nation's authoritarian ruler in 2017. The suspension is meant to improve the nation's image in the international community.

According to Amnesty International, many African nations have been abolishing death penalties.

Their statistics reveal that governments executed 43 people in 2015 compared to 22 people in 2016.

In his statement, President Barrow stated that the suspension was just the beginning of a long process that will eventually end with the abolishment of capital punishment. He made this announcement as the nation celebrated its 53rd Independence Day anniversary; it was colonized by Great Britain.

Gambia's former leader, Yahya Jammeh, directed the firing squad to execute nine prisoners back in 2012. This move drew a

lot of criticism from the international community. He lost his latest re-election bid and was forced to flee the country a year ago.

Jammeh's 23-year rule left the nation with a bruised reputation thanks to spats with foreign governments and human rights abuses. Mr Barrow has tried to repair the damage that was done by his predecessor ever since he took office a year ago.

Mr. Yahya Jammeh hit international news headlines after he was accused of shipping out luxury vehicles and stealing millions

continued on next page

PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICA, JACOB ZUMA, RESIGNS

NCNC staff

The president of South Africa, Jacob Zuma, has resigned after days of challenging the orders from the ruling African National Congress to leave office. The former anti-apartheid activist, and has been South Africa's president since 2009, was due to leave power next year.

Initially, Zuma inspired hope in millions of South Africans, especially hope amongst the poor. But his time in office was filled with numerous accusations of misconduct. Soon he would come to symbolize the corruption in South Africa.

In a televised address to the nation late on Wednesday, Zuma said he was a disciplined member of the ANC to which he had dedicated his life.

Hours before his resignation, Zuma sounded defiant and aggrieved during a live interview with the state broadcaster SABC.

He indicated strongly

that he would not resign, claiming that the party's effort to pull him from office was "unfair," and that he was being "victimized," and insisted that he had done nothing wrong.

"I fear no motion of no confidence or impeachment ... I will continue to serve the people of South Africa and the ANC. I will dedicate my life to continuing to work for the execution of the policies of our organization," Zuma said.

Around noon, ANC officials announced they would vote for an opposition party's no-confidence motion in parliament on Thursday.

Late in the afternoon, the president expressed his gratitude to the ANC and South Africans for the privilege of serving them and resigned.

Zuma's resignation gives Cyril Ramaphosa, who took over the leadership of the ANC in December, the ability to be elected by parliament to the highest office.

NIGERIANS PANIC AS UK ENACTS NEW PROPERTY LAW

A new law in the UK has caused panic among Nigerians who own properties in the country.

The UK last week introduced a law that requires foreigners who own properties in the country to explain the source of their funds or risk forfeiting them to the government.

According to the new law, the Unexplained Wealth Orders (UWO) could be obtained on any property or combination of properties valued at 50,000 pounds (N25 million) or more, for which the owner was unable to explain a legal source of its funding.

Consequently, Nigerian owners of properties in the UK have been inundating their home Ministry

of Finance's Voluntary Assets and Income Declaration Scheme (VAIDS) with calls, causing the hotlines to crash.

Extension of time

Investigation shows that the lines in Abuja crashed on Friday because of the heavy traffic from the UK.

VAIDS office in Abuja was receiving frantic requests from taxpayers based in the UK, asking for extension of time to enable them to complete their declaration forms.

The data already in the possession of the VAIDS office in the Federal Ministry of Finance revealed that many UK property owners had underpaid their taxes

before transferring funds abroad.

"Concerted efforts are ongoing to restore the hotlines following the crash.

Company executives

"Most of the calls received are from high net worth individuals, including company executives, bankers, and even a governor.

"All seem to be in a panic over the prospect of losing their investments," said a source within the VAIDS office.

The official said that some of the apprehensive Nigerian investors had even visited the Federal Ministry of Finance requesting to see the minister or the head of the VAIDS office.

Declared income

The source explained that most of them sought assurance that the Nigerian government and the VAIDS programme would protect them from potential asset forfeiture.

Others requested to know if their names had appeared on the lists the VAIDS office had obtained from overseas.

VAIDS allows Nigerian taxpayers to restate their income and assets without limit and thus could potentially allow those who own properties that cannot be explained by their previously declared income to regularise by declaring and paying the correct taxes.

www.africareview.com

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION ON THE RISE IN EBONYI - UNICEF

By Julius Oyekunle



Mr. Ibrahim Conteh

About 47 percent of girls in Ebonyi state still undergo female genital mutilation, FGM, practice according to The United Nations Children Fund, Enugu Chief Field Officer, Mr. Ibrahim Conteh disclosed this while marking this year International day of zero tolerance for female genital mutilation in Abakaliki in a recent assessment tour.

At present, five states in Nigeria have rates of FGM/C that are more than 60 percent, with Osun and Ebonyi highest at 77 and 74 percent respectively, according to the 2013 National Demographic and Health Survey. The other states are Ekiti, 72 percent; Imo, 68 percent; and Oyo, 66 percent.

Mr. Conteh noted that data recorded available to UNICEF in 2017 indicating a sharp drop of about 20 percent in 2011.

Mr. Conteh, however, noted that eradicating female genital mutilation needs a holistic approach which he said include the

political power, collaborative efforts of states and private sectors as well as educating communities. More importantly, making the act a criminal offense and punishing offenders will go a long way in eradicating the tradition.

Earlier, the state governor, David Umahi noted that laws against female genital mutilation would soon be signed. Although he added that some grey areas might be amended.

Female genital mutilation is a pet project of the wife of the Ebonyi state governor, Mrs. Rachael Umahi under her family succour up-liftment foundation programme and has been at the forefront in the campaign against FGM.

7,000MW POWER PRODUCED IN NIGERIA

The Nigeria's power sector is ready to receive a major boost according to the minister for Power, Works and Housing,

Mr Babatunde Fashola, hinted that Nigeria's power generating companies (GenCos) are now able to produce 7,000MW.

He also made this known on recently at the 1st Stakeholders Workshop on Taking 2000MW Unutilized Power to Eligible Customers, which was held with the Manufactur-



Mr Babatunde Fashola
ers Association of Nigeria (MAN).

He added that the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN), is able to transport all of this power

just as it is expanding its capacity daily, adding that the distribution companies have also increased their load taking capacity to 5,000MW.

"What we gather to do today is to open the window for sales to the Eligible Customers. There can be no better time to explore this option than when there is the inventory of unsold power with the clear promise of more to come," the Minister stated.

He explained that the

market must be open to all willing buyers, adding that access to power for manufacturing and production is a big bridge towards the diversification of the economy.

The president of the Association, Frank Jacobs, stated that its members were ready and willing to take up the 2000 MW stranded generated power to carry out their manufacturing businesses which will in turn, to boost the nation's economy.

FIRST MENTAL HOSPITAL IN SASKATCHEWAN CLOSES IT'S DOORS



Saskatchewan Hospital opened its doors in 1914, will be replaced with new \$400 million facility.

At its peak, the massive red-brick complex with a scenic view of the North Saskatchewan River was a community unto itself.

Saskatchewan Hospital, which first opened to patients in 1914, had its own barns, cattle, grain field, school and chapel — even a curling club and legion.

For more than a century, it has provided care for thousands of mentally ill patients who were untreatable, abandoned and alone.

"We get the worst of the worst individuals in the province and when I say that, I mean the most ill. The most ill, the most treatment resistive, the most underdog population of the province," said Linda Shynkaruk, director of Saskatchewan Health North Battleford, who started at

the institution 34 years ago as a psychiatric nurse.

They're the most not heard — the most unvoiced people in the province. They can't advocate for themselves. They can't make the determination about what treatment they need."

This year, the old facility will close its doors. It's being replaced with a new \$400-million hospital right next door.

Psychiatric care has changed immensely over the last 100 years. Improved psychotropic drugs mean patients can be better integrated into the community. In the 1950s, there were 2,040 patients. Now there are 156.

Today we want to keep people connected to the community, so we take people out to those community places like the curling rink, the swimming pool and things like that," Shynkaruk said.

The old buildings are steeped in history.

"We have three graveyards," Shynkaruk said. "There's hundreds and hundreds of patients buried back there. We have a chapel here. We've had weddings there."

There's an old autopsy room and morgue, complete with four wooden body drawers, with "Close This Door" written on it.

"I have had calls from people who are producing movies ... There are a lot of ghost stories out here," Shynkaruk said. "I just gracefully decline for the patients' sake."

"This is their home and it is the One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest stigma and we really need to work hard at reducing public perception of that."

Patients range in age between 18 and 86. The average stay is 18 months.

"We've had patients who've been here 20, 30,

40 years. They're at the tail end of the era and were admitted before psychotropic drugs were invented," says Shynkaruk, who knows most of the patients by name.

"Hi Mike," she said to a senior leaning against the wall. "I'll come back and visit you. I stopped by yesterday but you were sleeping."

Merilee, a woman in her 30s, says she appreciates her relationships with staff.

"We're starting this buddy-buddy action where nurses and patients, they sit down and actually talk to one another," she said. "And the doctors are seeing us more, so it's pretty good."

Day-to-day running

of the facility isn't without its problems.

"Violence is a huge issue in mental health and how do you manage that?" Shynkaruk said. "We've undertaken a lot of initiatives in this last year and a half."

Shynkaruk says finding staff who have experience with mental-health issues is also a challenge because it requires extra training.

"It's kind of the 80-20 rule — 20 per cent of your problem children take up 80 per cent of your time," she said. "I would say that we have excellent staff here but it's our responsibility to make sure they're well trained."

"We are trying to do a better job."

continued from p(22)

of pounds during his last weeks as Gambia's president. Some close sources revealed that he escaped with £9.2m in only two weeks.

Gambia rejoined the Commonwealth earlier this month. Mr Jammeh had withdrawn from it in 2013, calling it a "neo-colonial institution".

According to Sabrina Mahtani, an Amnesty International researcher for West Africa, the nation is

on the right direction since it was only six years ago that abolition seemed like a pipe dream. She added that they hoped that the nation will go on to become the first Anglophone country in West Africa to abolish capital punishment.

Gambia has demonstrated its commitment to turn over a new leaf by undertaking a constitutional review process, suspending the death penalty as well as establishing a Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

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OPINION

FROM THE DOCTOR'S DESK

THE NIGERIAN OPPROBRIUM

By Dr. Ignatius Odianosen Okosun (PhD)
From: Toronto-Canada
Email: odyseries@gmail.com

It has been more than three years since Nigeria's government affirmed victory over the Islamist militant group Boko Haram, but that declaration has been put to test several times in the past few months. In November 2017, Boko Haram militants carried out bombings in Nigeria that killed dozens of people. In December 2017, the group attacked a Nigerian army convoy accompanying World Food Program trucks, killing four people. Recently, Boko Haram staged an attack on a boarding school for girls, one that echoed the 2014 kidnapping of 276 schoolgirls in the town of Chibok.

More than 100 girls have been confirmed as missing following a suspected Boko Haram attack on a school in north-eastern Nigeria. Armed insurgents stormed the college in the town of Dapchi, in what is believed to be the largest abduction since jihadists kidnapped 276 girls from their school in Chibok in 2014. Following days of contradictory reports from federal agencies, Nigeria's Information Ministry confirmed that 110 students remained missing.

The Boko Haram insurgency began in 2009 when the jihadist rebel group Boko Haram started an armed rebellion against the government of Nigeria. In 2012, tensions within Boko Haram resulted in a gradual split of the group between the Salafist conservative faction led by Abu Usmatul al-Ansari, and the more dominant, violent faction led by Abubakar Shekau. By 2015, part of the group split into al-Qaeda affiliated Ansaru, and Shekau's faction became ISIL's West Africa branch.

However, after three failed consecutive attempts, when President Buhari was campaigning in 2015 to be elected President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria he was convinced as many Nigerians did of his tested capacity to bring about change to a system that was totally rotten and broken. Through the All Progressives Congress (APC) coalition he had presented

his manifesto to Nigerians harping on re-establishing security, providing employment for the teeming jobless youths and revamping the economy that has gone comatose.

Nigerians are continuously expressing fears about the deterioration in their living conditions, the ubiquitous security challenges, the mounting unemployment and the economic acrobatic dance. While one recognises that President Buhari has given the top job his best shot so far given the national institutional and infrastructural challenges he inherited, the truth is self-evident that the federal leadership machine is not functioning at full steam and it needs instant total overhauling.

Moreover, Transparency International (TI) had recently released its global 2017 Corruption Perception Index in which Nigeria was ranked poorly at 148th position out of 180 countries considered meaning despite the anti-graft propaganda of the ruling party and the heroic efforts of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) the fight against corruption has remained a mirage. The TI shocking rating poured cold water on the vaunted campaign at fighting corruption at the state and national levels by the Buhari led government. President Buhari's much-advertised fight against corruption has degenerated into a demolition derby. As happened with many previous efforts to fight corruption in Nigeria, different outposts of power and influence in the president's coterie appear determined to use anti-corruption as a cover to settle intra-palace scores.

Even for a retired General whose integrity is widely-acknowledged, alas corruption has proven to be a 'Nigerian', a hard nut to crack. The Daura straightforward man of the Jackboot never envisaged it this way as he sought to change the way we see Nigeria and do things. The Boko Haram, armed and dangerous insurgency up north has refused to 'die' despite the federal sledgehammer being used to try to crush the terrorist group. And when you add the menacing marauding Fulani herdsmen to the mix then you can conclude that the Buhari

presidency is indeed challenged on many fronts security-wise.

Furthermore, it is not bogus a claim that the renegade Abubakar Shekau and his misguided criminal elements had seen their command and control mechanism degraded or damaged yet they have refused doggedly to capitulate. Technically beaten or strategically castrated militarily Boko Haram has proven to be a formidable fighting force with the fiscal, military and organisational wherewithal to withstand the federal assault spearheaded by General Tukur Yusuf Buratai and his Operation Lafiya Dole cohorts.

After the Chibok school girls' abduction imbroglio a few years ago here comes another spectacular mass kidnapping in yet another female academic institution in Dapchi, Yobe state. The Dapchi Government Girls' Science Technical College was not known to many Nigerians until now. While the Chibok incident drew global news headlines the present frightening episode in Dapchi has brought Nigeria another round of opprobrium.

Days after the Dapchi evil 'rapture' of the young 'Eves' Ibrahim Gaidam -the Governor of Yobe State, was quoted as saying that some of the girls had been found. It later proved to be a conscious lie told to mislead the restive populace. The state government had issued a damage-control press statement explaining itself and apologising for the faux pas. According to the statement, the Governor told the lie he told based on "unreliable" information at his disposal then. This brings to question the caliber of leaders managing the most populous black community in the world.

The questions persist as parents of the missing girls lament the sudden disappearance to the unknown of their loved ones. Pray, how could a state Chief Executive have committed such fraud? Must he have believed the source easily? If it were to be in other saner climes Governor Gaidam would have since resigned his executive position or been impeached by the state legislators in the event of any exhibition of intransigence. But Nigeria remains a metaphor where resig-

nation is a 'taboo' and gubernatorial impeachment an unusual article.

The solution to the Dapchi kidnapping, as embarrassing as it might be, does not lie in releasing the already tried and condemned Boko Haram criminals in exchange for the missing girls' freedom. Neither paying huge ransom amounting in millions of Dollars as 'bribe' in exchange for the kidnap girls. Such precedence will persuade Shekau and his rag-tag group to continue prospering in his murderous mission. The military establishment and other security agencies must get cracking by doing the job for which they are remunerated.

It is a national tragedy that another Chibok was allowed to occur even when some of the abducted Chibok girls had not been accounted for by the government. Allowing the Dapchi damsels to visit BH 'hell' and back amounts to the cruelty of the worst kind and the Nigerian government should fully be held answerable for the shimmering lapses.

The Dapchi kidnapping has placed President Buhari 2019 re-election dream in jeopardy, the Dapchi abduction may well define or re-define his presidency much like that of his predecessor, Goodluck Ebele Azikiwe Jonathan. Whether he succeeds or fails to consolidate power in 2019, history and posterity would never forget to remember his actions or inactions toward the Boko Haram terrorism, kidnapping and marauding Fulani herdsmen and their numerous security challenges nationwide under his command and the security agencies. Furthermore, two civil society organisations, Centre for Anti-Corruption and Open Leadership, CACOL, and Campaign for Democracy, CD, has already kicked against President Muhammadu Buhari's reported re-election bid. Finally, the resultant failure of the political leadership to harness Nigeria's huge potential has created several security, economic and political challenges that have prevented the country from becoming strong, stable and prosperous.

Dr. Ignatius Okosun is a researcher, prolific writer and a social commentator.

PATERNITY TESTING: 50% NIGERIAN FIRST BORN CHILDREN BELONG TO OTHER MEN

By Bukola Adebayo

Geneticists claim rising cases of deceptions, infidelity and adultery among couples have made the need to popularize Deoxyribonucleic Acid testing otherwise known as DNA test inevitable, BUKOLA ADEBAYO writes

Deoxyribonucleic Acid, also known as DNA testing is still not a very popular procedure in Nigeria. However, experts say there is a need to increase awareness on the dynamics of the test.

The importance of DNA testing came to the fore after a Dana plane crashed in Lagos on June 3 killing all 153 passengers including crew members on board and others on ground.

Most of the bodies were burnt beyond recognition. To ensure that the right bodies were given to the right family, the right compensation given to the deserving spouse, child, sibling or relative, the Lagos State Government directed the Forensic and Pathology team of the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Ikeja headed by Prof. John Obafunwa to carry out DNA testing on the deceased and their families to erase all doubts.

This decision, according to a source at the Forensic unit unravelled many mysteries. No one was more surprised than the two children of Mr. Taiwo Akinsanya (not real names) when they were told that their DNA profile did not match that of their father, who had died in the plane crash.

One of the distraught children, who spoke with our correspondent at the unit when the hospital refused to release the bodies to them, challenged the credibility of the whole exercise and accused the officials of conniving with their extended relatives to cause chaos in the family.

"I demand that the tests be repeated. They have been compromised by some relatives. They do not want to release the body to us and our mother who could have claimed the body died two years ago. They are raising unnecessary suspicion within the family."

As the drama unfolded, a reliable source at the unit told our correspondent that following the DNA test-

ing, some bodies could not be released, due to cases of mismatch and until proven otherwise, the bodies would be kept by the hospital.

The source said, "Another family was almost torn apart when the DNA testing of all the three siblings did not match that of the deceased and their grandparents were dead. It was also an emotional exercise for the families as paternity disputes continued to arise."

Experts have said there is need to increase awareness and facilities for DNA testing in the country, as statistics have revealed that more children are living with parents that are not biologically theirs.

According to a forensic geneticist, Dr. Abiodun Salami, 30 per cent of fathers are unknowingly nurturing and investing in children who are not biologically theirs.

Salami, who is also the Chief Medical Director, DNA Centre, Lagos, revealed that 50 per cent of the all paternity tests carried out in his laboratory came out negative and mostly affected were first born children.

He said, "Several surveys have shown that approximately three men in 10 are living under the deception that they are the fathers of another man's children and with advances in genetic testing, they are more likely than ever to find out the shocking truth. Half of the paternity disputes and tests we carried out in two years showed that the fathers were not biologically related to their children especially when the dispute arose on paternity of first born children.

"We have seen cases of paternity disputes where even the two men claiming paternity to a child are excluded as the biological fathers from test results leaving the mother to look elsewhere for the child's biological father. I have witnessed shocking cases where men discover that three or four children out of five they had were not fathered by them."

Salami attributed the increase in paternity disputes and deceptions to infidelity, adultery and increase in sexual recklessness among Nigerian couples.

"This percentage is increasing because of sexual recklessness. Recent trends

continued on p(47)

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2/ FEBRUARY CALENDAR 2018 HAPPY NEW YEAR

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TECHNOLOGY

SAMSUNG INTRODUCES THE GALAXY S9 WITH AN UPGRADED CAMERA



By R.Njeru

Samsung recently launched the Galaxy S9 in a familiar body but with an improved camera. The Galaxy S9 phone was launched together with the S9 Plus.

The Galaxy S9 is very similar to the hugely successful Galaxy S8 that was a big deal in 2017. In fact, the S8 was so good that it can easily be ranked as one of the best electronics that the company has ever produced.

The S9 has an efficient and attractive design that will remind you of the S8; it has curved sides, extra tall 18.5:9 screens as well as glass front and backs. The S9 screen is 5.8 inches; it has Super AMOLED panels with 2960 x 1440 pixel resolutions.

Just like other Galaxy phones, the S9 has features like microSD memory expansion, fast wireless charging as well as IP68 water and dust protection. However, the S9 has some

new features like the luxurious headphone jack and an improved biometric security setting that combines facial recognition with the slower, more secure iris scanner.

What stands out about the S9 is its upgraded camera which is offered as a single lens. It has a mechanically adjustable aperture that can switch between a very bright f/1.5 to a smaller f/2.4 depending on the environment it is exposed to. The f/2.4 aperture is meant to avoid overexpo-

sure in bright scenes while the bright aperture lets in 28 percent more light than the S8's f/1.7 lens. It is worth noting that the aperture cannot be set to values in between f/1.5 and f/2.4. You can manually control the apertures using the pro mode in the app or alternatively, the camera app is able to switch between the apertures appropriately. This is the best deal you can get from any phone since Samsung is the only one that offers two aperture options.

The S9's 12-megapixel camera sensor also includes: upgraded multi-frame noise reduction, second-generation dual-pixel autofocus tech and the ability to record a slow-motion video at up to 960 frames per second (at 720p resolution).

The S9 is similar to last year's S8 but it comes with enough features that show an obvious improvement. In the United States, it will be launched in different colors like blue, purple and black. Internationally, it will also come in a grey color. We expect more color options by the end of the year. This phone is likely to be well received in the market.

TWITTER STOPS IT'S MAC APP

By Shalewa Ayodele

Twitter's erratic support for its dedicated desktop Mac application is coming to an end, with the company announcing that it's pulled the application from the web and from Apple's App Store. Support for Twitter for Mac will end in the coming weeks, the company adds.

The app, before Twitter pulled it, had an average user rating on the App Store of 1.7 out of 5. That's an accurate approximation of most people's attitude toward the software, which has never quite been as robust as third-party clients like Tweetbot or even in-house services like Tweetdeck.

Twitter failed time and again to keep its Mac app up to date with the service's latest features — it took the company more than seven months to bring Moments, which launched in October of 2015, to its Mac client. In December of 2015, it was reported that Twitter didn't even make the app itself; the company outsourced development to a third-party digital studio in Seattle called Black Pixel.

So it's safe to say the software won't be dearly missed by very many users. It's clear Twitter wants to put more of its engineering and product resources toward web and mobile, where a vast majority of users likely access the product today.

WORLD'S FIRST PASSENGER DRONE LANDS IN CHINA



By Julius Oyekunle

The world's first passenger drone recently made its first public flights in Li-anyungang city, China. Ehang 184 is electrically powered and requires passengers to strap themselves in the small cabin, set their flight path and push a button. The automated flight system does the rest.

The Guangzhou-based company, which specializes in intelligent aerial vehicles technology, announced that it had achieved a series of manned flight tests carrying one and two passengers.

Forty persons including the deputy mayor of Guangzhou, Ehang founder

and CEO Huazhi Hu as well as other officials, were featured in a flight test and posted on YouTube.

The drone can carry a single passenger weighing up to 100kg on a 23-minute flight at sea level at a speed of 100kmh and is able to fly in the midst of fogs and in force 7 typhoon conditions.

Long-range test flights were also conducted at speeds of 130kmh over 8.8km and it involved 150 technical engineers, over 1,000 days of research and development and over 1,000 flight tests. The commercial sales of the drones will be available in the market before the end of the year.

REDDIT CO-FOUNDER BACKS PETITION FOR INTERRACIAL COUPLE EMOJIS



Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian at the WORLDZ Cultural Marketing Summit 2017

Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian wants emojis for interracial couples.

The tech boss and husband of tennis champion Serena Williams is backing Tinder's petition to Unicode to introduce a wider range of emojis for couples.

Currently only the original yellow skin tone is available for the 34 emojis for relationships and families.

"We want our kids to have emojis that look like their parents," Alexis is reported to have said.

"[Emoji] are the universal language of the internet and should reflect

the modern world where interracial relationships are normal."

The Unicode Consortium is a non-profit body which reviews and develops emoji standards - including making things more inclusive.

There's a specific request that three skin tones - light, medium, and dark skin tones - be added to each face in the couple with heart and kissing emoji.

This is despite the emoji keyboard now having six skin tones to choose from on emojis which show an individual's face.

continued on p(35)

3 ONLINE TOOLS TO GROW YOUR RURAL BUSINESS

(NC) Whether you're a mom-and-pop-shop or starting your digital business empire, the internet has become the best resource for your business, regardless of your location. Social media, online stores, and other communication tools can connect you to virtually everyone, from the family down the street to clients on the other side of the world.

The challenge has been that high-speed internet isn't available in rural areas, but that is beginning to change. Companies like Xplornet Communications are expanding their high-speed network, and this means your business can get online with faster and more reliable internet connections.

Make the most of your new connectivity with online tools that help you build your online business and engage with your customers.

1. Skype. This online video chat and voice call

service puts you face-to-face with your customers. It is a great way to collaborate or close a deal. Do you have a customer in another city? If you have a good high-speed internet connection, try having a video call with them — you'll be amazed how interesting the conversation becomes.

2. Facebook Live. We all know about Facebook, but Facebook Live is still new to many. This new feature allows you to broadcast a real-time video using only your phone, tablet or laptop. It also allows your audience to give you immediate feedback. People love watching video, so use this platform to share news about your business and expand the conversation around it.

3. Shopify. Have you been putting off creating an online store? Many people don't ever do this because they are intimidated by the task. But those days are over with services like Shopify, which makes

it easy to create an online store for both newcomers and digital pros alike. Once you are set up, you can select a template for your site,

manage your inventory and link everything to your bricks-and-mortar store.

Find more information at www.xplornet.com.

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- J. Krishnamurti**

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Your children need your presence more than your presents" - Jesse Jackson



OLUCHI UGOH

HAPPY NEW YEAR

It is always a pleasure doing this page every month. I just want to thank you all for the support. Please, enjoy reading, solving the scramble and learning new words.
Have a good month.

SECRET OF SUBTRACTION

Solve the subtraction problems. Use the code to find the secret message

CODE:

10	7	20	12	3	6	11
W	S	E	M	O	A	M

10	20	30	14	9	22	25
- 4	- 10	- 10	- 7	- 6	- 11	- 5

answers on page (37)

QUIZ

- a) Which is the largest country in the world
China
USA
Russia
- f) Complete the phrase, "As busy as a"
Bee
Busybody
Busboy

- b) What is the full name of a HIPPO?
Hippopotamus
Hippotamis
Hippopotomous
- g) Which colour is not on the Canadian flag?
White
Blue
Red

- c) How many players are there in a soccer team?
10
12
11
- h) Which planet is sometimes further from the Sun than Pluto?
(a) Neptune
(b) Mars

- d) How many pairs of legs do most crabs have?
4
5
6
- i) Which part of the body is affected by Otitis?
(a) The Ear
(b) Mars

- e) A Euro is made up of a hundred what?
Cents
Pence
Kobo
- k) Gerontologist is a specialist in which area?
(a) Children
(b) Elderly

answers on page (37)

WORD SEARCH

'O' WORDS

U C A X B Z N S Y R B F T Q M H J U
P E Y O C E A N W O B J E C T O O H
F O F F I C E O B V I O U S O B C B
O B S E R V A T I O N Y I K F S C G
U O F O G O S T R I C H D E F E U I
T F E R O P T I C I A N G W E S P T
D F F A O R G A N I C T D K N S Y R
O E R N M W K O C T O B E R S I E H
O N Z G C R O X Y G E N A X I V O Y
R D O E B B O V E R C A S T V E G J
R S E H R Z O Z O N E N A D E F W N
O C C U P A T I O N D T V S H X J G

- OZONE
- OXYGEN
- ORANGE
- ORGANIC
- OFFICE
- OCCUPY
- OSTRICH
- OBJECT
- OBSERVATION
- OCEAN
- OFFENSIVE
- OUTDOOR
- OBSESSIVE
- OCCUPATION
- OBVIOUS
- OVERCAST
- OFFEND
- OCTOBER
- OPTICIAN

answers on page (38)

TELEPHONE SCRAMBLE

By Divine Chimsom Ugoh

a)

4 6 5 3 9 4 5 5 2 5 2 9 7 2 3 8 4 3 7 3

b)

3 6 6 0 8 4 2 8 3 6 3 2 3 2 2 8 7 3

4 9 2 6 8 8 6 7 8 2 6 3 6 8 8

answers on page (37)



WRITE THE MISSING VOWELS TO COMPLETE EACH WORD

A place that has little rain

de_er_

A reptile that lives in a swam

cro__dil_

A place where the sick are treated

_os_it_l

The opposite of male

fe_a_e

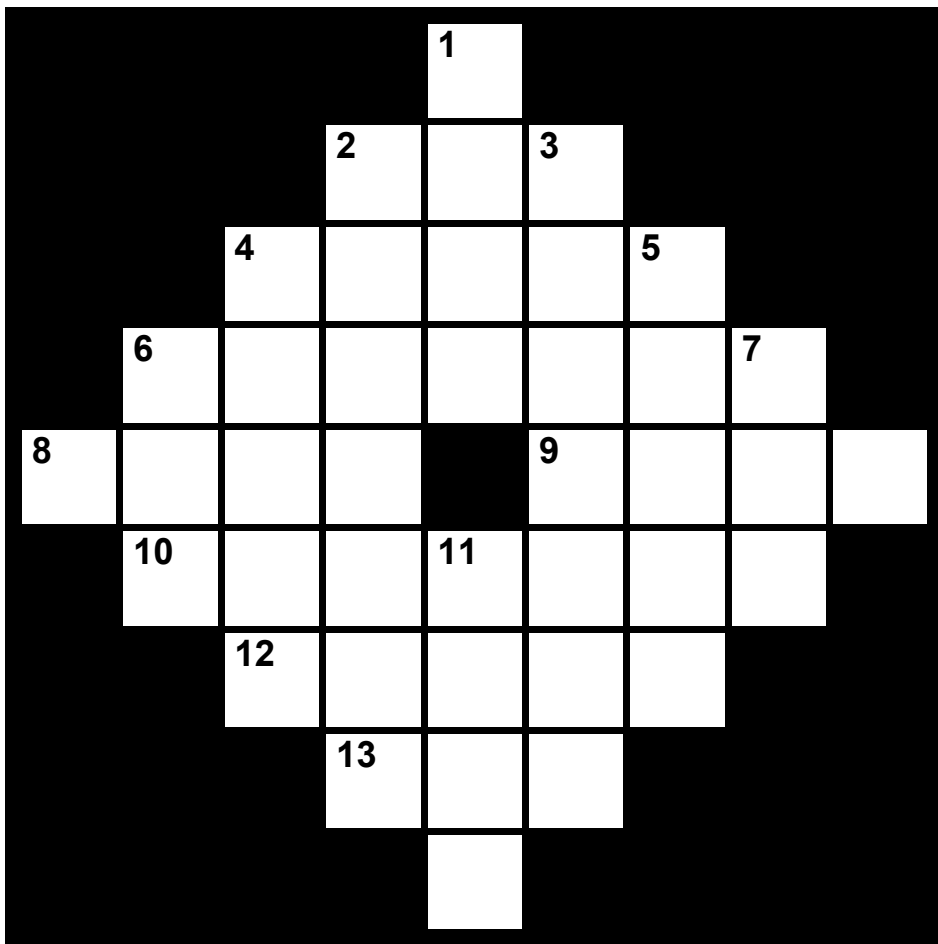
answers on page (37)

CIRCLE THE CORRECTLY SPELLED WORD

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. wonderful | wounderful | worlderful |
| 2. weht | weigh | wiegh |
| 3. wont | won't | wonte |
| 4. across | acrosse | across |
| 5. finaliy | finally | fineally |
| 6. disappear | disapear | dissappear |
| 7. enviroment | environment | envanronment |
| 8. complitely | completly | completely |
| 9. bizarre | bizarre | bizard |
| 10. Caribbean | Caribbean | Caribbean |

answers on page (37)

BLACK DIAMOND



solution on page (38)

CONGRATULATION OLUCHI WON 2 MEDALS AT TRACK & FIELD GAME RECENTLY HELD AT YORK UNIVERSITY



SUDOKU

by Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

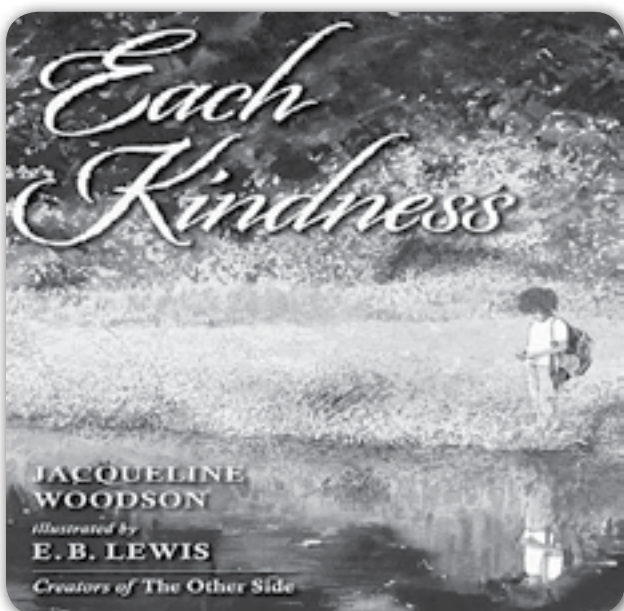
Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

	1	5	3			4		
	2				4			3
	9				6	5		
					3	7		6
6			7	5	1			8
9		7	8					
		8	1				4	
4			6					2
		9			5	6	1	

solutions on page (38)

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

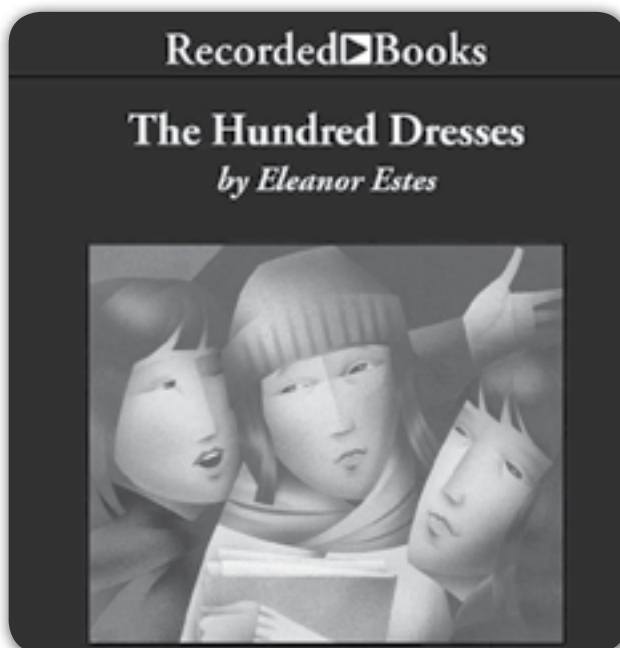
EACH KINDNESS
Jacqueline Woodson



An act of kindness isn't that hard and when there's someone in dire need, the right source of motivation is our ability to change the world.

There's a new girl in town, Chloe and her friends detest her. It will take the teachings of Chloe's teacher to make amends with Maya. It's not yet late to act kindly, but possessing the strength to adjust from bullying is essential. An audio book that speaks to the conscience.

THE HUNDRED DRESSES
By Eleanor Estes



Whenever you're sure of what you have, it doesn't seem likely that others will believe until they see.

The life of Wanda Petronski is unique in every respect. She's simple and moderate, yet boast of her imaginary hundred dresses at home. Except her friends learn the secrets, the faded blue dress she wears to school is all they see.

WORDS OF THE MONTH

Daalu – Thank you (Igbo)
Baba mi – my father (Yoruba)

BUSINESS

UBER TO SET UP 24-HOUR HOTLINE FOR UK CUSTOMERS



Uber has announced it is to set up a 24-hour hotline for UK customers and will proactively report incidents to the police, a day after London's transport authorities announced plans for tighter controls on private hire firms.

The move also comes ahead of a court of appeal hearing where Transport for London will seek to demand that private hire operators should have a phone line – a regulation quashed by judges after Uber forced a judicial review of taxi regulations in 2016.

The Guardian reports that the ride-hailing app service is still battling to retain its right to operate in

the capital, after TfL refused it a new licence, concluding it was not a fit and proper company. Uber's licence appeal is due to be heard in the spring.

The firm's UK general manager, Tom Elvidge, said: "With millions of trips across the UK booked through our app each week the safety of riders and drivers using Uber is a top priority.

"Over the last few years we've led the way with pioneering technology which enhances safety, like GPS tracking of every trip and our two-way rating system.

"But we recognise we can use our technology to

go even further in setting a higher standard for private hire and other transport options.

"After listening to feedback from drivers, riders, local regulators and the police we're introducing a number of new features and changes to enhance driver and passenger safety."

Uber said it would also change its approach to reporting serious incidents to the police. Concern had been raised by the Met police that Uber was failing to properly investigate allegations of sexual assault against passengers – one major issue when TfL denied the firm a new licence. Uber said it would now pass police information directly over any serious incident reported by passengers – and likewise if a driver was the victim of a crime.

Customers will also be given more access to driver information, including the licensing authority and private hire number of their driver.

Responding to the move, a TfL spokesperson said, "Safety is our top priority and we expect the highest standards from all

operators in the private hire market. We welcome any move that has the potential to improve the safety of private hire drivers and their passengers."

Uber had promised to mend its ways under its new chief executive, Dara Khosrowshahi, who held talks with senior TfL officials in London soon after taking charge. The firm's global image had taken a battering under former boss Travis Kalanick, who departed following a series of controversies including claims of sexual harassment at its corporate headquarters and data breaches affecting its customers.

Elvidge said, "We're determined to change the way we do business, so we'll carry on listening and plan to make other improvements over the coming months."

Uber is not expected to now oppose TfL's appeal to reinstate the requirement for a phone line for customers to speak to an operating firm if necessary while travelling. Its lawyers will instead give evidence of its own actions in installing a 24-hour support line for both riders and drivers.

CIBC MAKES BUYING CANADIAN REAL ESTATE DIFFICULT

By R.Njeru

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) has made it difficult to purchase Canadian Real Estate after it got rid of the Foreign Income Program.

CIBC is one of Canada's biggest banks and this change is expected to have a harsh impact on people who use foreign income to be eligible for a mortgage. A new program has been introduced and it requires interested parties to comply with B-20 guidelines from OSFI.

International students and foreign buyers enjoyed an easy time when getting a mortgage in the old system. In many cases, you could get an uninsured mortgage with a deposit above 35%, all this without the verification of your income. The buyer would have to stop paying their bills for the bank to be at risk of a loss, the prices would also have to decline by 35%.

The B-20 guidelines in the new income verification system are harder to comply with. The new system requires one to obtain: a Foreign Income Verification Statement (CRA Form T1135) that shows assets, a foreign and Canadian credit bureau report as well as a T1 General from the client-- it should state the foreign income. A CRA Form T1134 is a must for companies us-

ing income and Information Return Relating to Non-Controlled and Controlled Foreign Affiliates.

Discussions about this new system are still ongoing in two of the other Big Six banks and according to reports, it is only a matter of time before they follow in the footsteps of CIBC. Real estate prices will be affected negatively in two ways. First, it will be hard for foreigners to borrow a lot of money since the amount will be stress tested against the declared income. Second, non-residents dodging local taxes will have to spend more to buy a house.

Those income taxes are likely to lower sales and they will certainly kill profits on property. In fact, the Chinese Media has been reporting that Canada's housing crash will be even worse than that of the United States.

CIBC has emerged as the first bank to roll out new foreign income limitations. Foreign money will have to deal with this new challenge in the process of buying a home with one of Canada's largest lenders. OSFI B-20 regulations may be more effective than a non-resident speculation tax, and China's capital controls combined. That is, if other banks decide to follow in the footsteps of CIBC and the government doesn't add another measure to improve demand.

3 SUCCESS TIPS FOR THE NEWBIE MIDLIFE ENTREPRENEUR

(NC) Starting a new chapter by starting a new business? It can seem intimidating, but you have what it takes to succeed. Meet the challenges of your new venture more confidently by following these simple tips:

Keep your skills up-to-date. Never underestimate the value of a one-year college program, or even a continuing education credit. You don't need to go back to school for four years just to start a business, but even a small amount of time spent honing old skills or learning new ones can pay dividends. You already invest into your other business assets, so

make sure you invest in yourself as well.

Your time is valuable - spend it well. Your business will always take more time than you expect it to, and that's ok. But you need to make careful decisions about what merits your time and what doesn't. Set your priorities and strategically tackle them in order of importance, outsourcing or delegating what you can to employees, freelancers or specialized companies.

Do your research the smart way. No company ever got ahead without knowing their market, and you will be no exception.

But finding useful information about your area and your potential customers can prove surprisingly difficult if you don't know where to look. Census data can provide a wealth of information on where your customer base lives and their median income and average monthly shelter costs, which can potentially give you a sense of how much they can spend on your service. Statistics Canada offers the data for free, so why not use it? Take advantage of this great resource to learn more about your target market, and maybe even find whole new market segments you've never considered.

Find more information at www.statcan.gc.ca/census.

TAKE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD YOUR OWN BUSINESS

(NC) Ever dream of trading in your 9 to 5 job for your own project where you set the rules? If this seems out of reach, begin by taking small steps toward this goal.

For example, writing a business plan is a key step in starting a business. This may seem intimidating, but it is a valuable tool that is worth the time and effort. In fact, there are many alternatives to traditional plans; different business plans serve different purposes.

You can start with a short plan. It will help you to think through the challenges of having your own business and you can see if your ideas will turn a profit. Once you have started, a good plan can help you stay organized and focused as well as help you to identify your next moves.

What is important is that the business plan contains essential and useful information. Include the following:

Clear vision: What will you do, what value proposition do you offer

and how will you be different from any competitors?

Mission: What will your business look like when it's operating? How will your business model look in action?

Goals: Do you have measurable achievements, consistent with your mission, bringing you towards your vision?

Strategy: This can be both a roadmap to meeting your goals and taking stock of your situation. What markets are you targeting? What are your resources, costs and revenues? How do you reach out to customers and partners? What needs improvement?

Your answers do not have to be long, but they should be clearly thought-out. A business plan, long or short, never goes unchanged. It should constantly adapt to the situation.

Shorter business plans can be useful for planning and pitching your busi-

ness, although they are not always appropriate. For example, if you are speaking with investors or a loan officer, they may want a traditional, more complete, business plan. They will want more details to ensure you have considered the potential challenges that may arise.

When planning, there are government services that can help you along the way. Visit canadabusiness.ca or call Canada Business Ontario at 1-888-576-4444 to speak with a business information officer in English or French. They are available weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Canada Business Ontario is part of the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario). For further information on FedDev programming and services for Southern Ontario, please visit www.FedDevOntario.gc.ca, email us at fdo.feddevontario.fdo@canada.ca or call toll free at 1-866-593-5505.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THIS IS WHY WE DON'T HAVE NICE THINGS -

A COUNSEL FOR MY YOUNG AFRICAN BROTHER, DESMOND COLE

I too was at the inauguration of the Federation of Black Canadians (FBC) covering the event on behalf of my television station, FEVA TV, Canada's first 24-hour Black television network. I sat directly across from you on the final day of the 3-day event and witnessed your incessant petulance as you heckled speaker after speaker that you disagreed with especially John Tory (you really do not like him, do you?).

It took all the patience acquired over my fifty- five years of living on this earth for me not to turn around and ask you to cut it off. Other attendees deserve to listen to the speakers in peace whether you like their views or not. Everyone around you surprisingly tolerated your disruption - I guess as a recognition and may I say, respect of the fact that you have "put in work" when it comes to advocating for Black people on the issues of police brutality, carding, immigration deportations, etc. I am sure that you have suffered

considerable personal sacrifice in your undertaking to stand up, speak up and lead the resistance - I too commend you my Sierra Leonean lion, may the ancestors protect you from harm.

My cautionary tale to you in penning this article is to register my disagreement with your criticism of Judge Donald McLeod of the Ontario Court of Justice. It was wrong both in fact and in logic. This was in my opinion, the cause and effect of youthful exuberance, inexperience and unchecked ego unleashed to inexplicably damage and sully a man, who like you, sought to contribute to the wellbeing of Blacks in Canada. For the record, I don't know Judge McLeod - I only met him briefly that day to shoot a promo that he gave FEVA TV on behalf of the FBC. I have not seen or communicated with him since then.

Fact is, as he pointed out in his rebuttal, Judge McLeod must have cleared every potential conflict

landmine with his professional regulatory body for compliance before embarking on such a communal endeavor. He is a learned Black man in a precarious position of authority, aware of the pitfalls of navigating in a white-dominated society. I was pleasantly surprised to see a Black man in his exalted position participate so publicly in the formation of an association dedicated towards the empowerment of Black Canadians. Most of his ilk would normally shrivel away in irrelevance showing up occasionally for the community dinner awards. Would you rather have a Justice Clarence Thomas? God forbid!

Fact is Judge Donald McLeod is not the first sitting judge to actively participate and lead an ethnic organization in this multicultural Canada. Organizations such as the Canadian Jewish Congress and the World Sikh Organization have enjoyed the membership and leadership of their brethren on the bench. Google names like Wally



Desmond Cole

Opal, Palbinder K. Shergill and the late Justice Harry Batshaw, who was a Vice President of the Zionist Organization of Canada. These individuals don't wear the robe 24-hours. They have a life and political affiliations with the ruling party of the day.

A Judge Donald McLeod is witness daily, to the endless parade of Blacks, especially Black youth through the judiciary - casualties in some cases, of the consequences of the systemic racism prevalent in Canada. He must be affected by it and wanted to do something. This should be applauded, and his intentions not muddled by your intemperate declara-

tions. The pontification by you and others on the probity of his involvement with the FBC to me is a red herring.

My dear young man Desmond, so he has access to the Prime Minister, his immigration minister and a few higher ups? So, freaking what? Someone in our community should have access to that silver-spooned socialist Justin Trudeau (I am a conservative party member by the way). If it takes him and former Governor General Michelle Jean and others, to get an official recognition of the International Decade of the People of African Descent from the Prime Minister, and get him to commit, even if superficially, to some form of reparation; who's ox is gored? Don't we deserve nice things? Who do you think the delicate Justin Trudeau is most likely to listen to? Your sometimes-bombastic self or the suit-fitting Judge Donald McLeod? Haven't you noticed how sharp and handsome Judge McLeod looks in a suit?



Judge Donald McLeod

Kidding aside, dear Desmond, our battle will be fought on many fronts - we are not a monolith. Your assertion that ".... There are many ways for Black people to advocate - I disagree" begs credulity. The illogicality of that statement can be attributable to what I referred to earlier - inexperience and ego. Our struggle must be approached the same way a military conducts its operation: With tacticians, foot soldiers, negotiators, logisticians, etc. All working in tandem, all deserving of our appreciation and commendation.

You've earned the respect and admiration from the community, myself included, but that does not

continued on p(39)

FIRST FRIDAY JAN. 5, 2018



BOOKS - EDITOR'S PICK

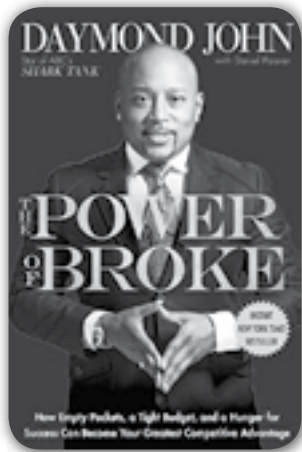
FICTION & NON FICTION BOOKS

We hope the month of February was a super-exciting month. It was a valentine month and black history month, you can't afford to get carried away in the month of March. From inspirational bedtime stories for children, amazing fiction for adults and spiritual books for those who yearn for it, there's enough to choose from our book collection this issue. Let's march through knowledge and have fun together

BUSINESS

THE POWER OF BROKE: HOW EMPTY POCKETS, A TIGHT BUDGET, AND A HUNGER FOR SUCCESS CAN BECOME YOUR GREATEST COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

BY DAYMOND JOHN AND DANIEL PAISNER



The experiences of two outstanding business owners who started with limited budget can help you discover that its not all about your financial base.

The founder of FUBU and star of ABC's Shark

REWORK

BY JASON FRIED AND DAVID HEINEMEIER HANSSON



Getting smart is about the acquisition of the knowledge that guarantees extraordinary results. Find out you can get the best with little effort.

Thinking of doing it on your own and taking bold steps while ignoring competitors? This is the book that does not emphasize on business plan or studying competitors. You need less than what you think to succeed. Things you never planned for are not listed in initial paperworks and ultimately, it will require instincts to survive in any business.

Tank show reveals that being broke can actually give entrepreneurs the

IF YOU'RE WITH ME

BY KIM CASH TATE



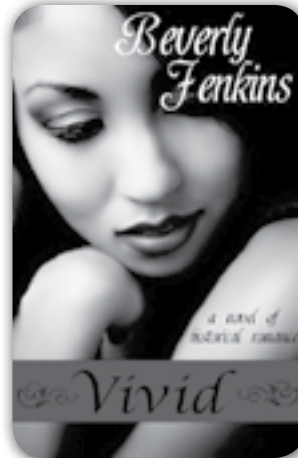
Learn how indecision can ruin a precious journey of love in this intriguing classic.

Faith Langston's choice as to whom she loves seemed to be true when the love of her life goes home just before Christmas and runs into his first love—he's faced with choices of his own. The past beckons and rages against a promising future. Would she compromise?

impetus needed to survive in business. Starting a business from meagre fund forces you to think more creatively and out of the box as individuals and help you be at your optimum best in decision making.

VIVID

BY BEVERLY JENKINS

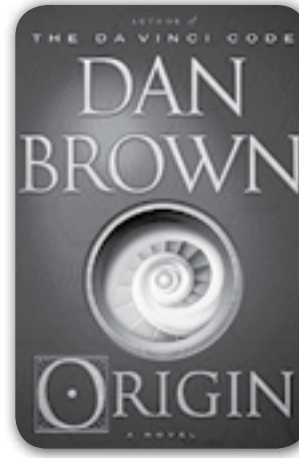


Inequality has had its toll on the plight and destinies of blacks through history. The road to liberation is not far if there's a strong will and determination to escape.

Set in 1876, a frustrated Dr. Viveca is not happy as a result of the limitations placed upon female physicians of color. She is offered the chance to set up a practice in the small all Black community of Grayson Grove, Michigan. At the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, she would learn how to fight for her rights. Nate Grayson is prepared to fight for that and of course, his handsomeness is also tempting enough for a dark-skinned talented medical practitioner.

ORIGIN

BY DAN BROWN



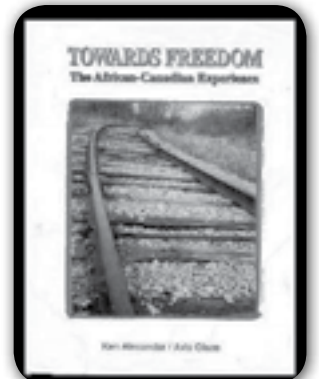
Dan Brown's at it again. Unraveling mysteries through symbolism and arts to either verify or falsify scientific and religious facts. Find out what he's investigating this time in another suspense filled classic.

Kirsch, a student of Langdon at Harvard is about to reveal an astonishing breakthrough at an event in Spain. It will answer two of the fundamental questions of human existence.

Navigating the dark corridors of hidden history and extreme religion, Langdon and Vidal, a close associate must fight and overcome all enemies even the Royal Palace to unravel mysteries, decode password and reveal breathtaking truth.

TOWARDS FREEDOM: THE AFRICAN-CANADIAN EXPERIENCE

BY ALEXANDER, K., & GLAZE, A.



A book for not only the blacks but all custodians of history. The epochal events that have shaped Canada today is worth taking a look at from a holistic perspective. That is exactly what you will find in the book.

Towards Freedom is a classic tale that highlights the four-hundred-year struggle for freedom, justice, peace, and equality in Canada. Blending historic events and people with contemporary issues, it recognizes the efforts of black nation-builders contributing enormously to Canada's evolving democracy. It also painstakingly examines Canada today in a global world and what lies ahead for the black race.

TO THE RESCUE

SAY NO TO CORRUPTION

By Pastor Dele Dada

Continued from the last issue

Hands Construction Company Ltd. to make the first presentation."

One after the other the three companies made their presentation. Mr. Douglas stood up and gave a brief speech of appreciation and said "the winner will be contacted shortly, meanwhile light refreshments have been provided in the Mega Food Court on the second floor of this building. Please take time to join us. Once again thank you Ladies and Gentlemen."

Paola and Mr. Harrah did not wait for the refreshment. They took taxi and went straight to Harrah's hotel. As soon as they entered, Paola threw his brief case on the table with the



reading lamp and declared "What a day!"

That Minister really had my heart pounding. "Why?" Retorted Mr. Harrah.

"Are you asking me?" "Did you not hear him. This contract must be executed as scheduled and if

the winner fails, I will personally ensure they spend the rest of their lives in jail." Mr. Harrah laughed, "Unfortunately you don't know your nation. I wish we secure the contract but I have spent 15 years in this your country and close to people in high places of authority. I am yet to see one major contract of this magnitude that is awarded once. Usually they will award the contract twice or thrice and hope they are executed at the end of the day. In all my years here all I witness is that they will tell you they are setting up a probe panel. Then they will inaugurate the panel with fanfare and then they will tell you they will have public hearing. They will feed the society with all unnecessary details but at the end of the day I have not seen one person jailed because of one probe in Nigeria." Paola shaking his head "that is a

pathetic analysis of this nation and I agree with you, I am yet to see any of the people jailed. I guess if they have jailed them they will not be doing it and you and I will not be here. Sorry."

"You are not part of it yet" responded Mr. Harrah. "You are only there potentially. Until you have the money in your account don't conclude you have won the contract. I mean it is not time to celebrate yet. For all I know another presentation may be going on in that board room now over the same contract or project. That minister you heard sounding tough, all he is doing is to get the highest bidder's attention. I hope Michael will get this through" Harrah said with confidence. Paola just opened his mouth wide, amazed about how this stranger seems to know the system more than himself.

TO BE CONTINUED

CAREER

3 RESUME-BUILDING TIPS FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

(NC) University and college students are in their final stretch; finishing final exams, essays and projects. While getting good grades has been shown to increase the chances of landing a good job, employers are increasingly looking for even more from applicants.

Here are three tips that can help post-secondary students add something that will stand-out to their resumes while still enjoying a well-earned summer.

Travel. University summer breaks are the perfect time to make lifelong memories while learning

about different places and cultures. Not only is travelling fun, informative and personally enriching, it also demonstrates to a future employer that someone is curious, adaptable and globally minded.

Volunteer. This is one of the best things a student can do to increase their employability and get their resume noticed. Whether they are interested in business, policy or human rights issues, placements are often

available with non-profit organizations such as Amnesty International.

Volunteering is a great way to show motivation and experience to a potential employer in a

first interview.

Work experience.

Working while studying is not always easy during the busy school term, but summers offer a great opportunity to gain work experience. Not only can students save for tuition, but many workplace skills are transferable, even if their summer job is not necessarily in the field they want to work in.

Find more information about volunteering with a human rights organization at www.amnesty.ca.



3 ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS TO LEARN IN 2018

(NC) The first few months in a new year are all about self-reflection and self-improvement. So why not pick up some great skills and learn new things that will help you in your home, at work and in your everyday life?

1. Learn a second language. There are plenty of benefits that come with knowing another language — and research proves it. Different studies show that being bilingual can make you a better decision-maker, be more perceptive, think differently and even

postpone the onset of dementia. It's also never too late to start, with classes offered online or in local community centres. Since we're in Canada, consider learning or brushing up on your French so you can be understood in both official languages whether you're asking for a beverage or working with a client.

2. Stay up-to-date on tech. Even as technology changes quickly and new apps and programs revolutionize our world, a keen interest in keeping on top of what's trending and

a passion for learning will help you make the most of what our digital world has to offer. Not only will you be able to program your Google Home or Alexa, you can add valuable skills like coding and photo editing to your resume. You can even stay connected with government and make life easier using their online services in both official languages, like direct deposit for your benefits cheques and tax returns.

3. Make your voice heard. The year 2017 saw some great strides being

made in social change, with it becoming popular and even fashionable to champion causes that are important to you, like gender equality, for example. One way you can share your input and help shape how our country is governed is by participating in public consultations. And, because our official languages belong to everyone, the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages is inviting everyone to share their ideas.

Find more information online at officiallanguages.gc.ca.

DISTRACTED DRIVING

Know what counts as distracted driving — and the penalties you could face for it — before you get behind the wheel.

What counts as distracted driving

When you aren't focused on the road, things can happen fast.

Using your phone to talk, text, check maps or choose a playlist while you're behind the wheel all count as distracted driving — and they put you and others at risk.

Other activities like eating, reading or typing a destination into a GPS are also dangerous when you're behind the wheel.

It doesn't matter if you're on a highway or stopped at a red light — distracted driving could cost you.

Distracted driving statistics

In Ontario, deaths from collisions caused by distracted driving have doubled since

2000. Ontario data on collisions from 2013 show:

- one person is injured in a distracted-driving collision every half hour
- a driver using a phone is four times more likely to crash than a driver focusing on the road

Penalties for distracted driving

The easiest way to avoid penalties for distracted driving is to not use a hand-held device when you're behind the wheel.

It's against the law to use hand-held communication (e.g. your phone) and electronic entertainment devices (e.g. DVD player, e-reader) while driving.

In fact, simply holding a phone or other device while driving is against the law.

- You can use:
- a hands-free device (e.g. Bluetooth) but only to turn it on and off
 - a mounted device

(e.g. phone, GPS) as long as it is secure — not moving around while driving

If convicted, the penalty you face depends on the kind of license you hold and how long you've been driving.

Careless driving

You could face more charges — for careless driving — if you endanger other people because of any kind of distraction. This includes distraction caused by both hand-held (e.g., phone) or hands-free (e.g., Bluetooth) devices.

If convicted of careless driving, you may receive:

- six demerit points
- fines up to \$2,000 and/or
- a jail term of six months
- a licence suspension of up to two years

You could even be charged with dangerous driving — a criminal offence that carries heavier penalties, including jail terms of up to 10 years for causing bodily harm

or up to 14 years for causing death.

Tips to avoid distracted driving

Use any of these tips to avoid distracted driving and its penalties:

- turn off your phone or switch it to silent mode before you get in the car
- put it in the glove compartment (lock it, if you have to) or in a bag on the back seat
- before you leave the house, record an outgoing message that tells callers you're driving and you'll get back to them when you're off the road
- some apps can block incoming calls and texts, or send automatic replies to people trying to call or text you
- ask a passenger to take a call or respond to a text for you
- if you must respond, or have to make a call or send a text, carefully pull over to a safe area

ONTARIO'S ERIC HOSKINS RESIGNS AS HEALTH MINISTER

By R.Njeru

Ontario, Canada— Ontario's Eric Hoskins has announced that he has officially resigned as the Health Minister. He will be heading a national pharmacare program and therefore, he will not vie in the June provincial election.

He said that he is still committed to improving the nation's health-care although he is leaving Queen's Park. He also resigned as St. Paul's Member of Provincial Parliament.

Hoskins stated that he was grateful that Premier Kathleen Wynne had offered him an opportunity to serve Canadians.

Hoskins is an officer of the Order of Canada and a family doctor. He became an MPP in 2009. In 2013, he vied for the leadership of the Ontario Liberal Party. He was appointed in Wynne's first cabinet as Economic Development minister before becoming the Health minister.

His departure will be a blow to Wynne's cabinet since he is the fourth senior minister to announce that he will not run in the forthcoming election. He follows in the footsteps of other key ministers like Brad Duguid and Deb Matthews who have also announced that they will not participate in the June election.

Hoskins is a philanthropist and this is what led him to establish War Child Canada together with his wife, Dr. Samantha. This project is meant to give aid to children in war-torn regions in different parts of the globe.

Premier Kathleen



Eric Hoskins

Wynne has praised Hoskins for being a great leader, she said that he has been a strong campaigner of their universal health-care system. He has also increased the availability of services for people with mental illnesses, lowered surgical wait times, built new hospitals in Ontario as well as increasing access to primary-care providers.

She also credited Hoskins for making prescription drugs free for everyone under the age of 25 thanks to historic initiatives like OHIP+. These kinds of programs have made the province a leader when it comes to matters of health care.

The Premier took the opportunity to announce MPP Helena Jaczek as the new minister of Health and Long Term Care. She is a medical doctor with a lot of experience in the field. In addition to this, Wynne announced that the ministry of Community and Social Services will be led Michael Coteau.

Premier Kathleen Wynne has certainly lost a great leader and many residents of Ontario will be hoping that Helena Jaczek will continue improving the healthcare sector.

• silence notifications that tempt you to check your phone

Calling 911

In an emergency, you

can use your phone to call 911, but be sure to pull off the road to a safe area to make the call.

www.ontario.ca

continued from p(28) REDDIT CO-FOUNDER ..

Unicode then has to vote on the proposal in a process that can take up to two years before it's rolled out on different platforms.

In a statement Tinder said: "As the largest and most diverse platform for meeting new people, we are uniquely positioned and incredibly proud to petition for this update."

"Inclusivity is a core value at Tinder, and we believe in fighting for what our users believe in."

Recent petitions to expand the emoji catalogue have resulted in water pistols replacing guns, adding same sex couples to the emoji keyboard as well as more recently a redhead emoji.

As it stands, the emoji keyboard already shows a range of family set-ups - including single parent families and same-sex parent families.

www.bbc.com
photo credit — getty images

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SOUTH KOREA EXPERIENCES REDUCED BIRTH RATE AS WOMEN GO ON "BIRTH STRIKE"

By R.Njeru

South Korea is experiencing a reduction in newborns as its women go on a "birth strike". The government's efforts to fix this issue have been futile since most women find it very expensive to raise a child in the nation.

The South Korean women have therefore decided to go on a "birth strike" until the government fixes their social and economic environment. According to Sun-hwa Shim, 38, the term "birth strike" has become a common word that is used by many people including her female friends who have decided to stop having children. She says that it has become the current "social phenomenon."

Among OECD coun-

tries, South Korea is ranked as last in terms of time men spend caring for their children, first for the highest gender wage gap and third-highest for the number of hours worked. Sun-hwa Shim says that the nation's women are simply tired of working "inside and outside" of the home without the help of their spouses or relatives.

According to the director of Gangneung's Office of Statistics, Mr. Dae-seong Jeong, the reducing birthrate could have a negative impact on South Korea's productivity. Dae-seong Jeong says that their research has revealed that the nation's birth rate has reduced by almost 7.3 per cent since 2017.

South Korea also has a very low fertility rate of 1.2 children per woman,

the third-lowest in the world and the lowest in the OECD. Israel is the first among OECD countries with a birth rate of 3.1. In contrast, the U.S. has 1.8 and Canada has 1.6.

Yun-shick Chae, a traditionalist, says that he is against the idea of women refusing to have children. He marries around 700 couples a year and he has noticed that very few of them are planning to have children. The businessman believes they're shirking their civic duty and being selfish. He feels that young women should make sacrifices for the sake of the nation's future.

Over the last 10 years, the nation's government has spent \$70 billion on campaigns aimed at improving the birth rate. However, most

women still complain that the government's efforts are not enough and the statistics show few signs of success in the government's program.

According to Eunha Kim, 24, the government's efforts have been unsuccessful because the threshold for aid is too high. She also says that it is unfortunate that the government only helps out financially after the third child. However, she says that it is a good thing that the government has decided to offer support for men on paternity leave.

The latest census revealed that the birth rate of the nation is still going down and most citizens will be hoping that the government will find a permanent solution to this problem.

STUDENTS RESTRICTED FROM WEARING SHOES IN INDIA

By Omoshalewa Ayodele

A state in eastern India called Bihar has banned 1.8 million students appearing for this year's Class "X" board examinations from wearing shoes and socks, to curb cheating. Cheating is a punishable offense and punishment could range from two to ten years.

"The board has decided that candidates wearing only slippers will be allowed to enter the examination halls, those com-

ing to the centres wearing shoes and socks will have to remove them outside the hall," head of Bihar School Examination Board Anand Kishor told the media.

"The board has taken this decision to prevent cheating," he added.

Bihar hogged lime-light for mass cheating in 2015 when photos of parents and friends of students climbing school building walls to pass on answers were published by local media.

SURPLUS BUDGET - SINGAPORE TO PAY BONUS TO CITIZENS



Heng Swee Keat
Singapore Finance Minister

By Julius Oyekunle

Individuals from 21 and above who are citizens of Singapore will get a one-off "SG Bonus" of up to S\$300 each as the 2017 budget came in with a surplus of almost S\$10 billion (US \$7.6 billion). Singapore Finance minister Heng Swee Keat disclosed this during his budget speech in Parliament, describing the bonus as a special gift.

"it reflects the government's long-standing commitment to share of the fruits of Singapore's development with Singaporeans", Heng stated.

With the new arrangement, those with an income of S\$28,000 or below will be eligible to receive S\$300, those whose incomes ranging from S\$28,001 to S\$100,000 will receive S\$200, and those with incomes in excess of S\$100,000 will receive S\$100.

There was a surplus of S\$9.61 billion in the revised budget for the 2017 fiscal year due to contributions from statutory boards and higher-than-expected stamp duty.

According to Heng, the surplus will also be used in other ways. For instance, S\$5 billion will be set aside for the Rail Infrastructure Fund to save up for new railway lines that Singapore is building. Another S\$2 billion will be set aside for premium subsidies and other forms of support for EldersShield, an insurance scheme that helps senior citizens with severe disabilities to cope with the financial demands of their daily care in an attempt to reduce the effect of high prices.

OXFAM'S DEPUTY CHIEF RESIGNS OVER SEXUAL SCANDAL

By Julius Oyekunle

Oxfam's deputy chief executive resigned while acknowledging her fault. She has taken "full responsibility" for failing to act immediately in the sexual misconduct scandal involving the charity's workers in Haiti following the 2010 earthquake.

Penny Lawrence, Oxfam program director at the time, said she was "ashamed that this happened on my watch."

At an emergency meeting held recently with British government officials, Oxfam's leaders "also made a full and unqualified apology" and spoke of a "deep sense

of disgrace and shame," said British Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt.

Oxfam says it investigated the allegations in 2011 and then fired four people and let three others resign after uncovering sexual misconduct, bullying, intimidation, and failure to protect staff.

The allegations of sexual misconduct were first raised about some Oxfam staff in an earlier mission in Chad. "It is now clear that these allegations, involving the use of prostitutes and which related to the behavior of both the country director and members of his team in Chad — were raised before he moved to Haiti,"

she said.

Mordaunt said the charity had agreed to provide full details about the perpetrators to their home countries so they can face possible prosecution.

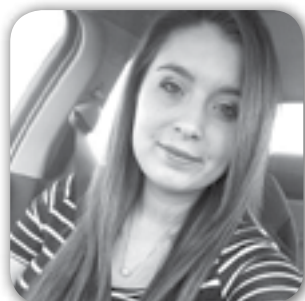
"I told Oxfam they must now demonstrate the moral leadership necessary to address this scandal, rebuild the trust of the British public, their staff and the people they aim to help," she said, describing the sexual abuses as "utterly despicable."

Mordaunt said she had written to all U.K. charities that work overseas to demand they do more to protect vulnerable people from abuse.

N. DAKOTA WOMAN SENTENCED TO LIFE

By Julius Oyekunle

A woman from North Dakota has been sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for her part in the gruesome death of her pregnant neighbor who was killed after her baby was removed from her womb. Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind,



Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind

a 22-year-old who had hoped of becoming a registered nurse and who was eight-months pregnant was killed in August.

The baby miraculously survived and is now in the custody of her father, who was LaFontaine-Greywind's boyfriend.

Prosecutors had alleged that Crews, 38, admitted she cut LaFontaine-Greywind's infant daughter out of her body by literally ripping off her neighbor's skin in a kind of crude caesarean section, the state's attorney's office in Cass County, North Dakota. The attack occurred on Aug.

19, not long after Crews lured the younger woman to her third-floor apartment in the building where they both lived, according to prosecutors.

An altercation had occurred, which led to the deceased being pushed and hitting her head in the process according to a statement released by Cass County prosecutor Tanya Martinez and presented in court.

According to fellow

prosecutor Leah Jo Viste, Martinez then said in court that Crews told police, "I grabbed either a utility knife or a blade" — and, as LaFontaine-Greywind was drifting in and out of consciousness, Crews removed her child from the womb, prosecutors said.

"I did cut [LaFontaine-Greywind] and then I took her baby out of her," Martinez said that Crews told police.

13 FEARED DEAD IN MEXICO HELICOPTER CRASH

By N.Ugoh

The Helicopter carrying officials in Mexico assessing the damage caused by a recent earthquake crashed and killed about 13 persons. Mexico's interior minister and the governor of the south-west Oaxaca state were on board, but neither was hurt.

The aircraft's pilot lost control as it was coming into land, Interior Minister Alfonso Navarrete said.



The 7.2-magnitude quake's epicentre was in Oaxaca but it shook buildings and causing aftershocks in Mexico City,

350km (217 miles) away. No casualties were recorded in the quake itself.

Reports indicate that the helicopter had crashed on top of two vans in a field while trying to land not far from the epicentre, near the town of Pinotepa de Don Luis.

Twelve people - five women, four men and three children - were killed at the scene and another died in hospital later after suffering from severe wounds.

PROPOSED TRUMP IMMIGRATION BILL STALLED AGAIN

By Julius Oyekunle

US Senate has rejected a move to help young “Dreamer” immigrants and get the necessary funding for the border wall with Mexico, as Republican leaders joined with the White House and scuttled what seemed the likeliest chance for sweeping immigration legislation this election year.

The vote came after the White House threatened to veto the measure and underscored that the issue, a hot button for both parties, remained as intractable as it’s been for years. Even the focus on Dreamers, who polls show win wide public support, was not enough to overcome opposition by hard-line conservatives and



liberal Democratic presidential hopefuls — neither of whom want to alienate their parties’ base voters as the mid-term elections draw closer.

The vote was 54-45 in favor, but that was short of the 60 that were needed for approval. Eight Republicans voted in favor of the bill, while three Democrats abandoned their own leaders and opposed it.

Dreamers are young immigrants who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children, they also lack protection from being deported and often do not have the access to go to school or access health care.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, touted Democrats for failing to offer “a single proposal that gives us a realistic chance

to make law.” Instead, he said, Democrats should back Trump’s “extremely generous” proposal.

For a deal to be brokered, the Trump administration would offer 1.8 million Dreamers a 10- to 12-year process for gaining citizenship, provide \$25 billion to build his coveted U.S.-Mexico border wall and restrict legal immigration.

Instead, Democratic leaders rallied behind a bipartisan plan that would also give 1.8 million Dreamers a chance for citizenship. But while it would provide the \$25 billion Trump wants for his wall, it would dole it out over 10 years and lacks most of the limits Trump is seeking on legal immigration.

JAPANESE MAN WINS CUSTODY OF 13 BABIES

By Julius Oyekunle

In Japan, the Central Juvenile and Family Court has allowed a 28-year-old Japanese man (baby factory dad as popularly called) to take custody of 13 children born to surrogate women in Thailand, a ruling that will grant him exclusive parental custody. The court ruled that Mitsutoki Shigeta was the biological father of the children, was able to raise them and was not connected with human trafficking.

In 2013, Nine Thai women were contracted by Mr Shigeta to be surrogate mothers for his children. The women gave birth in 2014 - before the new law restricting the use of assistive technology in childbirth became



effective. DNA examination confirmed Mr Shigeta was the biological father, and the court found that he had taken good care of the infants before officials from the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security swooped in.

The man had his representatives regularly visit

the children at the facilities, it said, and had made plans for the children’s education and future well-being, including nannies and nurses and had also opened a trust account for each of the children in Singapore. The new law requires surrogate mothers to be relatives of the prospective parents.

Mr Shigeta’s lawyer, said the process of removing the children, now four years old, from the state facilities would be undertaken gradually, since the children had already become familiar with staff there. It is unclear whether the children will be relocated to Cambodia or Singapore.

CHINA’S XI JINPING SET TO RULE WITHOUT A TERM LIMIT

By R.Njeru

China’s president Xi Jinping is set to continue ruling without a term limit after his Communist Party suggested that they should amend the constitution to allow him to continue serving beyond the current two five-year terms.

This means that he can continue ruling beyond 2023 (the year he was supposed to resign.) Currently, Mr. Xi is China’s strongest politician since Mao Zedong. In 2017, he emerged as the biggest winner in his party’s congress after he was re-elected to another five-year term as General Secretary.

According to the nation’s constitution, the 64-year-old is expected to resign after two five-year terms. He is expected to be elected to a second term at the annual meeting of the Asian nation’s rubber-stamp parliament.

According to Joshua Wong; a democracy campaigner, Xi is just another emperor who is forcing himself on the people of China. Wong allegedly planned student protests against the Chinese current leadership.

Xi Jinping’s communist ideology has already been enshrined in his party’s constitution and the Central Committee has suggested that it should also be introduced in China’s constitution. These constitutional changes are unlikely to receive any resistance since they will go through parliament where the Communist Party is the

strongest. Most of the party members are chosen and rewarded because of their party loyalty.

Mr Xi is the son of one of the Communist Party’s founding fathers. He became president in 2013 after climbing through the ranks from 1974.

His tenure as president has brought a resurgence in nationalism, a strong fight against corruption and an onslaught on human rights.

The law that limits presidents to two terms began in the 1990s when veteran leader Deng Xiaoping decided to stop a repeat of the chaos that had marked the Mao era and its immediate aftermath.

Mr Xi’s two predecessors have respected the term limit. But since Xi became president, he has shown signs that he wants to do things his own way.

According to Willy Lam, a politics professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Mr. Xi is preparing to become a modern-day dictator.

One Communist Party member stated that this was good for China since the nation needed a “strong, stable and consistent leader.”

According to an editorial in China’s state-run Global Times stated, although there is likely to be a change in the constitution it doesn’t mean that Mr.Xi will rule until he dies.

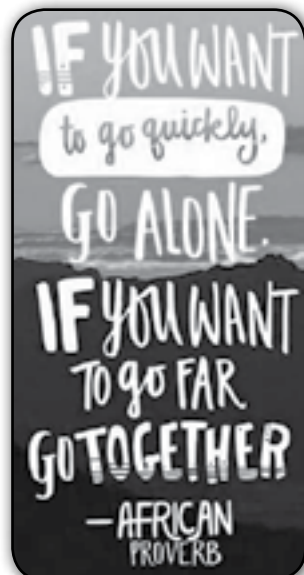
There is no concrete information as to whether Mr. Xi will be a lifelong president but time will certainly reveal how things unfold in China.

continued from p(31) SUDOKU

7	1	5	3	9	8	4	6	2
8	2	6	5	1	4	9	7	3
3	9	4	2	7	6	5	8	1
1	8	2	9	4	3	7	5	6
6	4	3	7	5	1	2	9	8
9	5	7	8	6	2	1	3	4
5	6	8	1	2	7	3	4	9
4	7	1	6	3	9	8	2	5
2	3	9	4	8	5	6	1	7

answers from p(30) QUIZ

- a) Russia; b) A; c) 11;
- d) 5; e) Cents; f) Bee;
- g) Blue; h) Neptune;
- i) a; k) b;



answers from p(31) CIRCLE ...

- 1. wonderful
- 2. weigh
- 3. won't
- 4. across
- 5. finally
- 6. disappear
- 7. environment
- 8. completely
- 9. bizarre
- 10. Caribbean

answers from p(30) WRITE THE MISSING VOWELS

- desert
- crocodile
- hospital
- female

answers from p(30) SECRET OF SUBTRACTION

10	20	30	14	9	22	25
- 4	- 10	- 10	- 7	- 6	- 11	- 5
6	10	20	7	3	11	20
A	W	E	S	O	M	E

answers from p(30) TELEPHONE SCRAMBLE

- a) God will always be there.
- b) Do not hate me because I want to stand out.

MEET MELISSA HARVILLE-LEBRON: THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO OWN A NASCAR TEAM

A RACE TO HISTORY



(Image: Melissa Harville-Lebron and her sons Eric and Enico Lebron)

Harville-Lebron says her journey into auto racing began unexpectedly when she took her sons to a NASCAR experience event at Charlotte Super Speedway in hopes of deterring them from taking up such a dangerous hobby. Instead, the experience only piqued her sons' interests and eventually led to her investing hundreds of thousands of dollars to develop her own team.

"I got invited to a NASCAR experience and

I brought my boys along thinking that it would discourage them from driving," she told Black Enterprise. But "it did not work that way." They drove 149 mph and 150 mph during their first session and loved every minute of it while she watched in awe.

Nonetheless, seeing the passion and joy that her sons had for racing compelled Harville-Lebron to want to help them follow their heart. However, as she

Melissa Harville-Lebron never imagined that her entrepreneurial pursuits and ambitions would lead her to make history as the first African American woman to own a race team licensed by NASCAR.

Harville-Lebron, a 47-year-old single mother raising her three biological children as well as her siblings' four kids, started her career in the entertainment industry as an intern at Sony Music. In 2005, she launched her own music label while working for New York City's Department of Correction office. Nearly a decade later, she suffered from a severe asthma attack that forced her into early retirement and inspired her to take the risk of launching a multifaceted entertainment company, W.M. Stone Enterprises Inc., in 2014.

explored the sport's history, she noticed its notorious lack of diversity. There were little to no drivers of color, let alone an owner. That motivated her all the more to fill the gap.

She created E2 Northeast Motorsports under the umbrella of W.M. Stone Enterprises, Inc. The E2 Northeast Motorsports team became the first multicultural team to race competitively in NASCAR, with four black and Latino drivers — two

in the camping world truck series and two in NASCAR's Whelen All-American Series. Two of the drivers are brothers and Harville-Lebron's sons, Eric and Enico.

Besides making history, Harville-Lebron celebrated another victory on Feb. 16, when her team ran its first official race in the Camping World Truck Series (NCWTS) at Daytona. Scott Stenzel started the race in an E2 Northeast Motorsports Chevrolet, marking his re-



turn to the NCWTS following a three-year hiatus. He came in 15th place at Daytona International Speedway.

In a statement released earlier this month, Harville-Lebron called it an "honor" to partner with Stenzel and the NCWTS team, Copp Motorsports. "This team truly exemplifies diversity, that is sure to attract a younger multicultural fan base. It's an honor to announce that Stenzel is now a part of this racing family."

In addition to granting opportunities to people of color, Harville-Lebron wishes to see more become sports owners, particularly of NASCAR teams. "It's important for our culture to push generational wealth to our children. It's important to lead by example. All too often our children see negative images of our culture and I think it's very important for people of our culture actually succeeding in business," she said.

Source: www.blackenterprise.com

CANADA'S HIGHEST PAYING ENTRY-LEVEL JOBS AVAILABLE NOW

BY WORKOPOLIS

Getting a job can be tough, but it can be particularly stressful when you're just getting out of school. The job market is tight, and those student loans are not going to pay themselves.

To help, we've compiled some of the best career paths that are currently hiring entry-level candidates. So, without further ado, here are some of the highest-paying entry-level jobs on Workopolis for candidates right out of school:

Registered nurse

Salary range: \$45,677 – \$87,976

Skills associated with this job: Accreditation, communication skills, operating room and (ICU) knowledge and experience, case management

Business analyst (IT)

Salary range: \$47,654 – \$97,138

Skills associated with this job: Microsoft Office, project management, love of numbers.

Financial advisor

Salary range: \$34,729 – \$70,285

Skills associated with this job: Sales, excellent communication skills, financial analysis.

Physiotherapist

Salary range: \$46,584 – \$92,257

Skills associated with this job: Accreditation, physical therapy, orthopedics, communication skills.

Marketing Coordinator

Salary range: \$32,755 – \$55,460

Skills associated with this job: Marketing communications, social media, event management, project coordinating, Adobe Photoshop.

Pharmacist

Salary range: \$65,472 – \$113,745

Skills associated with this job: Accreditation, attention to detail, customer care and communication skills

Accountant

Salary range: \$35,078 – \$72,666

Skills associated with this job: Accreditation, Microsoft office, bookkeeping, love of numbers

Occupational therapist

Salary range: \$46,616 – \$88,782

Skills associated with this job: Accreditation, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, problem-solving

Human resources assistant

Salary range: \$29,501 – \$50,662

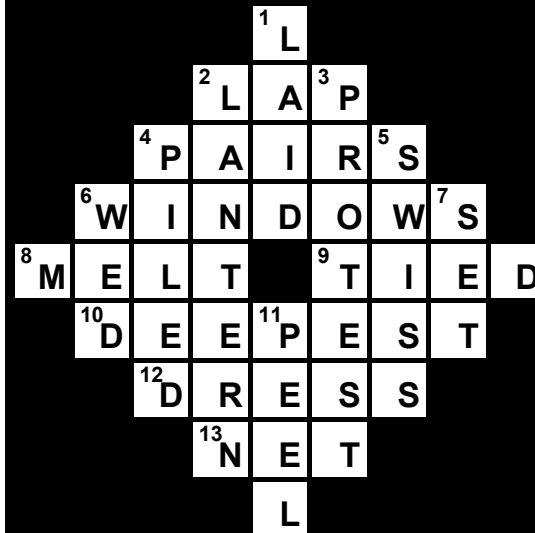
Skills associated with this job: Administration, HRIS, Microsoft Excel, interpersonal and communication skills.

According to our data, these jobs take approximately 45 days to fill. Job postings that stay up the longest – or which are immediately re-posted following the job ad's expiration – indicate a perpetual need or a difficulty to fill.

What are you waiting for? Let's get to work!

**Salary ranges posted in CAD, courtesy of Payscale.*

CONTINUED FROM P(31) - BLACK DIAMOND



Across

2. Dog or top?
4. Makes two of a kind
6. Look out points
8. 2002 Rascal Flatts album
9. Trussed
10. Innermost
12. Garb
13. Fishing equipment

Down

1. Wagered
2. Camp lighting
3. Objection
4. Placed on top of each other
5. Kind of cheese
6. Form a partnership, say
7. Harden in place, as of a bone
11. Orange cover

ANSWERS FROM P(30)- WORD SEARCH

.

. . . O C E A N . O B J E C T O O .

. O F F I C E O B V I O U S O B C .

O B S E R V A T I O N . . . F S C .

U O . O . O S T R I C H . . F E U .

T F . R O P T I C I A N . . E S P .

D F . A O R G A N I C . . . N S Y .

O E . N . . . O C T O B E R S I . .

O N . G . . O X Y G E N . . I V . .

R D . E . . O V E R C A S T V E . .

. O Z O N E . . . E . . .

O C C U P A T I O N

continued from p(33)
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

confer you with the title of the Activist-In-Chief, with the power to dictate how activists should agitate – I must have missed that proclamation.

As heart-wrenching and symbolic Abdoul Abdi's case is, you must be mindful that there are probably a thousand Abdoul Abdi's in Canada and a plethora

of other socio-economic issues facing us as a people that require our concerted attention and effort to combat. You know, things like: Why is it that the blonde, blue-eyed kid you trained at work three years ago is now your regional manager and you remain in the same position; how come every other group seem to be able to secure business

loans at competitive rates and we don't, if at all; how did we go from the largest visible minority to falling behind the Chinese and South Asians in the span of three decades? I'm sure you get my drift – we can walk and chew gum at the same time. One or two cases of your choosing is not representative of the myriad of problems confronting us

continued from p(12)
FOR THE RECORD

if a business spends \$1,000 and does not have the supporting receipt, not only has the business lost the income tax deduction, it has also lost the ITC charged on the purchase. Self-employed individuals in Ontario could lose \$430 if they are in a 30% tax bracket and entitled to an ITC of 13%. An incorporated business would suffer

similar losses in tax advantage and ITC refund, depending on the business's province or territory.

Check Your Record Keeping with Your CPA

Your CPA understands the need for record retention to satisfy not only business needs but also CRA requirements. Your chartered professional accountant should

review your accounting and record-keeping system to determine whether improvements could be made to ensure your business is ready and able to provide the information required in a CRA review.

Contact us to discuss
Dami Okunade CPA, CA, CFA
dami@dochateredacocun-
tant.com
416-219-5904

continued from p(14)
HOW DIFFICULT IS...

minds while women have sexual relations with their whole heart. Men can do the act without deep emotions while women's emotions are deeply involved in sex.

This is why a man can quickly move on to his next 'prey' after a sexual escapade while women remain tied to their sex partners. We therefore understand the level of sacredness a woman places on sex and how devastated she would be if she discovers that her man's sexual relations are not exclusive to her. Forgiving husband who has been with another woman is definitely difficult.

However, marriage is supposed to be a lifetime commitment; "till death do us part", remember? Also recall that the wedding vows speak about "for better, for worse". The hard truth is that adultery is part of the "worse" contained in wedding vows.

Yes, you may be quick to say that adultery cannot possibly be part of the bad stuff which one should pardon in marriage, particularly because even the Bible seems to allow divorce on account of adultery.

In my opinion, if there are unpardonable sins in marriage, infidelity is not one of them. I know that some of my readers will look for my head because of this statement, but it is my

honest belief. The marriage commitment is supposed to be strong to accommodate a spouse who has erred. This, however, does not mean the errors should be condoned and accepted.

Not at all! I believe that when a man shows true remorse, his wife should forgive him and both of them should renew their marital vows and take necessary steps to build an unbreakable bond.

What if the man is a recalcitrant and unrepentant adulterer? Well, there are two options. A woman can stick to the man hoping and praying that he would, like the prodigal son, "come to himself" one day.

The other option is to walk away. I do not support the second option because I strongly believe a woman has the power to make her husband abandon adultery and stick with her for life. I would rather that women take the preventive measures than prepare themselves to tackle adultery "when it comes" (A lot of women actually feel adultery is inevitable; I don't!).

For those whose husbands have already 'strayed', I implore you to draw them back by showing them love and assuring them of your willingness to forgive the past mistakes. Afterwards you should take the preventive measures.

The preventive measures are not cast in stone

and would differ from one couple to another. But a married woman ought to know what she can do on a continuous basis to ensure that her man remains faithful. Of course, I don't subscribe to stalking, nagging and constant probing. These actually backfire and cause havoc.

One preventive measure is for the woman to be creatively satisfying her husband's sexual needs. This means you cannot embark on sex strikes and you must consciously go the extra mile to please him in bed. Another measure is to ensure that you don't nag; make sure you choose the best times to raise issues for discussion and that you don't overstress issues already discussed.

Every man desires a peaceful and clean home and once he has these, he is not likely to stray. As the popular saying goes: "to err is human; to forgive is divine".

The ability to forgive infidelity is a tough call and requires divine enablement. The level of commitment required in marriage is very high. However, no man should take his wife's commitment for granted.

Men should accord their wives the same level of exclusivity they expect from their wives. So is adultery pardonable? It is tough, but it should be pardonable.

may apply; for example, if a test requires taking a whole day off work.

Find more information online at *wvmagon-*
line.com.

that we ought to engage collectively with varying modus operandi. I am not minimizing Abdul's plight. He deserves every support he can get, and I commend you and others for taking up his fight.

I see that you have corroboration from Sandy Hudson, co-founder of Black Lives Matter Toronto (is it me or is everyone associated with the Black Lives Matter a "co-founder" just asking) which makes me wonder if Black activism in Canada is being hijacked to become a cottage industry, narrow-issue, we-know-best, with territorial control of who, what, where and how to participate. It cannot be that way. Let me give you a quick example of how a community working disparately but collectively can achieve their goals irre-

spective of their differences: Just last week, the Conservative Party foreign affairs critic, Erin O'Toole, was set to introduce a motion in parliament that would have labelled the Sikh community as terrorists. Of course, the influential Council of Sikh Organizations (funded by the Alberta Gaming and Casino License Board- imagine that!) took him to task and after he emerged from the woodshed, promptly withdrew the motion. That my dear Desmond is power! I am curious to know if any of our community associations as presently constituted would have been able to affect that type of influence. The FBC is new and membership is open to all. If you believe that it enjoys preferential government backing that grants it an unfair advantage simply join them to influence its direction and

even take it over.

In conclusion, pragmatism in the course of your activist career is a virtue not a hindrance to the cause. Sometimes you need to exercise discretion when what you disagree with does not necessarily detract from the struggle but compliment it as is the case here. You never know when you will need help and who will be there to provide it. If I sound familiar, that's because I once hosted a meeting with you and your soon-to-be-a-lawyer friend in my office four years ago. We also met after the same FBC event where we exchanged numbers. Take care of yourself, I wish you well.

ROBERT "UNCLE BOB"
ONIANWAH
CEO FEVA TV

continued from p(9)
SUNLIGHT CAN TRIGGER

cheeks and nose, a rash with disc-shaped lesions, and a rash with circular red shapes on the chest, back, and arms. The rashes may take weeks or months to heal and may cause scarring. Sunlight can also trigger non-skin symptoms of lupus, such as joint inflammation and fatigue. Moreover, some medications, such as tetracycline antibiotics, amplify the photosensitivity so that the person with lupus is even more susceptible to sunburn.

Causes of Photosensitivity

After studying the relationship between lupus and sunlight for many years, scientists believe that the sun's ultraviolet rays play a major role. Not only the burning ultraviolet B rays but also the ultraviolet A rays are responsible for the skin problems. The sunlight causes certain genes to accelerate the normal process of skin cells dying. As the skin cells die, certain proteins come to the skin's surface and cause an immune reaction. The body's immune system then reacts to the proteins in a way that causes further inflamma-

tion. Further research into the gene that begins the process may lead to a treatment for skin conditions caused by lupus.

Practical Applications

- Some practical steps that may reduce the effects of sunlight exposure are:
- Avoid tropical or mid-day sun.
- When exposed to sunlight, wear protective clothing such as hats, long-sleeved shirts, and long pants.
- Avoid sunlight exposure from highly reflective surfaces, like sand, water, and snow.
- Use sunscreens liberally. Reapply frequently, especially when coming out of the water.
- Tint your car windows with film that blocks both UVB and UVA rays.
- Avoid exposure to unshielded fluorescent lights. Florescent lights covered with acrylic diffusers are not harmful.
- Do not use a copy machine with the top cover up.
- Consider purchasing sun-protective clothing that actually blocks the ultraviolet

let rays.

- Use an umbrella as a shield from the sunlight.

Lupus sufferers are accustomed to making lifestyle changes or adjustments to curtail the debilitating effects of the disease. In the case of photosensitivity, you may choose to live and vacation in non-tropical areas, to go to the beach or pool either early in the morning or late in the afternoon, or to wear protective clothing rather than tank tops or shorts when participating in outdoor activities. While these measures may be somewhat limiting, you may find that taking the recommended precautions is preferable to experiencing the rashes or internal flare-ups that sunlight exposure can cause. You can also enjoy the additional benefits of avoiding skin cancer and wrinkles.

Conclusion

Researchers are making progress in identifying the processes that cause people with lupus to be photosensitive. Until there is a way to prevent photosensitivity, it is essential that lupus sufferers take protective action to minimize the effects of sunlight exposure.

continued from p(9)
SAVING MONEY ON.....

might be just as effective.

It also pays to use generic drugs if at all possible. If you're paying out of pocket, the savings can sometimes be significant. Many prescription drug plans also have a lower co-pay if you use a generic drug. Once again, your doctor can tell if you a generic medicine might be just as effective for your condition.

Many prescription drug plans offer a mail-order program. This can be a convenient, cost-effective source for prescriptions. Often a three-month supply is available for approxi-

mately the same cost as a one-month supply obtained from a local pharmacy.

If you do choose to get your prescription from a local pharmacy, it may not always pay to use your insurance. If, for example, your insurance charges \$15 for any generic drug and the drug normally costs only \$10, ask your pharmacist to process the prescription without your insurance.

Another way to save at a pharmacy is to utilize prescription coupons that often appear in grocery store or mass merchandiser

ads in the newspaper. Often they will give you a \$10 or even \$25 gift certificate to their store if you bring your new or transferred prescription to their pharmacy. Transferring a prescription usually only requires a phone call to the new pharmacy in order to give them the pertinent information.

If affording your medication is still a burden, ask your doctor about programs that pharmaceutical companies offer indigent patients. The doctor's office often has paperwork that can help you apply for this help.

continued from p(9)
5 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR

lifestyle changes or alternative therapies can help.

5. What are the costs? It's important to know if your doctor's recommendations are covered

by your provincial health-care plan, and if not, what percentage you can expect your insurance to reimburse. You also need to know what time and emotional costs

ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

'BLACK PANTHER' BLOCKBUSTER IS TAKING AFRICA BY STORM



By Julius Oyekunle

The African continent is buzzing with the preview of 'Black Panther', a movie with an almost entirely black cast and a young African-American director, Ryan Coogler. A movie which not only depicts being black as strength, but also busts several myths regarding Africa as viewed by select audiences in some African countries. Many believe the film will ignite the pop culture among Africans.

For lovers of comic books, such as Brian Barasa, a 29-year old Kenyan, it is a reminder to his African heritage lost to western adoration. "As I was watching the movie with friends, I remember we all felt part of history. This is beyond a

movie. This is huge," said Brian.

Set in the fictional African country of Wakanda, the film's focus on black protagonists, stories and culture sets it clearly apart from other superhero movies.

But hero T'Challa, the king of Wakanda played by Chadwick Boseman, is not the first black superhero to hit the big screen.

So far "Black Panther" has generated an enthusiastic response from communities in Kenya and Nigeria that are often stereotypically represented on screen.

Superhero fans also appear to appreciate the film's visual qualities, the reproduction of costumes from the original comic and the characters' accents, including local dialects.

GOODBYES

TOP GHANAIAAN ARTIST DIES IN CAR CRASH



By Shalewa Ayodele

Reports coming out of Ghana indicates Reigns and two military officers were on board a Jeep with registration AS 497-16 from Sunyani heading towards Kumasi when it collided with a VIP bus heading towards Sunyani from Kumasi.

The deceased who was returning from Sunyani after a visit was involved in the car accident and died at the Bechem Government Hospital. The incident occurred Thursday, 8th of February where

she was returning to Accra to make preparations for a trip to the US.

Born Priscilla Opoku-Kwarteng, the deceased was born on February 16, 1997. She would have turned 21 on Friday, February 16.

Reigns is a Ghanaian dance hall/Afrobeat artist widely known for her hit songs Poison and Kupe, she was discovered by Bullet, a member of Ruff n Smooth fame and has been touted to be one of the future shining lights in the Ghanaian entertainment industry.

POPULAR PLAYWRIGHT, AKINWUMI ISHOLA IS DEAD



By Shalewa Ayodele

One of Nigeria's shining light in the entertainment industry and popular playwright, dramatist and actor, Prof Akinwumi Ishola has died, aged 79.

Alagba Ishola, who wrote the popular play, Efunsetan Aniwura, when he was a student of the University of Ibadan in 1961, died in Ibadan after age-related ailment according to family sources.

"Baba has gone," said the source, who preferred anonymity because he was not authorised to speak on behalf of the family.

"He had been sick for some time and was getting better. But this morning, he died peacefully. He left a good legacy and his life was a good example for

mankind."

A friend of the deceased and chairman of Kakanfo Inn and Conference Centre, Dr Lekan Are, who also confirmed the demise of the professor of Yoruba and writer of several Yoruba plays, praised Akinwumi for his passion for Yoruba culture, language and tradition, adding the deceased wife called him early to inform him of the actor's demise.

"He delivered lectures in Yoruba language. He wanted the language of Yoruba to feature prominently in our education system but unfortunately, this did not happen in his life time. May his soul rest in peace." Akinwumi is survived by a wife and children. His legacies will continue to outlive him.

SYLVESTER STALLONE BECOMES THE LATEST VICTIM OF A DEATH HOAX



By R.Njeru

Sylvester Stallone recently had to make a post through his Instagram account to stop a rumor that he was dead. An earlier post had claimed that he had died after a long struggle with prostate cancer. Stallone posted a photo of the post and urged his fans to ignore the "stupidity."

The 72-year-old Rocky legend said that he was "Alive, healthy, happy and still punching!" Frank Stallone, his younger brother, also reacted to the false death allegations. Through his Twitter account, Frank bashed the creators of this rumor by calling them "demented, sick and cruel", he even went ahead to suggest that they should

be banished from the civilized society. He said that the hoax was not "cool". Frank also said that his 96-year-old mother was also angry after she heard about the story.

Where does a death hoax come from?

Death hoaxes become a "thing" after web users are duped into believing a rumor that

someone is dead. They are mostly about prominent people and they normally originate from a person or website that decides to spread the rumor.

In this case, the pranksters even posted pictures that showed a very weak Stallone. The rumor started overnight and before morning, it had gone viral all over the internet. In fact, the

American actor must have been very shocked when he woke up to find his loyal fans mourning him.

The internet works in mysterious ways, as all this unfolded; a 2012 video about the death of his son also came back to the limelight. Stallone's name was the most searched and his son's video was BBC's most watched.

In 2016, Stallone was the victim of another death hoax but he did not react. Instead, he chose to continue with his day to day activities until people learnt that he was still alive. He has obviously had enough of this cruel joke this time and that's why he has decided to put the pranksters in their place. The legendary action actor recently appeared in This Is Us; an NBC television series.

Which other people have been victims?

Actor Jackie Chan has also suffered the same fate as Stallone. Jackie, 63, has been "killed" by the internet several times. In 2011, there was a hoax claiming that he had succumbed to cardiac arrest. This rumor forced his representatives to release a statement that confirmed that he was alive and in fact, he was preparing for his next movie.

Despite being alive, the Rush Hour star had more than 50 RIP Facebook pages established to mourn his death.

Death hoaxes aren't new and they even happened before the internet became a big deal. However, the internet has amplified the impact of these rumors. We certainly hope that no other person will be "killed" by the internet.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH - BRITISH STARS DECLARES WAR ON SEXUAL ABUSE

By Shalewa Ayodele

Ace Hollywood actresses have declared that an end must come to sexual harassment. In a communique jointly signed by notable names such as, Emma Thompson, Kristin Scott, Keira Knightley, and Saoirse Ronan, Emma Watson and Kate Winslet, they expressed solidarity with the Time's Up movement in the United States and called for donations to a new "justice and equality fund" for victims of sexual abuse.

"In the very near past, we lived in a world where sexual harassment was an uncomfortable joke; an unavoidable, awkward part of being a girl or a woman. It was certainly not to be discussed, let alone addressed." They stated in the letter to the Observer.

"In 2018, we seem to have woken up in a world ripe for change. If we truly embrace this moment, a line in the sand will turn to stone."

The letter was published ahead of the British Academy Film Awards held recently, where they staged a protest by wearing black in a show of soli-

arity with victims just as was the case at the Golden Globes in January.

"As we approach the Baftas, our industry's time for celebration and acknowledgment, we hope we can celebrate this tremendous moment of solidarity and unity across borders by coming together and making this movement international," the letter further says.

They are of the view that sexual harassment in Hollywood has reached a frightening dimension and it is such an embarrassment to western civilization.

It highlights problems in Britain such as the gender pay gap and the changes to work that make it more insecure in what they termed; Imbalance of Power.

"This movement is intersectional, with conversations across race, class, community, ability and work environment, to talk about the imbalance of power," the letter states.

Around 160 activists and academics have signed a sister letter pledging support for the new fund, which aims to make workplaces safe and support victims of abuse.

BIG BROTHER NAIJA - FANS DISAPPOINTED WITH "BIGGIE"

By Shalewa Ayodele

The bonding week task didn't go as planned as Cee-C and Lolu got involved in a disagreement during the process, thus leading to a stern reaction from "Biggie". Lolu became the scapegoat, leaving many fans fuming over what they call partiality.

Lolu and Cee C were paired and it was glaring they never really jelled. Both Housemates were unimpressed about having each other as partners for the task and they couldn't hide their feelings about it.

Cee-C hit Lolu on his inner thigh after disobeying Biggie by removing the harness. Her anger according to many watchers should have been checked regardless of how annoying Lolu's action was.

The two housemates were faulted and punished by Biggie with two strikes each.

The punishment was received with a lot of backlash from viewers who believe Tobi and Anto who are Cee-C and Lolu's respective strategic partners in the should receive the same punishment because of the rule that goes with the unique theme - DOUBLE WAHALA.

It wasn't all about the two, as Khloe also suffered a strike earlier in the game because of her strategic partner's action. K-Brule jumped and hurt himself under the influence, therefore, breaking "Biggies" rule which restricts housemates from any form of violence including self-harm.

Fans of the show have expressed their discontent with "Biggies" latest punishment. Some fans believe Tobi is being favoured at the expense of Lolu because of his connections with Heritage Bank, one of the major sponsors of the show.

CHILD COMEDIAN FROM NIGERIA LANDS DISNEY ROLE

By R. Njeru

Emmanuella Samuel, Nigeria's youngest child comedian, recently announced that she will be part of a Hollywood movie. The 7-year-old made the announcement through her Instagram page.

She did not announce the nature the film but she revealed that the project was under Disney Studios. In her post, she thanked everyone who had contributed to her success. The caption came together with a picture that showed her recording one of the scenes on set. She even joked about her costume.

It was back in 2016 when the popular Emmanuella rose to international fame after she appeared in a comedy skit called "This Is Not My Real Face Oh". This video went viral on the internet and it was not long before millions of people from all parts of the world fell in love with her because of her true-to-life character.

The viral video was

part of her cousin's production, Mark Angel. Mark Angel has more than 1.7-million subscribers on YouTube. The YouTube channel regularly features Emmanuella, they upload videos weekly. The 2017 YouTube Awards saw Mark Angel Comedy win the award for Best Sub-Saharan Channel.

Emmanuella won the Princess of Comedy award and the Best New Comedian in the Afro-Australian Music and Movie Award (AAMMA), making her the youngest recipient. Her stardom has seen her featured in several ad campaigns in Nigeria. Her net worth is believed to be in the millions. Her brilliance doesn't end there, she also happens to be one of Nigeria's most influential child entertainers.

After she made her announcement, many fans congratulated her for being a trend setter. Nigerians in particular expressed their pride in her achievements; they argued that her role in Hollywood would make



all her doubters eat their words. In her Instagram post, she said that she did not think that Hollywood would come knocking so soon.

Emmanuella Samuel has done so many things

with her life that it is almost unbelievable that she is still 7! We are certain that she will continue putting smiles on the faces of millions of people from different parts of the world.

5 FUN FACTS ABOUT BEAUTIFUL WORLD



(NC) Imagine a world where everyone has equal access to education. That is the vision behind Beautiful World Canada, a non-profit fighting for women's education in Uganda, Rwanda and Sierra Leone.

Beautiful World provides scholarships to women and girls pursuing higher education, but they also do so much more. In honour of International Development Week, check out this list of five fun facts about Beautiful World:

1. Comprehensive scholarships. Beautiful World recognizes that there are more school expenses than just tuition. That's why their scholarships also cover the costs of transportation, housing, school materials and personal supplies.

2. Direct giving. 100 per cent of online donations go directly towards funding student scholarships. This means that if you donate, you know your money is

going directly to helping women and girls build better lives for themselves.

3. Local partners. Beautiful World works in equal partnership with teams on the ground in each country. Local leaders serve as a more direct contact for students, which helps ensure that their needs are being met.

4. High pass rate. At Beautiful World, student success is of the upmost importance. That is why 97 per cent of their students complete their higher education programs. Finishing school not only helps girls get higher paying jobs, but also boosts their morale and confidence.

5. In-country education. All Beautiful World students study within their home country. Remaining close to home places less stress on students. It allows young women to invest in their communities so that the benefits of their education are far-reaching.

HOW TO BE A GLOBAL CITIZEN

(NC) This February, Canada celebrates its 28th annual International Development Week. The week marks a time to reflect on how Canadians can be better global citizens by helping people and countries in need. If you are interested in becoming more globally engaged, the easiest and most effective thing you can do is support an international charity. Follow these steps to become a more charitable global citizen during this week:

Research. The world is a large, complicated place. Before you decide how you want to spend your money, do some research on current global issues. In the process, you might learn things you didn't already know about

international politics and history.

Pick a charity. After you have completed your research, choose an organization that suits your interests and concerns. If you are passionate about women's issues, consider a group like Beautiful World Canada, an organization that provides scholarships to women in sub-Saharan Africa. Tell your friends. After you have donated, make sure to tell your loved ones about the organization you chose. They might also be interesting in giving or volunteering. And even if they don't have money to spare right now, they can help spread the word about the important work that so many Canadian non-profits are doing overseas.



SPORTS

PSL: AFRIDI, USMAN KHAN POWER KARACHI KINGS TO THIRD STRAIGHT VICTORY



By Daniel Forrester

Karachi Kings 159/7 in 20 overs (Ravi Bopara 50; Sunil Narine 2-18) beat Lahore Qalandars 132 in 18.3 overs (Brendon McCullum 44; Shahid Afridi 3-19, Usman Khan 3-26) by 27 runs

Shahid Afridi & Usman Khan put on fine bowling performances as Karachi Kings overcame Lahore Qalandars to record their third successive victory in PSL 2018. The trioka of Tymal Mills, Mohammad Irfan Jnr and Imad Wasim chipped in with wickets too as Qalandars failed to make use of the start that Brendon McCullum gave them in chase. The 27-run loss was Qalandars' third on the

bounce.

Despite Sunil Narine's second-ball exit, Qalandars were flying in chase through a blazing stand between McCullum and Fakhar Zaman that fetched them 69 runs in the 38 balls following the fall of the first wicket. However, once Afridi broke the stand by dismissing Zaman, there was a brief procession. Qalandars went from 70/1 to 91/5 in the space of 22 balls. Later Usman Khan blew away the tail and ensured a win with 9 balls to spare.

Earlier Ravi Bopara played a vital knock. Karachi Kings were tottering at 117/7 before the England batsman's late surge gave them a defendable total.

CAROLINE BUCHANAN: OLYMPIC CYCLIST INJURED IN CAR CRASH



By Julius Oyekunle

Two-time Olympian and world cycling champion Caroline Buchanan has suffered serious injuries in a car accident in her native Australia.

Buchanan, 27, posted an image on Instagram of herself in hospital with a bloodied face and wearing a neck brace.

Local media reported the accident involved a single vehicle and happened in New South Wales, but further details

were not yet clear.

A post shared by Caroline Buchanan Action Sport (@cbuchanan68) on Jan 2, 2018 at 1:42am PST End of Instagram post by cbuchanan68 Buchanan has three BMX and five mountain bike world titles, and competed in the 2012 and 2016 Olympics.

Most recently she took out the mountain bike 4-cross world title in August and was named Canberra's female athlete of the year in November.

BOLT TO PLAY AT OLD TRAFFORD



By Daniel Forrester

Usain Bolt has revealed which football team he has signed for after announcing he will play at Soccer Aid 2018 at Old Trafford.

The fanatical Manchester United fan, and fastest man on the planet, will captain the 'Rest of the World' XI against Robbie Williams' 'England' side on Sunday, June 10.

Soccer Aid has previously featured such footballing luminaries as Diego Maradona, Zinedine Zidane and Peter Schmeichel, along with celebs such as Will Ferrell, Woody Harrelson and James McAvoy.

"It is my dream to make it as a professional footballer, so to be able to step out onto the pitch at

Old Trafford in June, and play against some of football's biggest legends is going to be remarkable," Bolt said.

"I enjoy the thrill of competition in front of a crowd, so Robbie and his England team better watch out as I won't be going easy on them!

"I've got a pretty special celebration planned for when I score, by the way.

"My team is going to be unbeatable – and Soccer Aid for Unicef is counting on your support to make a difference to thousands of children around the world. Come and join in the fun!" Bolt had signalled his intention to play for the Red Devils and has now joined Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa after an illustrious athletic career.

AMIR KHAN THROWS WATER AT OPPONENT



By Daniel Forrester

Amir Khan reacted to taunts about his personal life by throwing water over his future opponent Phil Lo Greco as the pair clashed at the press conference promoting their April 21 match.

Khan is returning to the ring for the first time in almost two years after a period of well-publicised marital difficulties as well as a spell in the "I'm a Celebrity" jungle on TV.

Lo Greco, who has won 28 of his 31 fights, mocked Khan's career trajectory, insisting he had been on a "losing streak" in and out of the ring since losing his last fight against Saul "Canelo" Alvarez in May 2016.

Khan responded by splashing water towards Lo Greco at the Liverpool press conference, prompting security to intervene before Khan insisted he would take the bout as seriously as ever.

NO PLANS TO RELOCATE OTTAWA SENATORS – MELYNK



By Daniel Forrester

Ottawa Senators owner Eugene Melnyk has made it clear he has no plans to relocate the NHL club and remains committed to bringing a Stanley Cup to the city.

Last month, Melnyk raised the idea of a move during the city's festivities to mark the NHL's 100th anniversary, saying "if it doesn't look good here, it could look very, very nice somewhere else." A statement which enraged most of the fans.

"That hit a nerve in Ottawa that really kind of exploded and it wasn't meant to hit the nerve of the city," Melnyk stated in a recent interview. "There's no thought in my mind (of relocation).

"There's no reason it can't work in Ottawa. You've got to just find the right solution and we can do that."

All he aims to do is getting things right and chat a new course for the team, which would make it compete for trophies in the future.

Despite some speculation around Ottawa, Melnyk also said he has no intention of selling the club.

A new downtown arena will be crucial to the Senators' success going forward. Ottawa's current home, the Canadian Tire Centre, is located 30 minutes outside the downtown core and inaccessible by public transportation. Hockey fans have complained for years about the inconvenience of the rink.

"It's critical," Melnyk said. "I think (Ottawa can survive in the NHL), without doubt, but it has to go forward with the arena project."

Melnyk's RendezVous LeBreton Group and the National Capital Commission reached an agreement in principle to redevelop LeBreton Flats, a 21-hectare patch of land beside Ottawa's core. The bid's crown jewel is a state-of-the-art NHL arena but also includes a community centre, 4,000 housing units, a school and public space.

The development has a reported \$4-billion price tag that includes tens of millions allocated to the cleaning up of contaminated soil. Melnyk estimates the arena is still 3 1/2 years away from completion but the team might have to weather the storm in the meantime.

NIGERIA UNVEIL 2018 WORLD CUP KITS

By Daniel Forrester

Nigeria's new kits for the 2018 World Cup in Russia have been revealed as the Super Eagles gear up for this summer's tournament in Russia.

The Nigerian Football Federation launched the country's kits for the championship in London earlier in February.

The jerseys designed by Nike, feature the home kits that pay tribute to Nigeria '94 shirt which was

worn by the first Nigerian team to qualify for the World Cup - with eagle wing-inspired black-and-white sleeve and green torso while the away kits boast of the full green strip in a classic fashion.

Gernot Rohr's men will wear the shirts for the first time on March 23 when they face Poland in a friendly in Warsaw before the commencement of their World Cup campaign against Croatia at the Kalinigrad Stadium on June 16.

MY INITIATION INTO 'IFA' AND HOW ANCESTORS CONTACTED ME TO GO BACK TO MY AFRICAN ROOT – YVONNE DRAKE



Yvonne 'Ifatoki' Drake (Grenadian)

Yvonne 'Ifatoki' Drake was born in Grenada, grew up in Trinidad and migrated to Canada. The seventy one-year-old shares the story of her encounters into the supernatural, her quest to trace her root to Yoruba land (Ibadan) and how she intends to take IFA tradition to the global stage. Speaking with NCNC correspondent, Julius Oyekunle, she narrated her experience and challenges and the need for a strong and unwavering cultural identity among blacks.

Who is Yvonne Drake?

Despite being born in the Caribbean Island of Grenada, I grew up in an environment where the African heritage was still very much in display. Even when I migrated to Canada, I still very much loved myself in my skin. I believe the question we

all must ask ourselves especially as Africans is Who Am I? If we understand who we are, we can showcase our heritage to the outside world.

Why are you going back to your root?

Well, growing up has been challenging, yet I was fully aware of my background and who I was at an early stage. At the age of thirteen, I had an encounter on my sick bed and it was right there I had a vision of a man wearing a brown gown with a brown belt. He held a glass of water and herbs in his hands and gave me. After taking it, I rose from the sick bed totally healed. I told my mother what had happened and we were delighted. This was a landmark event into the experience of the supernatural. An incident that will later turn out as a starting point to search from within who

I really was and I'm happy I found that out.

I guess the herbs giving to you include the cure for HIV AIDS and Cancer?

There is already a cure for such diseases and I am certainly sure that pharmaceutical companies making money from research are the ones frustrating efforts to make drugs accessible. You see, when it comes to issues such as this, I can become radical. The spread of the HIV virus is, in fact' another means by some folks to exploit Africa.

Do you mean you already have a cure for AIDS?

I wouldn't say that but the ancestors can reveal so many things to us which can be frustrated by those who wish to make money through it.

How did you get to know that you are a Princess from Yorubaland?

Through the ancestors and of course, my Grandmother and aunt had passed on the tradition to me. That was why I decided to visit Ibadan, South west Nigeria last year to trace my ancestral roots.

Did the Ancestors speak to you?

The ancestors had always paid me a visit and have spoken to me on several occasions. I receive instructions from them just as we hear each other on phone. They have chosen me as the next in line to take up the spiritual mantle and pass it on.

As a Catholic, don't you think there's a conflict between the traditional forms of religion as practiced in Africa and Catholicism?

Studying Theology has helped me understand the various aspects of religion and that has allowed me to understand that God appears in different forms.

He chose to come to me through my ancestors and if that is the case, I am not ashamed to identify with my root. My knowledge or experiences into the supernatural has, in fact, made me a better Catholic.

Would you describe IFA as fetish and evil as many Christians would think?

My initiation was a pleasant one. I have heard a lot of negative words against African traditional religious forms, however, for me, it was about prayers. I was given the opportunity to ask 'olodumare' all I wanted and it was a really soothing experience.

How would you describe your visit to Africa?

I felt a spiritual connection and a deep sense of belonging. I knew I belonged here and like I said, I'm proud of myself in this skin. Swaziland was another country that really gave me that spiritual connection. The way the government is formed – involving the King, Queen's mother and the queen really made me feel at home. Nigeria is another world on its own, but I enjoyed the hospitality of the Ibadan people.

Why are Africans losing it when it comes to identifying with their culture?

I think what many in the black community lack is cultural identity. There are quite a number of things that are good about us and we must never allow ourselves to be traded again. Slavery was bad enough, we should not allow ourselves to be sold again. Promoting our heritage shouldn't be about selling it. We must instead protect it. If you are not proud of who you are and understand your purpose for being part of a society, your existence may just have been defeated.

You are planning to organize IFA Festival come July this year, what should we be expecting?

IFA festival will be held in Grenada in July and the aim is to showcase the essence of IFA and the beauty of the 'Orisa' to the world. It is going to be a period of cultural re-awakening in the Caribbean country. IFA was the tool which God used in speaking to our ancestors and He still speaks to us today.

How are Grenadians taking the message?

Of course, they are quite aware but there's



Yvonne 'Ifatoki' Drake and High Chief Ifakolade Antinumo in Lagos, March 2017.

still the need for a lot of people to fully understand and see the need to pass the tradition especially in a way that gives our culture much relevance than it is today.

You said your mandate through your encounter was that you are to feed the nations, how have you been able to do that?

I am devoted to charity and of course, I'm an active community person. I have used the challenges of my life to encourage and inspire others. No matter the challenges we face, there's always a way out if we know how to pray. I have a room within my house to reinforce that inner strength and that's where things happen.

What about your family?

I am married and by the grace of God, I have 5 children, three of which I adopted. ("part of feeding the nation too," interviewer interrupts. Yes, feeding the nation. I'm really glad for the family I have. I am 71 years of age and people still can't believe it. God has been my strength.

What message do you have for those who seem ashamed by their root and are not willing to associate with it?

Well, I am comfortable with my skin color and they should too. We've been robbed at some point in history, we can't afford to get robbed again and again.



L-R: Alaceion Sylvester and Yvonne 'Ifatoki' Drake (Grenadians) and friends



L-R: Alaceion Sylvester and Yvonne 'Ifatoki' Drake (Grenadians) and friends

RELIGION

LIFE AND TIMES OF
BILLY GRAHAM (1918-2018)

By Julius Oyekunle

Eldest of four children of Morrow (nee Coffey) and William Franklin Graham Sr., he was born on a dairy farm outside Charlotte, North Carolina, then a poor, hard-pressed rural area. His family was strict Presbyterians, rigorous and righteous. They lost their savings in a bank collapse during the Depression. Childhood treats for Billy were being given a calf to raise and take to market, having a home-made crystal radio receiver and driving a goat cart.

His religious upbringing was strict. At 16 he went forward to commit himself at a Southern Baptist mission and later spoke in a jail about his experience of conversion. Part-time work as a brush salesman led him to try to give "a hard sell about Christ, as much as about Fuller's brushes". He studied at a series of evangelical colleges, including Wheaton College, Illinois, where he met Ruth McCue Bell, whom he married in 1943. In 1944, he became a full-time evangelist for the American



Youth for Christ campaign. The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, from which he drew a modest salary, was set up in 1950 (and is now headed by his son, Franklin).

As a child, he had mixed with black workers on his father's farm and on a crusade at Chattanooga in 1953, he removed the customary ropes that separated white people from black people – the white head usher at the crusade resigned. He also refused to visit South Africa until apartheid regulations were lifted from his meetings, and said: "Christianity is not a white man's religion ... Christ belongs to all people."

He advised US presidents from Truman to Obama. Watergate memoirs

revealed his bitter-sweet relationship with Nixon, who told a trusting Graham that "he believed the Bible from end to end".

To Graham, "Watergate was a brief parenthesis" and he seemed more worried by Nixon's language than by his dishonesty. But when Ronald Reagan asked him for an endorsement in 1980, Graham said: "Ron, I can't do that. I think it would hurt us both." Winston Churchill in 1954 had confessed to Graham stating; "I am a man without hope," while talking about life after death.

In 2001, he was invited to the British embassy in Washington for the ambassador, on behalf of the Queen, to award him an honorary knight-

hood. His simple vision of the Christian gospel and his absolute conviction of the truth of Christianity remained among the positive religious memories of many millions.

He conducted more than 400 crusades around the world, preaching to millions of people. He was one of the first western Christian leaders to speak in Hungary, then in Poland and Russia. In 1973, more than a million people attended the closing ceremony of his crusade in Seoul, South Korea. He gained access, with great difficulty, to China in 1988 and North Korea four years later. It was his famous Graham's rule that has helped many young pastors overcome sexual immoralities and avoid scandal. Vice President, Mike Pence also subscribes to this rule, where a married man is not supposed to engage with another woman privately without the wife's presence.

His wife, Ruth, died in 2007; he is survived by their three daughters, Virginia, Anne and Ruth, and two sons, Franklin and Ned.

I REGRET TAKING
PROSPERITY
GOSPEL TOO FAR
-BENNY HINN

By Shalewa Ayodele

Now that the renowned evangelist Billy Graham has passed on, a controversial faith-healing televangelist Benny Hinn, who has often been criticized for his endorsement of the prosperity gospel, said in a stunning confession recently, that sometimes he has taken the erroneous gospel too far.

"We get attacked for preaching prosperity, well it's in the Bible, but I think some have gone to the extreme with it sadly, and it's not God's word what is taught and I think I'm as guilty as others. Sometimes you go a little farther than you really need to go and then God brings you back to normality and reality," Hinn, 65, said as he reflected on Graham's death with a ministry colleague.

He admitted that as he has grown older and come to understand the

Bible more, he now realizes that some of the things he learned from preachers when he was growing up aren't biblical and the popular interpretation of the prosperity gospel and that they can obtain these blessings through positive confessions of faith and the "sowing of seeds" through the faithful payments of tithes and offerings is one of those things.

The more you know the Bible the more you become biblically based and more balanced in your opinions and your thoughts because we are influenced. When I was younger I was influenced by the preachers who taught whatever they taught. But as I've lived longer I'm thinking to wait a minute, you know this doesn't fit totally with the Bible and it doesn't fit with the reality. So what is prosperity? No lack. I've said this before," Hinn hinted.

continued on p(47)

CATHOLIC CHURCH
RECONCILES WITH CAN

By Shalewa Ayodele

After about five years absence due to alleged misunderstanding that was later described as political, the Catholic Church has announced its return to the Christian Association of Nigeria.

The return was reportedly perfected in a meeting held at Abuja when a delegation of the Catholic Bishops in Nigeria led by Rev. Fr. (Prof.) Cornelius Omonokhua, appeared at the expanded National Executive Committee and quarterly meeting of CAN for the amendment of its Constitution.

The withdrawal of Catholic Church from CAN occurred in September 2012, when the bishops conference formally announced its divorce through a written letter.

The President of CAN, Dr. Samson Ayokunle, according to a statement issued recently



Rev. Fr. (Prof.) Cornelius Omonokhua

by his Special Assistant (Media & Communications), Adebayo Oladeji, expressed delights about the new development.

He said, "Their return is one of the best things that have been happening since I was given the mandate to become the President of CAN.

One of my visions for CAN is to bring our Catholic brothers and sisters back to the fold; and I must acknowledge the support and understanding of my brother in Christ, Most Rev Ignatius Kaigama, President, Cath-

olic Bishops' Conference of Nigeria and his team.

I give kudos to all the principal officers, the directors and some Christian leaders in the country for their support and understanding while the dialogue lasted.

My joy knows no bound with the presence of the CSN at the constitution amendment meeting of CAN also recently held.

It is our prayers that the Body of Christ in the country will remain one forever in Jesus name.

Rev. Ayokunle further stated, "at a time like this when Christians are almost becoming endangered species in Nigeria, when churches are being denied the Certificate of Occupancy especially in the core North, when Christians are being denied key public offices and when the Church is expected to speak for the voiceless, especially over the economic and social hardship in our country,

we cannot afford to be at war with one another."

CAN' Director of Legal issues, Kwankur Samuel, said the organisation was working on the new constitution to ensure that CAN has an effective internal mechanism to address any misunderstanding among its members.

We are all happy with the return of the CSN. Our strength lies in our unity.

We are all happy with this new development. Now, the Body of Christ in Nigeria is one, virile and strong. We can now speak with one voice.

With their return, CAN is even now stronger and greater. We have learnt one lesson or two from the challenges that led to their withdrawal.

Never again will any of the blocks withdraw its membership, he stated." The CAN President concluded.

CATHOLIC PRIEST
WHO DUMPED
CATHOLIC CHURCH
SET TO MARRY

By Shalewa Ayodele

The Nigerian priest, Patrick Edet who a year ago announced on a live program that he was resigning from the Catholic Church, is set to marry.

Since July 2017, Mr. Edet has been running his own church, the Grace Family, since he left the Catholic fold.

He had been a Catholic priest for more than 11 years.

A source close to Edet during his priesthood years posted on social media, "I have been fuming about people trying to make news out of no news. Let the guy live his life for God's sake, another Catholic priest. Some are of the opinion that Edet's presumptuous attitude is all a publicity stunt.

When Mr. Edet announced his resignation from Catholic Church," he said "I ceased to be a Catholic priest in my thinking,

in my spirit, in my soul, (and) in my body.

In my mind, every law that bound me bound me because I submitted myself to the Catholic Church as an institution.

Having submitted my resignation letter to my authorities in the Catholic Church, in my spirit, soul and body, I am free from every law that guided me. I submit myself to one authority God.

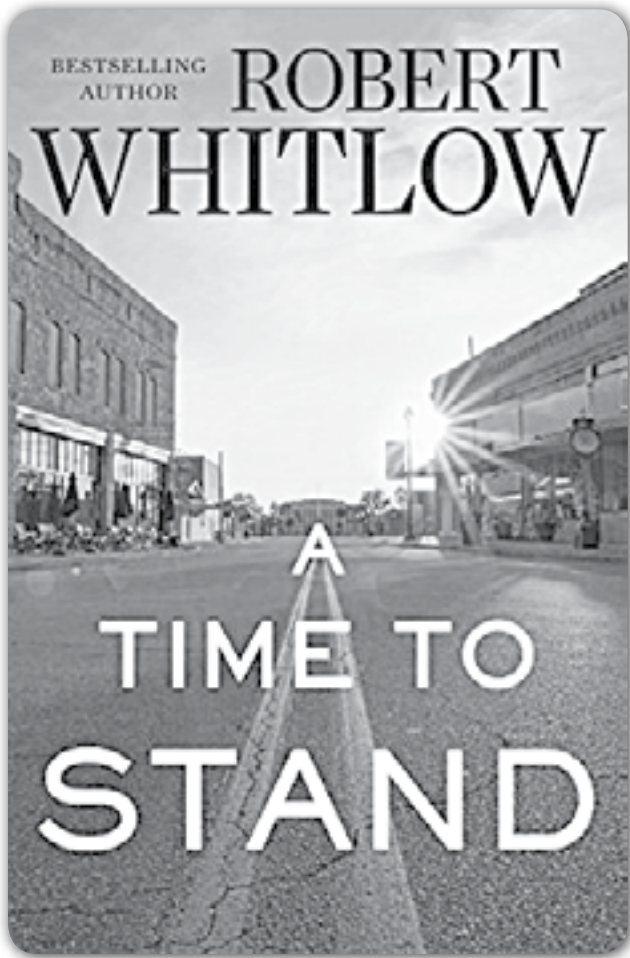
The reason I am doing this is that I want to be right with God first. I want to go to heaven when I die," he had said in 2017.

He also stated that being a Catholic priest didn't give him enough space to serve God, "A box is already made for you and you cannot go outside that box. You cannot know God beyond that box. You cannot express God beyond that box. And any attempt for you to go beyond that box brings you label," he said.

**RELIGIOUS BOOKS
EDITOR'S PICK
FICTION & NON FICTION BOOKS**

Get the necessary spiritual guide for the year through inspirational stories from our collection of religious books. Be inspired, receive insight and revelation into the supernatural through carefully crafted writings that resonate hope and builds courage. For this month's book collection, it's more than reading, you are about to go on a voyage of discovery.

**A TIME TO STAND
BY ROBERT WHITLOW**



Whenever lives are at stake, and injustice prevails, cowardice is no longer a virtue. A Time to Stand is a reminder of the struggles of blacks to alter and change the status quo.

Adisa Johnson may not have seen it all as a lawyer until she would have to defend a teen shot by a Police officer in the US. As the court case unfolds, everyone in the small community must confront their own prejudices. Caught in the middle, Adisa also tries to chart her way along a path complicated by her budding relationship with a charismatic young preacher who leads the local movement demanding the police officer answer for his crime. When two people with common interest gel, Justice can prevail.

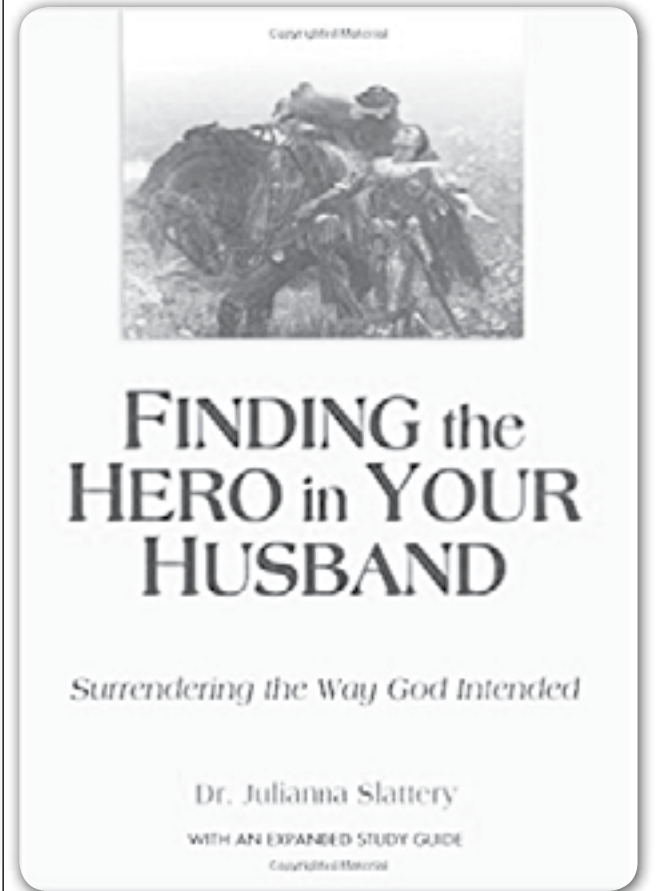
**BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND:
WINNING THE BATTLE IN
YOUR MIND
BY JOYCE MEYER**



Joyce Meyer has once again delivered a message of hope and courage to the feeble minded. Learn how to win the battle of the mind through faith in God.

Depression, fears, doubts, worries, reproach and shame can become a thing of the past when we trust God through His Word that strengthens the inner man. We can do greater things if we let go of worries.

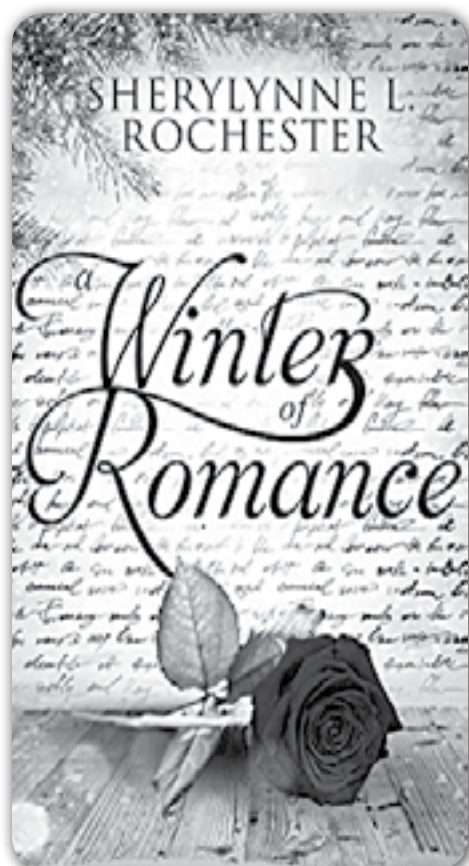
**FINDING THE HERO
IN YOUR HUSBAND:
SURRENDERING THE WAY
GOD INTENDED
BY JULIANNA SLATTERY**



Marriage still works and that's possible if we do it God's own way. Wives and husbands can get it right if they see marriage from God's stand point.

The book offers practical help to women and educates them on how God wants them to relate with their husbands. It moves far away from civilization and its "evil" doctrines to what ought to be.

**A WINTER OF
ROMANCE:
A STORY OF FAITH,
HOPE, AND LOVE
FOR THIS WINTER
BY SHERYLYNNE L. ROCHESTER**



Raging storms in life can end in joy as we learn from this amazing story. Love always wins.

Addison's sister had left her suddenly without the hope of a breakthrough. She would have to raise a boy that was never hers even against her love life.

She declines the advances from her basketball coach. God had other plans for the both of them as both her nephew and Isaac became one....except for the stories in her secret journal.

**IF WE COULD DO
IT AGAIN KINDLE
EDITION**

BY A. MARIE JOHNSON

A story of love gone sour, yet ending in a magical way. Our stories and relationships can take a dramatic turn as you are about to find out from this steamy romance.

Noni Clark never imagined living her life without Noble Preston by her side until she had to. The love story from high school sweethearts, Noble Preston and Noni Clark came to an unwanted end when Noble graduated and moved to California, leaving her behind in their hometown. Noni finished her final year of high school without Noble until love happens again after long years of disappearance.

It will require more than strong will to make No I fall back into Noble's sexy arms again.



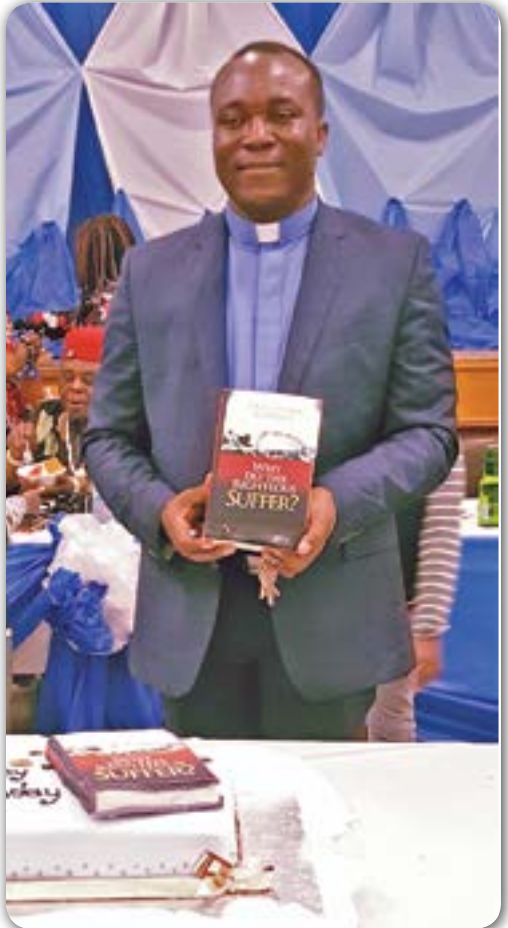
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BOOKS AVAILABLE AT THE TORONTO & MISSISSAUGA PUBLIC LIBRARIES

FR. CHARLES'S BOOK LAUNCH WHY DO THE RIGHTEOUS SUFFER? JAN. 20, 2018



L-R: Mabel, June, Ngozi, Jean, Cora, Seline and Hanlan
Father's friends from Rose of Lima C.C. Scarborough and St. Peter & Paul C.C., Miss.

David Sax



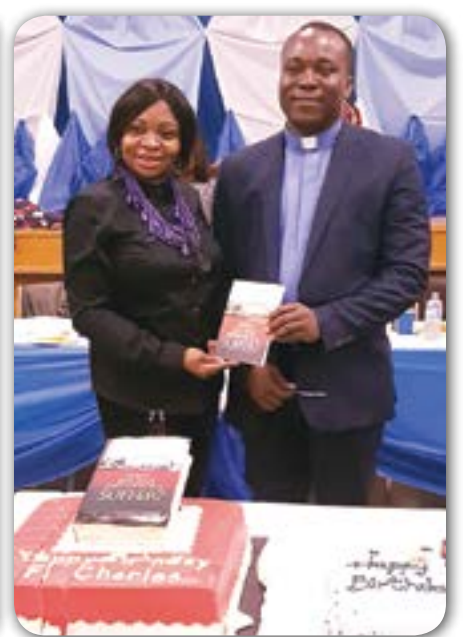
Father Charles Ogugbuaja - Author



Celestina, Ngozi (MC) and Margaret



Ugo, Tasie and Ify Okorie



Fr. Charles Ogugbuaja and Ngozi Ugoh

In Memoriam



Catherine Houeto, Nee Ebu

February 25th, 1963 to February 22nd, 2011

*In loving memory of a dear friend, mother, grandmother, aunt
who has been sadly missed for seven years.
Forever in our hearts and with love always.*

Friend - Ngozi Ugoh

INAUGURATION



OganiRu Umunwanyi Igbo
Canada Inc.

ONUIC

(a.k.a. Igbo Women Progress)

Date: Saturday, April 14th, 2018
Time: 8:00pm - 3:30am
Venue: The Birches
(Latvian Canadian Cultural Centre)
4 Credit Union Drive
Toronto ON M4A2N8

R.S.V.P.:

- Mrs. Margret Nwosu - (416) 951-0628
- Ms. Ego Azodoh - (647) 831-7749
- Mrs. Nkiru Ejiofor - (647) 328-5825
- Lolo (Mrs.) Amaka Eke - (647) 677-6054

continued from p(11)
ONTARIO TRANSFORMING ...

rehabilitate and reintegrate individuals in custody. The implementation of this fundamental transformation of adult correctional services will be phased in as soon as possible based on system readiness and the appropriate supports being in place.

QUICK FACTS

- There are currently 25 provincially run adult correctional facilities in Ontario. The average number

of adults in custody across the province in 2017 was 7,584.

- In Ontario, provincially run adult correctional facilities house inmates 18 years of age or older who are sentenced to terms of imprisonment of two years less a day.

- In carrying out its correctional services mandate, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services also has

jurisdiction over adults who are serving terms of probation of up to three years, conditional sentences of up to two years less a day, those under parole supervision, adults on remand awaiting trial or sentencing, and adults held for immigration hearing or deportation.

- The proposed legislation will replace the Ministry of Correctional Services Act and outlines the

continued from p(25)
PATERNITY TESTING...

in sexual health especially in Nigeria suggest that unprotected sex and multiple partners' relationships are a common occurrence. Another issue is poor family planning among women. Most first born pregnancies are still unplanned.

"I have seen and discussed with women who for one reason or other decide in their own wisdom to give another man's child to their husbands without the husband's knowledge.

"As a geneticist, I deal on a daily basis with the fall-out of adultery and other manifestations of selfish behaviour of spouses to their partners. Reproductive deception is morally similar to rape," he said.

Naturally, when a case of paternity dispute arises in a family, relatives, husbands are quick to accuse the woman. It is assumed that a mother should be able to accurately disclose who the biological father of her child is.

However, Salami noted that only a DNA test could be used to confirm who fathered a child.

According to him, more babies are increasingly being switched without their mothers' knowledge by nurses, birth attendants and health workers in hospitals.

He noted that baby switches were happening at a disturbing rate in Nigerian hospitals and the geneticist attributed these mix-ups to avoidable errors or malfeasance.

Salami condemned the use of corresponding ID bracelets between mothers and their babies, the most prevalent method in Nigerian hospitals, which he said, often lead to mix-ups since such bracelets could fall off babies' ankles or wrists and lead to nurses misreading infants to mothers' bracelet information.

Apart from the ID mix-ups, he said bed mix-ups by health workers often happen especially in general wards especially after babies have been removed for bathing or treatment.

Salami, sharing an experience said, "I witnessed a case where a friend gave birth to a child and I went

to visit, only for the father who was present at the delivery of the baby to come back to the hospital in the evening to say, to the surprise of everyone present that the baby the hospital presented was not his baby because his baby was born with dreadlocks just like him.

"He had to escort the doctors to identify his baby inside one of the cribs. This happened right inside one of the biggest and well known hospitals in Ikeja, Lagos.

"In the light of some of these shortcomings, we encourage maternal DNA testing because if we exclude her, we have established a case of infidelity against her, whereas her baby was switched at the hospital."

He also urged mothers who doubt or suspect that their babies have been switched to voice their concerns as such cases could be investigated and documented for future references.

"Many people get home and look at a child and wonder if they brought home the right baby. In some reported cases, mothers have voiced their concerns while at the hospital, but did not get the chance to find out the truth until years later through DNA tests.

"To an ordinary person, this may look rare or even sound strange as most cases of babies switched at birth are either undocumented or unknown," Salami added.

However, as beneficial as paternity DNA testing is, the importance of the DNA testing is still unpopular and often times regarded as irrelevant in Nigeria.

Salami said that most Nigerians often use physical resemblance to fathers as a test of paternity.

"Unfortunately, Nigerians still use physical attributes to determine the paternity of a child. We have seen numerous cases where a child resembles a father, but accurate DNA test results show that such child and father are not related.

"Determination of paternity using physical attributes has led to a situation where illegitimate children

have caused untold hardships to families," he explained.

Shedding more light on the importance of the test as a means of identification, a haematologist with the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Idi-Araba, who pleaded an anonymity because he is not the hospital's official spokesperson, called on government to provide DNA testing and banking (storing) facilities.

He said with these facilities, families could still make DNA verification after parties involved are dead.

Olowoshelu said a sample of the deceased tissues that had been stored could be used and if no biological samples from the alleged father are available, grand parentage testing could be a viable option.

"If one or both paternal grandparents are unavailable for testing, other family relationship tests—such as genetic reconstructions and siblings' tests, using the deceased brothers or sisters may be performed to indirectly determine a child's paternity," he said.

Earlier, Salami stated that poor DNA profiling and documentation due to lack of facilities and personnel had made this procedure a luxury to many Nigerians. He noted that such stored samples could help solve legal and financial disputes.

"Nigerians must take DNA testing and profiling and banking seriously. There are different reasons to establish paternity including the need to lay claims to a financial support.

"Government must provide DNA testing facilities such that we can have reference DNA for individuals should their remains need to be identified especially for those in high-risk employment such as the military, police, pilots, air hostesses and even those that fly the Nigerian airspace on regular basis.

"We can bank their DNA as a reference in cases of future paternity tests should some parties contest or make claims on inheritances that are not theirs," he said.

Source: Punch

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islative changes are part of the government's commitment to the long-term transformation of the cor-

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Source: newsroom@ontario.ca

continued from p(44)
I REGRET TAKING PROSPERITY ...

He then elaborated on how he believes "no lack" should be interpreted.

"Did Elijah the prophet have a car? No. Did not even have a bicycle. He had no lack ... Did Jesus drive a car or live in a mansion? No. He had no lack. How about the apostles? None lacked among them," Hinn said. "Today, the idea is abundance and palatial homes and cars and bank accounts. The focus is wrong ... It's so wrong."

He said even though he has been accused of living lavishly and flying private jets in the past, that is not how he currently lives.

"I mean forgive me. People have accused me of things that aren't even real. One guy wrote a comment 'Oh he's worth 40 million.' Oh, how I wish. I would give it all to the Kingdom before God Almighty," he said.

"Well he flies private jets," he continued mimicking criticism. "No, I don't. I have not flown private in dear God years. I fly commercial just like anyone else...."

We all sadly make the mistake of thinking that this is what God wants and God says 'No, that's not what I want.' It's time to live biblically. You know it all comes down to one thing. Do we love Jesus, yes or no? If we love Jesus then it's all about Jesus. If we don't love Jesus then it's about other things," he said.

Hinn was one of six televangelists who were part of US Senate inquiry questioning the personal use of church-owned airplanes, luxury homes and credit cards by pastors and their families, and expressed concern about the lack of oversight of finances by boards often packed with the televangelists' relatives

and friends. Hinn's World Healing Center Church and Joyce Meyer Ministries were the only two ministries that fully cooperated with the investigation and even implemented financial reforms.

Hinn, who was born into a Christian family in Israel, has repeatedly been accused of being a fraud and criticized for living extravagantly while leading a ministry that rakes in more than \$100 million annually.

"I think if I was fooling the people, over 35 years of it now, I would have been caught already fooling them," he told the network.

"As has been widely reported, Benny Hinn Ministries is cooperating fully with the governmental entities that are reviewing certain operations of the Church. The ministry has undergone intense scrutiny over the years, and we remain confident that there will again be a positive and speedy outcome in the days ahead," his ministry said.

As a pastor, Hinn also said he wants his life to end right with God according to a source close to Benny for over 30 years.

"We all want to finish right," he said of pastors. "We all start right. Sometimes we, you know, stumble here and stumble there, but when you come right down to it, we all want to finish right. I'm 65 years old, I surely don't want to blow it at this point in my life and I thank you for praying for me. I really mean that."

Hinn, who began the conversation by reminding his audience of a prophesy he made in 1989 that the deaths of his mentor, Oral Roberts, and Billy Graham would bring about a great revival, said since both

men are now dead, the revival has now been set in motion.

"What we are gonna see is a revival. Three things are going to happen, there's no doubt in my heart and mind because it's in the Bible. If you look at the Old and New Testament you'll see three things happening always at the same time. Number one, evangelism. What was the first thing that happened in the book of Acts? People saved," he responded. "The second thing, miracles, people healed. But the third thing was what? Prosperity. ... Here we are in this season. We're gonna see amazing things happen in those areas of our lives and get ready for your children to be saved in a big way, your families to be saved in a big way, loved ones respond to the Lord in a big way."

He also pointed out that Christians across the world are being persecuted and that American Christians have been spared "up to now" but he wasn't sure if "we will be spared for a whole lot longer."

"I am really praying. I want persecution to come for my sake 'cause I want to get purer before the Lord ... I think persecution ... like fire purifies," he said.

"The early church was persecuted. There is no respecter of persons and persecution is a part of our life. All who live godly will suffer persecution and we've been spared in America but things already are turning against us. No, you know what? For us, that's really a better way to say it. They're against us in the natural but who cares the natural? Think what God will do with it for our lives. What glory it will bring, the power it will bring," Hinn said.

continued from p(21)
MY HUSBAND DIED ...

he had you back entirely to himself, he's being asked to share and (in his eyes) lose another parent. You say you've pulled together as a team these past 12 months and that may well be contributing to his opposition to your relationship. He's got used to being the man in your life at a time when you've all been emotionally weakened, so I've no doubt it's a terrifying prospect to cede that position. In his eyes I'm sure it leaves him alone and unprotected.

You must enjoy this new partnership prospect with impunity, but I wouldn't be surprised if your son's angst wasn't partly fuelled by your own tripi-

dation. Kids smell our fear and foibles better than we imagine and I suspect your boy has sniffed out a spot of guilt and therefore vulnerability. His opposition will one day be a source of humour, but for now consider the actor Ben Whishaw's ground-breaking portrayal of Hamlet some years ago, a snivelling myopic adolescent deranged and derailed by his father's death and his perceived abandonment by his mother. At the moment your son is a person to pity and protect, but not to pivot your life around. I suggest you remain patient while continuing to enjoy your newfound romance and perhaps invite his sen-

sible sisters to stage an intervention on your behalf. The teamwork that's held you together will see you through.

You are currently the most pivotal person in this boy's universe, a position consolidated by the premature loss of his father. He's a young man trying to exert control over a life that's already delivered one of its most brutal blows. Like all our boys, yours will abandon you when it suits him. But while he's still so desperately trying to pull your strings there's no harm in letting him feel like the puppet-master a little longer.

Source: www.theguardian.com

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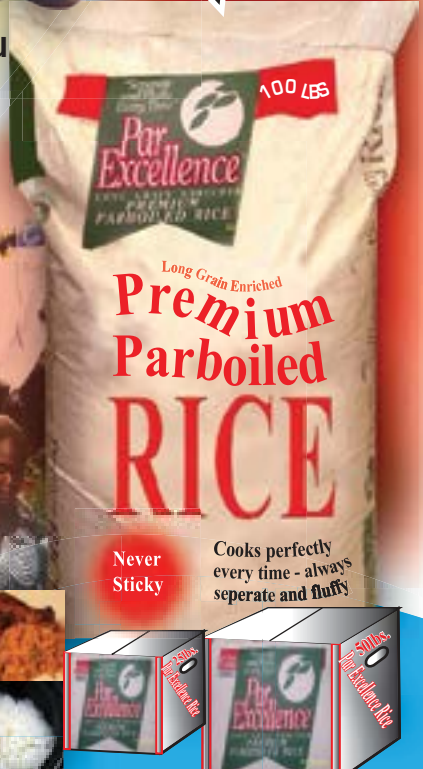
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