

Sunday Times CLASSIFIED
011 280 3147 kanjis@timesmedia.co.za

PERSONAL
We wish to make contact with ROBERT E THOMAS the brother of the Late Charles Saxon Thomas, born on 18 Aug 1951, who died in Mexico on 5 June 2013.
ATTORNEYS HALSTEAD PAOLA
Elaine de Sylva (Agents for the Executive Benyl White) P O Box 22584 GLENASHLEY 4022
Telephone 031 566 5810

FARM FOR SALE
Tired of the City? BEAUTIFUL MODERN LIFESTYLE FARM IN EVER GROWING OVERBERG AREA FOR SALE.
Suitable for events, tourism, or simply perfect for a relaxed alternative country life. 640 olive trees, 200 sqm. Organic vegetable garden, sufficient water.
Checkout: facebook.com/suryavenuefarm or contact Nina on: 076 570 2222

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
MORGANS BAY EASTERN CAPE
Commercial property consisting of a fitted shop, bottle store, flatlet and storage areas on 7000 sqm of commercial land for sale. All reasonable offers considered.
Phone Charles Ramsay 072 097 2359

LOANS & FINANCE
INSTANT CASH!!
Against all vehicles, gold, jewellery and valuable watches. Money within minutes. Call Chad 072 197 9637 or 011 952 1111

CASH / LOAN
Against your Fixed Deposit, Gold Jewellery, Car, Truck, Boat, TV, Laptop, Computer. Anything of value.
CALL: (011) 422 6354 / (011) 493 1685 / (012) 320 4525
Cell: 072 847 0978
pawm@cash.co.za

FLATS TO LET
-DAINFERN-
Brand new apartment. R7 500pm. 2 bed, 1 bath, open plan lounge, patio, clubhouse & pool area. 24hr security. Available imm. Call Rashini 084 564 8028

FLATS FOR SALE
MARGATE
Furnished 1 bedrm flat, 77m2, o/p livingroom, kitchen, bath, balcony, near beach, secure complex, sw pool, no transfer duty R 440,000.00
084 323 3456

HOUSE SITTING
PLETTENBERG BAY
8 slpr, plus flatlet, pool, and awesome ocean views. Can be yours for Dec holidays. Call 082 411 5354

Mervyn Susser: Aids campaigner and world leader in epidemiology

● 1921-2014

MERVYN Susser, who has died at his home in Hastings on Hudson, New York, at the age of 92, helped to pioneer community-based primary healthcare in South Africa.

He was one of the first doctors in the world to study the ways in which social, cultural and psychological factors contribute to disease, and his work formed the basis of public health policy in post-apartheid South Africa.

Susser and his wife and lifelong collaborator, Zena Stein, quite literally wrote the book on epidemiology. Titled *Eras in Epidemiology: The Evolution of Ideas*, it was the first comprehensive history of the subject.

Susser was born in Johannesburg on September 26 1921. His parents, immigrants from Latvia, ran the Groenfontein Hotel near Mokopane in Limpopo. His mother, Ida, who was not happy in the bush, committed suicide and he was brought up by relatives in Durban.

After matriculating at Durban Boys High, he began studying humanities at the University of the Witwatersrand, but broke off in 1940 to join the war. The devastation sharpened his social conscience and persuaded him to switch to medicine.

Epidemiology was not yet even in the curriculum, but its principles were being practised by Sidney Kark, who, with his wife, Emily, was establishing a network of primary health centres in rural KwaZulu-Natal based on comprehensive community care and preventive medicine.

Susser and Stein, whom he married in 1949, were deeply influenced by the combination of rigorous science and social justice evident in the work being done by the Karks, and this became a hallmark of their own life.

Their driving motivation was to contribute to the health and medical care of blacks, which, in apartheid South Africa in the early 1950s, was virtually ignored in medical curriculums.

"Our medical curriculum addressed the conditions apparent in the segregated white fraction of the population," said Susser in an interview with the *Journal of Epidemiology* in 2003. "What happened in the black majority of the population was foreign



PIONEER: Mervyn Susser's work formed the basis of public health policy in post-apartheid South Africa

land. We learned about that independently out of hours in outpatient clinics and wards of black hospitals."

He jumped at the chance to run a clinic in Alexandra township, Johannesburg. While there, he and Stein carried out one of the first studies ever made of community health in the developing world, which was published in the *Lancet* in 1955 as "Medical Care in an African Township".

They established close ties during this period with leaders in both the ANC and the South African Communist Party such as Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Bram Fischer and Joe Slovo.

They were regular visitors to the Susser's house. Susser also allowed his clinic to be used for meetings of the SACP.

The chairman of the clinic's board, Judge Oliver Schreiner, who detested apartheid and was enormously sympathetic to the anti-apartheid struggle, was afraid that the government would close the clinic if it found out about this and so he asked Susser to leave.

Susser struggled for six months to find work. He believed his political activism was the problem, decided he had no future in apartheid South Africa and, in 1955, took his wife and three children to England.

He was given a senior academic post in the department of social and preventive medicine at Manchester University.

While there, he co-wrote an influential textbook, *Sociology in Medicine*, demonstrating the influence of social environment on health, and became recognised as a world leader in epidemiology.

In 1965, he was asked to set up a chair of epidemiology at Columbia University in New York, despite the

fact that he had no formal training in the discipline.

He then produced perhaps his most influential book, *Causal Thinking in the Health Sciences: Concepts and Strategies of Epidemiology*, which grew out of a series of lectures he gave at the university.

Susser founded the Sergievsky Centre at Columbia University, which explores genetic, environmental and social factors of disease. He led it until 1990.

At the same time, he was editor of *The American Journal of Public Health*.

When HIV/Aids began spreading in New York in the early 1980s, he and Stein were among the first epidemiologists to study it.

In the later '80s, they engaged quite frequently with ANC exiles, notably Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma and Manto Tshababala-Msimang.

By this time it was clear to Susser and Stein that HIV/Aids would be a calamity for South Africa and they tried to educate the future health ministers, among other ANC leaders in exile, about the disease.

In 1990, they organised a conference in Maputo to bring together public health experts from South Africa and the US and likely members of a future ANC government to focus on the potential impact of HIV on South Africa. Their aim, principally, was to warn the future ANC government of impending disaster.

But owing to a combination of political cowardice and more immediate concerns, such as the increasingly bloody civil war in South Africa and approaching negotiations, their warnings were all but ignored.

Later, Susser and Stein, who was invited to join then-president Thabo Mbeki's toothless Aids panel in 1999, looked on in frustration and dismay as the ANC government's refusal to implement an effective Aids policy cost thousands of lives.

In 1999, when they were both retired and approaching 80, they agreed to return to South Africa as joint directors of the newly founded Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies in Hlabisa in KwaZulu-Natal.

They returned to the US after two years, but spent time at the centre every year thereafter until 2009. The Susser-Stein partnership was one of the most productive in recent medical history. They quarrelled and fought over their research, which he said helped them to learn more and achieve better results. He said the sense of intellectual equality and free exchange of ideas that characterised their collaboration was critical to its success.

Susser is survived by Stein, 92, and their three children. — Chris Barron



A LIFE OF FUN: Verna Vels

Verna Vels: Creator of beloved character Liewe Heksie

● 1933-2014

VERNA Vels, who has died in Johannesburg at the age of 81, was the creator of one of the most widely loved characters in Afrikaans fiction.

Her Liewe Heksie (Dear Little Witch) stories were first broadcast on radio in 1961 and then published as books from 1965. Liewe Heksie debuted on television in 1978 and ran for 26 programmes. A second series followed in 1981. Altogether, the dear little witch starred in 52 television programmes.

Vels wrote 10 Liewe Heksie books, produced eight Liewe Heksie records and numerous CDs, videos and DVDs. Her last book, *Liewe Heksie en die Rekenaar* (Dear Little Witch and the Computer), was published in 1999.

She also wrote Liewe Heksie plays that were staged at theatres around South Africa, including in the former Nico Malan in Cape Town and at the State Theatre in Pretoria, and at arts festivals such as the Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees.

She got the idea for Heksie while watching the Walt Disney movie *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, in particular the scenes in which the nasty witch intimidated Snow White. Many years later, she thought it would be a good idea to write about a little witch who was rather slow and forgetful and altogether more lovable than the Disney version.

Blommeland, where Liewe Heksie lived with her friends the elves, was inspired by the Richard Strauss opera *Der Rosenkavalier*.

She described Liewe Heksie as "a witch who was a little bit stupid", created to make children laugh, rather than frighten them. "Heksie was really not written to educate children but to make them laugh," she said.

Vels was born in Reitz in the Free State on June 13 1933. She attended the University of Pretoria, where she did a BA degree in Afrikaans and Dutch, English and art history.

Her first job was as a radio presenter at the SABC in Durban, and she remained with the corporation for the rest of her working life.

In 1963, she was transferred to Johannesburg and put in charge of the SABC's women's, children's and art programming. In 1968, she worked in the Netherlands for Radio South Africa's foreign service. She became a senior part of the team involved in the production and planning of local programmes in 1974 and involved in the purchase of foreign programmes for the introduction of television two years later.

She oversaw the creation of programmes such as *Kraaines* and *Wielie-Walje*, which were to become hugely popular on the small screen. Hers was the voice of another famously loved character, Bennie Boekwurm in the Liewe Heksie television shows.

In 1983 she was appointed programme director for TV1 (Afrikaans), the highest position a woman had ever attained at the SABC. When she retired in 1993, Vels was the most senior female executive in the local television industry. After retiring, she worked twice a week as a director on the set of the popular soapie *Die Laan*.

In 2012 Maroela Media nominated Liewe Heksie as the greatest fictional Afrikaner of all time. Vels never married, explaining that she was always having too much fun to marry. She was always a very happy person. She lived alone with two dogs in a modest house in Brixton, travelled widely overseas for six weeks a year in most years and indulged her love of opera.

Vels died of cancer. — Chris Barron



BEWITCHING: Liewe Heksie never fails to enchant children

Sweet 16
A special birthday wish to our little angel baby, Preshina. The Lord has sent us an absolute blessing when you were born. That cute little face, now blossomed into a stunning young lady. You will always remain our little angel!
With all our love, Mom and Dad.

How2Tender.com
Tender Workshop
Emperors Palace 13 Sep '14
Topics Include:
Pricing and B-BBEE
Tender scope in R.S.A
Difference between Private and Public sector Tenders
Tender Documentation
Practical completion of tenders 80/20 and 90/10 scoring model
R2 850 p/p inclusive of refreshments, buffet lunch and a How2Tender Manual
Email: events@how2tender.com
Contact: 082 710 2049 or 073 160 0049

NOTICE OF THE TRANSFER OF THE BUSINESS OF COVISION LIFE LIMITED TO HOLLARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE LONG-TERM INSURANCE ACT, 52 OF 1998

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 38(1)(a)(i) of the Long-term Insurance Act, 52 of 1998 (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), that it is the intention of Covision Life Limited (registration number 2006/034684/06) ("Covision") and Hollard Life Assurance Company Limited (registration number 1993/001405/06) ("Hollard") to transfer its life assurance business, which Covision carries on in the Republic of South Africa, to Hollard ("proposed transfer").

The proposed transfer comprises only the in-force individual life and assistance assurance policies underwritten by Covision as at 31 March 2013, and the assets and liabilities related to such policies, and excludes all other assets and liabilities of Covision. If the proposed transfer is confirmed, Hollard shall be responsible for the fulfilment of all the obligations of Covision insofar as the said obligations relate to the aforesaid policies. Details of the proposed transfer are contained in an agreement concluded between Covision and Hollard on 25 April 2014 ("Agreement"). The Agreement is subject to the fulfilment of suspensive conditions, which includes, amongst others, that the proposed transfer is approved by the Registrar of Long-term Insurance in terms of part V of the Act. A copy of the Agreement, together with a copy of the notification to the Registrar of Long-term Insurance which includes particulars of the proposed transfer and any other documents required by the Registrar of Long-term Insurance, shall be available for inspection during normal business hours for a period of at least 15 (fifteen) days commencing on 1 September 2014 until 15 September 2014 at the head offices of Covision in Johannesburg at 22 Oxford Road, Parktown and of Hollard in Johannesburg at Hollard at 22 Oxford Road, Parktown.

In terms of section 38(1)(b) of the Act, any person who has an interest in this matter may, within 15 (fifteen) days of the publication of this notice in the Government Gazette on 29 August 2014, submit to the Registrar of Long-term Insurance such representations concerning the transaction as are relevant to his, her or its interests.

Hollard and Covision to apply to the Registrar of Long-term Insurance on 3 October 2014 at Riverwalk Office Park, Block B, 41 Matroosberg Road (Corner Garsfontein and Matroosberg Roads), Ashlea Gardens x6, Pretoria at 10:00am, or as soon thereafter as the application may be heard, for approval by the Registrar of the Long-term Insurance.

In terms of section 38(d) of the Act, any policyholder, shareholder or creditor of Hollard or Covision may file affidavits with the Registrar within the abovementioned 15 (fifteen) day period and shall be entitled to appear before the Registrar on the above-mentioned date. Please direct all queries to 0861 777 022 or send an email enquiry to clientcare@hollard.co.za for the attention of Patty Coetzee. Alternatively, please direct your queries to the Registrar of Long-term Insurance, Financial Services Board per email for the attention of Ms Lulama Mafunda, email: (Lulama.Mafunda@fsb.co.za).

University of South Africa INVITATION Applications for Postdoctoral Fellowships

Unisa is a reputable, comprehensive, flexible and accessible open distance learning institution with a 140-year history of shaping futures. We offer internationally accredited qualifications and have world-class resources. Our vision "towards the African university in the service of humanity" drives us to find answers to Africa's educational and developmental problems.

To this end, the university's Postdoctoral Fellowships are geared to hone recent doctoral graduates' research skills and to develop them further for an academic career.

To support the development of highly competent and confident young researchers who have solid research plans, Unisa invites applications for Postdoctoral Fellowship positions in:

- College of Human Sciences (CHS)
- College of Economic & Management Sciences (CEMS)
- College of Law (CLAW)
- College of Science, Engineering & Technology (CSET)
- College of Agriculture & Environmental Sciences (CAES)
- College of Graduate Studies (CGS)
- College of Education (CEDU)
- College of Accounting Sciences (CAS)
- Graduate School of Business Leadership (GSBL)
- Thabo Mbeki African Leadership Institute (TMALI)

Fellowships are valued at a non-taxable R300 000 per annum and are renewable for one more year based on performance.

Requirements:

- A doctoral degree not older than five years
- Strong interest in further research with one research output in an accredited journal or conference proceedings
- Good written, oral and presentation skills
- Computer skills
- Mentorship experience

Core functions:

- Conduct and publish research results
- Provide postgraduate student supervision
- Promote research as a truly university-wide enterprise

The appointment of Postdoctoral Research Fellowships is dependent on the availability of a suitable Unisa academic collaborator.

Applicants are required to submit their completed application form (obtainable from the University's website) together with a copy of their most recent CV to Ms M Mafolo, mafolhm@unisa.ac.za

For more information: 012 429 3817 www.unisa.ac.za/research

Creating an enabling research and innovation environment

Learn without limits.

UNISA university of south africa