

CITY ~ STATE ~ NATIONAL ~ WORLD

Business Owner Michael Cargill Adopts Austin's First Solar Power Sign

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

On January 24, 2012, the local business called Centex Guns located at 321 W Ben White Blvd, inaugurated their solar powered business sign. Centex Guns is Austin's first business to adopt this new technology. Moreover, the sign's usage of solar power means that it is totally independent from an electrical grid. Since the sign is off the electrical grid, it uses only sunlight during the daytime to charge the solar power source, which continues to illuminate the sign throughout the nights.

The usage of the solar power sign reduces Centex Guns' operation cost due to the fact that the business uses less electricity. This helps both the city and the State save on its production of electricity, since the business uses less of it. Not only does the sign reduce the business' operation cost but it is also Eco-friendly.

Being Eco-friendly like Centex Guns, means that the business does a minimal harm to its local environ-



Michael Cargill, Owner of Centex Gun with local Solar Power Sign. Photo by Tsoke Chuch Adjavon.

ment. Since, the business uses less electricity; it helps both the city and State save on its production of electricity. Moreover a reduction in electrical use is a "win-win" for the business and for the people of the state.

According to Michael Cargill, the owner of Centex Guns, he is proud to be the first business owner in Austin to

adopt a solar powered sign, which also cuts down on his electricity bill. Furthermore, Michael Cargill mentioned that, "The recent rolling electric blackout caused him to look for another source of energy." Not only does the usage of "green practices" reduces a business operation cost, but it also helps a business receive the rewards of various tax rebates and refunds.

South African Schools to Drop Zulu and Xhosa Languages, Stirring Debate

By Fungai Maboreke Special to the NNPA from the Global Information Network

Jan. 24 (GIN) – South African Model C primary schools have been quietly removing Zulu and Xhosa languages from their curriculum leaving English and Afrikaans, popularly known as "the oppressors' language" during the apartheid era as the medium of Instruction. The move was described as "tragic" by academics even though Afrikaans appears to be the next dominant idiom after English.

Officially, students should be taught in their mother tongue from Grades 1 to 3, but a survey by the Sunday Times newspaper found this was not happening. In fact, by the time they got to 12th year, most pupils were



opting for Afrikaans as their first additional language after English with 68,455 choosing Afrikaans, 10,943 choosing Zulu and 1,547 choosing Xhosa.

A letter from Mntomuhle Khawula of the Inkatha Freedom Party and an education advisor, was particularly critical: "Exclusion of African languages (isiZulu and isiXhosa) in some former Model C Primary schools is systematically discriminating and singling out certain racial groups."

"We cannot sideline

our African languages because not only is it an insult to those who speak it but it's reviving the struggle of languages like it happened many years ago with Bantu education, we need to find a curriculum that will accommodate each and every language."

Bobby Soobrayan, director of basic education, countered: "It is misleading to say that because of government policy, schools are scrapping African languages in favor of Afrikaans..." However, he added, "Because school governing bodies determine the language policy, some schools choose to offer Afrikaans as the first additional language."

Soobrayan insisted: "What we want to see is every pupil being competent in an African language when they leave school.

Austin City Council

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

On January 31, 2012 the Austin city council will convene to hear, discuss, and vote on items. During the Austin city council, they will discuss on issue ranging from law-suit against the city; fire department and police department issues; health and human issues; economic development issues; water management issues to zoning issues.

Moreover, their vote on certain issues tend to affect both the city residents and those who work in Austin. The first item of the Austin city council was to ap-

prove of the last session agenda.

The Austin city council will set to public hearing, in order to consider an ordinance amending the electric rate schedule in Ordinance No. 201110912-007 to implement new Austin electric rates. Moreover, the suggested date and time will be on February 9, 2012 at 6:00 PM at city Hall. It is very important for the community show up and give suggestion to the council regarding the price of electricity.

In addition, the Austin city council will autho-

rize award and execution of a 36th month requirements services contract with HANK FLEMING GUNSMITH for armorer services to repair, rebuild, inspect, and maintain all firearms owned by the Austin Police Department, in an estimated amount not to exceed \$94,666 with three 12-month extension options in estimated amounts not to exceed \$38,067 for the first extension option, \$41,873 for the second extension option, and \$46,061 for the third extension option, for a total estimated contract amount.

Austin City Council Place 2 Race Heat up

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon



Mike Martinez

In the Austin city Council Place 2 race, Mike Martinez (incumbent) will face a challenger named Laura Pressley. Mike Martinez, the incumbent was first elected to the Austin city council on June 6, 2006. As a council member, Mike Martinez has chaired the Austin Capi-

tal Metro board. Moreover, Mike Martinez was one of the few city council member to vote twice against the Nathaniel Sander's settlement case.

On the other hand, Laura Pressley the challenger is both an activist and an entrepreneur. As a business owner, she has Co-Founder the Austin based organic company called Pure Rain Purified Rain Water.

In addition, she has as a steering committee member of the Fluoride Free Austin, which seeks to educate Austinites and the city council regarding the dangerous health effect that fluoridation placed in the municipality water system.

Moreover, Austinites will have a choice at the



Laura Pressley

ballot box during the upcoming elections. Austinites will have clear choice between two different styles of candidates.

Austinites will have to choose between Laura Pressley who believes in a "smaller government." On the other hand, Mike Martinez who has been on the council has been voting towards "growing city services" such as the establishment of the rail system.

After Attacks, Malawi Prez Retracts Negative View of Women in Pants

By Fungai Maboreke Special to the NNPA from the Global Information Network

Jan. 24 (GIN) – Malawian President Bingu wa Mutharika has stepped back from remarks earlier this month criticizing women for wearing pants or miniskirts. The remarks triggered an outbreak of beatings and of tearing clothes off women over their choice of attire.

In a 15 minute national address, President Mutharika condemned the recent attacks on women mainly by vendors who claimed that the President had ordered it.

"Women who want to wear trousers should do so as you will be protected from thugs, vendors and terrorists," the president said in a local language, Chichewa. "I will not allow anyone to go on the streets and start undressing women and girls wearing trousers because that is criminal."

On Friday, Jan. 20, hundreds of girls and



women, among them prominent politicians, protested the attacks while wearing pants or miniskirts and T-shirts emblazoned with such slogans as: "Real men don't harass women." A recording of Bob Marley's "No Woman, No Cry" got a loud cheer when it was played during the protest. Men also took part.

Even the President's VP chimed in with support

for the protestors. "Some of us have spent our entire life fighting for the freedom of women," Vice President Joyce Banda told the protestors. "It's shocking some men want to take us back to bondage."

During the reign of Malawi's first President Kamuzu Banda, women were not allowed to wear trousers and miniskirts until 1993 when Kamuzu was about to leave power.

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will be closing soon:

GAME #	GAME NAME / ODDS	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1300	20X The Money - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.61	\$10	02/03/12	08/01/12
1329	Scorching 7's - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.42	\$7	02/03/12	08/01/12
1368	Merry Millionaire - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.07	\$20	02/06/12	08/04/12
1375	Merry Crossword - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.36	\$3	03/03/12	08/30/12
1028	Super Set For Life II - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.08	\$20	04/04/12	10/01/12
1297	Red Hot Cherries - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.46	\$1	04/04/12	10/01/12
1321	Veterans Cash - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.29	\$2	04/04/12	10/01/12
1353	9's In A Line - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.93	\$1	04/04/12	10/01/12
1365	Haunted Halloween - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.15	\$2	04/04/12	10/01/12
1367	Black Onyx 7's - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.84	\$5	04/04/12	10/01/12
1369	Happy Holidays! - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.45	\$1	04/04/12	10/01/12



For detailed odds and game information, visit txlottery.org or call 1-800-37LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas Education. © 2012 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.