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DEAR AGATHA - I HAVEN'T SEEN MY HUSBAND FOR 10 YEARS

>> SEE PAGE. 19

OLUGBENGA SHOYELE

APPOINTED PROVINCIAL COURT JUDGE IN CANADA

By N.Ugoh
Nigerian-born Olugbenga Shoyele and 7 other people have appointed as new judges of the Provincial Courts of Alberta.

ACCORDING to reports, the appointment is the highest number of judges to be appointed at once in the last two decades.

Olugbenga bagged Bachelor of Law degree in 1980 and Master degree in Laws in 1984, both from the prestigious University of Ife, now Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Nigeria. He earned his PhD in 1995 in Nigeria and later

obtained Master Degree in Law in University of Alberta in 2003. He served as a law professor in Nigeria and practised in Edmonton as legal counsel for the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench. He was appointed to Edmonton Criminal Division.

Lawyers with a minimum of 10 years at the bar can apply to become a Provincial Court of Alberta judge and applications are first considered by the Judicial Council, the Council recommends applicants to the Provincial Court Nominating Committee. Form there, the committee selects candidates, interviews and recommends to the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General.

While congratulating the newly appointed Judges, the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General of Alberta, Nigerian-born Kaycee Madu said: "I congratulate all these worthy appointees and wish them success in their new roles as judges of the Provincial Court of Alberta. This group of appointees represents the diversity present in Alberta and will help increase access to justice for Albertans.

"These appointments make progress on my commitment to have our justice system reflect Alberta today. Our province will be better served by the elevation of these appointees to the bench, and I thank them for agreeing to serve Alberta."

SEPARATION AND DIVORCE OR DEATH OF A SPOUSE:

PROPERTY DIVISION

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ONTARIO DRIVERS WILL BE SLAPPED WITH STUNT DRIVING CHARGES AT LOWER SPEEDS

>> SEE PAGE. 10

WHY PEOPLE CHEAT

>> SEE PAGE. 9



Famous actress Rachel Oniga dies at 64

By N. Ugoh

Nollywood's iconic actress, Rachel Oniga has died. She died at the age of 64.

According to reports, the actress died recently from Covid-19 complications. Reports also have it that Oniga shot some scenes in a movie at Mowe, Ogun state few days before her death. Other details are still unclear at the time of filing this report.

While paying tribute to her, Facebook user Olusegun Oshiyoye described Rachel Oniga as his aunt and wrote;

"Rest in peace Aunty Rachel. Words cannot describe what I am feeling right now.

"Our last conversation was not like this...Your memories will never be forgotten Mummy Olamiji...Continue to rest in peace."

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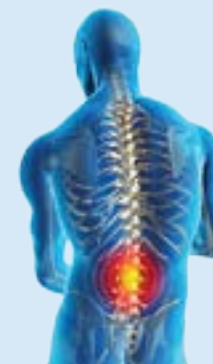
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On Ottawa's withholding health-care transfers to N.B. over abortion access

In a major recent disclosure that further deepened eyebrows on the issue, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau averred that New Brunswick is failing to live up to its obligations under the Canada Health Act because it continues to make it difficult for women to access abortions.

The PM affirmed in strong terms that as a consequence, the federal government is withholding health-care transfers to the province. "Making sure that every woman across this country has access to reliable reproductive services is extremely important to us, and that's why we've continued to impress strongly upon the government of New Brunswick how it needs to keep up its obligations under the Canada Health Act," Trudeau said.

Recall that the prime minister initially stated that Ottawa was holding back millions of dollars in health-care transfers to New Brunswick, but a spokesperson from the Prime Minister's Office reportedly said the correct figure is \$140.216.

For the records, New

Brunswick law bans government funding for abortions conducted outside three approved hospitals. The provincial government subsidizes abortions at two hospitals in Moncton and one in Bathurst, but it won't cover the cost of the procedure at Clinic 554 in Fredericton. In a recent statement, New Brunswick Premier Blaine Higgs said he found it "disappointing that every election the Trudeau government wants to make (abortion) an issue." Higgs quipped that the Horizon Health Network didn't think it necessary to add abortion services in the province.

But, Trudeau has maintained that his government will work to ensure everyone in the country has access to abortion, including at Clinic 554.

As a concerned and people oriented paper, while we do not wish to take sides with any of the parties at loggerhead, we call on the federal government and the leadership of New Brunswick to rather than trade words, seek dialogue to be able to reach a truce.

Need we remind the leaders at both ends that when two elephants fight, it's the ground suffers the consequences – and in this situation, it is the innocent citizens that will suffer.

Both parties may have genuine reasons to hold on to their decision on the controversial issue but there is always a place of compromise especially when human life is involved and that is why it's imperative for an immediate action to be taken on how to x-ray the issue critically with a view to fostering a truce.

Health is life, health is wealth and any attempt to deny citizens' access to healthcare irrespective of what is involved is tantamount to stiffening their lives. And for this crucial reason, the Federal and New Brunswick governments must immediately look for ways to resolve the issue.

In another development, we are deeply perturbed that barely two years to the end of his two term as President, Muhammadu Buhari is busy fighting imaginary enemies and at the same time pampering real enemies – and we are wondering if the President is aware that time is going?

As Dele Momodu puts it, Buhari's "government has further deepened the divisions in Nigeria. Never since the last civil war have we come so dangerously close to the precipice of another monumental battle for the survival of our country. We are now stupidly and gravely divided along ethnic and religious lines, and both are too volatile to continue to watch without being checked. History will never forgive any leader that fails to arrest our supersonic speed towards perdition."

"By now, the President should be consolidating on his pet projects. He should be seen pursuing terrorists and bandits to the pits of hell. He should be reconciling and healing the badly bruised and fragmented nation. He should be winding down slowly and steadily in readiness for his final retirement from public office. A South South Governor is already doing that in Rivers State, by unleashing a plethora of legacy projects which everyone can see. What would be the point of President Buhari wasting eight years in power fighting wars of attrition and winning none?"

Sadly, the President and his side chicks are only concerned about clamping down on those who air their grievances especially on his failures as the nation's leader. We call on Buhari to retrace his steps – if at all the President wants to have some respect after his tenure, he needs to make the remaining two years count.

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Kolapo (Kola) Abdul

Infuriated, people are. Sadened, people are. Brutal and cruelty in a Sanctuary. Inhumane atrocities and cheekiness. Progenies are buried as crumbles.

Oh! This is scathed, all are scared. Hearts and hearts could not breathe. Paused at the harrowing news, Humanity's almost departed.



POETRY CORNER

BUBBLED HISTORY

A dark spot in British Columbia. The beauty and natural riches wrinkled in shame. To the power, spiritual and temporal, In unmarked graves, souls snivelled for years.

Tears and creaks seem not to end. Their hearts are gripped in grieves. Angels and Cassiel cried in the heavens, The pains of their souls seem unending.

Flags are half mast. Dangled in mournful mood. The pains and pangs of the Aborigines. In valleys of sorrowful anguish, The damage melted to innocent souls.

We mourn with the families of the indigenous. The troubles of the aborigines. Flowers and cards left behind sobbed in tears, The bubbled history of the 215.

Hate and cheat your neighbour, In the name of a treasure in the mountain. Never again and not ever again, Nay! Nay! This isn't Canada.

Written by: Kolapo Abdul / kolapoems@gmail.com

Life after a stroke: The physical challenges patients may face

(NC) The third-leading cause of death in Canada is due to stroke. It is also a major cause of disability.

A stroke is a condition that occurs when there is a disruption of blood flow to the brain. This disruption can cause severe damage to brain tissue, which could potentially result in damage to the part of the brain that controls certain muscles in the body. This can cause muscles to become tight or stiff, which is known as post-stroke spasticity.

Research shows that 50 per cent of all stroke survivors will develop spasticity.

Spasticity can range in severity, and depending on which muscles have been affected, it can mani-



fest in ways that make it difficult to do even the easiest of everyday tasks, like brushing your teeth, walking or just trying to stand up.

Often, survivors will experience at least one of

- the following symptoms:
- Inability to straighten limbs (arms, hands, feet, etc.)
 - Muscle stiffness
 - Abnormal postures
 - Uncontrollable

spasms and muscle reflexes

When it comes to strokes, time is truly of the essence. The quicker patients can receive the critical care they need, the greater likelihood of survival and a positive recovery.

If you're experiencing spasticity symptoms after a stroke, it's important to talk to your doctor. Reports show that symptoms of spasticity can worsen over time, as studies show that more than 25 per cent of stroke survivors develop spasticity symptoms six weeks after having had a stroke.

Learn more about spasticity and resources available to those living with the condition at beyondstroke.ca.

Happy camper: Tips for a safe and fun camping trip

(NC) Spending time in the great outdoors can be awe-inspiring yet challenging. With a little preparation and know-how, you can keep camping fun. For those who plan to file their homes for the relaxation of a campground this summer, make safety a priority with these four simple tips.

Prepare for unpredictable weather.

Inclement weather can arrive quickly and unexpectedly, so it's a good idea to get oriented with the campsite when you arrive and keep a portable

radio on hand. If expecting a storm, secure tents and tarps with durable rope and shock-absorbing tie-downs to help you withstand strong winds and be prepared to evacuate to a nearby shelter to wait out a really bad storm.

Pack the right gear.

Be prepared for any weather or temperature by layering and bringing a waterproof or windproof outer layer. Always bring a first-aid kit that includes antiseptics for cuts, pain relievers and a snake-bite kit. When camping with a tent,

don't forget the rainfly.

Practice campfire safety.

Build campfires in a pit or bare patch of dirt and keep them low and away from brush. Tend to your fire or grill at all times and ensure that it's completely extinguished before leaving your campsite or retiring for the night.

Be prepared for an emergency by packing a compact, lightweight extinguishing device such as the First Alert EZ Fire Spray, which features a familiar spray-can design and gives users more control than

conventional fire extinguishers.

Don't go alone.

Always tell someone where you're going, especially if you choose to head out alone, so they'll have a better chance of tracking you down if you get lost. Buy a trail map, carry a compass and whistle, and don't rely on your phone since service may be spotty and drain your battery. If you do take a detour, tote extra water and snacks.

Find more fire safety tips at firstalert.ca.

Why running for women's mental health matters now more than ever

(NC) The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on our mental health, but men and women have not been affected equally. Women are twice as likely to develop depression and anxiety disorders than men, and new research since the onset of the pandemic has shown Canadian women's mental health has been more negatively impacted than men's.

Many women are facing increased pressures and responsibilities. Until recent-

ly, treatment options and services offered to women have not considered sex and gender differences, like physiological and cultural differences, that leave many women underserved and overlooked. This has resulted in what experts refer to as a "health gap," which for women in marginalized and disadvantaged communities is unfortunately even wider.

The Run for Women event, sponsored by the Love You by Shoppers Drug

Mart program, is a national event happening virtually this year in support of women's mental health programs in local communities across the country. The run helps mothers, daughters and friends through programs that support women taking the next step toward recovery.

What many don't know is the real impact physical activity can have on mental health. Aerobic exercises, like running and

US Approves Controversial New Alzheimer's Drug

By Yahaya Othman

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a new drug called aducanumab (Aduhelm). The new drug is said to delay clinical decline in patients with Alzheimer's disease. There is, however, increasing evidence that suggests family history, education and chronic conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease, may be responsible.

The drug which reportedly cost the US government \$56,000 (£40,000; €46,000) per year per patient was approved through the 'accelerated approval pathway.' The accelerated approval pathway is employed when uncertainties abound over a drug's efficacy but it's believed it could provide "meaningful therapeutic benefit over existing treatments" for serious or life threatening illnesses.

The approval process consists of procedures where the manufacturer must conduct post-approval studies known as phase IV confirmatory trials to "verify the anticipated clinical benefit." The FDA reserves the right to remove the drug from circulation if these trials do not verify the anticipated benefit.

In this instance, the FDA did not specify which

walking, are recommended in clinical guidelines and can sometimes be as effective as medication for mild to moderate depression.

Despite the barriers women face when it comes to mental health, the power of community support can make a big difference — even virtually.

"Especially during this time, we know there are many women who are struggling with their mental health," said Jeff Leger, president of Shoppers Drug Mart. "That's why we're proud to continue supporting women's mental health charities in communities across Canada that provide essential programs and services to help women get the support they need."

The run offers 5k and 10k races, as well as a 1k little steps run to get kids 12 and under involved. Runs are happening virtually in 18 cities across Canada from July 4 to 11, and \$55 from the registration fee will go directly to your local women's mental health charity.

When we come together, we can help make a difference for the women in our lives and communities.

patients are eligible for treatment with aducanumab.

The root causes of Alzheimer's have eluded researchers but there is broad agreement that the brain plaque targeted by aducanumab is just one factor. There is, however, increasing evidence that suggests family history, education and chronic conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease, may be responsible.

"This is just one piece of the puzzle and I think all these other options need to be explored and amplified," Dr Ronald Petersen, a Mayo Clinic dementia specialist who has consulted for Biogen and other drug makers told The Associated Press.

An FDA outside panel of neurological experts voted "no" to a series of questions in November on whether reanalysed data from a single study submitted by Biogen showed that the drug was effective.

Biogen halted two studies of the drug in 2019 after disappointing results suggested aducanumab, marketed by Biogen as Aduhelm, would not meet its goal of slowing mental and functional decline in Alzheimer's patients.

ties in communities across Canada that provide essential programs and services to help women get the support they need."

When we come together, we can help make a difference for the women in our lives and communities.

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Black Student Found Dead in Lake after He was Turned Down by Canadian Hospital

BY Yahaya Othman

A young Black is dead by possibly suicide after he attempted to seek help from a local hospital more than once for mental health related issues. He was reportedly refused medical attention and the deceased's family blamed it on racist segregation.

Samwel Uko, a 20-year-old college football player, took his life in May 2020, after multiple attempts to receive treatment for "depression, anxiety, and sleeping" issues, according to several reports.

Uko arrived at the Regina General Hospital twice, stating that he needed help and was mentally ill. The incident was captured twice on video. After being turned away both times by the hospital, his body was later found in Wascana Lake.

The cause of death was ruled as suicide by drowning and now his family is seeking legal remedy.

Uko, who played for Canadian Junior Football team the Langley Rams, was seen during his first hospital visit in a Snapchat video he shared repeatedly saying "I need help" before a nurse who appeared to be asking him why he was taking a picture. He reportedly sought help that morning as a result of "having trouble sleeping due to chronic pain from a previous car accident and was struggling with depression."

After telling the staff he was not experiencing suicidal thoughts, he was discharged with medication and mental health resources and was told to return if



Samwel Uko

he felt worse.

Later the same day, Uko allegedly called the police, citing mental health concerns and was escorted back to the hospital. After allegedly refusing to give nurses his name, he could be seen on hospital security footage being forcibly removed by four security guards as he pleaded for help and to be left alone.

Uko's body was recovered from the lake apparently committing suicide.

The family of the college football player feels that Uko's pleas were left ignored because he was a Black man. They have filed suit against the Saskatchewan Health Authority over Uko's death.

"They didn't care. Because it's Black people," Uko's mother Joyce Bakando said. "I know my son. He doesn't talk bad to people. He's very, very nice... all the time, when I'm sleeping, I'm thinking of my son."

"If someone had a different skin tone and they were sitting there, they would have helped. It's not something we want to debate, or taxqk about, it's just reality," said Samwel's

uncle, Justin Nyee. "The doctors there didn't care; the nurses didn't care, nobody cared because of who he is."

The Saskatchewan Health Authority has admitted that it failed Uko in many respects, but denied that their action was racist. A statement from the SHA reads: "The SHA admits that it failed to meet the standard of care as it failed to provide the necessary follow-up care and assessment that was required."

The CEO of the provincial health authority, Scott Livingstone, apologized to Samwel's family and also noted that the health system "failed to provide him the timely assistance he needed. I appreciate there are no words that can bring Samwel back, but I want you to know that we recognize how deeply we failed him," he wrote in his letter.

According to documents obtained by CBC, Uko's family received over \$80,000 from SHA under Saskatchewan's Fatal Accidents Act, to cover areas such as funeral expenses and grief counseling. However, there are still lingering questions that they want to be answered.

"What happened to the people working that day? If they would have helped him, he would not have went and committed suicide," Nyee said. "We did not hear anything from the hospital about that. It's kind of like, yeah, we apologized, we covered it up, let's go to the next thing."

A coroner's report on the circumstances of his death will be made by September 20.

Nnamdi Kanu Nominated for Jewish Nobel Prize

By Stanley Ugagbe

The embattled leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra, IPOB, Mazi Nnamdi Kanu has been nominated for Jewish Nobel Prize.

A popular Jewish Journalist at Times of Israel, Shashi Ishai, who nominated the IPOB leader, called on others to also nominate the Biafran freedom fighter for the Prize.

It should be noted that the Nobel Prize is aimed at fostering Jewish identity, inspire Jewish pride and strengthen the bond between Israel and the Diaspora.

According to IGBERE TV, the Prize celebrates Jewish talent and achievement, honoring individuals for their accomplishments and commitment to Jewish values, inspiring Jews to connect to their heritage and to Israel.

It was disclosed that



the vision of the Genesis Prize is a strong and vibrant Jewish people, aware of its roots while looking to the future; a Jewish community flourishing in diversity, yet united in appreciation of Jewish values and support for the Jewish State.

It would be recalled that Kanu, who was recently extradited to Nigeria following his arrest in Kenya, is currently facing trial and under the custody of the Department of State Services (DSS).

Kanu was re-arrested on charges bordering on alleged treason.

It should be noted that Kanu was first arrested on October 14, 2015, and arraigned on 11-count charges bordering on terrorism, treasonable felony, managing an unlawful society, publication of defamatory matter, illegal possession of firearms and improper importation of goods, among others.

He has been fighting and clamoring for Biafran nation.

Ford Promises To Make \$3 Pay Bump Permanent For PSW's

By N.Ugoh

Doug Ford, Prime Minister announced that he is committed to maintaining an increase in wages introduced for personal support workers during the global pandemic.

Ford's office declined to comment or elaborate on whether the temporary pay bump would be extended further or made permanent, or there was any full wage increase plan in the offing.

A temporary \$3 wage increase for personal support workers that was in-

terrupted during the pandemic was extended until Aug. 25.

The pay bump has been in place since October last year, affecting more than 158,000 workers in home care, long-term care, public hospitals and social services.

Announcing the final extension in June, officials said the temporary hike of \$ 2 or \$ 3 an hour will "help stabilize, attract and retain the workforce needed to maintain high levels of care during the COVID-19 pandemic."

I've always said folks, PSWs are overworked, un-

derpaid, and make every single penny times 10. So we'll keep that. That's our guarantee. We will do it."

Ford made these comments during a funding announcement in North Bay, Ontario, but did not give further details.

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Eyebrows as report reveals Lagos 'Agberos' generate annual revenue of N123 billion

By Stanley Ugagbe

A recent research report by the International Centre for Investigative Reporting (ICIR) has revealed that 'Agberos' in Lagos generate an estimated annual revenue of N123.078 billion amassed from daily road use taxes levied on bus drivers, tricycle riders and motorcycle operators in the state.

It was disclosed that in 2020, Lagos Agberos surpassed all other states besides Lagos in revenue generation beating oil-producing Rivers State by a handsome N5.89 billion naira.

The report, however, found no trace that much of this revenue gets into government coffers as the money was not accounted for in the state's annual financial statements, and analysts are beginning to raise eyebrows as to where and what the fund is being used for.

Below is the data revealed by the research: Levies on commercial buses (danfo)

Each commercial vehicle driver pays at least N3,000 to Agberos as ticket fee.

There are an estimated 75,000 commercial buses operating in Lagos, according to the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA).

Estimated daily total collection: N225 million

Estimated monthly total collection: N6.75 billion

Estimated yearly total collection: N82.125 billion

LEVIES ON TRICYCLE OPERATORS (KEKE NAPEP)

Each keke napep rider pays at least N1,800 to Agberos per day.

There are an estimated 50,000 tricycles operating in Lagos, according to Techcabal.

Estimated daily total collection: N90 million

Estimated monthly total collection: N2.7 billion

Estimated yearly

total collection: N32.85 billion

Levies on motorcycle operators (okada)

Each okada rider pays at least N600 to Agberos per day.

There are an estimated 37,000 okada riders operating in Lagos, according to Motorcycle Operators Association of Lagos State (MOALS).

Estimated daily total collection: N22.2 million

Estimated monthly total collection: N666 million

Estimated yearly total collection: N8.103 billion

According to the data presented by ICIR, the total annual revenue from the three major modes of transport in Lagos state amounts to N123.078 billion.

It, however, admitted that these figures may yet be underestimated as daily levies on the transporters are much higher in some parts of Lagos including Mushin, Isolo, Itire/Ikate among others.

Cattle Ranch in Katsina Gets N6.25b Seed Money from PMB

By N.Ugoh

The governor of Katsina State, Aminu Bello Masari revealed that the cattle ranch in Katsina has received a generous pledge of the sum of N6.5 billion to kick start the development of the ranch.

He explained that N5 billion from the amount had been credited into the government's coffers.

Governor Masari disclosed this while speaking at the occasion where President Buhari commissioned the multi-billion Naira Zobe water project and a 50km road project in Dutsima, Katsina State.

"Mr President has graciously approved the sum of N6.25 billion for the ranch development purposes in Katsina state, out of this amount, N5 billion is already in the



Aminu Bello

account of the state government and within few weeks, you will see advertisement calling for interested company and consultant that would wish to participate.

"This is the first direct intervention through the state government with regard to Federal Government's ranch development initiative," Masari said.

Four months ago, Governor Masari, represented by his Special Adviser on Livestock and Grazing Reserve, Dr. Lawal Bagiwa, approved 7000 hectares of land

to be used for ranching in the state at the 46th annual conference of the Nigerian Society for Animal Production, at the Federal University, Dustin-ma, FUDMA, Katsina State.

Also, in a reported interview three months ago, Masari made known the intention of the Katsina Government to raise the sum of N12 billion to convert the deadly Rugu forest into ranches with the support of the Federal Ministries of Agriculture and Finance.

According to Governor Masari, the establishment and development of ranches in the state can end the lingering herdsman/farmers conflicts plaguing various parts of the country.

He equally said the ranching system will give children of herders the opportunity to have qualitative education.

6 Nigerians Convicted in UAE Over Funding Boko Haram

By Yahaya Othman



Six Nigerians have been reportedly convicted by an Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) over their alleged involvement with funding Boko Haram, a famous terrorist organisation with roots in Nigeria.

Two of those who were convicted, Surajo Abubakar Muhammad and Saleh Yusuf Adamu got life imprisonment sentences while the other four—Abraham Ali Alhassan, Abdurrahman Ado Musa, Bashir Ali Yusuf and Muhammad Ibrahim were handed a term of imprisonment for 10 years respectively. The convicts were tried and convicted in 2019.

The judgment of the court also revealed that between 2015 and 2016, the convicts made cash transfers in favour of Boko Haram to the tune of USD782,000.00 though sources close to them said the transactions were for legitimate purposes. This would be the first time that particular individuals have been named as sponsors of the dreaded terrorist ring. A senior government affirmed that the government was aware of the conviction.

Despite the conviction, families of the convicts were adamant that the convicts were framed up considering that they had been doing legitimate business in the UAE

Courts documents revealed that the convicts were arrested based on a warrant of arrest issued from the office of the National Security Bureau after investigations confirmed their involvement and membership of the Boko Haram terror group in Nigeria, and transferring money for that group.

The convicts were arrested between April 16 and 17 in 2017, and their homes searched according to the search warrant issued by the National Security Prosecution office. The first and second convicts were charged for joining the Boko Haram group in Nige-

prior to their arrest.

The conviction of the six individuals was upheld by an appellate court in the UAE after they lost an appeal filed at a lower court. Based on the judgment of court, all the convicts were charged with funding a terror group by facilitating transfers of money from Dubai to Nigeria for terror operations. Their action and operations was proscribed under Article 29, Clause 3 of UAE's Federal Law No.7 of 2017 with regards to anti-terrorism law.

According to one Ali Alhassan, an elder brother to two of the convicts, Ibrahim and Bashir Ali, said that his siblings were not given a fair hearing during trial, adding that efforts to get the government of Nigeria to intervene was futile.

"There was no fair hearing during the court case; no witnesses and they were just convicted to ten years in prison (Ibrahim and Bashir) and those that provided them with monies were sentenced to 25 years each. They were earlier accused of money laundering and nothing more, but along the line, the charge changed to financing terrorism."

The Attorney-General and Minister of Justice of Nigeria, Abubakar Malami SAN, said that the Nigerian government was aware of the decision of the court and had written the UAE seeking records of proceedings but was yet to get feedback.

Mississauga Unveils Locations for First Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras

By N.Ugoh

Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) is coming to Mississauga. There were notices hoisted in different parts of the city to inform residents about the new innovation which will be installed in the coming months. The proposed first two installations will rotate on a monthly basis within neighbourhoods that contain schools or community safety zones. The pro-

posed locations are:

- Ward 5: Morning Star Drive (between Lancaster Avenue and Netherwood Road)

- Ward 8: Sawmill Valley Drive (between Folkway Drive and Grosvenor Place)

During the second phase of the project, the program will allow ASE technology to rotate through all suitable residential school zones within a city where there are concerns about speeding.

"Like many Ontario municipalities, we continue to see the dangerous effects of speeding on our roadways. As a Vision Zero city, we are serious about getting drivers to slow down and are taking concrete action to make our roads safer for everyone," Mayor Bonnie Crombie.

"From lowering speed limits city-wide and implementing new community safety zones to rolling out ASE,

our message is clear: it's time to slow down!"

Confirmed reports say that several cameras will be added to already existing ones. This could include about 22 cameras which will rotate across all wards.

The overarching reason for this new technology is to improve road safety in the city. The city had announced the launch of the Neighbourhood Area Speed Limit Project, which includes low-

ering the speed limits down to 30km/h and 40km/h in neighbourhood school zones and residential streets respectively.

According to reports, Mayor Bonnie Crombie sent a letter to Premier Doug Ford in the summer that highlighted pressure on the court during the pandemic and requested additional judicial apparatuses to address backlogs and future initiatives like the ASE,

school bus stop arm cameras, and red light cameras.

The ASE program was scheduled to commence in 2020, but due to the global pandemic (COVID-19), it was delayed to give staff sufficient time to lower the speed limit on some roadways.

The city will monitor the success of phase and would build on the success to plan future installations of the program.

YOU & the LAW

Man faces first-degree murder charge over the death of veteran Toronto police officer



By Dele Akintilo

A 31-year-old man has been charged with first-degree murder recently over the death of a veteran police officer who was hit by a vehicle in an incident that investigators deemed an "intentional and deliberate act."

While talking about the death of the police officer, interim police Chief James Ramer said Const. Jeffrey Northrup was responding to reports of a robbery in progress in the parking garage at Toronto City Hall when he was killed in an incident which also left another officer injured.

Ramer called it a "senseless and devastating tragedy" and said the 31-year veteran police officer was deliberately struck by a vehicle after he responded to a 911 call for a robbery in progress. He said a female officer was injured and taken to the hospital but the officer since been released.

Police revealed that an arrest had been made in connection with the case, and later revealed the charge against the suspect, whose name is Umar Zameer. They made it known that a publication ban prohibits them from releasing additional details.

Municipal and provincial have offered condolences to Northrup's

bereaved family and friends, and thanked him for serving his community for many decades.

Ramer said the Northrup should be remembered as an "outstanding police officer and member of the community."

He said: "He was just full of personality... loved by everyone, and just coming into work every day was his pride and joy."

"He loved his job and went in to do that job every day and despite the dangers that we occasionally face he continued to do that job to the best of his ability."

Ramer made it known that Northrup had been training newly recruited officers until April, when he asked to go back to the major crimes unit.

He said: "Despite 31 years on the job he was eager to do that. It speaks to the kind of officer he was and the dedication that he had that it was at this stage of his career that he was going into the major crimes unit."

Toronto Mayor John Tory disclosed Northrup had worked as a court officer but "achieved his ambition" of joining the police ranks and then "served his city... with distinction."

"So it is with immense gratitude and profound sadness that we

FAMILY

Separation and Divorce or Death of a Spouse: Property Division

CONTINUED FROM THE LAST ISSUE

Special rule for matrimonial homes

A "matrimonial home" is a home that a married couple lived in just before they separated. There can be more than one matrimonial home, for example, a house and a cottage. A matrimonial home can be owned or rented.

If one spouse owns the matrimonial home on the date of marriage and on the date of separation, they do not include the home's value or any debts related to the home on the date of marriage. But they have to add the value of the matrimonial home less any debts on the date of separation.

This means that the home's total value is shared in the equalization payment, not just the change in its value during the marriage. This can have a big effect on the amount of the equalization payment.

Different rules apply to matrimonial homes on reserve land.

Special rule for gifts and inheritances

Any gift or inheritance that a spouse got during the marriage is

not usually included in their NFP calculation as long as the spouse has the gift or inheritance at the end of the marriage. But if the gift or inheritance was used to buy or help pay for a matrimonial home, it is included in their NFP.

Special rule for Canada Pension Plan credits

These credits are not included in the NFP calculation because they are divided separately. See Canada Pension Plan credits to find out how to divide these credits.

Property division for common-law couples

The rules about dividing property, including a matrimonial home, do not apply to common-law couples. If you are in a common-law relationship, the property you bring into the relationship, plus any increase in its value, usually continues to belong to you alone. If you and your spouse separate, there is no automatic right to divide it or share its value.

Anything you buy for yourself with your own money during the relationship and own in your name usually belongs only to you.

Things that you

and your spouse buy together during the relationship belong to you both jointly. If you separate, the things you own jointly are divided or their value is shared.

It is a good idea to keep receipts of what you buy. Later, if you and your spouse do not agree on who owns something that you paid for, you have proof to show it belongs to you.

Unjust enrichment

If you contributed financially or in some other way to your spouse's property, you might be able to claim a share of that property. For example, you might have done unpaid work at home so your spouse could do paid work, or you might have worked without pay in a family business.

A court can look at whether your spouse was "unjustly enriched" at your expense. But this can be hard to prove.

If the court gives you a share of your spouse's property, the size of the share may depend on how much you contributed or on how much your contribution increased the value of your spouse's property.

Rule for Canada Pension Plan credits

You can divide Canada Pension Plan credits that were earned while you were living with your spouse if you lived together for at least one year. See Canada Pension Plan credits for more information.

The family home The rules about who gets to stay in the family home, and who can sell it, depend on whether a couple was legally married or living common-law.

Married couples

Each married spouse has an equal right to stay in their matrimonial home if it is in Ontario. This applies even if the property's legal title is only in one of their names or if the property is rented. This right lasts until one of the following happens:

They make an agreement that says one of them cannot live there.

There is a court order that says one of them cannot live there.

They sell their matrimonial home or their lease ends.

They get divorced. Neither spouse can sell or mortgage the matrimonial home without the other spouse's written permission.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Kevin O'Leary testifies he can't remember if his wife drank before the deadly boat crash

By N.Ugoh

Kevin O'Leary has testified before an Ontario court that he could not remember if his wife, Linda, drank alcohol in the hours before a boating accident which killed two people and injured others.

The popular businessman testified via Zoom recently concerning the day

before the August 24, 2019 crash that occurred Toronto's on Lake Joseph, and the hours that followed.

Linda O'Leary has pleaded not guilty to the charge of careless operation of a vessel under the Canada Shipping Act.

Kevin said he did not remember his wife looking to be influenced by alcohol

hours before and after the accident, though he was not with her for several hours.

He said Linda had driven their boat to and from a dinner party that evening, as she often did being the more experienced boater between the two.

He testified that he only saw the other boat in-

involved in the crash late at night a few seconds prior to its collision and that he did not instantly know what was struck.

He said there was "no light" emanating from the other boat till after the collision when the lights came on and he left without making any communication with the O'Leary boat.

mark this tragic loss," the Mayor disclosed.

Tory remarked that the hardest part of his job is when tragedy befalls the city.

He said: "Nothing can prepare any of us, the people in the city of Toronto, the rest of the members of the police service, for news like this."

"I begin, on behalf of the three million people who our police officers serve, by extending to the family of officer Northrup our deepest condolences.

"That's to his wife, and to his children, and to his mother, and all the member of his family and his friends."

The Premier of On-

tario, Doug Ford has offered his condolences to friends and family of Northrup.

While offering the condolences, Ford tweeted: "I'm terribly saddened to hear the tragic news of Const. Jeff Northrup who was killed in the line of duty."

"Jeff served his community for 31 years.

My deepest condolences to his wife, three kids and the entire Toronto Police Service. We are with you mourning this devastating loss."

The Toronto Police Association announced it's currently attending to Northrup's wife and children and requests that the public respects their privacy.

REFLECTIONS ON RELATIONSHIPS

WHY PEOPLE CHEAT

By NCNC Staff

Without mincing words, cheating in relationships and even in marriages has almost become a norm. More worrying is the fact that some persons cheat and still have the nerves to rub it on their partner's face without considering the persons feelings.

Among others, marriage counselors have identified the following as some of the reasons for cheating.

UNHAPPINESS/ DISSATISFACTION:

More often than not, people tend to be committed where they feel happy and satisfied and when the reverse becomes the case, cheating becomes the way out.

Feeling unappreciated: Experts are of the view that feeling under-

valued or neglected can lead to infidelity. When both partners work, women often carry the brunt of the housework and childcare. In this case, the affair validates the person's sense of worth. On the flip side, however, feeling neglected may be related to unrealistic expectations of a partner rather than true neglect.

OPPORTUNITY:

It is worrying that we are in a time where people are looking for opportunity to have sex irrespective of who the person is. Periods of absence, whether traveling for work or serving in the military provide greater opportunities for affairs to occur. Reality is that absence allows a spouse to have an affair with little risk of being discovered or may lead to lone-



liness and resentment.

Poor boundaries: Research have shown that poor personal boundaries, or the limits we place on other people as to what we find acceptable or unacceptable, can also increase

the chance that an affair will occur. People who find it hard to say no (being overly compliant or «people pleasers») may find themselves in an affair even if it wasn't what they desired in the first place.

LACK OF COMMITMENT:

A 2018 study found that people who are less committed to their relationship are more likely to cheat.

BOREDOM:

As flimsy as this is, we are in a dispensation where people want to try new things every day and the other partner begins to fall out of the excitement, they begin to explore new things and infidelity sets in. Men and women looking for the thrill of the chase and the excitement of new-found love may be more likely to cheat.

REVENGE:

Sadly, people cheat out of revenge. If one partner has had an affair or has damaged the partner in some way, the offended partner may feel a need for revenge resulting in an affair.

There is no reason to want to get married to someone if you can't be totally committed to them especially in the area of faithfulness.

TIPS FOR LEARNING A NEW LANGUAGE

By NCNC Staff

More often than not, there always is one question in a learner's mind when it comes to learning a new language, and this is "what is the easiest way" considering the language lessons, conversation practice and grammar. Learning a new language usually is a long and challenging process. For you to be able to have an easier time in your language-learning process, I have compiled a few language learning hacks to make it as easy as possible for you to learn your new language.

WATCH MOVIES THAT ARE DONE IN THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE

You can easily learn a new language by watching a lot of movies that are acted in that language. This will also help you also learn the culture of the country you want to travel to. Not only is it enjoyable to watch a movie but you'll also pick up accents, vocabulary and colloquial words.

CHOOSE A NEW WORD EVERYDAY

Even though this might not sound very interesting, picking a new word a day or two will greatly help you be able to learn a new language. This is better than having to go through the overwhelming process of trying to memorize several words at one go, doing this will help you commit some of

these words to your memory and help you out in learning how to incorporate them in real life situations.

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LABEL OBJECTS IN YOUR HOME USING THE NEW LANGUAGE

It is common for people to learn new words but forget them within the next day. That's why it's effective to label objects in your office and home with stickers. For example, you can put stickers on your door, window, computer, cups etc. These words will eventually be part of your vocabulary be-

cause you'll be looking at them daily.

FIND A PARTNER

One of the easiest ways to learn a new language is by doing it with another person. A partner will push you a little harder than you'd push yourself. You can choose a close relative or friend, or someone is also learning the language like you. If possible, find a native speaker of the language you want to learn. Native speakers are available from budget-friendly or free websites and language learning applications. Some examples of these websites include: SprachDuo, Polyglot club, My Language exchange, iTalki and Verbling.

FOCUS ON WHAT IS IMPORTANT

Learning a new language is not always a walk in the park, this can be a daunting task which sometimes is hard to determine where to start and which approach to go with. In order to make this process simpler,

you should focus on the things that are most important and interesting to you.

You are more likely to learn vocabulary in a subject that you're interested in. It's much harder to learn random words that you don't really care about, for example if you are trying to learn Spanish for an upcoming trip, you should learn things that are essential, like for instance things that will help you be able to communicate while you make the travel.

COMING UP WITH A ROUTINE

For you to be able to learn anything, it is easier if you make it a recurring part of your daily life, practicing the language you are trying to learn should be a non-negotiable part of your day. Do not treat learning a language as a one-size-fits-all experience. You should try and put aside some time every single day to focus on practicing your new language, this way learning the new language will end up being much easier.

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

Having confidence in yourself is just half the battle. In order to be able to succeed in anything, you have to believe you can do it even though you may struggle a little bit during your journey. You should always pick yourself right back up and keep moving forward, according to one of the prominent writers, Sam Gendreau. Everybody has the ability to learn a new language as long as you are able to step outside your comfort zone and just believe that you can really do it.

LEARN SYNONYMS

Being able to learn synonyms in your new language might just be the difference between understanding the lan-

guage and being able to apply it in a real world situation. Fully understanding the synonyms lets you be able to use the right words in the right situation and when it is needed.

A lot of people think being fluent in a language is all about being able to function in all contexts, but fluency is also the ability to function well says Alex Rawlings a language teacher and polyglot. Improving knowledge of synonyms by learning alternative words might be time consuming when starting out but it will help you understanding the new language on a better level. You will also be able to apply your knowledge and when interacting with the native speakers of the new language you are learning.



Doug Ford: Ontario will not be having vaccination passport



By N.Ugoh

In spite of the early success recorded by vaccine passports in Europe, the Premier of Ontario, Premier Doug Ford has made it known that Ontario will not be imposing vaccine passports that would provide those properly vaccinated documentation that give allowance for freedoms like increased gatherings and use of closed facilities.

During a recent press conference, Ford said: "The answer is no, we're not gonna do it. We're not gonna have a split society."

He swivelled many other questions like easing border restrictions towards the federal government.

Though Toronto Mayor John Tory and the

Ontario Drivers Will be Slapped with Stunt Driving Charges at Lower Speeds

By N.Ugoh

Drivers in Ontario now face the risk of being slapped with stunt driving charges on some roads. Ontario made changes to how fast a driver can go over speed limit on some roads to be considered stunt driving.

The changes were made under the Moving Ontarians More Safety Act and it came into effect on July 1. Anyone caught driving at 40 km/h or more above the regulated speed limit where the maximum is less than 80 km/h will face stunt driving charges. Before the changes

were made, drivers would have to be busted when going above 50 km/h for it to be considered stunt driving on those roads.

However, the rules for highways or routes where the speed limit is 80 km/h or more remains the same. There are now stiffer penalty for drivers caught stunt driving.

Motorists now face the possibility of facing a 30-day roadside driver's licence suspension as well as a 14-day vehicle impoundment. Prior to these changes, the penalty was 7 days.

Additionally, the government of On-

tario is introducing an escalating post-conviction driver's licence suspensions for drivers convicted of stunt driving.

- For a first offence, a minimum of one to three years

- For a second offence, a minimum of three to ten years

- For a third offence, a lifetime suspension that may be reduced at a later date to be established by regulation, and

- For fourth and subsequent offences, a lifetime driver's licence suspension.

John Tory, the Mayor of Toronto, said in his statement

that he supports the changes to stunt driving laws.

"High-risk driving and stunt racing is an epidemic and is at odds with the city's Vision Zero Road Safety Plan, and we must do even more to create safer streets," Tory said.

There was a 90% increase in racing and stunt driving charges from January 2021 to May 2021 compared to 2019. The police issued up to 276 racing and/or stunt driving tickets during that time, which is nearly 130 tickets more than they issued during those month in 2019.

Wikipedia Co-founder: Nobody should trust Wikipedia

By Dele Akintilo

Larry Sanger, the Co-founder of Wikipedia, has warned that the website cannot always be trusted to offer people the truth.

He said it could offer a "reliably establishment point of view on pretty much everything."

Sanger said: "Can you trust it to always give you the truth? Well, it depends on what you think the truth is."

"If only one version of the facts is allowed then that gives a huge incentive to wealthy and powerful people to seize control of things like Wikipedia in order to shore up their power. And they do that."

He said it (Wikipedia) "seems to assume that there is only one legitimate defensible version of the truth on any controversial question. That's not how Wikipedia used to be."



Millions of people visit Wikipedia daily and is the first online information finding platform for many.

Sanger gave the example of an article about United States President Joe Biden and reveals it does not include information from the Republicans' perspective.

He said: "The Biden article, if you look at it, has very little by way of the concerns that Republicans have had about him. So if you want to have anything remotely resembling the

Republican point of view about Biden, you're not going to get it from the article."

While arguing that there should be a minimum of a paragraph about the scandal in Ukraine but there is very little of that, he said: "Very little of that can be found in Wikipedia. What little can be found is extremely biased and reads like a defence counsel's brief, really."

He also disclosed that there are companies that employ paid writers and editors to log in and alter

articles.

He said: "Maybe there's some way to make such a system work, but not if the players who are involved and who are being paid, are not identified by name — they actually are supposed to be identified by name and say 'we represent this firm' if they are officially registered with some sort of Wikipedia editing firm."

"But they don't have to do that because there is no requirement of real names. As I say it is a very complex sort of game ... there are all sorts of tricks that people can play to win it."

He however cautioned that "Wikipedia is known now by everyone to have a lot of influence in the world. So there's a very big, nasty, complex game being played behind the scenes to make the article say what somebody wants them to say."

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NOT-FOR-PROFIT PROFILE



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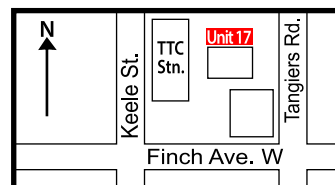
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We all want to know more about COVID-19 vaccination

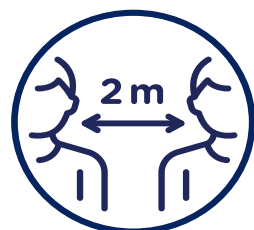


WHY SHOULD I GET VACCINATED?

It protects against COVID-19 and helps you to avoid becoming sick. Even if many people recover without being treated, some may die from COVID-19 or suffer heart or lung problems like pneumonia. The nervous system can also be affected.

Let's continue to protect ourselves!

Over the coming months, as long as the great majority of the population is not yet vaccinated, COVID-19 will remain.



Keep your distance



Cover your face



Cough into your sleeve



Wash your hands

[Québec.ca/COVIDvaccine](https://quebec.ca/COVIDvaccine)

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The Itsekiri Association of Canada

joins all sons and daughters of the great Warri kingdom to celebrate and congratulate Omoba Tsola Emiko as he ascends the throne as the 21st Olu of Warri.

Ogiame!!

Ekunkpregede!!

Di isabatu kpe ni esen re!!

Long live the Warri kingdom

Signed
Oti Ometie (President)
Eroro Edun-Tite (Secretary)

Our meeting holds 3-5pm every 1st Sunday of the month.

Please contact us at
itsekiricanada@gmail.com or
info@itsekiricanada.com for details
We look forward to seeing you!



YOUTH CORNER

•••• Oluchi Ugoh ••••

"Your Children Need your presence more than your present". - Jesse Jackson

Think Positive

I am very delighted to join you again this month. I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful summer? I am. Things are getting back to normal, please tread cautiously. As usual, we have interesting materials this month for you. Take good care of yourself, seize every joy, know when to leave a party, don't swim, if you cannot, avoid immediate gratification, no short cut to Success, be a good citizen. The future is very bright if you make the right decisions today.

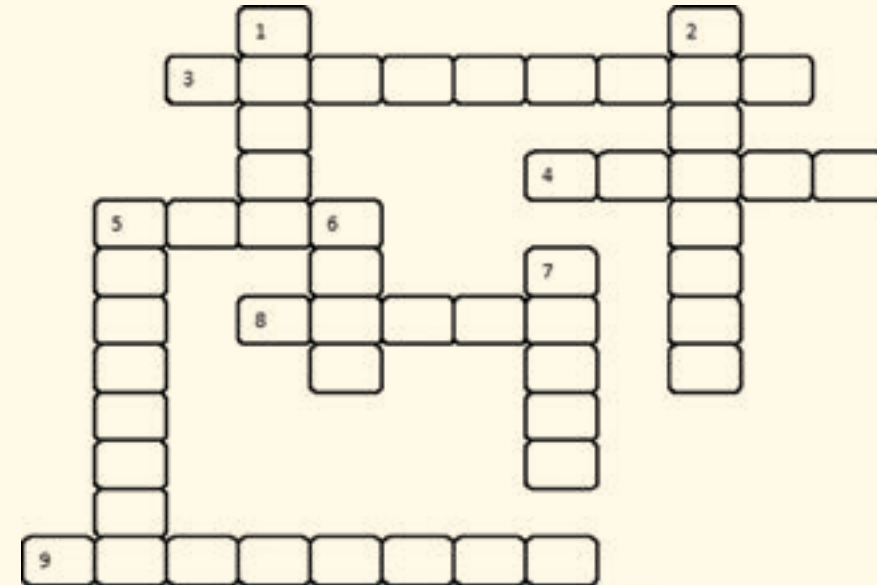
To reach us: publisher@nigeriancanadiannews.ca

ENTERTAINMENT

UNESCO World Heritage sites

According to Wikipedia, the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. To be selected, a Site is a landmark or area with legal protection by an international convention administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). World Heritage Sites are designated by UNESCO for having cultural, historical, scientific or other form of significance. The sites are judged to contain "cultural and natural heritage around protected zones. List of UNESCO World Heritage sites in Canada The list include the Nahanni National Park, L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic site, The Dinosaur Provincial park, Head-Smashed-in Buffalo jump, Wood Buffalo National Park, Old Town Lunenburg, The Joggings Fossil Cliffs, Red Bay Basque Whaling Station, Writing-on-stone / Aisinaipi and many more.

Cross word puzzle

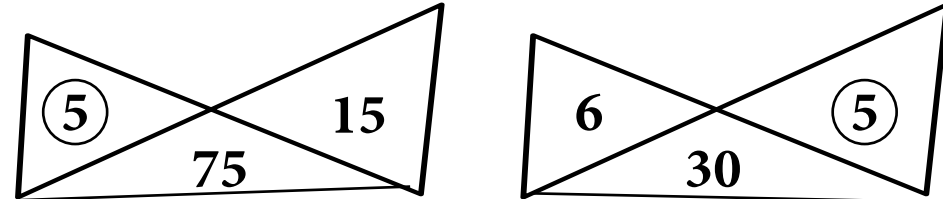


- | | |
|---|---|
| Across | Down |
| 3. This huge creature lives in the polar region (9) | 1. Both the name of a snake and a car (5) |
| 4. A member of the large cat family with stripes (5) | 2. An Australian icon which hops (8) |
| 5. Rhymes with meal (4) | 5. Has a long tail and collects and stores nuts (8) |
| 8. Very cuddly Australian animal, not a bear (5) | 6. An African animal which lives in a pride (4) |
| 9. Lives in both Africa and Asia and has a long trunk (8) | 7. This can have one hump or two (5) |

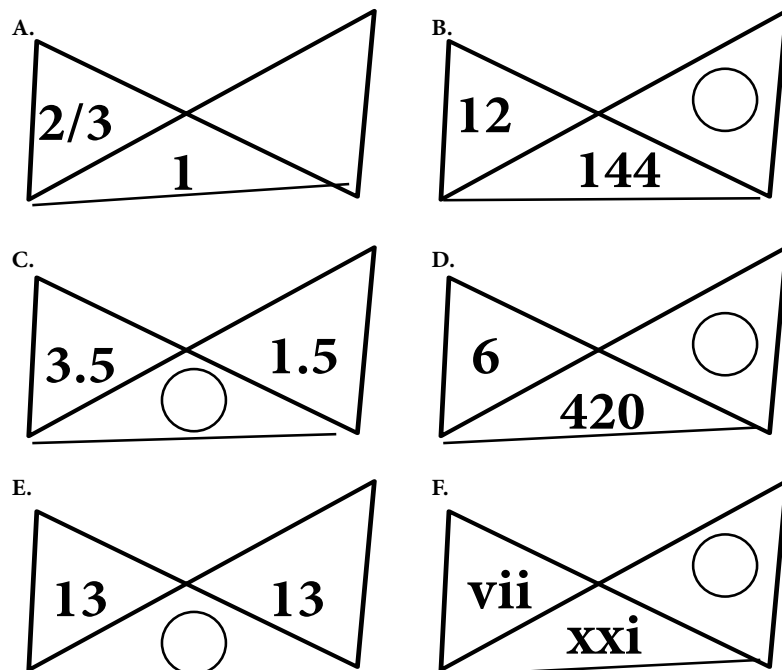
Answer on Page 24

QUANTITY REASONING

EXAMPLES:



STUDY THE EXAMPLES BELOW TO SOLVE THE FOLLOWING



ANSWERS ON PG. 24

SOLVE THE PROBLEMS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A: 30% of \$15 | F: What percent is 8 out of 2.5? |
| B: 25% of 400cm | G: 120 is 80% of what number? |
| C: 145% of 20 Kg | I: 48 is 60% of what number? |
| D: 7.5% of 80L | |
| E: What percent is 15 out of 24? | |

ANSWERS ON PG. 24

Can you solve these verbal reasoning questions?

- Example: (CAMERA, MACE) (SENTRY, NEST) (CASKET, SACK)
- (DEFINE, FIND) (POSTED, STEP) (MOTHER, _____)
 - (HINDER, RIND) (RENTED, DENT) (PARTED, _____)
 - (CUSTARD, CARD) (VIOLENT, VENT) (SAILING, _____)
 - (CRASH, DASH) (FLASH, GASH) (SHAPE, _____)
 - (TABLES, SALT) (SINGER, RIGS) (REMAIN, _____)
 - (FLOOD, GOOD) (BOAST, CAST) (STALE, _____)

ANSWERS ON PG. 24

THE FRENCH CORNER – BONJOUR

By Faridat Audu

MATCH THE CORRECT FRENCH WORDS

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Goodnight | J'y vais |
| See you soon | À plus |
| Farewell | Bonne journée |
| Goodbye | À plus tard |
| Have a nice day | Adieu |
| I'm off | À bientôt |
| See you later | À la prochaine |
| Have a nice day | Bonne nuit |
| See you around | Au Revoir |
| It's time to go | Je te souhaite une bonne journée |
| See you next time | Il est temps de partir |

ANSWERS ON PG. 24

FRENCH VOCABULARY ON L'ÉCOLE ET LA CLASSE

- It's time to go home – Il est temps de rentrer à la maison.
 Goodnight mum – Bonne nuit maman.
 See you around my friend – À plus mon ami.
 See you later today – À plus tard aujourd'hui.
 I'm off with my parents tonight – J'y vais avec mes parents ce soir.



FRENCH IDIOM

Il a la banane aujourd'hui. Looks like he feels great today.

REMINDER TIPS ON LEARNING OR IMPROVING YOUR FRENCH

- Watch French programs (News) at least 20-30 minutes daily.
- Read French books/newspapers/journals daily.
- Listen to French music daily.
- Make effort to communicating in French language

Quotable Quote

Start each day with a grateful heart..



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Faridat A. Audu



GOODBYE

SOUND SULTAN, NIGERIAN MUSICIAN, IS DEAD



Nov. 27, 1976 – July 11, 2021
 Famous Nigerian Singer, Olanrewaju Fasasi, also known as Sound Sultan,

has died. A statement issued by his family reveals he died on July 11, 2021 after a protracted battle with throat cancer. He is survived by his wife and three children. He was 44 years-old.

Court orders Dr Dre to pay ex-wife Nicole Young \$300,000 every month in spousal support

By Dele Akintilo
 American music icon, Dr Dre has been ordered by a court to pay his ex-wife, Nicole Young the sum of \$300,000 in spousal support every month.

The billionaire music guru is to pay that sum or exercise the option of paying \$3.5M annually to Nicole till she remarries.

According to Radar, the superior court's decision is only temporal and will hold until a final decision is reached.

The court document sighted by Radar read: "[Dre] is ordered to pay to the [Nicole] spousal support in the sum of \$293,306.00 per month, payable on the first of each month, commencing August 1, 2021," Dre will pay a total of \$3,519,672 per year until Nicole remarries or "enters into a new domestic partnership."

Also, Dre was ordered by the Judge to keep paying for Nicole's health insurance.

Dre and Nicole have persisted in fighting legally about their prenup.

Nicole once appealed for the prenup to be nullified, but Dre disagreed with that arrangement.

Also, Nicole had alleged that Dre said he would not carry out the prenup, which Dre has said, is not true.

Nicole later filed for divorce from Dre. She cited irreconcilable differences as the reason for her separation from the hip-hop icon.

The couple tied the knot in 1996 and their union is blessed with two adults, Truice and Truly.

Judge rules Shakira must face trial in Spain over £13million tax evasion

By Dele Akintilo

A Spanish judge has ruled that Shakira must face trial for evading €14.5 million in tax.

The 44-year-old Colombian singer is accused of six offences that could result in jail time if she is found guilty.

Prosecutors claim that the famous singer stopped paying taxes in Spain in 2012, 2013, and 2014.

Shakira previously disclosed that she lived in the Bahamas and was not a resident of Spain during those years and that she was only visiting the country 'sporadically'.

According to Euro Weekly's report, a judge has concluded there are 'sufficient indications' for Shakira to go to trial for allegedly avoiding the payment of 14.5 million euros.

Shakira plans to present an appeal to the Barcelona Court against the judgment.

The talented musician had previously made it clear she is innocent of tax evasion after she had been questioned by a Spanish judge. She denied allegations of evading tax when she lived in Spain between 2011 and 2014, during an hour and a half long hearing in Esplugues de Llobregat, near Barcelona.

Prosecutors claimed she failed to pay taxes in Spain despite being a resident in Spain for four years before 2014. She allegedly relocated to Spain in 2011 when her relationship with Gerard Piqué was announced, but prosecutors disclosed she was officially in the Bahamas until 2015 when she started paying taxes in Spain.

The proceedings are only for the period 2012-2014, as the period for prosecuting tax evasion charges expired in 2011.

The Parent 'Hood' Star Dies at 64

By Dele Akintilo

Suzanne Douglas who is best known for her starring role in the WB sitcom 'The Parent 'Hood' and in the 1989 dance drama 'Tap' died on Tuesday 6 July. She was 64.

"The industry has lost a truly talented artist with the passing of Suzanne Douglas. She touched everyone who knew her and was lovely in every sense of the word," her publicist shared in a statement to Variety.

"The family appreciates your support and asks for their privacy during this difficult time."

"Suzanne Douglas, a beautiful and talented actress, made her transition today," her cousin Angie Tee wrote on Facebook on Tuesday. "She warmed our hearts on movie screens and television sets all over the world. This beautiful soul was my cousin. I can remember growing up, there weren't very many Black actresses who had starring roles but there was my cousin with the lead role in 'Tap' starring alongside great dancers such as Gregory Hines and Sammy Davis Jr. She also performed with Angela Basset and Whoopi Goldberg in 'How Stella Got Her Groove Back' 'The Inkwell' 'Jason's Lyric' and so much more, DuVernay and several others



the list goes on. The world will miss your talent but your soul will live forever. Rest in Paradise, my beautiful cousin Suzanne, you will be missed."

For "Tap," Douglas won the NAACP Image Award for outstanding supporting actress in a film. Her other credits include playing Cissy Houston, mother of Whitney Houston, in the 2015 biopic "Whitney," "School of Rock," the 1990 Fox series "Against the Law" and Ava DuVernay's Emmy-winning limited series "When They See Us."

posted their tributes on Douglas on Twitter.

"Suzanne Douglas was a quiet, elegant force as we made 'When They See Us.' A gentlewoman. A gem of a lady. A confident, caring actor who breathed life into the words and made them shimmer, wrote DuVernay. "I'm grateful that our paths in this life crossed. May she journey on in peace and love."

"She was an elegant, gentle warm spirit. My deepest condolences to her family and loved ones. May she rest in love," wrote Jada Pinkett Smith, who co-starred in 1994's "The Inkwell" with Douglas.

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BOOKS

"It is not true that we have only one life to live; if we can read, we can live as many more lives and as many kinds of lives as we wish." —S.I. Hayakawa

Forever (Let's Stay Together Book 1)

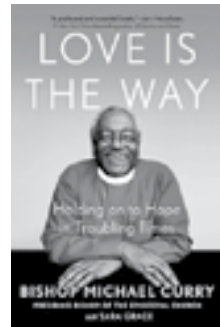


By Vanessa Miller

Jewel Dawson, a Real estate agent is headstrong, outspoken and very much in love with her fiancé, the mega-millionaire sports agent, Jackson Lewis. However, trouble started when, after he gives her a prenuptial agreement to sign, she calls off the wedding because she could never marry a man who doesn't believe in the possibility of forever. The self-willed Jewel was raised to appreci-

ate the sanctity of marriage. Her great grandparents lived to celebrate their platinum wedding anniversary, her grandparents just celebrated their emerald and her parents are about to celebrate their coral wedding anniversary. All these culminated to Jewel believing that love can last a lifetime, but her fiancé, doesn't have the same experience. Jackson's father was currently on his fourth marriage and everyone around him was getting divorced. The real trouble is that Jackson loves Jewel, but has no idea if this love with stand the test of time. Jewel's heart was broken by a man who thought like that, so she will not put her trust in Jackson

Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times

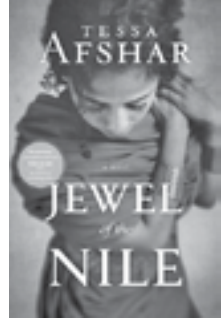


By Bishop Michael Curry and Sara Grace

In every aspect of life, love has often been adjudged as the instrument that makes the world go round. In this riveting book, Bishop Michael Curry who delivered a sermon on the redemptive power of love at the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle, expands on his message of hope

unless he can promise her forever. Fortunately for them, the two discovered that

Jewel of the Nile



by Tessa Afshar

Chariline, who was raised as an orphan by her aunt, has only been told a few pieces of her parents' tragic love story. Her beautiful dark skin is proof that her father was Cushite, but she knows nothing else. Real drama started when,

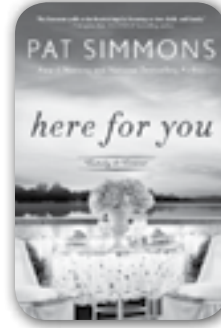
Among others, this didactic book will lead readers to discover the gifts they need in order to live the way of love: deep

while visiting her grandfather before his retirement as the Roman official in the queen's court, Chariline overhears that her father is still alive, and discovering his identity becomes her obsession. Unfortunately for her, while both her grandfather and the queen have reasons for keeping this secret, forbid her quest. So when her only clues lead to Rome, Chariline sneaks on the ship of a merchant trusted by friends. And then you can imagine what is next. Find out!

reservoirs of hope and resilience, simple wisdom, the discipline of non-violence, and unshakable regard for human dignity.

Here for You

By Pat Simmons



Drama started when he responds to a request for help for a nailing woman and then meets the Heroine, Rachel Kniceley's life has been on hold for six months while she looks after her great aunt, who has Alzheimer's. But, while putting her aunt first was an easy decision—accepting that Aunt Tweet is nearing the end of her battle is far more difficult.

The crusader, Nicholas, is charmed by and attracted to Rachel, but then devastating news brings both a fracas of faith and roadblocks to their budding relationship that neither could have anticipated. And then the question is what next? Find out!

How did it turn out for the love birds with different experiences? Find out!

lasting love doesn't come easy, but with God on their side, anything is possible.

TO THE RESCUE

SAY NO TO CORRUPTION

- By Pastor Dele Dada

"Look, Kenny on this idea of sending money out of the country, can you really blame us? I mean people in my status and position? You do not want me to leave government house and be poor. It is bad enough you will be referred to as ex-governor, ex-senator, but can I dust my resume and be looking for job? Can I? The answer is capital NO!" Paola exclaimed.

"Nobody says you should be. Develop the nations. Even with the money acquired illegally use it to start factories, vocational institutions. Then you will be the Managing Director of such companies. Today all the money bags, are starting universities— even religious gurus are not left out. While I agree universities are good, what the nation needs is more vocational schools, trade centers, technical schools and polytechnics. What is the point of having graduates that are not trained to be self-employed? University graduates are trained to fail, sorry, maybe those are not the exact words but they are trained to depend on others, trained to be in search of white collar jobs." Kenny explained.

"Paola even though you and I know how you got your wealth and got this position, but turn it around, be an example of godliness. Repent, I do not mean superficial repentance of going to church and giving of ridiculous amounts just to boost your ego, but genuinely repent and use

this opportunity to develop this nation. Refuse to be corrupt, stop corruption, fight corruption; do not forget those things we spoke against in South Africa. Implement those ideas. The news I am hearing about you is not good. I am told you are one of the party going governors; you go to every night party in town. Can I tell you the truth?"

KENNY ASKED HIS FRIEND?

"The news around town is that you are one of the most corrupt governors. I know all these loud mouth sycophants around you will not allow you to hear the truth. But by the time they push you to prison it will be too late!

Paola laughed. "Prison? Kenny in this country? I cannot go to prison! I will bribe all the bribables. Some of us are sacred cows now in this country. The judiciary is in our pocket. How many governors have you seen in prison after office? The whole system is a network. They fear that if they want to bring one down he will sing like a parrot and bring everybody down and the case will be dropped. The best they can demand is a bargain. That is they ask you to pay a paltry sum, you are accused of ten billion and they tell you to pay five million. You will pay it and move on."

KENNY SHOOK HIS HEAD.



"So this is why you politicians and key holders of government positions think and do what you are doing?" Kenny asked without expecting an answer. "In the early seventies there used to be a column in the defunct 'Daily Times' daily news paper. It was called 'Do not say I told you' Paola sarcastically reminded his friend

"Paola the times have changed. Have you not heard of Economic Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) 'Do not say you fear the dreaded commission?'"

PAOLA LAUGHED TILL HIS RIBS WERE HURTING HIM.

"A masquerade is a human being in a special or scary clothing. There is nothing mystical about masquerades, they are human inventions to deceive the gullible and scare the little ones. In a similar manner EFCC is another government invention to show you poor masses that the government is doing something about corruption. It is a ruse! Do not say I told you!"

Paola, you have gone too far astray. You are irredeemable. May thy Lord have mercy on your soul. One last word, Paola, be a leader not a politician, a politician thinks of the next election, a leader thinks of the next generation. Show me my room; this is 3am I have to go to bed. My flight to S.A is 6pm tomorrow. Kenny got up to leave.

Paola dipped his hand in his buba and soro dress and pulled out a big brown envelope. Kenny this is for you without any strings attached it is \$100,000 dollars. Go and invest it and turn your life around. Paola said stretching the money to Kenny.

"Paola you know I will not take that. Let me remind you about Abraham 'And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself. And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lifted up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth, That I will not take from the thread even to a shoe latchet, and that I will not take any thing that is mine, lest thou shouldst say, I have made Abram rich' Paola, some of us are the Abrahams of this generation. Goodnight." Kenny said and refused to look at the bulky envelope.

Paola, some of us are the Abrahams of this generation. Goodnight." Kenny said and refused to look at the bulky envelope.

TO BE CONTINUED.

I haven't seen my husband for 10 years

Dear Agatha,

My husband traveled 10 days after our wedding. Since then he hasn't come back to the country, neither have I been able to go and meet him.

We actually met a year before we got married. We met when he first came home from his base the previous year, he kept telling me on the phone how he wanted to spend the rest of his life with me so when he came back, we got married.

At the beginning, we talked almost everyday. He kept telling me to be patient with him. He gave a variety of excuses as to why he can't come home or process my traveling documents.

However, about two years ago, he instructed me not call him that he would gladly do all the calling. I didn't mind since it would save me the money. But recently, I needed to talk to him urgently. I dialed his number repeatedly he didn't pick. I kept calling but he refused to take my call. I guess he must have switched it off after a while because I didn't get through to him again.

Days after that incident, he called and was very angry with me. He called me a disobedient wife, lacking of respect for her husband. He didn't even give me the chance to explain why I wanted to speak with him at that time of the night.

After saying all that he had to say, he cut the line. I tried to get him back, he refused to answer my

call. From that point, it became impossible to get him on that line. I told his parents about the development, his mother right in my presence called him but she also encountered similar problem. She told me not to worry that she would get back to me.

She must have, because he called me with another number. He instructed me never to call him on his former number but to use the new number whenever I wanted to speak with him. After listening to my reason for calling him the other night, he promised to send the money I wanted.

Again, I tried calling him one night that I was very lonely but the number was not available. I only get him during the day time on the new number or on the nights he is at work.

Agatha, he sends me money and things but that is as far as I get from him. At 40 now, I have a husband who hasn't seen me in a decade. I am childless and to crown it all, he appears to be keeping things from him.

Although nobody has told me anything but I have a strong hunch that my husband has another woman in his life. Else, why would he stop me from calling him whenever I want to?

I also observed that his mother is not as worried about his refusal to come for me as before. Her worries concerning when he hopes to start having children in life have ceased. Her attitude these days whenever I complain is that God knows best. Before now, my sib-

lings have been urging me to think of what to do with the marriage because in their opinion, I don't have a husband. Then, lots of men were still showing interest in me. One of them actually wanted me to terminate my marriage and marry him. Except for my mother, every other member of my family wants me to end my so called marriage.

I really don't know what to do anymore. At my age, only men interested in sleeping with me for fun come around. All the serious ones are married, which leaves me with the worry of where to start from.

My friends who married at the same time that I did or after me are all mothers.

It has been very difficult for me. I have a husband but in the real sense of it, I don't. Age is no longer on my side.

Whenever I ask him about the issue of our having children when he is there and I am here, he tells me soon. He is being telling me that since we got married.

I don't know what to do anymore. I am frustrated, dejected and very sad at what has become of my marriage and life. I don't know any of his friends or where he works in England. Whenever I ask him such questions, he tells me, I will meet them when I come. I really trusted him and believed him.

How do I go about this issue? I don't want any member of his family accusing me of being wayward or unappreciative of what my husband has

done for me. In fairness to him, he helped set up my business.

Even if I leave, where do I start from? Ifeoma.

Dear Ifeoma,

Honestly, you have wasted too much time already as well as taken everything for granted. A man leaves you a day after your wedding 10 years ago without looking back or considering your feelings and you sit quietly waiting for something to happen?

Granted every marriage has its challenges but not your kind of marriage. This one doesn't even exist beyond the ceremony of you two meeting and getting married. This man has simply put you into a sort of bondage. As it is you cannot move forward or backwards. You are fixed to one spot, a point that leaves you without anything at the end of the day.

Whatever reasons he is giving you for not coming home for 10 years aren't tenable. If he truly wanted you to join him, he would have made the efforts long ago. The truth is that there is something he is hiding from you; the reason he ordered you not to call him at night or on the number you have always used in communicating with him.

It is this same reason that has kept you a secret from his friends over there. This simply underscores your lack of knowledge of the man you married. In the beginning, he may have had the intentions of coming for you after a short while but, something, he is unwilling to tell

you must have happened to make him change his mind.

Whatever it is that has kept you a grass-widow for a decade is what you should demand from your husband. It isn't as if he cannot come home; unless of course he has problems with the law over there and is shy to tell you. Whatever his reason or excuse, at this juncture, there is nothing for you to lose by asking him direct questions. You have kept quiet for too long and if he now considers you a disobedient wife for demanding to know what your fate is with him after what appears to be a wasted decade, so be it.

Insist, you are capable of dealing with anything, including the knowledge of him having a wife and children down there. Anything is better than keeping you in this limbo and confusing state.

Let him realise that being married to him has made it difficult for you to move beyond a point; and that you consider his treatment of you, unfair.

Be clear to him that you can no longer endure the situation; that you want to end the marriage so as to move on. Giving him this kind of ultimatum is the only way you can get him to admit to whatever it is that has kept him away from you for a whole decade.

But before you do this, let his mother know you have reached the end of the road with her son. Ask her if you were her daughter, would she keep encouraging you to stay in this kind of marriage? If anybody in his family turns around to accuse you of be-



Agatha Edo

ing wayward or unappreciative of whatever it is he has done for you in terms of financial assistance, remind them that you married their son at 30 and haven't seen him for 10 years. In your shoes, what would they have done? Not that you were pregnant at the time he left and has a child to call your own.

It is their right to talk and yours to plan your life the way you would be happy at the end of the day. A marriage is only a marriage when the two people in it have the same ideas, are loyal to each other, have mutual respect and share each other's company.

A marriage is to provide companionship. If for a decade you don't have this, then what kind of marriage is it? His money isn't what you came to marry; you came to marry their son. Tell them you are ready to stay as long as they provide you with your husband.

Sincerely, the ball is in your court. The longer you wait for this man who appears not in a hurry to come back to you, the harder it becomes for you to start again.

You have to urgently make up your mind over that thing that makes you most happy. You are the only one who can make the decision.

Good luck.



With this Ring

By: Pastor Taiwo Iredele Odubi

Continued from the last issue Available on Amazon WhatsApp: +234 8023000773

It was obvious that the woman was very angry and bitter at the state of health-care in the country and she added, "Look at what you and your children are going through!"

Ola's wife agreed. "You can write about it if it will bring a positive change in the health care system." "I'd like to ask some questions so as to get the stories right." Albert said, bringing out a pen and paper.

Starting with Ola, he asked, "What is your full name sir?" Half an hour later, on the way to Femi's house, they were talking about some of the things they heard at Deacon Ola's house. Femi's PA got down

on the way and about twenty minutes after, they reached Femi's house. He got down and Albert drove off immediately.

"I will go to church next week Sunday." Grace told Albert. Albert didn't talk immediately, and then he said, "Will you want me to worship in your church on that day so you won't be alone?"

"Can you come?" "Yes, if you want me to." He said.

"I don't mind. The main service starts at ten in the morning. I'll be sitting at the back. I'll keep a seat for you."

"Okay. I'll be there." She spoke again. "I'll be traveling to Benin in about a month's time. My

friend, Jennifer is getting married. No counseling session for us that day."

"Does Jennifer know you're pregnant?" "Umm hmm."

He smiled. She told him she would be going for antenatal in the coming week at a hospital.

"Which day?" "I don't know yet. I'll have to call and book an appointment."

"Let me know when it will be. If I'm free, I'd like to go with you. Can I go with you?"

"Well, yes you can but I won't want you to enter the examination room with me."

"Why not?" "It's not necessary. The doctor will examine me and you don't have to be there." She said. Smiling, she added, "Or ... are you a doctor?"

He returned the smile. "I care about both mother and child. Besides, I'm the father."

"But you are not my husband. There's a big difference between the two."

"But it's just antenatal." He argued. "My stomach will be exposed."

"So what? I've seen your stomach before."

"That's true but things are different now."

"We have agreed that there won't be sex again so what are you afraid of?"

"I am not afraid. I'm only trying to protect us from temptations. We shouldn't make things difficult for ourselves."

She has a point, he thought. Grace told him she would like to stop at the market that was on the way to her house to buy some groceries.

"Can you still spare about half an hour?" She asked Albert.

"Do I have a choice?" "Well, I would understand if you said you didn't have time."

He glanced briefly at



Pastor Taiwo Odubi

the clock on the dashboard. "I hope you won't take much time?"

"No. I'll make it snappy. Thanks." They got there and he parked.

"I'll be back soon." She said as she alighted from the car.

But he got down, locked up and followed her. About forty five minutes after, they were carrying five grocery bags into her apartment.

Ibise was in the living room and she greeted Albert warmly.

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SOURCE: AMAZON.COM BOOKS AVAILABLE AT THE TORONTO & MISSISSAUGA PUBLIC LIBRARIES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Zaila Avant-garde Makes History in Spelling Bee



By Yahaya Othman

Zaila, a 14-year-old from Harvey, La., won on the word "Murraya" to become the first Black American to win the Scripps National Spelling Bee in almost 100 years.

The last word, after hundreds of competitors fell to some of the dictionary's most colorful monsters, was "Murraya."

When Zaila spelled it correctly on, she put her hands to her head filled with excitement and danced her way into spelling competition's history as the first Black American to win the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The victory embellished Zaila's already remarkable résumé: Not only has she competed in spelling bees for two years, she already holds three Guinness world records for dribbling, bouncing and juggling basketballs—all before the ninth grade.

"Now I get to get a nice trophy, which is the best part of any win," she said in an interview on ESPN, which broadcast the contest. (She also won a \$50,000 prize).

The next morning, she told "Good America" that she hoped to see more African American students "doing well in the Scripps Spelling Bee."

The bee, she said, was a "gate-opener to being interested in education."

eliminated in a round of questions about word meanings, which Ms. Stamper said was a return to spelling bees' origin as a broader vocabulary exercise. "It wasn't this gamified thing that we do now," she said.

In the last few minutes of competition, it came down to two girls, Zaila and Chaitra Thummala, a 12-year-old from San Francisco.

The last few words were rattled off in a swift back-and-forth between them and the pronouncer.

First was "fewtrils" (things of little value), which Chaitra got right. Then "retene" (a chemical isolated especially from pine tar, rosin oil and various fossil resins), which Zaila spelled correctly. It was down to Chaitra to spell "neroli oil" (a fragrant pale yellow essential oil). Chaitra got it wrong.

That meant that Zaila could win it if she spells one more correct word. Although she seemed puzzled by her word, "Murraya," she grimaced a little. The pronouncer told her it meant a genus of tropical Asiatic and Australian trees having pinnate leaves with imbricated petals.

"Does this word contain like the English word 'Murray,' which would be the name of a comedian?" Zaila asked, referring to the actor Bill Murray and drawing laughs from the pronouncer and the judges.

She began to spell it, stopped herself, and asked for the language of origin (Latin from a Swedish name).

Then, as with so many words before, she needed little time to solve its structure. She spelled the word correctly.

Several spellers were

Haiti President Killed by Highly Trained Assassins



By Yahaya Othman

During an attack that took place at night, a group of assassins believed to have been highly trained fatally shot Haitian President, Jovenel Moïse and wounded his wife, Martine Moïse, in their private residence on the outskirts of the capital, Port-au-Prince.

The assassination predictably rocked the country, brewing fear and confusion among the citizenry about what is to come.

The assassins charged into Mr. Moïse's residence sometime after the early morning hours. Official reports described the attack that included foreigners who spoke Spanish as well-planned.

President Moïse relies on a high level of protection, usually traveling with more than a dozen armored cars and police guards. There are often 100 officers from the presidential guard around the stationed at the President's residence, former Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe said.

Haiti's ambassador to the United States, Bocchit Edmond, stated that there was no specific warning of the attack.

Carl Henry Destin,

professionals, killers, commandos."

During a news conference at National Police Headquarters with the interim prime minister, the American suspects were identified as Joseph Vincent, 55, and James J. Solages, 35, Florida residents of Haitian descent. The other 18 detained suspects were described as Colombians.

Clément Noël, a judge who is involved with the investigation, said on Friday that Mr. Vincent and Mr. Solages claimed that they were not in the room when Mr. Moïse was killed and that they had worked only as translators for the attackers.

The judge said the two met with other members of the assassins in a suburb of Port-au-Prince to plan the attack, which was planned for over a month. The judge said the men claimed that the goal was not to kill the president but to bring him to the national palace.

It's still unknown what evidence the Haitian authorities have against the two men, when they had entered the country and what their connection might be to those in the hit squad identified as Colombian.

There are at least 6 more suspects on the run, authorities said. Security forces made the first arrests after engaging in a chaotic shootout.

Haitian government officials announced that they asked the United States provide troops to help preserve the country's key infrastructures as the nation faces unrest from the assassination.

Groom Calls off Wedding Because of Food, Marries Another Bride

By Marcel Chukwuka

A man walked out on his bride on their wedding day simply because the family of the bride failed to serve mutton in the feast at Sukinda.

According to The New Indian Express, the 27-year-old groom, who was identified as Ramakant Patra, later married another woman of the area before returning home.

Patra is a resident of Rebanapalaspal in neighboring Keonjhar district. He reached Bandhagaon village in Sukinda block with baraat in a procession to marry on Wednesday afternoon. When Patra reached the venue, the bride's family welcomed

him, and after necessary rituals, he was taken to the dining hall for lunch.

Before the main food was served, members of the wedding party requested for mutton curry. Unfortunately, mutton curry was not prepared. The baraat entered into an argument with the bride's family members and with those who were serving food.

The seemingly harmless situation quickly turned ugly and soon blew out of proportion. When Patra came to know that mutton had not been cooked for the wedding party, he called off the marriage taking everyone by surprise.

Despite repeated

plea from the bride's family members to try to persuade him to change his mind, all their efforts were futile as the groom left the place along with his kin. Patra went to a relative's house at Gandhapala village of Kuhika panchayat in Sukinda where they stayed for the rest of the day.

In an extraordinary turn of events, he later married another woman of Phulajhara in Tamka the same night before returning to Keonjhar. No complaint was made with the local police in this connection. Such high-handedness by grooms and their families used to be reported to the police in the 1980s.

In another extraordinary circumstance this week, a bride in Uttar Pradesh reportedly called off a wedding after discovering the groom had poor eyesight. The nuptials were apparently arranged by the families of the pair, which is common on the Asian continent.

According to a report, the bride and her family were suspicious when they noticed the groom was wearing glasses on the wedding day.

A test was arranged for him by asking him to read a newspaper without wearing his glasses and when it became clear he relied on them, the bride's family called the wedding off.

Mayor of Johannesburg dies of COVID-19



By N.Ugoh

The Mayor of South Africa's Johannesburg, Geoff Makhubo has died. He died of Coronavirus complications.

The spokesperson of Johannesburg, Mimandla Ndumase said earlier this month that Makhubo had been hospitalised for Covid-19 complications after he tested positive in late June.

However, he succumbed to the infection recently at the age of 53. After his death was announced, Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Health and Social Development Eunice Mgcina was

been appointed as acting Mayor of Johannesburg.

In her tribute to the late Mayor, Mgcina said: "We had hoped that Makhubo would defeat the virus, return to work and lead the City as we face this pandemic that has devastated lives and livelihoods. Sadly, it was not to be.

"Our heartfelt condolences go to his wife, daughters, mother and the rest of his family, friends and comrades. The family has requested to be afforded privacy and space as they process the untimely passing of one of their own."

Geoff Makhubo assumed office in December 2019 after the ruling party snatched the city's Mayoral from an opposition coalition.

Derek Chauvin Sentenced to 22 1/2 Years in Death of George Floyd

Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis police officer who was convicted of the murder of George Floyd, received a sentence of 22 1/2 years in prison.

The video recorded by a bystander of Floyd's May 25, 2020, death sparked a widespread cry against racial injustice.

The sentencing fell short of the 30 years prosecutors had requested but is one of the longest prison terms ever imposed on a U.S. police officer in the killing of a Black person, per AP News. With good behavior, Chauvin, 45, could receive parole after serving two-thirds of his sentence, or about 15 years.

Judge Peter Cahill cited Chauvin's "abuse of a position of trust and authority and also the particular cruelty" shown to Floyd in going beyond state guidelines of a suggested 12 1/2-year sentence.

The sentencing occurred after an emotional day in court in which Chauvin, 45, addressed the Floyd family for the first time, saying that because of other pending legal matters, he was "unable to give a full formal statement." He had maintained public silence since Floyd's death and chose not to testify at his trial.

"But briefly, I do want to give my condolences to the Floyd family," Chauvin said

, adding that he hopes other information that will come out later "will give you some peace of mind."

He was returned to prison immediately after the sen-

tencing. Floyd's 7-year-old daughter also spoke at the sentencing in one of several impact videos by family members. "I miss you and I love you," Gianna Floyd said when asked what she would say to her father. She also said she believed he was still with her in spirit and said, "We used to have dinner meals every single night before we went to bed. My daddy always used to help me brush my teeth."

She also gave a list of things she would have liked to do with her father: "I want to play with him, have fun, go on a plane ride."

The Floyd family's response to the sentence was mixed. Rodney Floyd, one of Floyd's brothers, called it "a slap on the wrist."

Source:Charisma

China Wary of Lending Money to Nigeria

By Yahaya Othman

The FGN is seeking \$1 billion to continue on a gas pipeline which will cost about \$2.8 billion

expected by NNPC, prompting it to turn to others. "They are looking at Nigeria as one loan, and right now, they feel they are too exposed," one source said.

The sources said the Chinese lenders would not agree to disburse the funds expected by NNPC, prompting it to turn to others.

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Chinese bank lending to African infrastructure projects has fallen across the continent, from \$11 billion in 2017 to \$5.3 billion in 2020, a Baker McKenzie report said in April.

With the continent facing an estimated annual \$100 billion infrastructure investment deficit, the loss of Chinese funding leaves a big gap to fill.

Nigeria began building the AKK pipeline in June 2020, saying it would help generate 3.6 gigawatts of power and support

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was initially thought to be

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Norway Says 'no way' To Social Media Fakes

By Marcel Chukwuka

New regulations in Norway have been established to push back against the rising tide of unrealistic beauty standards across the various social media platforms in an attempt to curb body dysmorphia in the country.

Amendments to the 2009 Marketing Act make it illegal for influencers to share retouched images of their bodies in advertisement. They are now required to acknowledge that the

image has been edited. There has been widespread acceptance with regards to the law, but as Instagram and TikTok continue to grow in followers, and become increasingly commercialized, would this regulation be enough?

According to the amendments made by the Norwegian Ministry of Children and Family Affairs, and the passing with a 72 to 15 votes in government, promotional posts with alterations to a body's size, shape or skin will need to be des-

igned with a standardized label issued by the Ministry.

This also directly implicated celebrities and media influencers who "receive any payment or other benefit" from a post from social media. These alterations will not only cover images where lips, waistlines and muscles are exaggerated after the photo is taken, but those created with a filter.

Violation will be visited with escalating fines and potential imprisonment in extreme cases.

The enforcement of

a label will create more clarity about where a body image being presented is fake or even putting advertisers off from retouching photos in the first place. The Ministry, however, recognize that the law may be difficult to enforce since it is difficult to ascertain when an image has been edited.

Another issue that arises is that it is also unclear whether adjustments to lighting or saturation in photos will be considered a violation. Nevertheless, the

bill received widespread support from Norway's influencer community according to local newspaper Verdens Gang.

"Filters [are] something that should be fun, something you can laugh at, or be allowed to have a realistic butterfly on your face. Not to create a false beauty ideal," said influencer Annjor Jorgensen.

Some other influencers have called the law to go further by extending the regulations to all content. It is still unclear how this will be

implemented. And because these rules only apply in Norway, Norwegian users will still come across edited posts of users abroad.

The law comes amid the cultural conversation in Norway surrounding the concept of 'Kroppspress' which means 'body pressure' and its effect on the mental health of young people.

"Body pressure is always there, often imperceptibly, and is difficult to combat," the Ministry said in a statement.

SPORTS

DAVE CAMERON APPOINTED HEAD COACH OF CANADA'S WORLD JUNIOR TEAM



TOKYO OLYMPICS OPENING CEREMONY DIRECTOR SACKED OVER JOKE HE MADE IN 1998

By Stanley Ugagbe
The Tokyo Olympics organizing committee has sacked the director of the opening ceremony, Kentaro Kobayashi because of a Holocaust joke he made during a comedy show in 1998.

President of the organizing committee, Seiko Hashimoto made the announcement a day ahead of the opening ceremony. He was accused of using a joke about the Holocaust in his comedy act, including the phrase "Let's play Holocaust."

In a statement, Hashimoto said "We found out that Mr. Kobayashi, in his own performance, has used a phrase ridiculing a historical tragedy"

"We deeply apologize for causing such a development the day before the opening ceremony and for causing troubles and concerns to many involved parties as well as the people in Tokyo and the rest of the country."

Before the unfortunate announcement, composer Keigo Oyamada, whose music was expected to be used at the ceremony, was forced to resign because of past bullying of his classmates, which he boasted about in magazine interviews.

Harping on the development, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean and global social action director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a Los Angeles-based human rights group, said "Any person, no matter how creative, does not have the right to mock the victims of the Nazi genocide".



By Stanley Ugagbe

In a major announcement, Dave Cameron has been named head coach of Canada's national junior hockey team and will guide the squad through the 2022 world junior championship in Edmonton and Red Deer, Alta.

IN view of the development, Cameron has replaced André Tourigny, who was recently named head coach of the NHL's Arizona Coyotes.

It was gathered that Hockey Canada's announcement came shortly after the Ontario Hockey League's Ottawa 67's also announced Cameron would replace Tourigny behind their bench.

It was clarified that

Michael Dyck will return as the junior team's assistant coach and the staff will be rounded out by assistants Louis Robitaille, Dennis Williams and goaltending consultant Olivier Michaud.

This appointment marks Cameron's return to Ottawa and the junior program after spending five seasons with the Senators as a head coach and an assistant.

Recall that he took over the reins after Paul McLean was fired during the 2014-15 season and led the Ottawa team to a fourth-place finish in the Atlantic Division. Ottawa was then defeated in six games by Montreal in the first round of the playoffs.

Records have it that, internationally, he has won three medals at the world junior championship, winning silver as head coach in 2011, and gold and silver as an assistant coach in 2009 and 2010, respectively.

It is also important to note that Cameron was an assistant coach on Canada's gold-winning team at the 2016 world championship.

17-year-old Donata Katai becomes first Black swimmer to represent Zimbabwe at the Olympics

By Stanley Ugagbe

For the first time in the history of the nation, Zimbabwe is sending a Black swimmer to the Olympics. Donata Katai, 17, won African youth titles and broke youth records once held by two-time Olympic champion Kirsty Coventry, who is not only Zimbabwe's most successful swimmer but also Africa's most decorated Olympian.

Though the country is 99% Black, it's taken until 2021 for a Black swimmer to represent Zimbabwe at the Olympics.

Although, Simone Manuel's gold medal in the 100-metre freestyle at the last Olympics in Rio de Janeiro was a seminal moment for Black swimmers, the American's success also sparked a conversation about why Black swimmers are so underrepresented.

Reports have it that, that's historically been the case in southern Africa, where the most successful swimmers — like Coventry and South Africans Chad le Clos and Cameron van de Burgh — are all white.



However, Katai has averred that lack of diversity in swimming in Zimbabwe is no longer an issue.

In an interview with newsmen, she said "There's a lot of people of colour that take part in the sport (in Zimbabwe)"

"It's kind of becoming normal for me in Zimbabwe. I feel like we swim in very different environments because in America there are not many people of colour that swim. In Zimbabwe, the majority of people

that swim at the moment are people of colour. I guess her (Manuel's) story would be very different from mine."

According to reports, Katai has been swimming competitively since, and it was at the age of 6 that she realised she was pretty good at it. She's been tracked after her talent peaked the interest of some of the country's top coaches at the age of 8. Her family is solidly middle class, her current coach, Kathy Lobb, stressed. She is not underprivileged. And she's the first swimmer the veteran coach has taken all the way to the Olympics.

Speaking with newsmen, Lobb said "It's every coach's dream to have a swimmer coming through and taking them to the Olympics"

The history maker, Katai won gold medals in the 50-metre and 100-metre backstroke at the 2019 African Junior Championships in Tunisia. The same year, she broke Coventry's longstanding 100-metre backstroke national youth record.

Tokyo 2020: International Table Tennis Federation inducts Oshonaike into 'Club 7'

By Dele Akintilo

Former African table tennis champion, Olufunke Oshonaike has been inducted into the exclusive club of seven time Olympian known as the 'Club 7' by International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

Oshonaike is the first table tennis player in the world and the first African female athlete to participate in seven Olympic Games. She is also the first female to be inducted into the 7th Club.

She was inducted during a brief ceremony which took place in Tokyo recently. The ceremony was attended by the President of ITTF, Thomas Weikert and former inductees — Jörgen Persson of Sweden (1988 to 2012), Zoran Primorac of Croatia and the

former Yugoslavia (1988 to 2012), Belgium's Jean-Michel Saive (1988 to 2012) and Segun Toriola (1992 – 2016).

While talking about the honour, Oshonaike said she hoped the honour would offer hope to young Nigerians that dreams can come through.

She said: "I hope this award for me and my country, as the only female in the seventh club in the world, and the only woman in Africa to have achieved the dream of representing her country at the Olympics seven times, will brighten the hearts of Nigerians especially for young girls that dreams can come through regardless of the challenges in life.

"Though I might not have won gold,



silver or bronze, I have won what no woman in the world of table tennis has ever won. Thank God for the award — the 7 Club award. I'm a proud Nigerian and I hope more women will join me."

Oshonaike exited in the preliminary round of the women's singles after she lost to Liu Juan of the United States. She has however ruled herself out from Paris 2024 in France.



Uche Eke becomes Nigeria's first Olympics gymnast

By Stanley Ugagbe

24-year-old Uche Eke has made history by becoming the first Nigerian gymnast at the Olympics since 1952 when the country started participating in Olympics.

In view of his qualification for Tokyo Olympics, the Olympic medal hopeful in an interview with newsmen, said he has reached his ultimate athletic training goal.

"I dream about raising my hand, saluting, getting ready to perform my routines. I dream of walking out on the main stage with the Nigerian colors. Too bad there won't be any fans there to raise the flag. But it's ok. It's all in my heart. "Both of my dreams came true," says Uche in an interview with Baltimoresun. "My dream of being an Olympic gymnast is finally right in front of my eyes, and I'm making my parents proud."

It would be recalled that Uche whose father is a Nigerian earlier represented his fatherland in May 2021 at the African Championships in Cairo, Egypt. Then, it was a qualifying event for the Nigerian who has been practicing gymnastics since the age of three.

Speaking further on his goal, Uche said "What's driving me is that I want to give back to Nigeria every time I go," adding that he wants to bring honor to the country where his father was born and where he visits twice a year.

"Combining this degree with my being a Nigerian gymnast, that's recognition," Uche boasts, "I could do something hopefully to better the country."

"In gymnastics, it's not just, 'Oh, I'm doing a flip and I will land.' No. I happened to land due to a bunch of practice. A competition is like an exam. If you've studied as hard as you could for the exam, then you should be doing well."

Same for gymnastics. If you train as hard as you can, then your performance at the competition should reflect your practice."

It should be noted that Uche Eke competed for Nigeria at the 2019 African Games in Rabat, Morocco where he won gold and bronze medals.

Tokyo 2020: Nigerian delegate tested positive for COVID-19

By N. Ugoh

A Nigerian Olympic official has been admitted to the hospital after testing positive for Coronavirus on arrival in Japan.

A local Television Station, TV Asahi revealed that he tested positive recently at the airport with mild coronavirus symptoms and pre-existing conditions.

The TV station also revealed that the official, who is in his 60s, is the first foreign official to be hospitalised on arrival in Tokyo owing to coronavirus.

Team Nigeria will participate in nine sports at the Olympics, which commences on July 23.

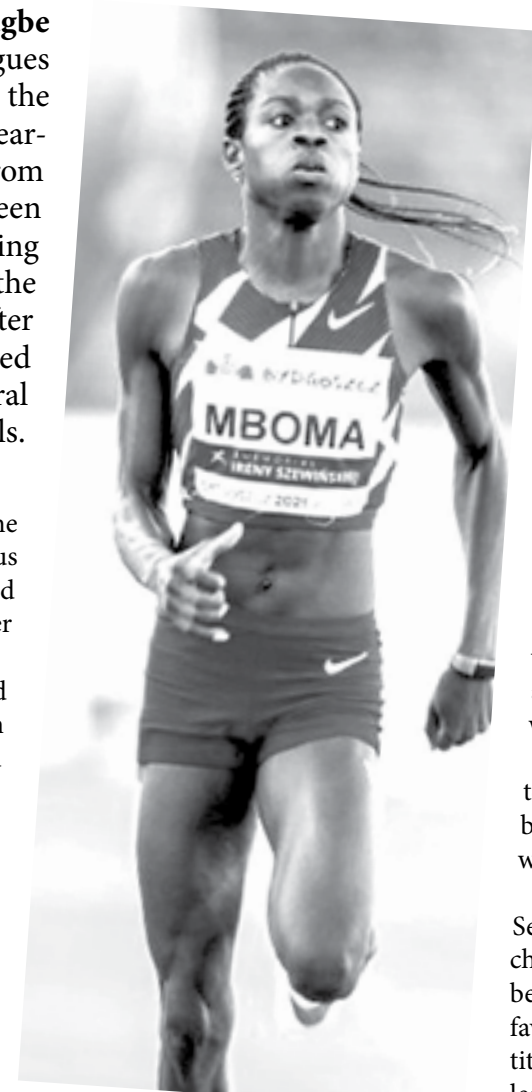
However, in its update, Tokyo 2020 confirmed that there had been four additional positive cases among those that touched down in the Olympic and Paralympic host country recently.

The three others are contractors working on the Games, which according to schedule will begin on July 23.

SPORTS

TWO FEMALE Namibia athletes banned from Olympic 400m over testosterone

By Stanley Ugagbe
In what has gotten tongues wagging across the continent, two 18-year-old female runners from Namibia have been disqualified from running in the 400 meters at the Tokyo Olympics after medical tests showed they have high natural testosterone levels.



RECALL that the same contentious rules sidelined South Africa's Caster Semenya.

In a statement obtained by newsmen, the Namibian Olympic committee said the two runners, Christine Mboma and Beatrice Masilingi, had been withdrawn from the 400.

The nation's athletics federation said they will now "focus their full attention" on the 200 meters.

It is imperative to note that World Athletics' testosterone rules only apply to events between 400 meters and one mile.

Reports have it that before this year, both teenagers were relative unknown.

Official records have it that Mboma ran a blistering 48.54 seconds to win a 400 race in Poland, which was an under-20

The Namibian Olympic committee said the times compelled the World Athletics to conduct "medical assessments" on the two at their current training camp in Italy. The committee said the results indicated that both have high natural testosterone levels.

It said "It is important to understand that both our athletes were not aware of this condition".

It is important to note that the controversial development is reminiscent of the controversial sex verification tests conducted on a teenage Semenya at the 2009 world championships.

World Athletics' latest testosterone regulations have been fiercely debated since they were introduced in 2018.

The rules have resulted in Semenya, the two-time Olympic champion in the 800 meters, being unable to run in her favorite event and defend her title in Tokyo. She has launched legal appeals in various courts but has lost two appeals and is waiting for a third to be heard.

Records have it that the rules have also affected two other high-profile African athletes, Francine Niyonsaba of Burundi and Margaret Wambui of Kenya, who won silver and bronze behind Semenya at the 2016 Olympics. They have both also been sidelined from the 800.

On her part, Masilingi's 49.53 seconds at a low-level meet in Zambia in April stands as the third fastest time of 2021.

Nigeria Stuns USA in Basketball Exhibition Game

By Yahaya Othman

The Nigeria men's basketball team made 20 3-pointers and stunned the United States 90-87 on Saturday in a pre-Olympic exhibition game in Las Vegas.

"I thought that the Nigerian team played very physically, did a great job in that regard and knocked down a lot of 3s," U.S. coach Gregg Popovich said. "Give them credit."

USA Basketball Managing Director Jerry Colangelo agreed with USA coach, admitting that the Nigerian had made considerable progress in basketball.

The African basketball team lost to the U.S. by 83 points at the 2012 Olympics. Nigeria never trailed in the fourth quarter. The team is coached by Warriors associate head coach Mike Brown

and features eight players who ply their trade in the NBA. Nigeria made 20 of 42 3s, including six from Gabe Vincent (Miami Heat), who led the team with 21 points (6 of 8 on 3-pointers).

Caleb Agada added 17 points, hitting 3 of 3 from 3-point range. "Mike's done a great job with us so far," Vincent said. "We've had a great camp so far. We had to build a new culture, start from the ground up, new plays, new everything. We've got a lot of new guys in. "It's different when you're playing for a country. Right now we're representing the continent. It means the world to us and I hope we showed it here tonight."

"That's a talented group of players. It's not a bunch of people off the street playing basketball," Popovich said. "Every year, teams are better and better, and every

year, one or two or three more NBA players are on their teams, so they're a quality team."

Kevin Durant (Brooklyn Nets) led the U.S. with 17 points on 4-of-13 shooting. Jayson Tatum (Boston Celtics) added 15 and Damian Lillard (Portland Trail Blazers) had 14. Nigeria outrebounded the U.S. 46-34.

"It's just all the work we put in," Vincent said. "It's no mistake what happened here tonight. "We knew what it was. We've all seen them play at the highest level and make huge shots. We knew what came with that and we just had to make plays."

The U.S. plays its first Olympic game on Sunday, July 25 against France. The team will compete in a total of three group play matches before the knockout stage begins on Aug. 2.

Reps Approve Bill to Create State Police, Security Outfits

By Yahaya Othman

The bill seeking to amend the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 to allow for the creation of state police and legalise regional security outfits. One of the most prominent effects of the bill is that the current police setup will be decentralized by moving police matters from the Exclusive Legislative List to the Concurrent List.

The bill was sponsored by the Chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, Onofio Luke. He stated in the explanatory note that the bill is seeking to alter the Constitution "to provide for state police and other state government security

services to enhance security and preservation of lives and properties in Nigeria".

Section 197(1) of the CFRN 1999 will be amended by inserting new Paragraphs 'e' and 'f' to provide for 'State Police Council' and 'State Police Service Commission,' respectively.

The Second Schedule to the Constitution will also be altered in Part I by deleting Item 45 from the Exclusive Legislative List; and in Part II by inserting after Item 30 on the Concurrent Legislative List, new Items 31 and 32.

The proposed bill reads, "(51) The National Assembly may make laws for the establishment of the fed-

eral police and other federal government security services;

"(52) A House of Assembly may make laws for the establishment of state police and other state government security services."

The Third Schedule to the Constitution will also be altered by inserting new Paragraphs 9 to 12.

The new paragraphs read, "(9) A State Police Council shall comprise the following members: (a) the governor, who shall be the chairman; (b) the chairman of the State Police Service Commission; and (c) State Commissioner of Police.

"(10) The functions of a State Police

Council shall include (a) the organisation and administration of a State Police Force and all other matters relating thereto (not being matters relating to the use and operational control of the Force or the appointment, disciplinary control and dismissal of members of the Force); (b) the general supervision of a State Police Force; and (c) advising the governor on the appointment of State Commissioner of Police."

The Chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary said, "Many years after independence, Nigeria has continually been beset with insecurity ranging from terrorism, kidnapping, armed robbery and domestic violence. Granted that there is no society

without crime or manifestation of criminal behaviour, our inability to bring to the barest minimum crime is a scathing indictment on the current security architecture and structure in the country.

"The federal structuring of our security does not encourage community policing or localization of policing. Recruitment and subsequent deployment of police officers in their local area is one of the major ways of curbing crime. Such officers understand the area, terrain, language, behaviour and attitude of the people he or she is policing.

"Nigeria, a country with over 201 million people, is grossly under policed with about 400, 000 police personnel. This number falls far short of the

United Nation's recommendation of a ratio of 1 per 400 citizens.

"The Constitution envisages Nigeria as a federal state. Granting allowance to state governments to establish police force and other security apparatuses will bring Nigeria into original constitutional contemplation of a federal state."

answers from p(16) FRENCH CORNER

Goodnight - Bonne nuit, **Farewell** - Adieu, **Have a nice day** - Bonne journée, **See you soon** - À bientôt, **Goodbye** - Au revoir, **I'm off** - J'y vais, **See you later** - À plus tard, **Have a nice day** - Je te souhaite une bonne journée, **See you around** - À plus, **It's time to go** - Il est temps de partir, **See you next time** - À la prochaine

answers from p(21) CHINA WARY OF LENDING ...

gas-based industries along the route. The project was to be funded under a debt-equity financing model, backed by a sovereign guarantee and repaid through the pipeline transmission tariff. NNPC awarded engineering and construction work along three sections of the pipeline to Oando, OilServe, China First Highway Engineering Company, Brentex Petroleum Services and China Petroleum Pipeline Bureau. Minister of Transport, Rotimi Amaechi said that

Nigeria was negotiating a mix of loans from Chinese and European lenders to fund railway projects. This was after reports that Nigeria had planned to rely primarily on Chinese banks. As of March 2021, Nigeria had borrowed \$3.7 billion from China, out of which it had paid back about \$500million, leaving a balance of \$3.2 billion. The AKK gas project is only one out of many that China has developed cold feet in funding. It is also holding its funds from going to Nigerian ICT Infrastructure

Backbone project phase 2. The project in 2018 was to cost \$2.3 billion, with China fully funding it. However, no dime has been disbursed since three years ago. Loan packages by China make up 10% of Nigeria's total indebtedness estimated at \$32billion by the Debt Management Agency. The World Bank, IMF and development banks account for 54.7 per cent of the debt. Bilateral loans, including from China are about 12.4%.

answers from p(21) FIRST NIGERIAN...

"My university was founded in 1888, so it 133 years old." In addition to being the first Nigerian at the Siberia State Medical University in Tomsk, Dr. Olewuezi also graduated with the highest grades the university has to offer. "I graduated with a 5.0 CGPA in 5.0 grading system," he said. In one of his Instagram posts, Dr. Olewuezi revealed that he didn't exactly set out to study medicine. He retorted that the profession chose him. When asked about the post, he said, "I was in a Technical/Science class back in Air Force Comprehensive School, but I later understood that Engineering wasn't for me (I wasn't

really into Mathematics and Further Maths), so when it came time to fill in my JAMB form, I decided to go for Human anatomy. "I sought my mother's advice, and she said why not go for medicine, that I shouldn't be scared of anything. I was scared of the competition though. And ever since then I've been thinking about becoming an Oncologist. So in a way medicine chose me." "My experience has been quite a memorable one. I've made some good friends, especially with the locals and I think that the nicest people on earth are Russian grandparents. "I've also had both nice and not-so-nice experiences during my clinical

practice. The food here is quite different from ours, but there are ingredients to prepare "Naija Jollof". Crediting his mother, who is now a pensioner for his success, Dr. Olewuezi, who is the last of three children said that his mother understood the importance of education and was willing to go the extra mile to get her kids educated. He said, "My elder brother's an Urban and Regional Planner with a PhD and my sister is a Civil Engineer with Masters in Education. My family isn't rich, so you can understand how much my mother had to work to put me through med school. My mother is the story of my success. She is now a pensioner." (sic)

RELIGION

What are you doing with your seed?

By Pastor Amos Dele Dada PhD; P. Eng

Then Jesus said to them, "If you can't understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables? 14 The farmer plants seed by taking God's word to others. 15 The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away. 16 The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. 17 But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word. 18 The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God's word, 19 but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced. 20 And the seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as

much as had been planted!" Mk 4: 13-20

The late Bible teacher, Myles Munroe once said whatever you give to the woman she multiplies, give them ingredients they will give you soup, give them sperm, they will give you a child, they will frustrate and you will have a basket of troubles!

The question the Holy Spirit is asking you today is what have you done with the seed? Seed could be a natural endowment, talent, physical or material things such as money, position, power.

In the first category, Jess said there is a sower going around with a seed. He narrated the story above to show what the heart of man can do with a seed. He said no matter how precious a seed is when someone is given, he can be careless with it and allow Satan or external forces to take it away in a blink of an eye.

The Holy Spirit is saying when you are given an opportunity and you fail to utilize it you abuse the seed. You waste the seed. Giving

an excuse of Satan taking away your seed does not solve the problem. Seed can come like an idea, a suggestion, recognize it, value it and don't let external influence take it away from you. As a young boy in 1976, I was given admission to the University of Ife, now Obafemi Awolowo University. In those days in Nigeria, when you secure admission to the University your name is published in the daily news papers. When mine was published a colleague who was a final year student of Yaba Tech (a technical college) advised me not to go.

She had been told that UNIFE has a characteristic of deliberately failing her students or subject them to extra years before they can finish. Thank God I did not allow Satan to take away that admission seed from me. I went to UNIFE, I got born again, I got my BSc and Msc. in Chemical Engineering in record time and God also gave me a beautiful and godly wife! What are you doing with your seed?

Jesus said there is a second category of seed re-

ceivers: the seed misusers- "The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. 17 But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word."

An example of this category are people whom God gave spouses, position, power, and they failed to learn what it takes to manage what they are given. They spend a lot on their wedding day. A lot of joy and dancing and forget about marriage. They forget that two human beings with different characteristics, idiosyncrasies, mannerisms and probably different cultures are coming together and it will take patience, prayer, love, meekness, long-suffering and wisdom to remain together.

They fail to see the other person as a seed from God to better their lot. The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Gen 1:12. The Children God gave you are seeds

to cement your marriage irrespective of their sexes. My wife and I are blessed with five daughters, but by the time the fifth child came I almost lost my marriage. Thank God I didn't.

Imagine how many people are looking for just one child. That political position is a seed. As they say you can count the seed in a fruit, but you cannot count the seed in a seed. When a seed is well planted and allowed to grow it has the capacity to form a forest.

If you can realize that as a teacher you are a seed to raise many generations of seeds you will be committed to the lives of those children.

Every seed matters, every student matters. In Nigeria of today, students are persecuted, daily kidnapped, raped, farmers are killed and a nation that does not value its seed is allowing carnage to thrive. Legislators who should be the seed to make laws to help the nation are politically biased, beclouded with bribery and refuse to see the future, they waste away the nation by making laws that do not help the nation.



Pastor Amos Dele Dada

The judiciary that should give the seed of justice pervert justice especially during elections. The nation burns. The executive Adem they has the seed of governance does not allow it to grow and the nation is saturated with unemployment, that leads to youth becoming vagabonds, yahoo boys, kidnapers armed robbers, rapists bandits and Boko Haramist. Whatever position you have today it's a seed - what are you doing with that seed.

Shalom.

To be continued. -- O taste and see that the Lord is good. (Psalm 34:8). I have tasted and found that the Lord is good. I do testify that the Lord is good. Join me to taste him.

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answers from p(16) QUANTITY REASONING

a = 1/3, b = 12, c = 5.25, d = 70, e = 169, f = iii

answers from p(16) CAN YOU SOLVE ...

- 1. THEM 2. DART 3. SING 4. TAPE 5. NEAR 6. TALE

answers from p(16) SOLVE THE PROBLEMS

- A) \$15.00 x 30% = \$4.5 B) 400 cm x 25% = 100 cm C) 20kg x 145% = 29 kg D) 0.075 x 80 L = 6 L E) 15/24 x 100% = 62.5% F) 8/2.5 x 100 = 320% G) 120 = a number x 80%; a number = 120/0.8 = 150 I) 48 = a number x 60%; a number = 48/0.6 = 80

answers from p(16) CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- Across** 3. Polar Bear 4. Tiger 5. Seal 8. Koala **Down** 1. Cobra 2. Kangaroo 5. Squirrel 6. Lion

answers from p(19) DEAR AGATHA

Grace told her that Albert paid for the groceries and Ibie thanked him. Albert left immediately. Grace took the bags into the kitchen. Taking a bottle of water, she opened it and inserted a straw. Then, she washed two apples, put them on a small plate and returned to the living room with the bottle in her right hand. She came to her mother and held the plate out. "Do you want one?" Ibie took one. "Thanks." Grace went to sit on the sofa that was near the TV. "You took quite some time today with Pastor Femi."

of how they had to take Femi to Ola's house. When she was through, Ibie said, "That reminds me, I need to call Pastor Femi." Ibie phoned Femi and said, "Next Saturday is the Singles' Summit. I just want to know if you will be joining us." "Yes, I will be there by God's grace," Femi said. "In that case, I'd like you to share briefly with us and pray for us." "Alright." Sometime later, Grace got up and went to the kitchen to cook. She wrapped an apron around her waist, washed her hands and began to set out on the table the things she would need for the cooking. Half an hour later, Ibie entered the kitchen and said,

"Hmm. Something smells good in here." She said. Grace glanced up from what she was stirring and said, "Thank you." Ibie opened the refrigerator and took a bottle of soft drink. She opened it, and leaning against the kitchen counter, she looked at what Grace was doing. There were two pots boiling on the gas cooker. On the counter were several ingredients and a tray that contained some pieces of roasted turkey. Ibie drank from the bottle, and then asked, "Is there anything I can help you with?" "Not really. I'm fine." As Grace continued with what she was doing, they talked. Grace told her she would be going for antenatal during the week.

Leaders Condemn Vandalism of Churches in Canada

By NCNC Staff

Indigenous as well as Catholic leaders condemned the recent incidents of church vandalism in Canada, including the "suspicious" burning of Catholic churches. In the province of Alberta, a fire was put out in the morning hours at the Siksika Nation Catholic Church. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police reported that they believe the fire had been set deliberately.

Four Catholic churches located on tribal lands in British Columbia were razed. An Anglican church was also found to be on fire weeks ago, but the fire was extinguished and caused only minor damage. The Royal Ca-

nadian Mounted Police says the fires are "suspicious," but local leaders believe them to have been intentionally set. Around 4 a.m., the historic St. Ann's Catholic Church on the Chuchwayha reserve in British Columbia was discovered to be on fire. At about 4:45 a.m., a Catholic Church on Chopaka land in the province was reportedly on fire. The Church also burned down. The fires followed the destruction of two other Catholic churches on tribal lands in Canada. At about 1 a.m. Sacred Heart Church in Penticton Indian Band in British Columbia was discovered to be on fire;

two hours later, a fire was reported at St. Gregory's church about 25 miles away in the town of Oliver, on the Osoyoos Indian Band. At St. Paul's Cathedral in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, vandals recently spray painted the words "We were children" and made red handprints in paint on the doors. The vandalism was believed to have followed an announcement that more than 750 unmarked graves were discovered at the site of a former residential school on Cowesses First Nation land in Saskatchewan. The country's residential school system, and the Catholic Church's involvement in the sys-



tem, has come under intense public scrutiny following the discovery of the remains of 215 Indigenous children at a former Catholic-run residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia. Recently, Cowesses First Nation leaders announced that 751 unmarked graves had been

discovered at the site of the former Marieval Indian Residential School. Leaders emphasized that the discovery was of unmarked graves, and not a "mass grave site." The residential school system was set up by the federal government beginning in the 1870s, and was over-

seen by Catholics and members of Christian denominations. The Catholic Church, or Catholic religious orders, ran more than two-thirds of these schools. First Nations and other Indigenous children were separated from their families and sent to the schools as a means of forcible assimilation, to strip them of family and cultural ties. The last federally-run residential school closed in 1996. Since the reports of the discoveries, some Catholic churches in Canada have been vandalized or set on fire. Some First Nations' leaders recently called on Catholics to skip Sunday Mass in protest of abuses.

Cardinal Becciu, nine others indicted by Vatican over London real estate deal

By N.Ugoh

A distinguished Italian cardinal was part of ten people that were recently sent to trial in the Vatican and charged with financial crimes which include theft, money laundering, fraud,

extortion and abuse of office. Cardinal Angelo Becciu, who is a former senior official in the administration of Vatican and two top officials at the Vatican's Financial Intelligence Unit,

will face trial on July 27 in respect of multimillion-euro scandal which involves the Vatican's procurement of a building in one of London's viable districts. The trial will unavoidably bring a ripple of media

interest to the small citystate encompassed by Rome, and seems to emphasize the determination of Pope Francis to cure the rot in the finances of Vatican, even if it involves dirty public hearings. 73-year-old Becciu,

who was fired by the Pope from his senior clerical post in 2020 for nepotism allegation, and who has constantly maintained his uprightness during an investigation that lasted two years becomes the most senior official in Vatican to be charged with financial crimes.

According to a 487-page request for indictment seen by Reuters, the Pope solely gave the needed approval recently for Becciu to be indicted.

6 Ways to Design Your Dream Backyard



(NC) With more time spent at home, designing a space that feels like a mini getaway is increasingly important. Whether you're looking to move your dining experience outside or wanting to create a calming retreat, here are six ways to achieve your dream backyard:

Bright, bold and refreshing summer salad with unexpected ingredients



(NC) Trade in your "meh" greens for avocado, fennel and orange in this salad with a crunchy and zingy dressing that guarantees excitement to counter palate fatigue. The lean dressing will complement this refreshing and salad seamlessly, making it perfect for a lunch on the go or with summer barbecues.

Fennel, Orange and Avocado Salad
Prep time: 30 minutes

Ingredients:

- 1 fennel bulb, thinly sliced
- 2 oranges, peeled with a knife and sliced
- 2 avocados from Mexico, peeled, pitted and sliced
- 60 mL (¼ cup) basil leaves, chopped
- 60 mL (¼ cup) chives, minced

Preparation

1. For the vinaigrette, mix ingredients and season with salt and pepper.
2. Mix basil, chives, pumpkin seeds, olive oil and lemon zest and season with salt and pepper.
3. Arrange oranges, fennel and avocado slices on a serving plate. Drizzle with lemon and grainy mustard vinaigrette, garnish with dollops of labneh or strained yogurt and top with herbs and toasted pumpkin seeds.

Tip: You can also grill the fennel drizzled with olive oil in the oven. Seasoned salt and pepper.

makeover, add a firepit or outdoor heater, so you can keep spending time outdoors when the nights begin to cool. It's even better if you can stay cozy while you stargaze.

Consider shade and privacy

A custom-made gazebo or pergola helps keep an outdoor space shady and cool and makes for a stunning feature. Whether you want to tackle a DIY project or are looking for help with installation, Home Hardware's backyard project packages can provide you with blueprints, quality materials, expert advice and everything you need to get the job done.

Enhance your outdoor dining

Elevate your dining experience with a new pellet grill that allows you to sear, bake, roast and smoke. This will give the chef in your house the perfect excuse to whip up some classic burgers or a wood-fired pizza. Wood pellets are available in a variety of flavours, like apple, hickory, maple, oak and more, so you can

Amp up the ambiance

Don't forget to add some atmosphere with lighting and the right finishing touches. String lights are a must-have for making a space feel bright and warm as the sun goes down. Adding greenery and florals to your patio or deck space will also infuse charm and privacy. Consider going with tropical plants to bring a touch of the Caribbean to your home.

Let the games begin

Enhance that getaway feeling by adding entertainment to your backyard. Take games night outdoors with Boleball — a family-friendly game that's perfect for people of all ages. If you're in the DIY mood, you can also make a bean bag or washer-toss game. These simple additions will keep the whole family having fun all season long.

Find more décor and project ideas at homehardware.ca

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