

VOICE OF YORUBA



NEWSLETTER OF **Egbé Ọmọ Yorùbá**
OF GREATER MIAMI VALLEY

www.VoiceOfYoruba.org

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June 2022
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Designed to Inform and Entertain

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From The President's Corner



It seemed like ages that we met in person for Egbe's monthly meeting. As a matter of fact, it was ages because we last met in February, 2022. Delightfully, we were able to break out of the fear of the unknowns of COVID-19-related infection and met in person on June 18. It was a well-attended meeting with the usual mouth-watering dishes including Eja Epe, nicely sauced fresh fish, fried-rice, and moin-moin to mention a few. Seeing everyone gathered together was very exciting and refreshing. We had such a great deliberation and socialization that we forgot to capture this wonderful occasion in pictures. Needless to say that the affairs of the Egbe was thoughtfully and judiciously performed even in our excited state of mind.

Dr. (Mrs.) Funmi Adegbile, President

2022 All-Nigeria Picnic is Here Again

ALL NIGERIANS ANNUAL PICNIC



Venue: Possum Creek MetroPark: Shelter:
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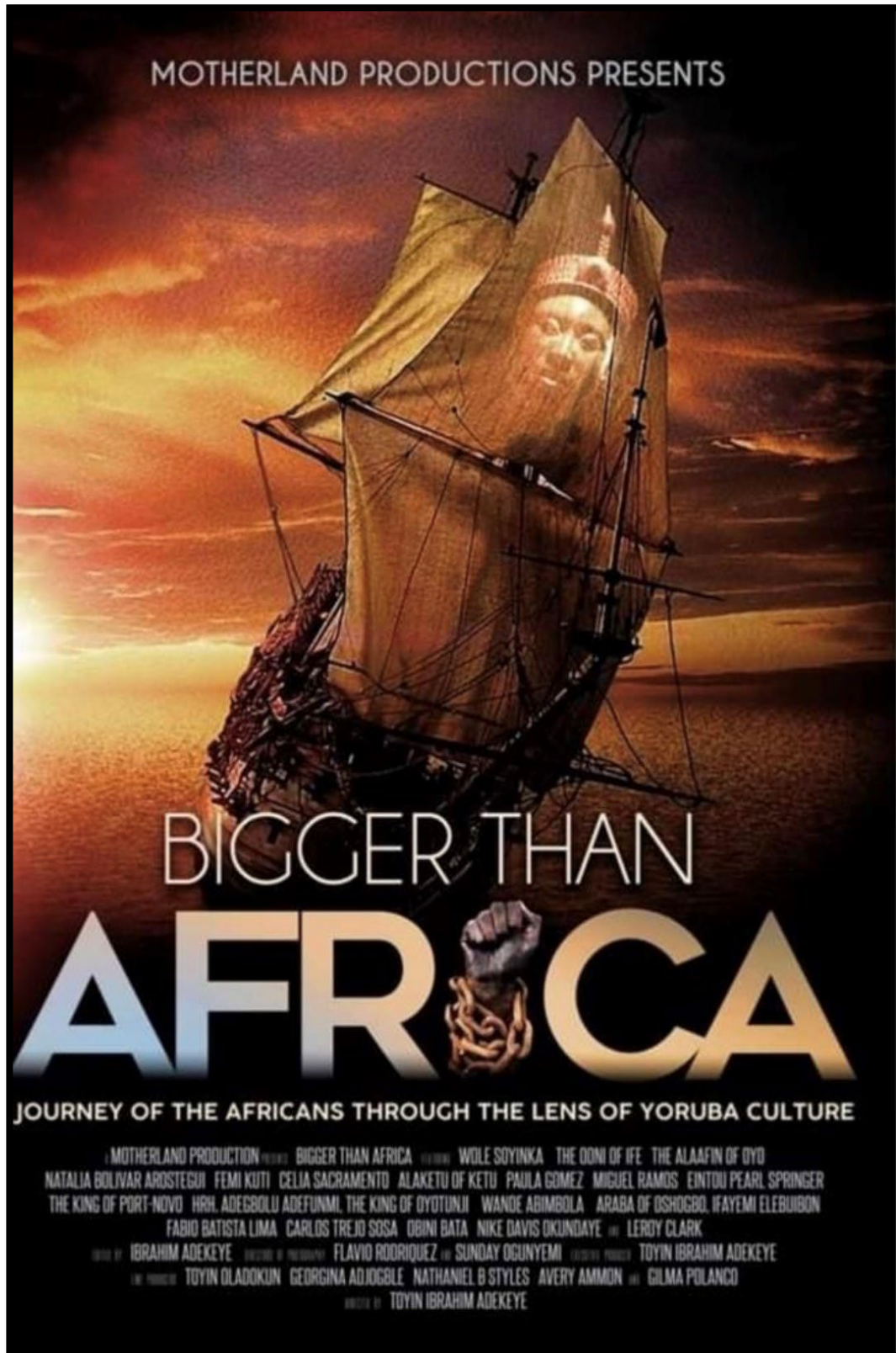
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Come one, come all!

A Netflix Movie to see



The Celebration of Juneteenth

June 19 is officially the day recognized as the day of Juneteenth. The 2022 USA Federal Holiday for Juneteenth is Monday, June 20. Hope everyone got a chance to go out and participate in one of the several events marking Juneteenth around the nation. But, what is Juneteenth? Records indicate that 150 years ago (on June 19, 1865), more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation (which was passed on Jan. 1, 1863), Union soldiers rode into Galveston, Texas (deepest parts of the former Confederacy), and informed enslaved African Americans that the Civil War was over, and they were now free. Hitherto, they were not aware of the freedom development. This monumental day of freedom awareness is now being celebrated widely as Juneteenth. In 2021, it became the first new federal holiday created by Congress in nearly four decades. BTW, the date June 19th is shortened to “Juneteenth” to derive the popular name, which is a representation of the June Nineteenth.

About Wilberforce University Wilberforce, Ohio

This month’s celebration of Juneteenth brings to mind the history of Wilberforce University, right here in Egbe’s backyard. In our editorial opinion, Wilberforce University is one of the earliest testimonies to the ideals of Juneteenth. In this edition of Voice of Yoruba, we cover several aspects and stories of Wilberforce University. The lead story below is a reprint of the present and future of Wilberforce University, as presented in a recent Press Release by the University’s President, Dr. Anthony Pincard.

“Wilberforce embracing a vital and sustainable future”

By President Elfred Anthony Pincard

On Saturday, May 7, Wilberforce University will hold its 166th Commencement, an occasion when the university community will celebrate the graduating class. It is also a solemn ceremony when our graduates are reminded of the magnificence of this venerable institution that will become their alma mater.

Wilberforce University stands at the front of history in the making of a community of precious institutions we call HBCUs. At the height of her influence, Wilberforce was an institution of sterling reputation and noteworthy achievement and the most revered, respected and accomplished African Americans stood on her grounds to study, work and contribute to the uplift of their communities and this nation.

Wilberforce has a proud and illustrious history that is shared by few other institutions. None can legitimately claim a place in the history of higher education for African Americans comparable to Wilberforce University. In 1856, no other institution established for the education of African Americans bore university behind its name, only Wilberforce University did. Our beginning was audacious and demonstrated the willingness of our founders to determine their fate and future in a nation that disregarded them. They imagined a university where none like it had existed. They were unafraid to disrupt the prevailing status quo and their vision for themselves and their descendants exists to this day, 166 years later.

Today, we are proud of our history and excited about our future. We are delighted to share that probation accreditation was lifted last fall and we are operating in full compliance with our governing body, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Our fiscal strength is noteworthy, the university has balanced the budget for current fiscal for 2022 and our CFI score, a financial indicator of the fiscal strength of an institution is currently 2.88 with 3.0 being the highest score attainable. Since 2017, the university reduced its debt and liabilities by 67% - assisted by a \$22 million debt forgiveness from the U. S. Department of Education.

This administration paid with interest outstanding pension benefits of more than \$520,000 to the former labor union, Wilberforce University Faculty Association (WUFA). We have garnered financial support from Penn National Gaming, Dominion Energy, JP Morgan Chase, Vista Corp and MasterCard and national attention from the BeyGood and Kanye West Foundations. A newly established Premier Health-Wilberforce University Student Health Center is designed for our students and has expanded health care and wellness services to the entire campus community. Partnerships with the Coles School of Business at Kennesaw State University, the Department of Homeland Security, CompTech, the Dayton Job Corps and the Office of Ohioans for Disabilities, create jobs, internships and occasioned a focused conversation about reimagining the academic curriculum and program offerings. We have developed a partnership with the Ohio State University School of Engineering to submit a collaborative proposal to Intel for capacity building in STEM.

An exciting agreement with the Cincinnati Reds will bring baseball back to the university in the fall after an eight-decade hiatus. We are excited to welcome a new marching band and the return of the University choir.

We are a university community committed to high performance, operational efficiency, and fiscal responsibility. Our students are offered academic and student engagement experiences that will prepare them to be agents of social change and thought leaders. We invite your support as we continue to grow. From the audacity of our founders, we have pushed forward with tenacity shaped by a powerful legacy. We are Wilberforce University, an institution that is fearlessly embracing a vital, and sustainable future.

Dr. Elfred Anthony Pinkard is the 22nd President of Wilberforce University.

Anyone who values education should read about the educational legacy of Wilberforce University, an institution about which this newsletter has written positively in the past (see Voice of Yoruba, September 2019, Vol. 10, No. 3, Page 9). Just because the institution has faced challenging time in recent years does not mean that we should discount the centuries-old legacy of the institution. Wilberforce University used to present a great inspiration and admiration for all Black people around the world, particularly for many parts of Africa. It is our hope that the glory days of Wilberforce can be reclaimed, recreated, and sustained for the future generations. The newspaper print version of Dr. Pinkard's article is echoed below.

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022 | DAYTON DAILY NEWS | COMPLETE. IN-DEPTH. DEPENDABLE. A7

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TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

Wilberforce embracing a vital and sustainable future

By Dr. Elfred Anthony Pinkard

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Dr. Elfred Anthony Pinkard is the 22nd President of Wilberforce University.

Source: <https://www.daytondailynews.com/ideas-voices/voices-wilberforce-fearlessly-embracing-a-vital-and-sustainable-future/6IBG3DYTBABZMJBRPUSZMQITQ/>

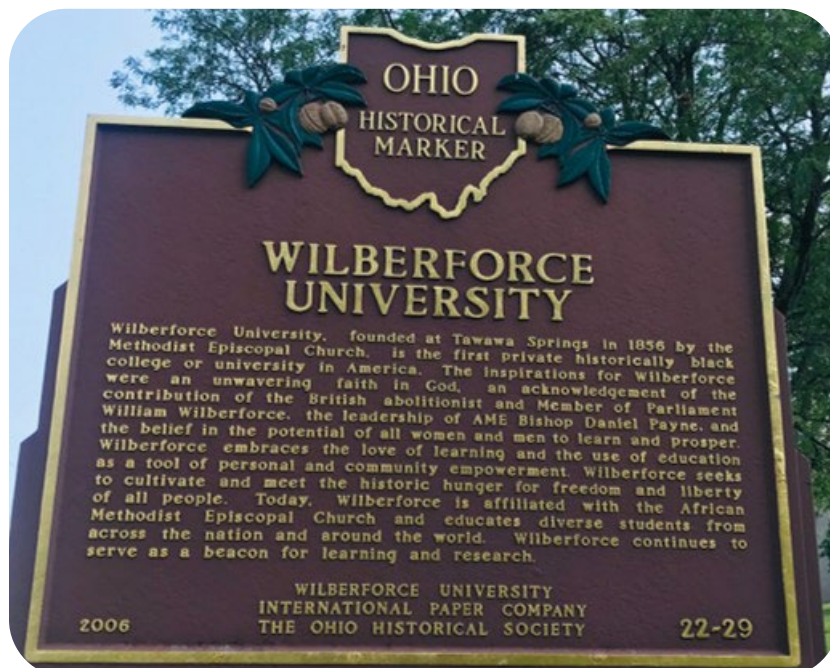
Wilberforce University Reboot (Echo from September 2019 VOY issue)

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world,” so advised Nelson Mandela.

There is no doubt that Wilberforce University has played a great role in the educational advancement of underrepresented groups to change the world. Scores of students from Nigeria have benefited from Wilberforce University’s educational opportunities over the years. The university, like many other struggling universities, has fallen on hard times in recent years. But there is hope. It was a big delight recently when it was announced that the university has received a gift of \$1.2 million dollars from an anonymous donor to launch a matching gift initiative for the ongoing fund-raising campaign. The donor’s goal is to reinvigorate the University’s development efforts and truly begin the Wilberforce University Renaissance. Yes, renaissance, indeed, is needed. Recollecting the rich history of Wilberforce University, renaissance now is quite appropriate and timely.

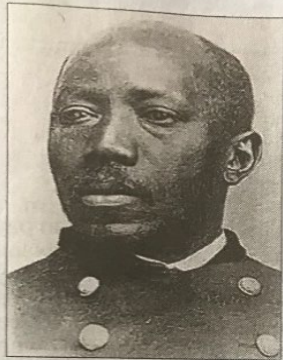
Going back in history: When it was established in **1856**, Wilberforce University was the first college owned and operated by African-Americans. In **1887**, a two-year program was established at Wilberforce University for the purpose of training teachers and providing industrial/vocational education. In **1947**, that two-year program became its own four-year program and attained a university status in **1965**. So, the present-day Central State University evolved out of Wilberforce University. Recollecting this history means that Wilberforce University deserves some respect in intercollegiate interactions between the two schools.

Furthermore, the age-old historical account of the signed linkage between Wilberforce University and Abeokuta in Nigeria is quite encouraging and stimulating. Such a tight past relationship can help revive and enliven the glory days of Wilberforce University. The strong historical connection between Wilberforce and Nigeria can be revitalized and strengthened, albeit at a measured pace.



Yes, indeed, Abeokuta (Nigeria) had an early intersection with Wilberforce (Ohio) from way back in the 1959 timeframe. Growing up in Lagos, Nigeria in the 1950s and 1960s, yours truly used to hear stories about Wilberforce (USA), particularly among the intellectuals of Lagos, who apparently must have read about the early intersection of Abeokuta and Wilberforce. I always had a vision of what this “Wilberforce,” that was so admirably mentioned in Lagos circles, would look like. I recall my uncle, with whom I lived on Campus Square in Lagos (in late 1950s), and his friends frequently making references to Wilberforce in the context of Nigeria’s impending independence at that time. To me, at that tender age, Wilberforce seemed to mean a place that all black people should visit and would want to live. Those early stories informed my excitement when it turned out that my family moved to Dayton, Ohio in 2006, thus placing me squarely in the vicinity of the famed town of Wilberforce. The account below, published by Dayton Daily News on January 8, 2018, made it clear to me (now) why many intellectuals of Lagos were making references to the town of Wilberforce in the 1950s. I doubt if any of those Lagos intellectuals ever had an opportunity to actually visit Wilberforce themselves. However, I believe those early stories in Nigeria might have contributed to the early influx of Nigerian students to Wilberforce University in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Consider this fact: In 1859, Dr. Martin R. Delany (later a resident of Wilberforce, Ohio) negotiated a settlement treaty with the Alake of Abeokuta. Who could have guessed that among us? History can, indeed, uncover hidden facts and past relationships. Quite inspiring!

Walk of Fame



Dr. Martin Robison Delany (1812-1885), the Black Major, was appointed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1864 as the highest-ranking African-American field rank officer in the Civil War. Born in Virginia, Delany settled in Pittsburgh where he earned respect as a physician and anti-slavery activist. In 1847, with Frederick L. Douglass and William C. Neal, Delany founded the North Star newspaper and was a widely published author. Mounting his own expedition to Africa’s Niger Valley in 1859, Delany negotiated a settlement treaty with the Alake of Abeokuta. He returned to America via London where he was honored at the prestigious scientific International Statistical Congress. When the American Civil War began, he recruited Black soldiers for the Union Army. He moved his family to Wilberforce in 1864 and enrolled his children in Wilberforce College. Stationed in South Carolina, Delany used his 104th U.S. Colored Troops to organize the Freedmen toward education, civic duty and land ownership. He returned to Wilberforce in 1885 and died there. He was buried at Massie Creek Cemetery. A new monument was dedicated to him, and an Ohio state marker was authorized for him in 2006.

Source: Dayton Daily News, January 8, 2018

FYI: The *Alake of Abeokuta*, or *Alake of Egbaland*, is the paramount traditional ruler of the Egba people of the Yoruba tribe situated in the city of *Abeokuta*, Ogun State, in southwestern part of Nigeria.

CSU Community Engagement: Kudos to Dr. Morakinyo Kuti

Egbe Members, Congratulations to our own Moraks, whose fervent leadership facilitated and anchored this monumental accomplishment for Central State University. You may notice that the CSU location cited in the newspaper article is the place where Moraks has hosted many of Egbe's events. Kudos to Moraks for his continual sense of community engagement.

Dayton Daily News, May 6, 2022

(Source: <https://www.pressreader.com/usa/dayton-daily-news/20220506/281745567969685>)

HIGHER EDUCATION

CSU gets \$3.6M for workforce training center in Dayton

ARPA funds will help make courses more relevant to job market.

By London Bishop
Staff Writer

Central State University will establish a Workforce Training and Business Development Center at its Dayton Campus after a multimillion-dollar investment from the federal government.

The U.S. Department of Commerce awarded the university \$3.6 million in ARPA funds to "tackle workforce shortages" exacerbated by the pandemic.

The money will fund short-term workshops and undergraduate programs in advanced materials, advanced manufacturing, information technology and advanced data management. The university will acquire state-of-the-art equipment and software, and hire instructors to make its four-year courses more relevant to the current job market.

Students will also be able to get certificates and credentials to increase their skills and help them retain their current jobs, even if they are not seeking four-year degrees, Provost


F. Erik Brooks said.

"Universities such as Central State must use our knowledge, our skills, our expertise to solve contemporary problems facing the communities where we are found. We must venture out of our ivory towers and go into the towns and cities where we are situated and we must provide practical solutions to improve the lives of those in our communities," Brooks said.

Workshops can be as short as five days, or as long as three months, but students will walk away with the qualifications to gain employment in manufacturing, IT or other industries, CSU officials said.

Central State's Dayton Campus, at 840 Germantown Street, is in a sector of the city that is the most lacking in economic opportunity, said Morakinyo Kuti, associate provost for research and project director.

"Underrepresented individuals, particularly African Americans, have borne a disproportionate share of negative COVID-19 health, economic, and educational outcomes," CSU President Jack Thomas said Thursday. "These disparities have further widened the socioeconomic gap that exists between African Americans and the majority population. Central State's Workforce Training and Business Development Center will provide employment-related training and educational programs to increase the ability of underrepresented individuals to gain meaningful employment."



Central State has contributed an additional \$896,848 towards the center's creation. A Department of Commerce statement indicates that the venture is expected to help fill 300 jobs and generate \$1 million in private investment from companies looking to hire workers.

"There's a demand from employers for people with skills for jobs that are vacant," Kuti said.

The university is projecting a 50 percent spike in fall 2022 enrollment, going roughly from 2,000 to 3,000 students physically attending at the Wilberforce campus, and a similar jump for online classes, going from 4,000 students to 7,000.

"Ohio has a proud history of leading the country in manufacturing innovation," said U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown. "Thanks to the American Rescue Plan, this investment at Central State will help create hundreds of jobs and prepare the workers Ohio need to compete. Central State is one of Ohio's premier universities and I'm glad to see its strength is being recognized."

Health Watch and Warning


The case of Stroke Watch and Warning (SWAW)

We can never say too much about healthcare hints and cautions. We have said this before, but it is worth saying again and again, from different angles and alternate platforms. Below is what one medical doctor says, as a caution for all. Please hear and heed.

PREVENTIVE CARE

These 3 things this doctor learned from his stroke could save your life

By Patrick McCreless
The State (Columbia, S.C.)



Dr. Julian Kim

able. Stroke was the fifth leading cause of death in South Carolina in 2019, statistics from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control show.

Here are 3 things Kim learned through his experience that could help others prevent strokes or recognize warning signs to possibly save their lives.

Blood pressure the silent killer

Kim said high blood pressure is referred to as the silent killer and he can believe it, given that he didn't even know it was causing him to have a stroke as it was happening.

"I was awake and talking," Kim said.

Kim said he never really considered that he was living with high blood pressure, since at the time he was in his 50s, exercising regularly and mostly feeling fine.

"I was having some headaches that in hindsight we think was related to the stroke," Kim said. "Leading up to the stroke, I was

Dr. Julian Kim was teaching a minor surgical procedure in Cleveland when he started walking funny.

He didn't notice it, but someone else in the operating room did.

"I actually had a bleed into my brain ... related to high blood pressure," Kim said. "I didn't even know I had high blood pressure."


Kim had a stroke that day.

He survived in part because he was in a hospital and received immediate care with medication to lower his blood pressure. It still took him six months of physical therapy to recover but, five years later, he's working as a cancer surgeon at Prisma Health in Columbia and says he's healthier than ever.

He'd just rather have known back then what he knows now.

"I just hadn't been exposed to a lot of what is known about strokes," Kim said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stroke is a leading cause of death in the United States and is a major cause of serious disability for adults. It is also prevent-



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stroke is a leading cause of death in the United States and is a major cause of serious disability for adults. PUWADOL JATURAWUTTHICHA/DREAMSTIME/TNS

asking my secretary for Tylenol – turns out it was a sign. I was not having chest pain, that's why they say high blood pressure could be the silent killer."

Sleep apnea can be a warning sign

After his stroke, Kim learned he had sleep apnea, a type of sleeping disorder that's associ-

ated with a higher risk for strokes, studies have shown. Kim said he used to snore at night but didn't think much of it.

"I didn't know I had it," Kim said of sleep apnea. "It was a warning sign that even as a physician, I was not paying attention to."

Kim now sleeps using a CPAP machine, which prevents snoring and sleep apnea.

"My sleep is much better," he said.

Get regular checkups

Kim said since his stroke, he has not only improved his diet, lost weight and exercised more, he started seeing a family physician regularly.

"Prior to the stroke, I didn't see a doctor because I was feeling fine and was exercising," Kim said. "It really illustrates the importance of yearly checkups ... even if you feel fine, exercise regularly, it doesn't mean you don't have an issue like high blood pressure."

Below are other signs of a stroke, according to the CDC. Acting quickly to get medical care could greatly reduce the chance of death or disability.

- Sudden numbness or weakness in the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or difficulty understanding speech.
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or lack of coordination.
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.



VOY Fun Corner

Fun with BB Cartoons

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The Village Bathman

VOY Funnies

Life's Reflections by VOY:

“If you think the cost of living today is very high, wait until you see the cost of dying today.”
- VOY Editor

Below is a fun **word-play question** for our readers:

Question:

If Muhamad Ali was still alive, what would be his reason for refusing to wear a mask for COVID-19 pandemic? Please send your answers privately to editor@voiceofyoruba.org

Selected responses will be printed in the next issue of VOY newsletter. Please include your name and email address in your submission. Multiple submissions are allowed.

Yoruba Translation Quizzes:

“Ara nta mi.” Literary translation submitted by Dr. ‘Bisi Adegbile in a past issue: “I have a burning sensation in my body.”

Intended meaning: I am full of repulsive anger. Do you have a better translation? Let us hear it?

Here is a new one:

“Ata sa pami lori.”

Please include your name and email address in your submission. Multiple submissions are allowed.

Quarterly Recent and Forthcoming Birthdays

Looking back and forward in birthdays

April:

Alice Okunade, April 6

May:

Christiana Okunade, May 5

Gabriel Okunade, May 10

Bisi Adegbile, May 18

Joan Apapa, May 29

June:

Gloria Iselaiye, June 13

Samuel Okunade, June 22

Yomi Omilakin, June 29



July:

Ayo Ogunduyile, July 7

Daniel Iselaiye, July 17

August:

Augustine Olu Agbebi, August 2

Abigail Odunsi, August 20

Morakinyo Kuti, August 31

September:

Taju Bakare, September 1

Deji Badiru, September 2

Dotun Sobande, September 4

Wole Okunade, September 12

Tokunbo Awoshakin, September 24

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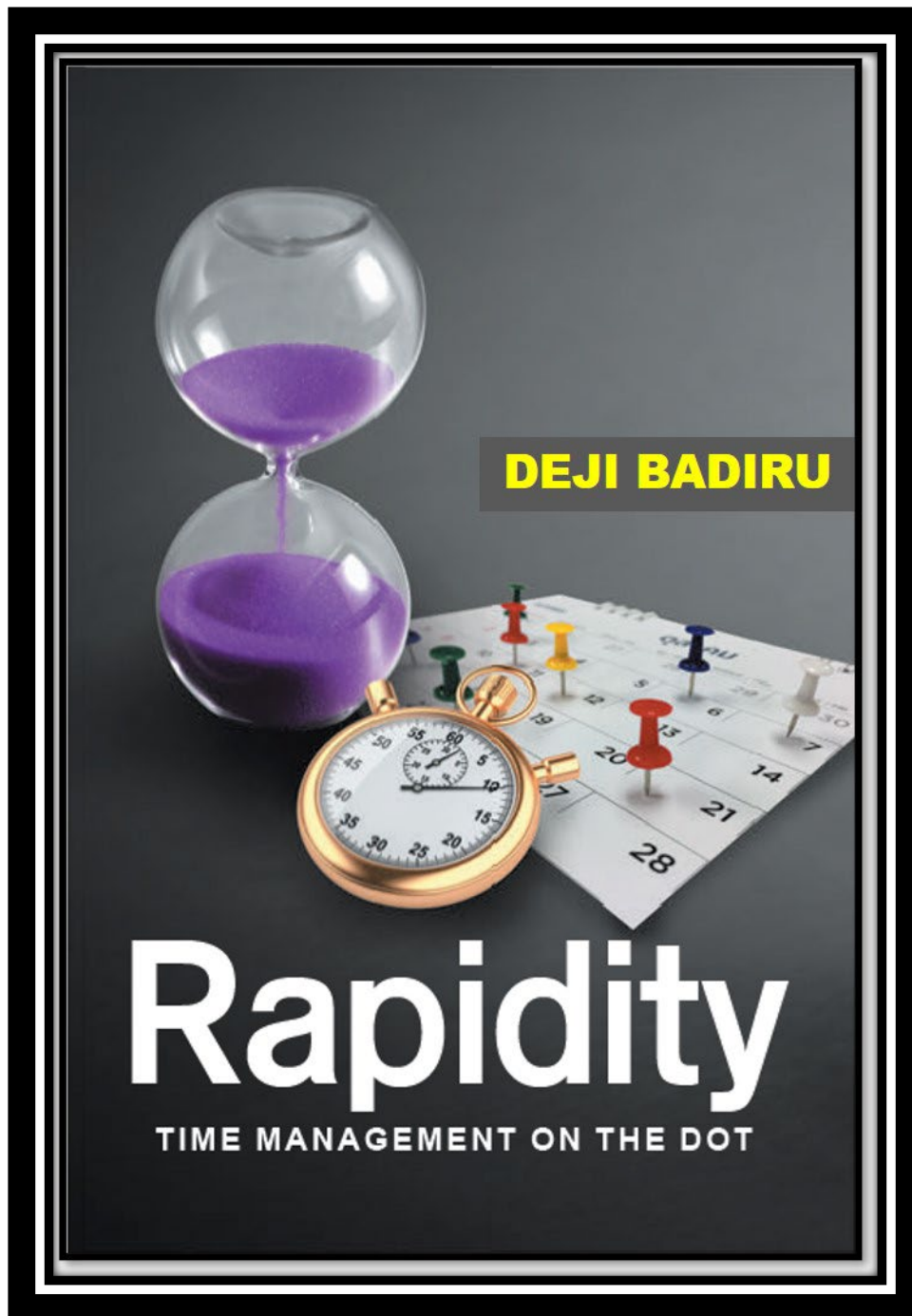
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Salivation Temptation Corner

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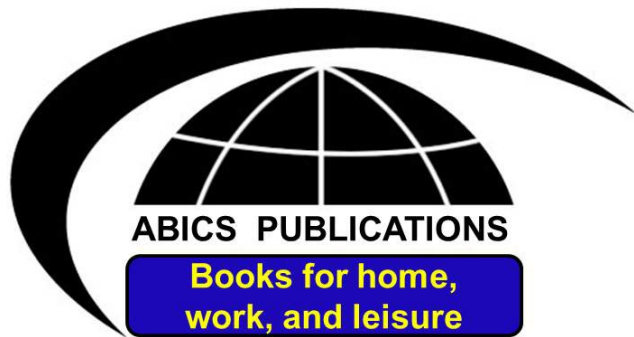
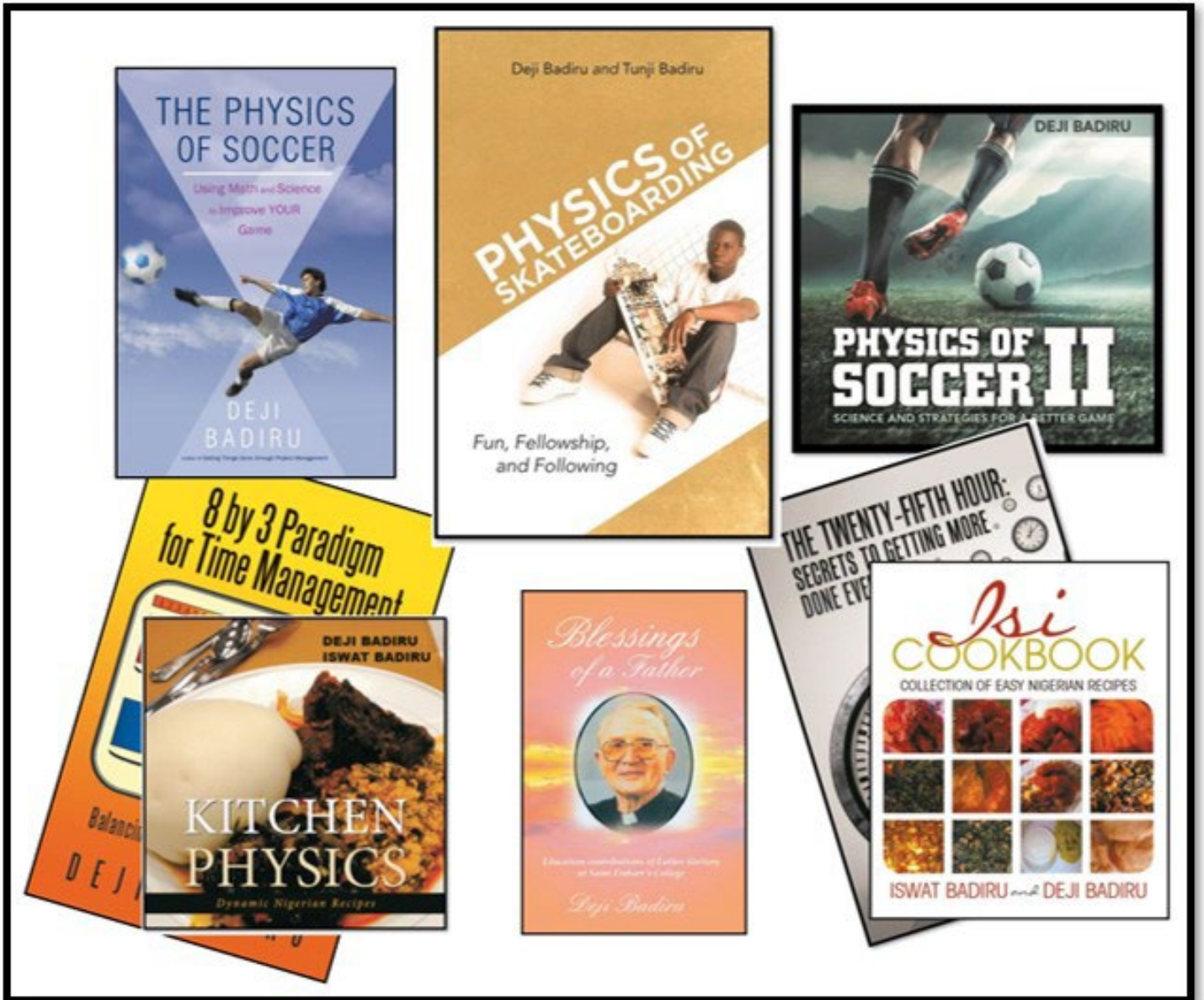


If amala is your thing, here you have that too



If your desire is just plain chunks of roasted Eja Epe, you can have that also





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- Suya
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- Jollof rice
- Fried rice
- Rice & Stew meal
- Rice & Beans meal
- Assorted meat stew



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- Whole tilapia
- Grilled lamb
- Pepper chicken
- Pepper goat meat
- Chin-chin
- Akara
- Moin-moin
- Puff-puff
- Fried plantain
- Fufu & Stew
- Egusi soup
- Okra soup



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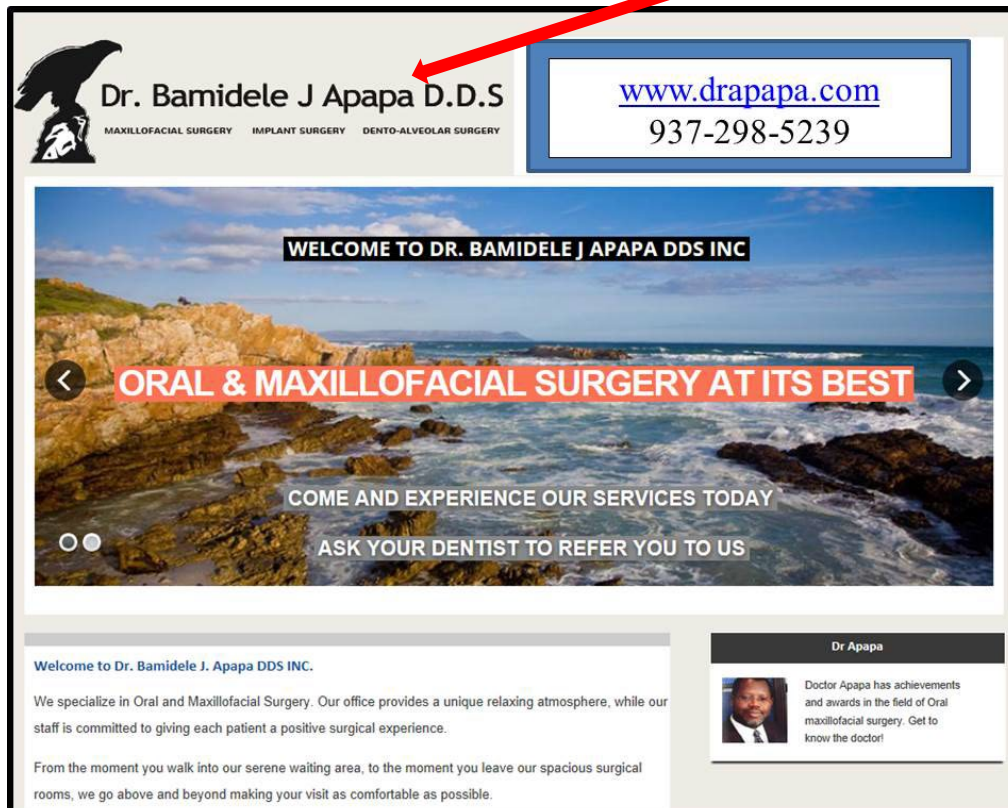
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That's all for now, folks!!!

Happy New Second Quarter of the Year! See you next quarter.

2021/2023 Officers of Egbe Omo Yoruba

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From the Editor



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