



Army resettlement centre builds N1.5b Unity Market

By Tope Templer Olaiya

THE Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Centre (NAFRC), Oshodi, this week performed the groundbreaking ceremony of the N1.5 billion NAFRC Unity Market to be constructed by AMAS Works and Global Services Limited.

The ceremony was performed at the project site, which is located at the centre's Mummy Market, opposite Ladipo Auto Spare-parts Market, by the commandant, Air Vice Marshal Monday Morgan.

According to the commandant, the project consultant will finance the project under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement.

"Our own donation is the land as equity. The land has been valued at a particular amount and the project will be administered on a Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) agreement that would benefit NAFRC as an institution," he said.

The Unity Market franchise will be leased for 30 years before the plaza becomes solely owned by the resettlement centre and the intention is to build a military-civilian collaboration and generate funds to expand facilities at the skills acquisition centre and create a pool for ex-servicemen



Commandant of the Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Centre (NAFRC), Oshodi, Air Vice Marshal Monday Morgan (middle) performing the groundbreaking ceremony of the N1.5 billion NAFRC Unity Market while Deputy Commandant, Major Gen. Suleiman Aliyu (right) and project consultant, Mr. Abdulmalik Salawu (left) look on.

to access funds for Small and Medium-scale Enterprises (SMEs).

Project Consultant and chair-

man of AMAS Works and Global Services, Mr. Abdulmalik Salawu, said the market, which will border the popular Ladipo

Market, alongside Mushin and Oshodi markets, is a bridge building relationship that will project the image of the military.

"The project will be equipped with the best in modern infrastructure of a model market that will include a grocery plaza, warehouses, service outlets and different merchants will be accommodated in a serene environment where security has been guaranteed. Moreover, we have a convenient and long repayment plan that would last 30 years," he said.

In the same vein, the NAFRC Commandant also commissioned newly upgraded eye clinic of the centre, which was donated by the Nigerian Armed Forces Resettlement Centre Officers Wives Association (NAFRCOWA) and which, according to the Commanding Officer, Johnson Udodi, is the foremost facility in the armed forces for eye care.

Coordinator of NAFRCOWA, Dr. (Mrs.) Reginald Morgan, said as an eye expert, she is always interested in the good health of the eyes. "When I resumed here in March last year, I discovered that the services at the clinic were not adequate. This propelled me to transform the centre clinic, which cost NAFRCOWA millions of Naira. The services are open to the resettlement centre community and her neighbours for free."

Otedola family commemorates father's death with health fair for Epe community

By Kenechukwu Ezeonyejiaku

TO commemorate the one-year anniversary of the passing away of their father and former governor of Lagos State, Sir Michael Otedola, the family recently organised a Health Fair for Odoragunshin Community in Epe Local Council of Lagos State.

Tagged "2015 Sir Michael Otedola Health Fair- Epe Medical Mission," the event witnessed the congregation of over 40 medical doctors from different fields of medicine from the US, Canada, Russia and other parts of the world, who offered the community free medical services, ranging from surgical services, dental services, paediatrics, blood sugar, cholesterol, diabetes, blood pressure checks among other preventive cares and drugs, which can last for 90 days.

Men, women and little children from within and beyond the immediate community in their thousands thronged the venue of the fair, which took place in a hall constructed for the community by the late Otedola on his 80th birthday.

Speaking with *The Guardian* at the event, Otedola's daughter and coordinator of the fair, Mrs. Omotola Oye, said that it was an enduring legacy of their late father, organised as a way of remember-

ing and honouring him through service to the community.

She noted that the fair could become a continuous event, with plans underway to expand its reach beyond Epe to other parts of Lagos as a means of reliving his legacies and philanthropy to humanity when he was alive.

The wife to the late former governor, Lady Doja Otedola, who recalled her husband's death on May 30, 2014, said that the family thought it wise to remember him after one year of his demise with health services for the community.

The 83-year-old matriarch cor-

roborated her daughter's statement that the fair would be a continuous event. According to her: "God helping us, we are still alive. Already, I am 83 years old and I hope I still have more years to live on earth. I am sure with the help of God, the children and myself will continue to carry on with the humanitarian services."

A Consultant Nephrologist from the USA, Dr Tunji Alausa said the health fair also covers surgical services, which they do in partnership with the General Hospital, Epe. He noted that they have two surgeons from their fold, who are in the hospital doing surgical inter-cases.



Daughter of Sir Michael Otedola and member, 2015 Sir Michael Otedola Health Fair (SMOHF), Mrs. Omolola Segun-Idaho (left); Coordinator, SMOHF and twin sister to Omolola, Mrs. Omotola Oye; Chair, Health Sub Committee, Governor's Commission on African Affairs, Maryland, United States of America (USA), Mrs. Anu Esuola; former First Lady, Lagos State, and wife of late Otedola, Mrs. Doja Otedola; and others at the event... recently.

Spirit of Lagos... rewarding public-spirited service

By Gbenga Salau and Florence Ulor

FOR some Lagos residents and organisations, their selfless service to the community was recently recognised and appreciated with awards at the just concluded Spirit of Lagos Citizens' Day Awards held at Eko Hotel, Lagos.

There were three broad categories: the business/corporate, public service and individual/community.

Under each of the categories, there were at least three awards.

Under the broad Business/Corporate Category, Hotel Lawa won the Small Company Category, beating The Book Company and Folorunso Maternity Clinic. In the Medium Company Category, LAGBUS Asset Management outshined CASAKA Nigeria Company Limited and De-Sleek Hotel to emerge the winner.

United Bank for Africa (UBA) Foundation was adjudged the winner in the Large Company Cate-

gory beating Zenith Bank and Guinness Nigeria Plc. For the Public Service Broad Category, Ganiyu Isaiyah Aliu, a staff of LAWMA was declared the winner of the Rising Star Award outsmarting Akeem Giwa and Saliu Hakeem, who is a teacher in Oriwu Senior Model College, Ikorodu.

In the Exemplary Conduct Award, Muideen Olusegun Bisiriyu, a director in the Ministry of Education was picked the winner beating Comfort Alumemian and Monday Agbonika, a Chief Superintendent of Police.

In the Role Model Award category, Mrs Helen Osonbor, the Vice Principal, Administration of Oriwu Senior Model College, Ikorodu smiled home the winner with Samuel Ojo and Daniel Farinde, a retired lecturer, as nominees.

Ambode promises better welfare for civil servants

LAGOS State Governor, LMR, Akinwunmi Ambode, on Tuesday engaged public servants in the State, where he made a firm commitment to fulfill his campaign promises to change the face of the state civil service, top of which will address their welfare.

The Governor who spoke at an interactive session held at the Adeyemi-Bero Auditorium, Alausa, said his administration will focus on building the capacity of staff, which will enhance their productivity on the one hand, and prepare them for a worthwhile life after service on the other. Saying that his vision is to build a public service devoid of discrimination and inhibitions, he added: "What happens to each and every one of us when we leave the service is what I am after from now till the next four years. There are a lot of opportunities, but you must work for it. I desire a public service where there would be no discrimination.