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Communities Edition - Oshodi, Isolo & Ejigbo

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Monday 23rd August - Sunday 29th August 2021

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Olasoju to convert shopping complex to PHC

By Damilola Kushimo

The Isolo Local Council Development Area, LCDA plans to convert the shopping complex built in Alagbeji ward by the former administration to a primary health care centre.

LCDA chairman Otunba Adebayo Olasoju is discussing with the developer for a mutual agreement on the conversion.

The move is meant to answer the prayers of residents for a PHC of their own and placate the residents association of Adebisi Omotola street to withdraw its lawsuit against the council over the disputed land on which the complex is built.

The previous administration of Shamsudeen Olaleye had early in the year challenged the association to go to court when it disputed the council's claim of ownership of the land.

In the court's summon letter obtained by ECHONEWS, the residents' association filed a litigation against the council authority, Oshodi-Isolo LGA, Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban

Development, Dr Idris Salako and Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA) at the Lagos State High Court sitting in Ikeja.

The association, through its counsel, Olukunle Oyewole ESQ, requested that the court should declare the shopping complex illegal and make an order of perpetual injunction restraining the defendants, their agents, privies and officers from further building the shopping complex.

The association also prayed the court to mandate the defendants especially the commissioner and LASBCA to remove and demolish the shopping complex.

It also pleaded that the court should mandate the commissioner and LASBCA to perform their statutory duties to review, order and monitor the demolition of the shopping complex and award a sum of N2 million for the cost of legal services they incurred from the direct consequences of the actions of the defendants and award another sum of N20 million as general damages.

The personnel of LASBCA had earlier, in May, this year, carried out a partial demolition on the building after directing the council to stop the construction



Alagbeji Complex

for contravening the physical planning and urban development laws.

LASBCA also claimed then that the council did not obtain the permit of the Lagos State Physical Planning Permit Authority (LASPPA) permit.

The agency gave the council two weeks starting from Tuesday,

April 27, to defend its position but the council failed to do so hence, the partial demolition of the building.

However, the construction was later completed as the council said it had resolved the issue.

Commending the move by the council chairman to convert the shopping complex to a PHC, the

Chairman of Alagbeji Community Development Association (CDA), Alhaji Adeyemi Sogunle, who has been agitating for the health facility in the community, said the community will appreciate the gesture.

His words: "I'm exceptionally delighted. He has made my life better by making my life dream a

reality. My contention in life is to do something for my community and not what I get from the community. The place will be for everybody and not my family. It's a great achievement that I must commend the council chairman for. I've been fighting for it since 2010.

Community advocates 4-point agenda to check wrong parking along Ago Palace Way

By Damilola Kushimo

Ago Phase II United Forum (APUF) is advocating a four-point agenda to end wrong parking on the busy Ago Palace Way.

The agenda includes the seal of the terminals and their relocation to appropriate locations, rejigging the task force to include representatives of the community, provision of adequate space for trucks in terminals and quick prosecution of offenders by the police.

In a letter signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Forum, Prince Nixon Okwara and Mr Daniel Ezeanochie dated August 17 and obtained by ECHONEWS, the community highlighted 4-point recommendations, which they believe would terminate what

they referred to as "operation of illegal terminals and the menace of illegal parking on the highway".

Last week, the chairman of Isolo LCDA, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju, had warned the companies - the terminal operators against indiscriminate parking of their trucks along the road when he visited the scene for assessment.

Olasoju told them that the act has been causing accidents in the area, leading to the untimely death of innocent commuters.

The DPO of Ago-Okota Police Division, CSP Ladi Tarpaya, said some trucks drivers and their motor boys who were caught parking indiscriminately were arrested last week for causing road obstruction.

The letter was copied to all estates and CDAs in the areas



Nixon Okwara

as well as the DPO of Ago Police Division who also received a separate letter

appreciating her stance against the illegality and urging her to ensure that those arrested are

charged to courts to deter others.

I'll move PCRC forward if given the chance - Adegboyega

By Damilola Kushimo

Following the death of the Chairman of Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC), Area D Command, Alhaji Raufu Ajibaye, the incumbent vice chairman, Hon. Adeleke Adegboyega said he would follow the step of his

boss to move the committee forward if given the chance to take over.

Adegboyega, who has been acting in the chairman capacity to fill the vacuum, described his late predecessor as a leader worthy of emulation.

Until his demise on Friday, August 6, 2021, Ajibaye was the chairman of the PCRC with 10 police divisions under his

control.

He was also the state treasurer of the Command.

He was buried on Saturday, August 7 according to Islamic rites in his home town, Ajase-lpo, Kwara State while the 8th-day fidau prayer was held on Saturday, August 14 at Duncan Event Centre, Igando Road, Ikotun, Lagos.

Adegboyega said Ajibaye's

demise is a great loss to Area D and the state command at large.

He confessed to having enjoyed a very cordial relationship with Ajibaye during their time together, noting that he was a man of noble character and leader per excellence.

Already acting as the chairman of the committee, Adegboyega solicited the support of the members for him to also excel.

He said he would record greater achievement if given the chance and cooperation to utilise his ability as the new chairman of the committee.

"I've been acting in the capacity of chairman of the committee pending further directive from the state command. They are the custodian of authority. They are the ones to tell us the way forward."

Isolo LCDA to fix Kogberegbe, Lamina Lawal streets in three months

By Damilola Kushimo

In three months, Kogberegbe to Osolo Way through James Oni, Lamina Lawal, Aderinto and Holy Saviour will get a facelift, says Isolo LCDA chairman, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju.

Also on the drawing board are Nureni and Shonibare Streets which would further ease vehicular movement on the popular Isolo-Mushin Road and feature in the list of achievements in the first 100 days.

The roads are located in Alagbeji and Akinbaiye Wards connecting the local council with the neighbouring Ejigbo LCDA from Osolo Way.

He also promised that the uncompleted Karimu and Aregbe Streets would be captured in the second batch of the project with Adekunle and Amodu Farombi Streets as well as Baale Street in Ilasamaja.

He hinted that Olusola Faronbi, Shongobiye and Shonibare Streets would be put in better condition in the coming weeks.

The council boss said the councillors and CDAs will be involved in the construction of the projects for close monitoring and supervision.

Apart from road rehabilitation, Olasoju said he is planning to restructure the council secretariat as massive infrastructural development projects would soon be executed.

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OIERL: Brenner Sport FC play barren draw with Skibanj FC

By Saheed Afolabi

Both teams lost their opening match of the Oshodi Isolo Ejigbo Regional League

They were hopeful of getting a win in the match but unfortunately settled for a point each as they fired blank.

Both teams had their fair of chances in the game but their talismans were guilty of wasting clear cut chances to win the game.

Skibanj FC had a glorious chance to take the lead in the 18th minute but lack of good control from Segun Idowu made the defender of Brenner Sport FC (Chukwuma Udoka) make a great clearance out of danger.

Essien Godwin glanced a free header off the goal post in what should have been a great goal for Brenner Sport FC in the 22nd minute.

Skibanj FC goalie, Austin

Chuks, made a good save to keep the score line at bay in the 37th minute.

Skibanj FC forward, Segun Idowu, was guilty of squandering numerous chances which came his way in the match as he squandered a one on one chance against the goalie of Brenner Sport FC by firing off the goal post.

Chukwuma Udoka of Brenner Sport FC made a great goal bound goal with a good header to prevent Skibanj FC from taking the lead in the 80th minute.

Essien Godwin of Brenner Sport FC failed to connect his feet after controlling well, making the goalie of Skibanj FC have an easy catch of the ball in the 84th minute.

Brenner Sport FC winger, Elijah Joseph, could have given his side a late goal to win the match in the 90th minute but blasted his effort over the goal post, leaving only the goalie to beat.



Brenner Sport FC VS Skibanj FC

OIERL: Divine Restoration crush HOP FC

By Saheed Afolabi

Divine Restoration came back on winning terms after their opening day defeat in the OIERL by defeating HOP FC to grab their first 3 points in the game.

First half goals from Ogonna, Chinedu Ezenwa and Obinna Labille wrapped up the victory for the Ejigbo based side.

Ogonna repaid the faith of his coach by startling him in the game by giving his lead in the 4th minute after racing through on goal and beating the opposing goalie to the far corner of the net.

HOP FC could not get the solution

of the attacking threat of Divine Restoration as Divine Restoration doubled their lead through a counter attacking move, which Chinedu Ezenwa scored with ease.

Obinna Labille extended Divine Restoration FC's lead before the break which infuriated the coach of HOP FC.

HOP FC failed to adapt to the football pitch in the first half with the players missing the necessary rhythm of the game and coercion to get a result.

The second half was a more intensive encounter as HOP FC were able to get themselves together as they dominated

proceedings.

They had a couple of chances but failed to convert them as they were beaten away from home.

Describing his team loss, coach of HOP FC, Samson Oluwatosin said it was a pity that his team's performance in the first half was very poor which contributed to their loss in the game.

He noted that they picked up in the second half but was already late to salvage a point.

On the other hand, coach of Divine Restoration FC, Gabriel Shilekun said his team corrected their lapses in their first game which ultimately led them to a win against HOP FC.

Premier League managers urge players to take Covid-19 vaccine

By Saheed Afolabi

Manchester City boss, Pep Guardiola, is among several Premier League managers urging players to get vaccinated against Covid-19.

The number of positive tests in the Premier League has risen recently with 11 positive cases reported last Monday.

Fellow managers, Mikel Arteta, Nuno Espirito Santo, Steve Bruce and Graham Potter have also called on players to have the vaccine.

But Guardiola said he is "not the right person" to convince them.

"I think the doctors, the medical department can do it, so the players have to know that is [to] protect them, family and the rest of society. But no-one can obligate them to do it," said the Spaniard, whose mother died after contracting coronavirus in April 2020.

"I think the best way is explain to them the benefits or not benefits to being vaccinated or not, for

themselves, for their families, and for the rest of the people working here and in the street. And after that, everyone is going to decide.

"But, when all the scientists, all the doctors, all the big specialists about medicine say the only solution to eradicate or help to move forward after this two years of pandemic situation is being vaccinated, I think they should consider it."

On Friday, Arsenal manager Arteta said he was surprised the Gunners' Premier League opener with Brentford went ahead after a number of coronavirus cases at the club.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Alexandre Lacazette and Runar Alex Runarsson all missed Friday's 2-0 loss after positive tests, while Willian is also recovering after returning a positive Covid-19 result.

Arteta added that most of his players have had both Covid-19 vaccinations and that the club was working on trying to get all playing staff vaccinated.

He said: "Most of them are double vaccinated or had one vaccine.

"We are trying to encourage them to get vaccinated and protect themselves and their families. It's a really personal matter, we are trying to guide them and explain the reasons why it is better to do but at the end it's a personal decision."

Tottenham boss Nuno said: "The pandemic is still with us and we're learning to live with that.

"I respect all the personal choices - each and every one of us should decide - but I'm in favour of the vaccine and I would [encourage] all the players to get the vaccine. That allows maybe this freedom of when the players want to celebrate.

"It doesn't mean you're totally free from contracting the virus but it gives you more safety. So I'm truly in favour of the vaccine."

Newcastle boss Bruce holds similar views, but said it was players' "prerogative" as to whether they got the vaccine. Magpies goalkeeper Karl Darlow spent time in hospital after testing positive for coronavirus in July.

Muhammed Ali's grandson triumphs in first professional fight

By Saheed Afolabi

Nico Ali Walsh paid tribute to his grandfather, Muhammad Ali, as he won his debut professional bout wearing a pair of shorts he had given him.

The 21-year-old boxer made easy work of the fight, knocking down Jordan Weeks after 70 seconds.

The middleweight fight in Catoosa, Oklahoma, on

Saturday night was eventually stopped before the end of the first round.

"It's just an emotional journey, this whole ride," Ali Walsh said.

"This lived up completely to my expectations.

"Obviously, my grandfather, I've been thinking about him so much. I miss him."

Muhammad Ali won boxing's world heavyweight title on three occasions and his legendary status across sport saw him picked as BBC Sports

Personality of the Century in 1999.

The fighter known as 'The Greatest' died in 2016 after battling with Parkinson's syndrome for over three decades.

Ali Walsh, who is studying for a business degree, is the son of Ali's daughter, Rasheda Ali.

After the win Ali Walsh celebrated in the ring with Bob Arum, who also promoted 27 of his grandfather's fights.

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Ejigbo School alumni donate to homes

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Year 2000 set of Ejigbo High School alumni (EHS 2000) has donated food items and cash in support of the 15 years old Compassionate Orphanage Home, located at Isheri-Idimu LCDA.

While presenting the gifts to the Home during the weekend, the President of the group, Mr Adeniyi Adepegba said they decided to make the donations to the orphans to show them love and passionately contribute to their well being. He assured the Project Manager of the Home, Miss Patricia Aselemi that the group

would make regular visits while promising to assist the graduate ones among the orphans to secure job in the economic sector, adding that the group would support financially those who prefer to be entrepreneurs among them.

Appreciating the gesture by the group, Aselemi said their efforts would be a great relief for the Home to settle some of its financial challenges.

She explained that one of the greatest challenges faced by the Home is inability to employ workers, who would treat the children like their own, stating that the Home working in line with the guidelines by the Lagos State Government takes extra precaution in employing

workers.

Explaining the criteria for admitting a child in the Home, Aselemi said the Home reports cases of found abandoned children at the police station and get adequate documentation of the children with the Lagos State Government before registering them in any orphanage home.

She commended the Lagos state government for always contributing towards the development of orphanage homes in the state.

While encouraging the government to do more, she appealed to individual philanthropists in the society to also render support for the living of the orphans.



EHS 2000 at Compassionate Orphanage Home

Community commends police over prompt response to security alert

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Residents of Ashamu Estate have commended the police officers of Ejigbo Divisional Police Headquarters for prompt response to security alert in the community.

They gave the commendation when the police officers stormed the community to evacuate the

hoodlums terrorising the residents.

According to them, the gesture portrays the readiness and capability of the newly deployed DPO, CSP Gabriel Funsho, to secure the people of Ejigbo.

ECHONEWS gathered that there was exchange of gun fire between the police and the hoodlums at Sarah Fagboye junction, the entrance to the community on Monday, last week

when the police raided the community.

Some of the residents who spoke to ECHONEWS claimed that before the raid, the community was in great panic as it was subjected to various security threats from the hoodlums and the acclaimed land owners popularly known as Omo Onile.

The residents, who pleaded not to be mentioned in print, said the police were alerted when they

heard gunshot allegedly released by the hoodlums.

The police quickly responded and battled the hoodlums who later ran away out of their hideouts.

They said apart from the threat by the hoodlums, the community is still battling with civil unrest caused by the Omo Onile who fight among one another over the control of the land.

"Presently, there has been a

trivial dispute among the Omo onile in Sarah Fagboye here as three families: Ashamu, Osoru and Al Moruf are fighting over the control of the area.

"Although they have not physically assaulted any resident, we are not at peace as anything can happen at any point in time," one of the concerned residents said.

The residents appealed to the DPO to tighten security

measures within the community, saying they are afraid that the dispute among the Omo Onile may degenerate into chaos.

The DPO, in response, told the residents to be at peace, assuring them of continual raid of the community by the police.

He urged the resident to always alert the police of any emergency and security threat in the community.

Environmentalist warns residents against indiscriminate waste disposal to avert flood

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Residents in Ejigbo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have been strongly warned to desist from indiscriminate waste disposal to avert the flood ravaging the community.

The Head of Department (HOD) of Environment in Ejigbo local councils, Mrs Abimbola Adedipe, gave the warning while addressing community stakeholders following increasing reports of flood in the community. Since the commencement of the rainy season this year, various communities have continued to witness heavy flood which has damaged their properties and valuable documents.

To guard against the menace and to control the destructive flood, Adedipe told the residents to properly dispose their wastes through the accredited PSP operators in their communities.

She frowned at the attitude of some residents who patronise cart pushers, saying patronising cart pushers would exacerbate their challenge.

Adedipe noted that the cart pushers dump the wastes at unapproved dump sites in the community, and at different locations especially in the drains and canals, blocking free flow of water and causing pollution in the

environment.

Noting the consequences of flood on the community, the environmentalist said it could lead to heavy economic loss and endanger lives if not controlled.

As part of the solution on the part of the government, she stated that the local council authority has deployed PSP operators to all the wards for proper waste management in each community in line with the formulated environmental management strategy by the Lagos State government.

She, therefore, appealed to the residents to notify the government of any area where there is no PSP operator and promptly report any environmental violation case in their communities.

She also urged them to try and

desilt their drains for free flow of water before the commencement of heavy downpour.

Also speaking, the CDC chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku, appealed to the residents of the communities under Ifesowapo Omiyale CDA to work together and build drains to channel the flood into the canal.

He encouraged that affected houses should ensure absolute compliance, warning that the community would continue to experience unbearable flood if urgent proactive measures are not put in place.

"We can't win a war against water by building high flood defences in individual houses but we can control its effect by creating its own passage for free flow without excessive disruption during rainy season," he said.



Illegal dumping site at Ifesowapo Omiyale CDA

CDA commends community stakeholders over drain construction

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Power Line Ifesowapo Community Development Association (CDA), Engr. Agbolamagbin Thanni, has applauded the stakeholders in the community for pulling efforts together to construct a 10-feet drainage channel on Adams Street.

The street is an access road connecting other six roads that link to the major road in Ejigbo.

The stakeholders who contributed to the drainage construction include the councillor representing Ifoshi ward, Hon. Grace Nwankwo-Okere, the Darierin I

Lerinyo of Alutierin, Ife, HRM (OBA) Oladepo Towobola, Landlord Association and other philanthropists in the community.

Thanni believed that the



Constucted drainage at Adams Street

collective effort of the community would inspire the local council authority to render them the needed support on other projects.

He, therefore, appealed to the council chairman, Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe), to

give them full support when required as the community would soon reveal its next capital projects.

He re-emphasised the community's cooperation and support for the Obe led administration.

Proof your holiness, CAN tells pilgrims

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Ejigbo branch, Rev. Stephen Oyinlola, has urged the christian pilgrims who have just returned from Jerusalem to prove their holiness through their deeds.

While congratulating them for

the successful completion of their religious obligations in the holy land, the cleric said their faith should have been increased as they got more inspiration about worshipping God while in the holy land.

He admonished the pilgrims to exhibit good conducts in the society to reflect their learning in the holy land of Jerusalem.

He applauded them for representing Lagos State and Christianity well while away, noting that majority of those who got such opportunity misused it by absconding when they got to Jerusalem.

He prayed to God to accept their worship and continue to make them steadfast on the holy path.

CDA pegs pass mark at 70 for prospective beneficiaries of free GCE form

By Edith Igbokwe

Oshodi Community Development Association (CDA) has pegged the pass mark at 70 for the prospective beneficiaries of its 6th edition of free GCE form. The association said only the students who score 70 marks and above in the screening test conducted for them would be given the forms to write the examination. The test was conducted last week at Oshodi Model Primary School as the students are still waiting for their results.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the programme coordinator, who is also the former Oshodi CDA Chairman, Engr. Olusola Dahunsi said the number of students admitted to participate in the sixth edition was drastically reduced due to Covid-19 pandemic.

He explained that from inception of the programme in 2013 till 2017, about 200 students were allowed to participate in each edition of the programme but the number has to be reduced this year by about 70 percent due to Covid-19 pandemic.

He explained that out of the 55 students who obtained

application forms with N1,000 each to registered for the screening test, only 50 students sat for the test.

The participating students wrote test in three subjects including Mathematics, English and Economics/Biology.

Questions were set from the past GCE questions papers with 100 objective questions in each subject to be answered within one hour 20 minutes.

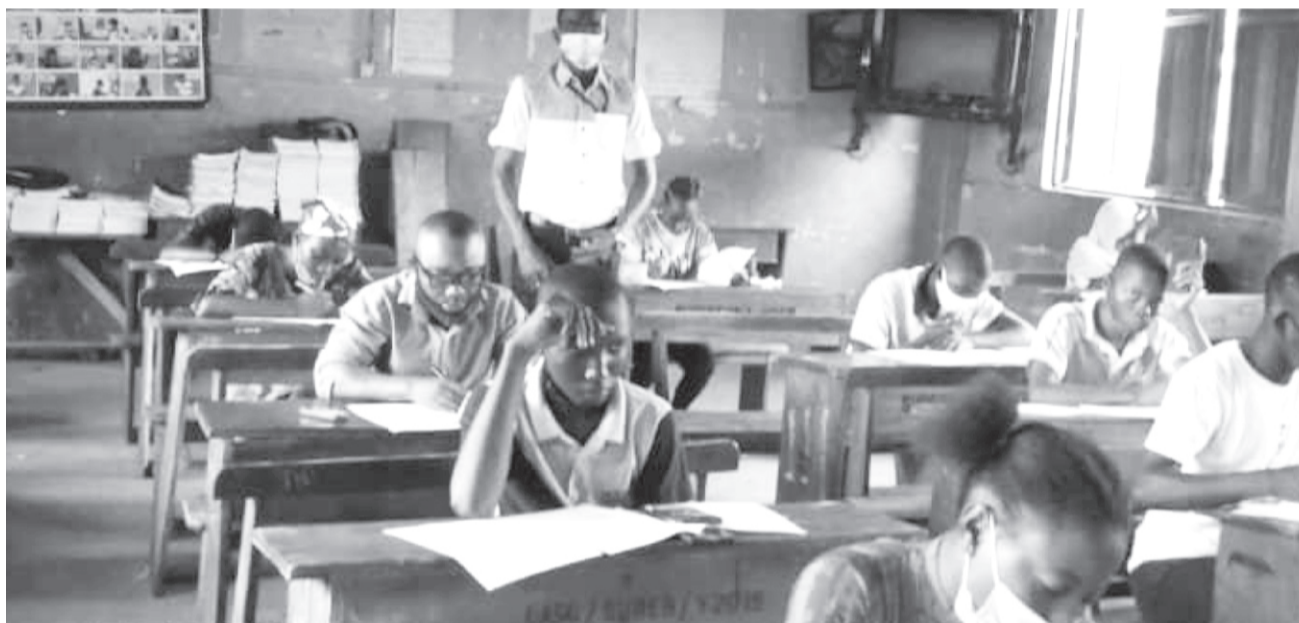
Bond Consultant, a body in charge of the script marking assured that by the end of the week the results will be ready and the successful students will be given a free GCE form to write

the forthcoming O'level examination.

Meanwhile, the organisers of the programme said they have not been able to purchase the forms due to paucity of fund.

They appealed to the voluntary donors to assist for the realisation of the project.

"We are appealing to the Executive Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede, individuals and corporate bodies to assist us in giving out free GCE forms to the successful students to encourage learning and the brilliant students among the youths," Dahunsi said.



Students during the screening test

Councillor promises govt's intervention on flood challenge

By Edith Igbokwe

The councillor representing Igbihinadun Ward, Hon. Azeez Jaiyeola, has promised to influence the local government chairman to intervene in the flood challenge faced by the residents of Abaju-Odu community in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area.

Lack of well-constructed drains has been identified as the bane of incessant flood being experienced by the residents.

The residents had claimed that the drains earlier constructed by the local government were not strong and deep enough to contain the flood.

Complaining about the situation, the Chairman of Abaju-Odu Community Development Association (CDA), Mr. Sunday Adeboye, who spoke on behalf of the community told ECHONEWS that the flood reoccurs due to the substandard drains constructed in the community.

He also noted that the drains have been blocked,

hampering free flow of water which subsequently leads to heavy flood.

According to Adeboye, the drains at Ajigbotola and Oduwusi Streets are the major ones from which flood emanates and take over the entire community whenever it rains.

He explained that there is drain only on one side of Ajigbotola Street while a house is built across the drain, blocking free flow of water on the street.

He added that another kiosk erected at the end of Oduwusi Street is also blocking free flow of water in the drain.

He, therefore appealed to authority of Oshodi-Isolo, to intervene by checkmating those who build across the drains and constructing good drains in the community.

Meanwhile, Jaiyeola who doubles as the majority leader, also confirmed the situation, promising to present the matter to the legislature for discussion as part of infrastructural works to be presented to the council chairman for urgent solution.

Ogunwoolu, Bajela to lead Abeokuta Descendants Union for 3 years

By Damilola Kushimo

Two residents of Isolo Local Council Development Area, Alhaji Iskila Ogunwoolu and Mr. Olukunle Bajela, have emerged as national executive members of Abeokuta Descendants Union of Nigeria (ADUN).

They elected as the Most Notable National President and National Secretary of the association respectively at the 19th/20th annual general meeting of the indigenous association held at ADUN House, Ijemo, Abeokuta.

The duo, alongside 24 other executive members of the association, were immediately sworn to serve the association for a tenure of three years.

Ogunwoolu, a maritime expert, freight agency, and business man of high repute,

had earlier served as the chairman Amuwo-Odofin branch of the association and chairman of ADUN 50th anniversary committee.

Speaking to ECHONEWS on his plans for the association, Ogunwoolu said his administration will endeavour to promote the indigenous and social values the association is known for across the federation and work towards increasing its membership strength.

He added that the association under his leadership would partner with government for the development of its members in terms of youth empowerment, women and elderly support.

He also affirmed about his plan to create a website for propagation of the union locally and internationally and build membership data collation for effective planning of the union.

Suspension stalls free GCE programme

By Damilola Kushimo

The suspension of examination registration by the West African Examination Council (WAEC) is stalling the plans of the Isolo LCDA to distribute free forms of the General Certificate of Education examinations to beneficiaries. The Chairman, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju explained that the council has planned to procure examination forms for about 100 students and organise intensive

coaching for them in preparation for the examination.

His words: "We would have purchased the GCE forms and commenced distribution to the beneficiaries on Tuesday last week, but we were told that WAEC has suspended it. The minimum we will purchase is 100 and the maximum 200. We are not just buying the forms but also coaching the students to prepare them for the exam so that as they can all pass the exam. They will be the ones that will be taken for JAMB as well."



Hon. Adebayo Olasoju

Olawoyin pleads with communities to cooperate with LNSC officers

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Community Development Committee (CDC), Alhaji Adisa Olawoyin has appealed to community leaders to assist the officers of Lagos State Neighborhood Safety Watch (LNSC) for the effective discharge of duty in the community.

Olawoyin gave the advice when the LNSC officers paid a

courtesy visit to the committee, urging community leaders to be proactive in the matters pertaining to security.

He informed the CDC members that the officers will start

parading the communities to fish out the miscreants causing unrest in the communities.

He explained that the security agent would be assisting the police to maintain orderliness and keep the peace of the communities.



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Managing Editor: Obe Rasheed Tel, 08025378799 Editor: Abolaji Adebayo, Tel: 07061193610. Circulation: Opeyemi Akinlade; Marketing executive: Tope Yussuf 07010496879