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Heavy rains Worsen Waste Collection

Abolaji Adebayo

Hheavy rains pelting roofs with ice crystals and inflicting flash floods which slow traffic are making it more difficult to evacuate and deposit waste.

The Nigerian Metereological Agency had, in February, this year, alerted the country of impending heavy rains in the rainy seasons warning governments and citizens to prepare and prevent activities that might worsen the predictable impact of the rains. In recent times, the agency has reiterated the predictions and continues to hold broadcasts and issue press statements of three-day predictions to sensitise Nigerians to changes in the weather.

This week, pocket of rains is expected in Lagos and other inner cities with cloudy skies, and thunderstorms as the city's temperature hovers around 35 degrees celcius.

As the rains enter drains and snake through gutters on their way to the seas, many Lagosians throw their waste into the flood not bothered where it would stop or if it would block the flow.

Worried by the habit, The Lagos State Waste Management Authority, LAWMA, had to warn residents to desist.

In a press statement in August, it warned:

"While assuring you of our total commitment to our filial duties and responsibility, we want to use this medium to once again, ask Lagosians and tenements not to dump refuse indiscriminately in unauthorised places, patronise our assigned PSP operators and pay your waste bills promptly, for better and efficient waste management delivery in order to ensure a sustainably cleaner environment."

Plastics, a particular type of waste, has come under serious focus because, unlike other wastes, it threatens marine life. This concern was expressed by the Hon. Commissioner for Environment, Mr. Tunji Bello.

At a briefing on the rainfall pattern to expect in Lagos in September, Mr Bello declared that plastic waste has become a problem for the state.

He announced plans to partner with the plastic producers to share the burden of managing the crises.

The bad habit of throwing waste into drains, gutters and canals during the rains means the state's private sector waste managers, known as PSP, still has a lot to convince the residents to allow them pick their waste for a fee.

It is believed that most of those throwing their waste are trying to avoid giving them to the PSP and paying for the service. This seems to have increased since the operators raised their rates to cover inflationary costs in the economy.

The development is undermining LAWMA's bold attempt to keep Lagos clean.

Last month, it unveiled a new strategy to expand the fleet of the PSP operators by using the new waste collection trucks and double Dino Bins injected into the fleet by Governor Babajide Sanwo-olu.

It's words: "some of those old LAWMA collection trucks would be boarded to some of the PSP operators, whose trucks were destroyed during the unfortunate EndSARS protest, to support their operations, increase their capacity for better service delivery and optimal performance. A committee has been constituted in this regards in order to ensure transparency and that due process followed, just like the previous one which had already been completed."



Mr. Tunji Bello

However, even when the PSP operators succeed in evacuating waste from homes, they often have a hard time discharging them at the landfill sites. There the heavy rains have softened the muddy terrain making the tires of the vehicles slip or get stuck for days.

LAWMA, in its recent release, assured that it was working on the challenge assuring that there would be progress.

It said: Another major component of the Authority's operational drive is the landfill

rehabilitation. The major landfills scattered all over the state are currently undergoing rehabilitation process which has really affected our operations and a noticeable feature is the presence of traffic around the areas.

It is of note that the rehabilitation of these landfills, especially capping, road networks, upgrading and the likes actually started around March this year, but unfortunately, activities were greatly hampered due to the

rains and the process was forced to stop by the end of April/May, due to the bad and unfriendly weather.

Work has, however, resumed in earnest on the landfills, taking advantage of the August break and we want to assure Lagosians that, in the next ten days, the exercise will be completed and the good news is that, the turn-around time will radically improve and the traffic snarl around those landfills, triggered by the rehabilitation works will disappear."

There are about 400 PSPs

managing 57 Local Government Areas and Local Council Development Areas under the supervision of the LAWMA. Together, they pick 14,000 metric tonnes of waste daily.

Stakeholders believe the enforcement of the sanitation laws of the state needs improvement.

They cite the persistence of cart pushers despite government campaigns against them and the feeble effort put into charging those owing PSP money or not complying with the sanitation law to the courts.



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How to detect quack estate agents- ERCAAN

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Estate Rents and Commission Agents Association of Nigerian (ERCAAN), Lagos State, Hon. Kasim Adeshina has given guidelines to prospective clients to detect quacks. He said the advice is part of the association's advocacy to curb the menace of quacks parading themselves as estate agents and duping unsuspecting clients. According to him, the most important criteria is that an estate agent must have a business office. The office

must display his Certificate of business from Corporate Affairs Corporation (CAC) and the ERCAAN Certificate while he or she must present his Identity Card to prospective clients. He explained that the awareness has become important not only to discourage quack agents from soiling the business for the real players and protect the prestige of the association but also to ensure that prospective clients do not fall prey to their gimmicks. He added that as part of the association's effort to ensure that prospective clients do not have anything to worry about when dealing

with certified agents, it is partnering with the state government to completely eradicate quack estate agents. Urging clients to report any estate agent to the association, he urged ERCAAN members to ensure that they have the keys to apartments with them to avoid developers renting the same to more than one tenant. He informed that the association has 65 zones and 20 units across the 20 LGAs and 37 LCDAs in Lagos State where the clients can report and make an enquiry before engaging in transactions with an agent.



Hon. Kasim Adeshina

Ogunwusi appeals to Oshodi-Isolo LGA to destroy criminal hideouts

By Damilola Kushimo

The Executive Secretary (ES) of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Education Authority (LGEA), Barr. Femi Ogunwusi has urged Oshodi-Isolo LGA to rid other schools across the local government area of hoodlums. Ogunwusi made the call following the recent demolition of criminal hideouts in form of shacks closer to the perimeter fence at Timidire Primary School, Shogunle Oshodi by the local government. Ogunwusi, who noted that other schools in the local government area are subjected to similar menace appealed to the local government to continue the rescue exercise. Ogunwusi applauded the effort of Oshodi Council management towards ensuring that the learning environment is safe for the



Diminished shanties along Temidire Primary School, perimeter fence

pupils as they resume today, Monday, September 13, 2021. He emphasised the need for the demolition of shanties and criminal hideouts to go round other schools including Methodist and Ogundele primary schools. He said the illegal structures

harbouring hoodlums around schools have continued to pose as a menace to innocent students and teachers due to smoke from substances used by hoodlums and sellers of smoked fish. ECHONEWS observed that alcoholic drinks are sold in a

shanty erected along the street close to Ogundele Primary School where the hoodlums usually gather to drink and smoke. He said he would meet with the officials at the Environmental department of Oshodi-Isolo LGA to address the issue once and for all.

iStarter Hub graduates trainees October 28

By Saheed Afolabi

All the participants of the US-Sponsored project, Girls Creativity Initiative, iStarter Hub will graduate on October 28, this year. The third batch of the participants graduated last Friday, having completed their training in creative designing which includes graphics designing and screen printing. One of the trainees who spoke to ECHONEWS, Miss Peace Oguntade described the training as an eye-opener, saying she is ready to make a living in the printing industry. She appreciated the sponsors of the programme, the United States Consulate and the organisers, Mrs Modupe Darabidan-Adeoye and the former council leader in Isolo LCDA, Hon. Remy Shittu Remy.

Another beneficiary of the programme, Mercy Eze said she plans to monetise the knowledge when she gets to school. "In the long run, I envisage having my own company and working with green energy to create eco-friendly shirts which I can print on. And I plan to empower other girls around me because I believe that success is not worthwhile when others around you are not successful," she said. Commenting on the programme, former Leader of the Isolo LCDA Legislative Arm and the facilitator, Shittu commended the participants for their commitment throughout the programme and the various presentations. He hinted that the best trainees in each batch will be supported with start-up equipment worth N300,000 during the forthcoming graduation ceremony.

LDFFA, Lagos Island division donates referee kits to 3 societies

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Lagos Divisional Football Association (LDFFA), Lagos Island zone, Akintunde Tinubu has donated officiating kits to referee societies in his zone to equip referees before officiating matches and show that their work is actually appreciated by the major stakeholders in football.

"Adequate kitting of referees at the grassroots will add more respect to them, which will boost their performance in matches," he said.

He added that the association will also be conducting more programmes before the year runs out.

Reacting to the donation, the president of Nigeria Referee Association (NRA), Alhaji Tade

Azeez commended the donation. His words: "I want to commend the effort of the division, the status of FIFA stated that referees are an integral part of the game and that everything needed by the referee has to be provided. This is the first time that we are experiencing such in the referee association and we really appreciate the gesture."

The chairman of Lagos Referee Association (LRA), Olatunji Oyadina also appreciated the LDFFA, saying they are very grateful and excited.

The representatives of Mainland Referee Society (MRS) and Eti-Osa Referee Society (ERS), Kehinde Adeyemo and Deji Winjobi noted that to whom much is given, much is expected as they promised that the referees will be on top of their game so that they can receive more gifts to aid the society.



Presentation of the kits

Prince Kazeem Eletu Queens FC for Flying Officers Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

Soon, it will be the first time that a Lagos based female non-league side, Prince Kazeem Eletu Queens FC will be participating in the annual Flying Officers Cup which will take place in Abuja.

The amateur team will taste competitive football from top female football teams and are hoping of having a great tournament which will increase the squad's level of experience.

Speaking with ECHONEWS, the head coach of Prince Kazeem Eletu Queens FC disclosed that his team is elated to participate in one of the best pre-season tournaments in Africa, saying the team is going to learn and showcase its players to the world.

"The the team is really preparing for the number 1 pre-season championship in Africa because it's a privilege for us as an amateur team to be part of this great tournament. Yes, We are coming there to learn, expose and showcase our players to top teams, scouts and to dignitaries present at match venues. To our fans across the globe, we promise we will try our best in the competition and other tournaments and programmes ahead."

The tournament was formerly known as Naija Ratels pre-season championship but It has been rebranded as "Flying Officers Cup" to honour and immortalise the late Nigerian first female combat helicopter pilot, Tolulope Arotile.

Satech, CTL, FC Brave, Divine zoom to Super 4 of Mushin Challenge Cup

By Saheed Afolabi

The Mushin Challenge Cup, which has witnessed a massive turnout of fans who always troop out to watch the competition matches at St Jude's Primary School, Mushin, has got to its last stage, which is the Super 4.

Satech FC, CTL FC, FC Brave and Divine FC all booked their place in the Super 4.

It did not come easy for the four teams as they were met with firepower of other teams in the competition but they were able to sail through after getting the highest number of points in the group stage.

Topping group A, Divine FC had 8 points from 4 matches by winning two matches and drawing two matches to top the group, coming in second place is Satech FC which won a game and drew 3 matches to finish with 6 points.

The matches in the group were tensed as it was dominated by top teams in Mushin.

FC Brave secured the highest points in the game by accumulating 10 points, won 3 matches and had a draw against fellow runner-up CTL FC.

CTL FC won 3 games from 4 games, they lost a match and won 3 matches.



Mushin Challenge cup

Basketball: Lakers complete signing of Jordan

By Saheed Afolabi

Brooklyn Nets traded Jordan to Detroit Pistons to clear his \$20m contract; Pistons and Jordan then agreed on a buyout allowing the former All-Star center to pursue a ring and sign with the Los Angeles Lakers. The Los Angeles Lakers have officially signed veteran centre, DeAndre Jordan to their roster, the team announced on Thursday night.

The terms of the deal have not been released, though The

Athletic reported late last week that Jordan is expected to sign a one-year deal worth \$2.6m.

Jordan, 33, was an All-Star in 2017 as a member of the Los Angeles Clippers and has averaged 9.4 points, 10.6 rebounds and 1.6 blocked shots in 13 seasons with the Clippers (2008-18), Dallas Mavericks (2018-19), New York Knicks (2019) and Brooklyn Nets (2019-21).

In 2020-21 as a member of the Nets, he averaged 7.5 points and 7.5 rebounds per game.

Jordan is the NBA's all-time leader in career field goal percentage, having shot 67.4 per cent (3527-5234) from the field throughout his career and he remains the only player in NBA history with multiple seasons shooting over 70 per cent from the field.

On top of that, Jordan is also a three-time All-NBA selection, including one First Team selection (2016) and two Third Team selections (2015 and 2017), and led the league in rebounding in consecutive seasons from 2013-

15.

He was named to the All-Defensive First Team in both 2015 and 2016 and helped The United States win a gold medal at the 2016 Olympics in Rio, where he formed close friendships with his future teammates on the Nets Kyrie Irving and Kevin Durant.

He joins a star-studded Lakers team that already boasts past and present All-Stars in LeBron James, Anthony Davis, Russell Westbrook, Carmelo Anthony and Dwight Howard.

The signing was precipitated by a

trade between the Nets and Detroit Pistons September 4, clearing Jordan's remaining two-year \$20m contract for Brooklyn, which then paved the way for Jordan's release and eventual signing in L.A.

That deal involved the Nets trading Jordan to the Detroit Pistons in exchange for centre Jahlil Okafor and forward Sekou Doumbouya. Okafor was released by the Nets earlier on Thursday. The Pistons also received \$5.78m, as well as second-round picks in 2022, 2024, 2025 and 2027 for taking on the salary dump.

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Obe appreciates old couple for representing Ejigbo at Lagos Int'l Family Day

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe) has appreciated the octogenarian husband and his septuagenarian wife, Engr and Mrs Joseph Akintujoye, for representing Ejigbo LCDA at the 2021 International Family Day Celebration in Lagos State. Obe, represented by his vice, Hon. Ayodele Ayodeji (SMA), expressed his gratitude to the couple when he visited them at their residence at 26, Akintujoye Street, Ejigbo Lagos. The council chairman said the couple portrayed the council area positively to the public even although they did not win the competition. Despite their old age, Obe said the couple have maintained good health due to their lean stature,

which is one of the criteria for choosing them to represent the community. Presenting a gift from the LCDA, the Head of Department, Agriculture and Social Services, Mrs Olayinka Adeko stated that Ejigbo as a community is grateful to the couple for their commitment throughout the programme. Adeko, who noted that they were chosen because of their antecedents, said the old couple agreed to represent the community by going for the screening without prior notice. Attesting to this, the first Vice-Chairman of Unity Community Development Association (CDA), Mr Boniface Meghai, where Engr Akintujoye and his family reside, described the couple as public servants who have the interest of the people at heart without expecting any favour in return. He recalled how Engr Akintujoye rendered selfless services by

financing the CDA individually, building a culvert and gate at the entrance of the community and monitoring the successful construction of Oladele Alake Primary School. Meghai said Akintujoye also facilitated further said Akintujoye a community grant for the community during the tenure of former Governor Akinwunmi Ambode. Appreciating the gesture by the council authority, the 82 and 72 years old Engr and Mrs Akintujoye said they were happy to have represented the council area. They regretted that despite undergoing series of screenings by the state government, they were not able to get any position for the community. Meanwhile, Mrs Akintujoye advised couples to uphold humility, good manners, live by example, have the spirit of workmanship, be patient, and be godly in their dealings to nurture



Engr and Mrs Joseph Akintujoye

good homes. She said good family begets good and peaceful community, saying forgiveness in marriage greatly helps in creating tight bonds and

love between couples. She specifically advised young couples and yet-to-marry youths to be morally upright and always put God first in everything they do.

Engr and Mrs Joseph Akintujoye have been married for 46 years and blessed with five successful children.

Principal urges private schools to key into govt policy

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Private schools in Ejigbo have been charged to key into the Lagos State education standard by providing necessary teaching and learning

materials. Giving the advice, the Principal of Gloryland College, Ejigbo, Mrs Sophia Onojafe, said it is necessary for the private schools to complement the government's effort in rebranding education in

Lagos State. She said all private schools must imbibe the initiative of Eko Excel by providing smart electronic boards and computer sets to enhance their academic activities. As schools resume today, Onojafe said schools must

provide new modern plastic chairs, get the required textbooks for their students, sport materials and sanitisers in line with the standards. Though she noted that the coaching classes organised for students during the

holiday were good, Onojafe commended the students who opted for vocational training during the holiday, saying their exposure would further enhance their training. She also acknowledged the "read aloud Lagos" initiative

Lagos State government is implementing in schools. According to her, the initiative has been adopted in private schools long ago though, replication of such in public schools shows there are experts in the government sector.

Animashaun warns youths against abuse of marijuana

By Motolani AbdulGafar

A medical doctor, Dr Albiro nke Animashaun, has decried the rate of abuse of marijuana among youths warning that the effects affect their health adversely. She gave the warning while addressing members of the Estate Youth Parliament (EYP) in Low-Cost Housing Estate, Ejigbo on dangers of

excessive consumption of Marijuana. She explained that the plant is a natural resource that can be used to either cure or harm an individual depending on its usage. Noting that many youths have been affected by the plant as they consume wrongly active ingredients extracted from the plant known as THC. She stated that another danger is in preparing the

extracts, which usually involve butane (lighter fluid) that may cause explosions. According to her, excessive intake of marijuana leads to alteration of sense, change in mood, body impairment, problem-solving difficulty, psychosis, among others. Animashaun advised the youths to use the plant in the right way only if the need be and avoid abusing it to avoid health challenges.



Marijuana abuse

Community hopes govt engineers visit will pave way for better roads

By Edith Igbokwe

The hope of getting their bad roads repaired by the state government heightened last week when the government officials inspected some of the roads in Ariyori-Ijaye community,

Mafoluku, Oshodi. It was gathered that the residents, through their Community Development Association, had earlier this year, written letter to the Lagos State Government seeking help on the rehabilitation of their dilapidated roads.

In response to their request, some engineers from the Lagos State Government came to the community last week to take measurements of the three streets including Branco, Ijaye and Obisanya to commence the rehabilitation work. Earlier in June after the

submission of the appeal letter, a Lagos State Engineer and inspection team visited the community to map out the streets to be rehabilitated. Again in July, the team revisited the streets to check the state of the drainage system to address the issue of flood during rainfalls.

Speaking to ECHONEWS on the project, the Chairman of Ariyori-Ijaye CDA, Alhaji Rasaan Mabinuori, said the hope of the community has been raised with the inspection. He said they are curiously waiting for the commencement of the

rehabilitation as he appealed to the government to be quick. He noted that the roads have been one of the major challenges in the community, saying if done as promised, they will ease movement and boost small and medium businesses.

Residents defy rain, rush to pick voter's cards

By Edith Igbokwe

The number of registered voters continues to rise at Oshodi-Isolo registration centre despite the rains and cost of getting to the Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area registration centre from Isolo and Ejigbo.

Though the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has not announced a deadline for the registration, the number of registered voters recorded in the first two weeks of September exceeded August figures.

In August as reported by ECHONEWS, the analysis showed that 107, 160, 165, 141 were recorded in the first to the fourth week.

However, 191 and 166 registered voters were recorded in the first and the second week of September.

These have been the highest figures so far since the commencement of the registration as the exercise pulled high figures in the last two weeks.

Relating the difference, the sum of the last two weeks exercise 357 outnumbered the first two weeks exercise which is 287 in last month.

Within the first two weeks of September, the commission registered intra/inter transfer of PVC, defaced PCV, missing PVC, omitted PVC and correction of PVC names.

There were only three intra transfer of PVC within Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area and four inter transfer of PCV - from one local government to another.

Others include four defaced PVCs, one missing PVC, four omitted cases and the nine correction of names on PVCs.

I promise to discharge my duty as new council clerk - Bankole

By Edith Igbokwe

A new council clerk has been deployed to Oshodi-Isolo Local Government.

The new clerk, Miss Oluwatoyin Bankole, said she would summon the confidence to discharge her duty while handling the proceedings of the legislative arm since she is new in the system.

Bankole said she would need to embark on self-development to fit in her

new duty post.

She was an administrative officer in Ikorodu West Local Council Development Area (LCDA) from where she was deployed to Oshodi-Isolo (LGA) to assume duty as the House clerk.

She is to serve in that capacity for the period of four years, after which her transfer to another LGA or LCDA may be effected.

While speaking to ECHONEWS on her new post, Bankole said she has been learning on duty since the inauguration of the councillors last month.

She described her first experience as a clerk of the House as imperfect but an eye opener especially as she faced the public.

Bankole takes over from the former council clerk, Mr Shakirudeen Omoteji, who was deployed on promotion to Ikorodu West (LCDA), where the new clerk came from.

Omoteji is currently serving as the Human Resource Officer (HRO) in Ikorodu, in charge of the department of recruitment administration, management and training of employees.



Oluwatoyin Bankole

Adekunle promises to introduce soft loans for tailors

By Edith Igbokwe

Members of the National Union of Tailors (NUT), Charity, Orile-Oshodi zone may soon get soft loans to support their needs.

Newly re-elected chairman, Akeem Adekunle made the promise while appreciating the members for returning him.

He said the loans at low-interest rates will cushion the bad effects of COVID-19 pandemic on the tailors.

He also promised to maintain the tempo of his achievements during his first tenure which gave him the opportunity to be

re-elected.

The achievements include the provision of tailoring machines to members paid for at instalment rates, seminar to train members on liquid soap making to add small scale business to their profession especially to ease the hardship caused by the Covid-19 outbreak.

He also introduced adult education to the association in 2019 with the help of the CEO of Adams College, Adams Adebola to enlighten all the NUT members under Oshodi branch and health talks to enlighten the members on their health status and gave free medical tests and drugs to them.



Akeem Adekunle



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