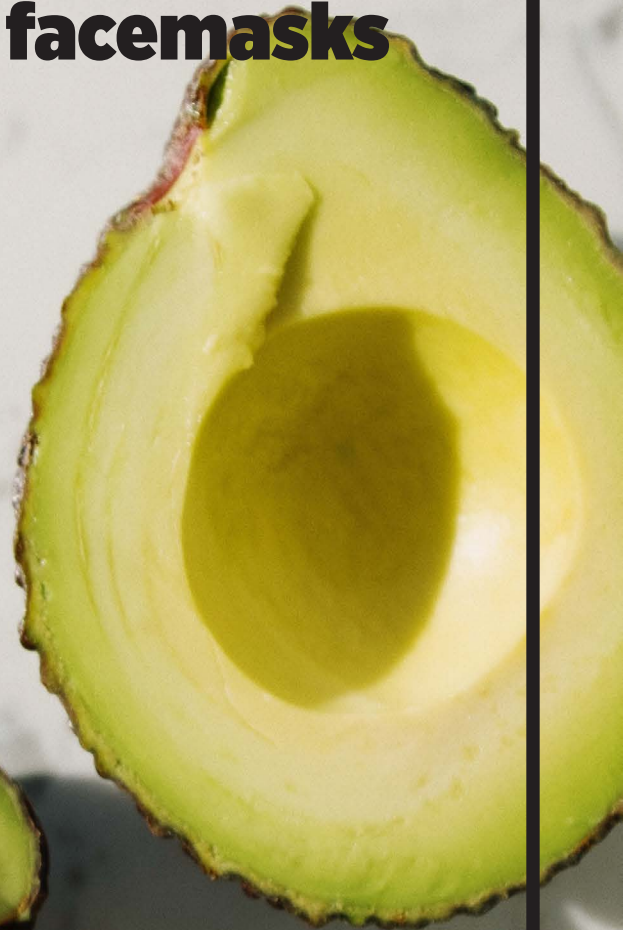




20 convicted for not wearing facemasks



Avokado called it
- *As Broads take it
to "the streets"*

Some action, finally



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Considering that this week's FYI cover story is about sex workers, "some action" felt a bit odd to start-off as the editor's note.

But oh well – some action against those not wearing facemasks, finally (story on page 12). One thing about Malawians, we won't take a pandemic seriously until it's evidently seriously taking people

we know.

At the moment, we can say, the government is doing its part to ensure that there are measures put in place that are being followed.

We needed that. More non-facemask-wearing-perpetrators need to get convicted and ordered to pay whatever sensible fine the courts wish.

Editor,

Gary Samati



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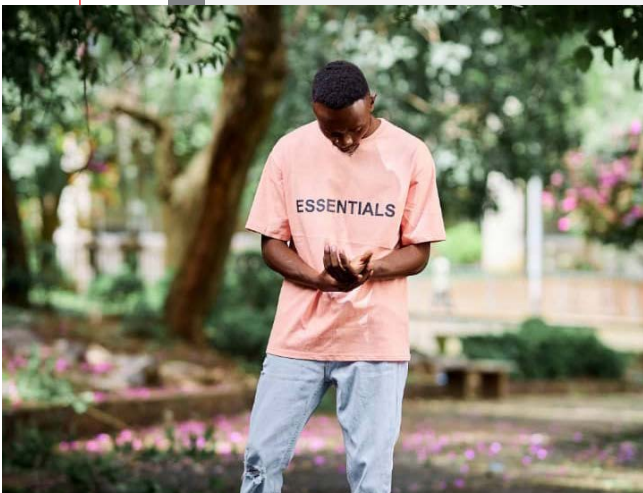
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WONANI WITH THE NEW SOUND



Bringing onto the Malawi Music scene a fresh distinct sound fusion of afro-pop, afro-soul, EDM and South African house, Wonani_made has specially packed and crafted an unimaginable genre dubbed "Psychedelic afro" in his brand new single "me and you" which features Jomo and Israel.

His music roots trace back to as far as primary school with his first professional track recorded while he was in form two. Besides his single, Wonani_made, real name Wonani Mwale, has been working in the background in collaborations and beat-making. He collaborated with its Friday on his song "space". Showcasing his beat making skills on Eli Njuchi's album, Wonani_made mastered the beat for "As You Are".

Reclaimed poet also utilized his beat in "the journey".

If you want to get a feel of what he is all about get hold of these artistic works or you could simply turn to Malawi's acclaimed TMZ, besides FYI, Mikozi Network.

Covid-19: The plague that “spared” the ignorant

BY Elita Soko



In June 2020, on a Monday night, I found out that I had the coronavirus. I had been one of several people who had volunteered for a random test the previous Friday and a couple of us had the tests return positive.

Initially, it seemed unreal because I felt perfectly fine. Then I remembered the particularly bad flu I had had about a week earlier and it suddenly seemed to make sense.

Then came the musings about where I might have gotten it; endless possibilities. This was coupled with worry about the people I had been in contact with, colleagues, family. And then came the guilt. I worried that I had exposed my family to the dangerous mystery that is Covid-19. I should have been more careful, I thought.

As I went about notifying the few people that I had come into contact with, I created scenarios in my head that did absolutely

nothing to put my mind at ease. I was all about the negatives (granted, one would be hard pressed to find the positive side of contracting a deadly virus that has no cure). Eventually, I was declared cured with only a peculiar loss of the sense of smell as a souvenir from this (more mental than physical) ordeal. Lucky for me.

Plenty of people have, like me, had the luxury (yes I call it a luxury) of being asymptomatic even after testing positive for the virus, and I know some have had it even better: not had it at all. Many others too have had to bury their loved ones (or not had the opportunity) who have died from this elusive virus. Others have however been so unlucky as to be so ignorant that they turn to myopic theories as to why people are dying. It is baffling and frankly, infuriating that one labels Covid-19 fictional. While it is only natural that we question the origins of the virus,

and maybe let our imaginations run wild on its inception, it is ridiculous to ignore the clearly visible effects it has had on our lives. Yes, our beliefs vary and there are plenty of factors that can lead to skepticism in some, but succumbing to paranoia at this stage will hardly fix anything. Whether one believes it or not, there is a force that has rendered jobs unworkable and life generally unlivable. The scientists call it Covid-19 and have equipped us with effective (at times difficult) measures to follow in an attempt to prolong some lives.

To ignore these measures is not only suicidal but murderous too. To disregard the advice given by medical professionals (even if they at times seem at a loss too) borders on stupid. Wofa lero saafa mawa, we say. Well how about phukusi la moyo sakusungira ndi wina.

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| Fashion

The short fashion trend





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WHAT SUP IN MALAWI?

PASTICHE MODE

WORK, PLAY AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN

Mw Blogger

A Malawian blogger, Angasa Malilo, has been nominated in the inaugural African bloggers awards, under the lifestyle category.



TGIAF

Yet again, Tay Grin is set to entertain Malawians through his Grin Friday Shows, which is slowly turning into a “positive” show as we witnessed a Covid-19 patient loosen up and twerk last Friday, and the rapper ending up donating 250K to Onjezani Kenani’s Covid initiative.

Gwamba set to perform with band

BY Sam Banda Jnr



Gospel musician Gwamba has said that his virtual show dubbed ‘Sorry for Covid’ to be held on 30 Jan. will see him performing live with a band.

He said he was ready for the outing and that he would perform for close to an hour. “I am excited with this performance. I will dish out most of my popular songs,” Gwamba said.

The ‘Sorry for Covid’ performance will be live on Gwamba’s Facebook page. The artist said, for some time now, he has had moments of deep conversations with himself reflecting on how Covid has fundamentally changed the relationship between artists and fans.

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Well, Avokado saw it coming

BY FYI Reporter



The Malawian December hit-song kwabwera mahule sounded more realistic on 28 Jan. '21 as it really happened.

Broads, for a lack of a better word, took to “the streets” to demonstrate their grievances towards the government’s set curfew on bar operations in the country.

Their claims? Well:

1. Bars should open from 2pm ‘till midnight from Monday to Thursday and;

2. No curfew at all

during the weekends.

The group went to Lilongwe City Civic Offices under the banner Female Sex Workers Association of Malawi, where they left a letter addressed to the office of the President and Members of the Presidential Taskforce on Covid-19.

The petition reads:

“From Friday to Sunday, the places should be opened and closed as usual [without limitations] while

all Covid preventive

measures are [being] followed. Otherwise, we might die of hunger and we expect more defaulters on ART [antiretroviral therapy] as there is a need to have food [while] taking ART.”

Recently, sex workers in Zomba also went to their city’s council offices to express similar grievances. The group revealed that they make at least K15, 000 per night.

PICTURES OF THE WEEK

1



2

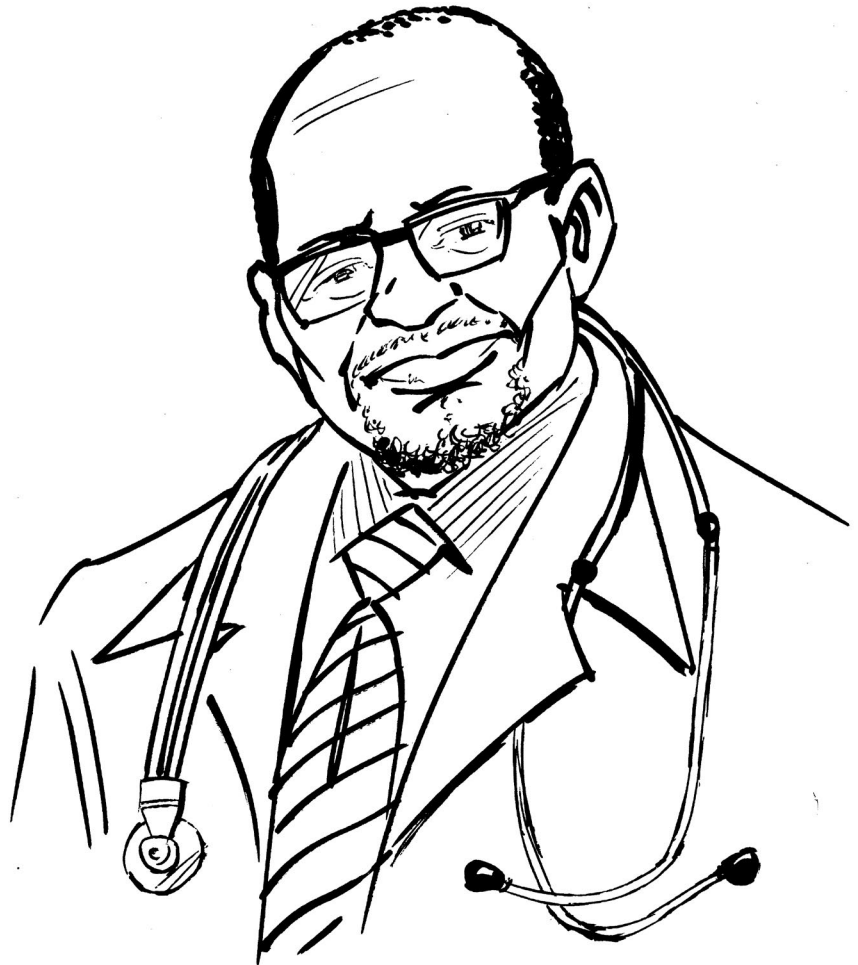


3



1. - A police officer was social media's clown this week as he fell off a moving car while he was firing teargas.
2. - A beautiful picture taken by Joseph Kaluzi.
3. - Tay Grin's reaction to a girl twerking on his Instagram Live Show.

ASK SIBWENI



A New Year, the same Sibweni! Send us your uncomfortable questions and situations and get the best advice in the subsequent magazine – in the ASK SIBWENI section. Send us a DM on any of our social media platforms @FYIonline

f t i @FYIonline

NEWS RECAP

Temperature checking in vain

Medical experts in the country have ruled out high temperature as a symptom of Covid-19.

MP lets go of his salary, for Covid

MP for BT City South Noel Lipipa has let go of his government salary for “as long as Covid exists” to help with both On-jezani Kenani’s initiative and the Ministry of Health’s fight against the virus.

MBC DG Investigations

Malawi Human Rights Commission has said it’s at an advanced stage in investigating the boss at MBC, Aubrey Sumbuleta, over sexual harassment allegations.

20 Convicted for not wearing facemasks



On Tuesday, this week, 20 people were arrested in Mangochi for not wearing facemasks in public.

The action was taken by the Mangochi Senior Resident Magistrate Court as this is in line with provisions of the newly enacted Public Health Act.

Of the 20, two were told to pay K9, 000 as a fine while the rest were ordered to pay K5, 000 – or, for all, serve a one month sentence in prison.

GENDER ABUSE PROJECTS NEED BOTH GENDERS

BY Bridgita Flao



For a very long time, we have wanted to change the narrative on abuse and violence against women in the country.

There have been programs and initiatives that were focused on protecting adolescent young girls and women in the country yet the narrative took a turn for the worst as evidenced by statistics in the past year. Different organizations and groups of people including women in media demonstrated across the country against rape, defilement and gender based violence.

Despite these demos, the statistics did not change instead there was a surge in these cases.

This could be due to the fact that all programs that were done in the past focused

on the victims and not the perpetrators. This created and continues to create a gap that needs to be filled should the plot and narrative of such cases take a turn.

There is a need for a holistic, collaborative and inclusive approach. We need to start telling boys and men what is wrong instead of telling girls how to handle a situation when it happens.

There is a need to accept that over the years we've been empowering a generation of young women, we've neglected the men who should be equipped in knowing how to handle such a woman. This has created a gap where we have a generation of empowered young women handled by a generation of disempowered women.

I would like to applaud National

Youth Council of Malawi, who launched "Dolo Ojaka" on Friday 29 Jan. at crossroads hotel for identifying that gap and coming up with an initiative that focus on both players in complementing efforts of other stakeholders and organizations.

This comprehensive approach in providing mentoring, counselling, technical skills and development that will help in rehabilitating and reintegrating boys into society is what has realistic potential in changing the narrative.

A safe space where both men and women are empowered. Going forth, there should be more programs and initiatives that approach these issues comprehensively.

United we stand, divided we fall.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



Coronavirus: Black MPs unite in video to encourage vaccine take-up

Black Members of Parliament in the United Kingdom (UK) have urged black people to take the Covid-19 vaccine.

Brief Gossip

US Actress marries Bodyguard...

Pamela Anderson, a Canada-American actress, model and television personality has made headlines overseas – when it was established that she got married to her bodyguard, secretly.



Richest man in Africa Suing GF for \$30K

Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, has told a U.S. court how his former American girlfriend, who exposed a part of his body (butt, actually) via a social media post, is trying to extort \$5 million from him.



Pam, who's a Playboy Magazine star, got married to her bodyguard on 24 December last year. However, she was married before – and separated with her then spouse two weeks after their wedding.

Will this one last? Well, she says she's in "safe hands," – and she should know, with him being promoted from bodyguard to husband status.

Social Media Gossip

Malawi Voice
52m · 🌐

HAPENNING NOW: Mahule demos



Like

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Alick Jamesomar Ibn Hassan ▶ STINGY
MEN ASSOCIATION OF MALAWI (SMAM)

9m · 🌐

Member WA SMAM ayambe business yanji ndi k3,000 ???

Ine wanu [#SMAM_SECRETARY_GENERAL__](#)

1

7 Comments

Like

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Nigel Grant Maseko Kabango

1d · 🌐

ZANDIKHUDZA!

I used to dance guys, like DANCE-DANCE, sindinali mfana wa masewera, tinali afana ofewa, timasita dance floor sii chibwana. Dancing non stop!! 🔥

Pano, eeeeh ndidakali young man, komabe adulting just does things to you. Mavuto aNsana, ma bill, fuel prices etc, Pena umakalamba not because of age, Koma ndalama basi, MONEY BASI! NDALAMA TILIBE!!! 😞

Middle man basi, money in-money out

It's tough bwana!



Like

Comment

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WAVYPAPI

@Alvin_mtr

Easier for them to work from home if you ask me 😊 angopanga zoti agawane ma contacts awo ndi ma clients awowo

FYI @FYIonlineMW · 5h

Thoughts on female sex workers protesting against the government's 8pm curfew on bars? 🙄

9:58 AM · 28 Jan 21 · [Twitter for Android](#)



Like

Comment

Share

Peter Banda starts trials in Russia

BY Martin Mpungah

Nyasa Big Bullets midfielder Peter Banda started his 1-month trials with FC Sherrif, a team based in Russia.

For his first match, the 21-year old footballer came from the bench and managed to get 2 assists following their 6-1 victory against Florence fc.

TNM SUPER LEAGUE LOG TABLE

	Played	Points
1. Silver Strikers	9	19
2. Ekwendeni	9	19
3. Red Lions	10	19
4. Mafco	9	16
5. Civo United	8	16