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Sekhukhune's unused R180 million, residents still without water

The Sekhukhune district municipality in Limpopo is likely to return more than R180 million of unspent money to the provincial Treasury while residents, especially in far-flung rural villages, continue to compete with animals for dirty water in springs, fountains and rivers. It is understood the district will return R50 million of the municipal infrastructure grant, R22 million of the water and sanitation infrastructure grant and R113 million of the regional bulk infrastructure grant.

Last week, Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana published a Gazette in terms of the Division of Revenue Act, which provides information regarding the adjustment of allocations to municipalities in the 2021-22 financial year. The purpose, he said, was to avoid transferring more funds to municipalities that have unspent transferred funds.

The minister said this was aimed at avoiding fiscal dumping and to address the possibilities of funds being misused in the year. Godongwana said this did not imply that projects should stop, rather that municipalities should accelerate their committed projects. He said only projects that were not ready for implementation in the current year would be affected.

This sparked more brouhaha between the ANC

and opposition parties in the Sekhukhune district municipality, which has to return millions of unspent money to the provincial Treasury this week.

"We are left with only three days for the municipality to become poorer. That's not looking

good for the region as there is no guarantee that the remaining budget will be spent by the end of the financial year," said councillor Seun Mogotji of the Bolsheviks political party

on Monday.

According to the party, there is one person responsible for the district's loss of money.

...continues on page 2.

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Sekhukhune's unused R180 million

...continues from page 2. "It is ironic that when all this happens, the culprit responsible for the loss of the money keeps her job. "In a normal society the accounting officer, the municipal manager, would have been removed from her position as she has dismally failed to execute her duties. The problem with the municipal manager is that she is too immersed in party politics and ANC factional battles," he said. Mogotji said in an effort to stop more money being returned to Treasury in the future, consequence management must be applied. "The municipal manager and her team must just go. We want her gone today and not tomorrow, otherwise, service delivery will remain a pipe dream in our communities," added Mogotji. Moloko Moloto, municipality spokesperson, said there was no definitive decision on the matter as yet. "The municipality is still in talks with the provincial Treasury, together with the department of cooperative governance, human settlement and traditional affairs regarding this matter. "But one of the commitments by the executive mayor, Julia Lata Mathebe is that in addition to prioritising the filling of critical vacancies to capacitate the infrastructure and water services department, the municipality is working tirelessly on its planning and implementation approaches to reposition itself as a leader in the provision of basic services."

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PHASE FOR THE FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF STRYDKRAAL HUB WITHIN FETAKGOMO-TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF SEKHUKHUNE IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

PROJECT PROPOSAL: PROPOSED STRYDKRAAL SPORTS HUB APPROXIMATELY 3 HA PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The projects include the following activities: Indigenous Zones/Games, Outdoor Gym, Children's Play area, Guard house, Parameter Fence (Diamond Mesh), Combi Court (i.e. Tennis and Netball Courts combined and Ablution Facility (Enviro Loo)

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

EIA activities: LN 1: activity 27 GN 327

PROJECT LOCATION

The project is located on Portion 1 of Mooiplaats Farm in Strydkraal Village within Fetakgomo-Tubatse Municipality, on the following coordinates:
• 29°44'16,63"E 24°27'2,34"S

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

To be registered/identified as an interested and/or affected party, please submit your name, contact details and comments (your interest in the project) to D.Ngoepe @ the Consultant address given below. The Basic Assessment report will be available for review and comments 30 days from the issue of this advert. I&AP are requested to submit their comments, names and contact details at the address provided below from the date of this notice.

EIA FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF STRYDKRAAL HUB

Tikologo Holdings (Pty) Ltd, Unit no 4, No 39 Granite Street, Superbia,0700, Tel: 067 086 6064. Contact Person: Daisy Ngoepe, E-mail: info@tikologo.com

NDLOVU RESOURCES (PTY) LTD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given in terms of sections 10(1)(b), 16(4)(b) and 39 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, No 28 of 2002 (MPRDA), the National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998, as amended (NEMA) and related Regulations & Listing Notices.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY & LOCATION: Ndlovu Resources (Pty) Ltd is in the process of consulting the land owners, lawful occupants, community and any Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) as required by the law stated above in relation to prospecting activities for Nickel + Copper + Cobalt on Farm Loskop Suid 053 JS [Portions of Portions 184, 185, 186, 188, 189, 190, 191, and Portions 187, 192, 193, 051] in the magisterial district of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality. DMRE Ref. No.: LP14567PR.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING: A public meeting is scheduled to take place on date to be confirmed soon. Notices for the meeting will be pasted in the public areas around the farms / site. I&APs are also welcome to contact the contact person below for such meeting details and/ or comments.

Due to restrictions by the COVID-19 Lockdown Regulations on Public Gatherings, any Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) is urged to also submit their comments and contact details via email on ARNOLD.MUINDISI@GMAIL.COM / DESMOND@PSHGROUP.CO.ZA

Land owners, lawful occupants, community and any Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are given the opportunity to access more information on the proposed activities and to give comment on the process. Please submit your name, contact information and comments and/or requirements in writing to the contact person by 23 May 2022.

CONTACT PERSON / CONSULTANT: Arnold Muindisi, Cell: 071 012 2607 or 081 439 7788, Email: ARNOLD.MUINDISI@GMAIL.COM Fax: 086 758 2869 / 086 512 6724, P.O.Box 509, Morula View, 0196.

NOTICE FOR A CONSULTATION PERTAINING TO A MINING PERMIT APPLICATION, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN SUPPORT OF SUCH MINING PERMIT OVER CERTAIN PORTION OF THE FARM HET FORT 329 KT, SITUATED IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

DMR REF NO: LP30/5/1/3/2/11810MP.

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 27 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, published under Government Notice No. R. 982 in Government Gazette No. 38282 of 4 December 2014, as amended by Government Notice No. 326 in Government Gazette No. 40772 of 7 April 2017, Government Notice No. 706 in Government Gazette No. 41766 of 13 July 2018 and Government Notice No. 599 in Government Gazette No. 43358 of 29 May 2020 , under Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended, that **SSKG Kgopane Minerals (Pty) Limited** proposes to conduct mining operation over the abovementioned property. The project trigger Listing Notice 1 (Government Notice 327, in Government Gazette 40772 of April 2017).

In order to participate in this Process, or obtain further information, please contact Willow Tree Capital, Mr Teboho Molapo on Fax Number: 086 416 4044. E-Mail: admin@willowtreecapital.co.za Draft BAR & EMPR will be released for a 30 days' comments period from 14 April 2022 excluding holidays.

Top police officer retires



Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson Colonel Moatshe Ngoepe retired after serving the police force for 37 years.

The SAPS in Limpopo bids farewell to Colonel Moatshe Ngoepe, a legendary communicator who served the police force for the last 37 years. Ngoepe, who is now retiring from the force, served over three decades as a police officer of which 27 of those years were served in the environment of Corporate Communication and Liaison at different levels of command. Colonel Ngoepe handed off to enjoy a well-earned retirement as from Friday 1 April 2022. Prior to joining the SAPS communications business unit, the veteran communications enthusiast, worked at Bolobedu Police Station in the Client Service Centre (CSC), from 1986 to 1988 as a Sergeant. From then until 1995, he worked as a Detective holding the rank of a Warrant Officer which was later translated into Inspector. Ngoepe was later appointed the Bolobedu Police Station Communication Officer the following year and within three years, he was appointed the Area Communication Officer in the then, Mopani Area. That was not long before his outstanding communication skills elevated him to the next level and was appointed the Area Head of Communication in the same area at a Captain's rank. He held the position until the Areas where dissolved and Clusters were introduced. During that period, he was promoted to a rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He also headed Communications at SAPS Polokwane and SAPS Tzaneen Police Stations before he joined the Limpopo Provincial Corporate Communication and Liaison as the Provincial Commander of SAPS Media Centre in 2016. Ngoepe was promoted to the post of Provincial Commander of Media Relations in 2018 at the rank of Colonel, the post which he hold until his retirement. During his entire career, Colonel Ngoepe has provided exceptional leadership on communication matters and as a team player. He led an outstanding team of individuals which provided the quality support to the organisation in terms of communication and media liaison. The space he occupied in the broader Corporate Communication and Liaison Component as the Provincial Commander of the SAPS Media Relations, led to the well-established mechanism and platform that are currently used for improved interaction between journalists from different media houses and police communication officers in Limpopo. His experience, commitment and enthusiasm, had made him to be an asset to the organisation, flying the SAPS flag high and delivering meaningful services to the public and the organization. He received a number of accolades for his outstanding excellence, both externally and within the organisation. Among his recognitions he acquired for his outstanding contribution in the police force include the best spokesperson in Limpopo for the year 2005, public guest speaker award for the year 2006 and appreciation on the good service rendered for the same year. Ngoepe is also a nominee for the 2012 Thobela F.M in African Legend-for-Changing Lives through mass-media. He was awarded best administration employee of the year 2018, during the SAPS Provincial prestige awards ceremony. Colonel Ngoepe urged young officers to equip themselves with knowledge by furthering their studies, attending courses and learning programmes of which the SAPS Training Institutions are offering for free. "We have travelled a long journey together in the name of service delivery to our communities through the ongoing supply of quality, verified and legitimate information on incidents of crime and police achievements," Ngoepe said. Ngoepe humbly requested his colleagues and media to continue with the high esteemed and professional working relationship as it was done during his tenor. "This is the time for me to go and spend my time with members of my family as I have spent 37 years of service in the disposal of the state," he said. For Ngoepe, time management and respect are what shape a good and productive communicator. Ngoepe committed to continue serving his community of Tauatswala Village even after he had retired. Bidding farewell to Ngoepe, Provincial Commissioner of Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, said: "Your work is what we shall cling on as a remembrance for your contribution in this province and the organization at large."

Two arrested in connection with robbery of Ndebele iconic artist

The police have arrested two suspects in connection with the robbery of a renowned Ndebele artist, Dr Esther Mahlangu. According to the police report, the suspects, Simon Kgantshi Skosana (27) and Jan Mleman Kwati Masilela (32), were arrested in the early hours of Thursday 7 April at Mogononong in Siyabuswa. "One of these suspects, was found with the firearm and its serial number filed off, hidden in the toilet cistern, wrapped in a plastic. He then pointed the second suspect where he bought the firearm from. The second suspect pointed a third suspect who he said he bought the firearm from, the third suspect also pointed the fourth suspect until the arrests were effected," said Brigadier Selvy Mohlala, Mpumalanga Provincial Police Spokesperson. Mohlala said a total of seven suspects were brought in for questioning and five were released after the police obtained statements from them, as they could not be linked with

the robbery. Mohlala said the fourth suspect, Simon Kgantshi Skosana, confessed to be the one who broke into the house and took the firearm, money and safe. "The safe was confiscated wide open at Ramokgetšana, few kilometers from Siyabuswa," Mohlala said. He said the pair was charged with possession of an unlawful firearm and house robbery and they appeared before the Mdtjane Magistrate's Court on Friday 08 April. "Masilela is out on R3000-00 bail and he will be back in court on 10 May 2022. Skosana remains in custody and will appear again on 20 April 2022 for a formal bail application," he said. Dr Mahlangu (87), was attacked and robbed at her residential place in Weldervrede outside Siyabuswa on Saturday 19 March 2022 around 15:00. During the robbery, the defenceless pensioner was reportedly assaulted and strangled where her hands were tied with a cord. The suspect then searched her bedroom and took a safe containing a 7. 65mm pistol as well as an undisclosed amount of cash and bundles of keys then fled the scene. She was left helpless and she sustained some injuries on her face but was later found by her granddaughter who alerted the neighbours. The Provincial Commissioner of Police in Mpumalanga, Lieutenant General Semakaleng Daphney Manamela, has appreciated the sterling work done by the established team of detectives who arrested and charged two suspects.



Community members from Siyabuswa and surrounding places came in numbers to the Mdtjane Magistrate's Court to oppose bail of the suspects who robbed Dr Esther Mahlangu.

Conjoined twins delivered at Jane Furse Hospital

Surgeons have successfully delivered conjoined twins at Jane Furse Hospital on Thursday 7 April. The Limpopo Department of Health confirmed that the girls were joined at the chest and abdomen. According to the department, the babies were delivered by a 41-year-old mother through a caesarean section. The mother, who's identity cannot be revealed, is a patient who is a referral from a clinic and was only diagnosed as a normal twin pregnancy during Antenatal Clinic visits. It was only during operation that doctors discovered that the babies were joined at the chest and abdomen. "The babies were

successfully extracted without any difficulties and transferred to Mankweng Hospital for full and further assessment by both neonatologists and paediatric surgeons," said MEC for Health Department in Limpopo Dr Phophi Ramathuba. She said the mother is also well but equally transferred for further assessment by gynaecologists. "More details will be communicated when they become available," Ramathuba said. Following the successful surgery, Ramathuba visited the twins and their mother at Mankweng Hospital on Friday 8 April, where she received preliminary briefing from

specialists. Ramathuba said she was pleased to see a team made of various medical specialists including amongst others Neonatologists, Radiologists, Paediatric Surgeons, Paediatric Cardiologist are busy running studies and tests in order to decide on the next course of action. MEC Ramathuba has requested the public to allow the medical teams to do their work and also offer support to the family of the babies. The Health Department said Psychologists are also dispatched to offer psychological support to the mother of the twins and her family who didn't know that the twins she is carrying were

conjoined until birth. The department said both babies are clinically stable, not intubated and respiratory-wise coping for now.



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Dindela residents share drinking water with animals

Residents of Dindela Section in Five Morgan Village, Dennilton, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, run a risk of getting sick from dirty water they are drinking with animals. The community claims that for the past four years, they are urged to share dirty and smelly water with animals. According to residents, this is because in 2018, Sekhukhune District Municipality removed water pumping equipment from their only borehole in the village. The village consists of more than forty families who were relying on the borehole and they now have to go to the nearest river to draw water for drinking and other household purposes. Herbert Xaba, a community leader, said the village had access to clean water from the borehole until the municipality took the equipment for service. "To our surprise, the equipment was well functioned when the municipality officials removed it from the borehole. There was no apparent reason for them to take it for service," he said. Xaba said the water is not safe for human consumption and some of the residents are already sick after suspicions of contracting waterborne diseases. "The water is brownish in colour and residents are complaining about extreme diarrhoea after drinking it. Used baby diapers are dumped everywhere near the river where we draw drinking water. Sangomas are also



Community members of Dindela Section in Dennilton say they are subjected to drink dirty water from Moses River after Sekhukhune District Municipality fail to repair their water pumping equipment.

performing rituals in the same river. We do not have any other choice because the municipality is failing to provide potable water," he said. According to Xaba, residents' efforts to seek intervention from Sekhukhune District Municipality hit a stumbling block. "We have a number of petitions sent to the municipality to request our water pumping equipment back without any success. The officials and

councillors are keeping on ignoring our water pleas and now they even ignore our calls," he said. Xaba indicated that despite R143 Million commissioned by Department of Water and Sanitation in 2020 towards Moutse Draught Relief Projects, residents are still going without drinkable water even after they were promised water will be supplied though the municipality's water tanker trucks.

An elderly resident, Emelia Ntuli, said water scarcity has been a challenge and hit hard on senior citizens and children. "The river is about a kilometre away from my home and I


can't afford to push wheelbarrows to collect water from there," she said. Ntuli said they can't send children to fetch water because the river is overflowing and they fear that they could drown. Moloko Moloto, Sekhukhune District Municipality Spokesperson, said the municipality has made arrangements for the Dindela community to receive water from another nearest borehole. "They will be getting water from the nearest borehole meanwhile we are waiting for the start of the municipality's new financial year to install a new pump for a permanent arrangement," he said.

MJDF bids for a return to Mpumalanga



MJDF Executive Members (From left to right) Abram Mahangu (Second Deputy Chairperson), Trudy Tau (Organizer), Cassel Masilela (Secretary) and Zachariah Dube (Chairperson) at the Municipal Demarcation Board offices in Pretoria after making their submission.

The Mpumalanga Joint Demarcation Forum (MJDF) has submitted their proposal to the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB), in a bid to return parts of Elias Motsoaledi and Ephraim Mogale Local Municipalities' Villages from Limpopo to Mpumalanga. This comes weeks after another forum in the area, Moutse Demarcation Forum (MDF), also made a submission to the MDB to plead for Moutse's reincorporation back to Mpumalanga. The affected villages were incorporated to Limpopo in 2006, following the implementation of the 12th Amendment Act of 2005 and the Cross-Boundary Municipalities Laws Repeal and Related Matters Act of 2005. Since the area was incorporated to Limpopo, residents opposed the decision citing a serious poor service delivery in their new province. A series of violent protests were organized to oppose the demarcation decision, leading to the government conducting a referendum in 2009 to test the views of residents on whether the majority is satisfied with Limpopo or they wanted to be returned to Mpumalanga. However, the results of the referendum were never released. MJDF Chairperson, Zachariah Dube, said the latest proposal to the MDB was made after the publication of Circular 21, which intends to determine the views of residents who mainly reside in the cross boundary municipalities and provinces. "Our submission consists of more than 4000 signatures of residents including stakeholders from affected villages who want to be reincorporated into Mpumalanga," he said. Dube said MJDF demand the villages to fall under Steve Tshwete and Dr JS Moroka Local Municipalities in the Nkangala District. "Proper consultations with the communities were not made when the area was incorporated from Mpumalanga to Limpopo. Nothing has been done in terms of service delivery since the area was moved to Limpopo. There is no adequate water supply and the roads are damaged without any maintenance to mention just a few," he said. Dube indicated that residents of the affected villages raised their demarcation issue politically and legally without their problem being attended to. Dube said the forum will continue battling to return to Mpumalanga meanwhile they are waiting for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Minister, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, to release the Government Gazette for public consultations to be conducted in the affected places.



CMR Mpumalanga requests Xolani Ntsidini to contact the social worker, Portia Sibande at (013) 243 4776 in connection with the adoption of Amahle Sambo.

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CMR LIMPOPO ROOSSENEKAL office is requesting anyone with information with regards to the biological father/family or anyone who has an interest in the following children;
Mogoru Clement Nkgabanyane born 2012/05/21 at Stofberg
Mogoru Boikano Kanyane born 2015/05/26 at Stofberg
Mchaiza Boikgantsho born 2016/04/26 at Mamphokgo village
Skosana Banele Sinethemba born 2015/11/02 at Stofberg
Skosana Elsie Sphamandla born 2005/09/27 at Stofberg
Skosana Mavis Promise born 2012/06/17 at Stofberg
Skosana Lindokuhle Monica born 2007/07/16 at Stofberg
Mothupi Boitumelo born 2013/04/10 at Roosenekal
Mashilangwako Mirriam Mashianoke born 2010/02/03
Sithole Andrew Sipho born 2012/12/25 at Draaikraal farm
to contact the **Social Worker** at 066 489 5683 during office hours or email cmrlimpopo.roosenekal@gmail.com

CMR LIMPOPO GROBLERSDAL office is requesting anyone with information with regards to the biological father/family or anyone who has an interest in the following children;
Masilela Tumisho Khomotso born 2009/09/05
Masilela Kamogelo Mthokozisi born 2012/05/28
Masilela Koketso Lefa born 2015/10/09
Masilela Kgotlelelo Brilliant born 2018/01/20
Makaba Calipo Olinda born 2016/02/09
to contact the **Social Worker** at 066 489 5681 during office hours or email cmrg@lantic.net

CMR MARBLE HALL office is requesting anyone with information with regards to the biological family or anyone who has an interest in the following child;
Motla Kgaugelo born 2010/01/11 from Marble Hall Schoeman Farm
to contact the **Social Worker** at 066 489 5679 during office hours or email cmrmarblehall@gmail.com

Department of Social Services Limpopo office is requesting anyone with information with regards to the biological family or anyone who has an interest in the following child;
Makua Lehlogonolo Prince born 2021/10/19
to contact the **Social Worker** at 071 332 7771 during office hours.

CMR Limpopo advert placed in The Dispatch News on 14 April 2022

R650 Million Medico Legal claims flags Philadelphia Hospital

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo has flagged medico legal claims amounting to the excess of R650 Million facing Philadelphia Hospital in Dennilton as a main concern. According to the party, issues such as stillborn babies, high infant mortality rate and medical legal claims plague the hospital, are of great concern. Following a myriad of complaints, the DA Shadow Deputy Minister of Health, Lindy Wilson and DA spokesperson on Health in the Legislature, Risham Maharaj, conducted an oversight inspection to the hospital on Wednesday 6 April. According to Wilson, the hospital is in a dire situation with almost the entire management team is in acting positions and have been for long periods of time. "The shortage of staff and infrastructure limitations make it impossible for the regional hospital to function within required standards," she said. Wilson indicated that with the highest stillborn baby records, infant mortality rates and medical legal claims, the hospital will continue to see an escalation of legal claims if urgent government intervention is not taken. "The biggest challenge at the hospital, which is in a very remote area, is its location at the border of three provinces, namely Mpumalanga, Gauteng and Limpopo. In excess of 70% of the patients come in from the neighbouring provinces, because some patients refuse to go to Kwa-Mhlanga Hospital in Mpumalanga or those in Gauteng," she said. Wilson said the DA is concerned that funds meant for a Limpopo hospital are servicing patients from other provinces, however, there is no Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the provinces in question. "Ambulances from out of the province will deliver patients to Philadelphia but are not allowed to deliver patients from Limpopo for assistance in Witbank or to take their own patients back to facilities in the province from which they came," explained Wilson. She informed that patients from other provinces with head injuries, which require CAT scans, are delivered to Philadelphia Hospital, whereas, Philadelphia Hospital must transport the same patients for almost 3 hours to Polokwane for a scan, when the Witbank Hospital is only an hour away. "The hospital delivers up to 35 babies per day. There is no theatre for the labour ward to manage emergency caesareans and this has led to huge cerebral palsy and stillborn deaths, as emergency caesarean births will often be delayed up to 4 hours until a general theatre becomes available. There is also a shortage of beds with mothers sleeping on mattresses on the floor," she said. Wilson said the DA has written a letter to the Chairperson of the Portfolio of Health in the National Assembly requesting an urgent oversight with the entire committee at the hospital. "Furthermore, we have written to the Minister of Health and the Office of Health Standards compliance to urgently intervene in this crisis. The DA cannot sit idly by while lives are lost, on a regular basis, in a hospital that is nowhere near equipped to handle the pressures it is facing," she said.

Appalling conditions at Roosenekal Clinic

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo Province said it is going to report the appalling conditions of Roosenekal Clinic to the Health Ombudsman. The party made the statement following its oversight inspection to the clinic on Wednesday 6 April, wherein, it stated to have experienced shocking state of neglect and conditions at the health facility. "Our first unpleasant encounter was with the nurse in charge who told us that she would not allow us to carry out the oversight. She also went as far as telling the security to not allow us to proceed. Although her attempt at blocking the oversight was not successful, we believe that these unacceptable remarks were her attempt to cover up for the many serious shortcomings we found at this clinic," said Risham Maharaj, DA Limpopo Spokesperson for Health. Maharaj said the party has noted a serious shortage of staff at the clinic and there was only one nurse on duty, despite the large number of patients that use the facility. "For over a month, there hasn't been any prescription medication and this is negatively impacting the healthcare services residents receive. There was also no oxygen available at the clinic and the facility was generally in a filthy and unsanitary state," he said. Maharaj indicated that during the oversight visit, the DA came across a number of complaints from Roosenekal residents who were worried about queuing for hours, only to be turned back and told to return another day with no consideration for the cost implication or the impact on their health. "The lack of care and compassion displayed at this clinic is truly concerning. It is clear that this is not a clinic run by a caring government and Roosenekal Clinic is rather plagued by neglect and mismanagement," he said. According to Maharaj, taking into account the attitude of the nurse towards them during the visit, it is not hard to imagine the kind of treatment that members of the public receive at the clinic on a daily basis. "The Health Department in this province does not have the will or the means to provide acceptable healthcare to the people of Limpopo. The DA will continue to conduct oversight visits to the provinces' hospitals and clinics to expose the neglect and disregard for the patients," he said.



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Body of missing three-year-old found, suspects sought

The Police in Motetema seek information that can lead to the arrest of the suspect(s), following the discovery of a lifeless body of a three-year-old child, who was reported missing from Moganyaka Village. The body was recovered on Thursday 7 April. According to the police, the body of the girl was found in the bushes, following frantic searches conducted with the assistance from community members. "The victim, Boithekgo Chauke, was reported missing on Saturday 2 April 2022 after she reportedly disappeared while playing with other children in a neighbour's yard. The Police, assisted by community members, commenced with a search operation. The operation was also joined by the K9 Unit and Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit (FCS)," said Brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. Mojapelo added that the child's tiny body was discovered in the bushes near Mamphokgo village at about 16:40, following an intensive search operation. "A case of murder has been opened. The motive behind the incident is still unknown but Police investigations continue," he said. The Acting Provincial Commissioner of Police in Limpopo, Major General Jan Scheepers, was saddened by the incident and has assured community members that the police will not rest until the perpetrators are tracked down and brought to book. The police appeal to anyone with information that can lead to the apprehension of the suspect(s), involved in this matter to contact the Investigating Officer Sergeant Frans Chego on 076 460 1147, Crime Stop number 08600 10111 or the nearest police station.



Sekhukhune District Municipality institutes forensic investigation

The council of Sekhukhune District Municipality has acceded to Executive Mayor Cllr Julia Lata Mathebe's request to institute a forensic investigation into the affairs of the district municipality. Mathebe made the request which was condoned during a special council meeting held on Friday 8 April at Go-Nkoana outside Jane Furse. According to the district municipality, the purpose of the forensic investigation is largely to unpack overarching issues in order to get the basics right with respect to the diagnosis of various departments within the institution. The affected departments include the infrastructure and service delivery, governance and organisational capacity and municipal finances. The municipality stated that the forensic investigation was given a six months' lifespan by council.

The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Julia Mathebe has instituted a forensic investigation to look at the dubious affairs of the district municipality.

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Limpopo police stations, a soft target for criminals

The Democratic Alliance (DA), the official opposition in Limpopo Province, said it is concerned that rural police stations in the province seem to have become soft targets for brazen criminals. The party was referring to two criminal incidents occurred at rural police stations recently. In the latest incident, a suspected robber who allegedly held the police hostage inside Jane Furse Police Station, was fatally wounded by back up police. According to the police report, the suspect entered the police station and disarmed a police officer. He then refused to surrender when back up arrived and he was fatally shot. The Independent Police Investigation Directorate (IPID), confirmed that it is investigating the case. "It is alleged that the deceased entered the Jane Furse police station on 28 March 2022 at about 8pm. He grabbed the firearm from the thigh holster of one of the police officers who was busy executing his Community Service Centre (CSC) duties. He then hold police members hostage and threaten to kill them," said IPID spokesperson Grace Langa. According to Langa, the other police members from the CSC unit were able to inform their counterparts about the hostage drama. "A hostage negotiator was quickly brought in together with members from the Tactical Response Team (TRT) for backup. The deceased refused to surrender himself, following requests from the hostage negotiator. The TRT entered the office where the deceased was firing shots and the police retaliated," she said. Langa said the deceased was found in possession of used nyaope sachets and an injection. DA Provincial Spokesperson on Transport and Community Safety Limpopo, Katlego Phala, said they are concerned because a similar incident has taken place less than five months ago, wherein, about twenty heavily armed men robbed the Malamulele Police Station of firearms and ammunition, before proceeding to rob local businesses of cash. However, the Malamulele gang was arrested only after 8 weeks following the incident. "According to the crime statistics for the Third Quarter of 2021, there was a massive downward trend of crimes detected as a result of police action in Limpopo province," Phala said. She said they are disappointed that the SAPS made only 3 428 arrests through police action in the quarter under review, 4 192 arrests less than in the same period last year. "The DA reiterates our rural police stations are mostly under resourced, under capacitated and dominated by under trained police officers with a poor crime intelligence network," Phala said. She said the party will urge the province to equip police members with full resources and prioritize safety in rural police stations. "Without increased resources, the SAPS in Limpopo cannot expect a turnaround in the crime statistics or effectively protect themselves against brazen criminals and our communities will remain unsafe," she said.

Jane Furse Police Station is one of the stations in Limpopo Province targeted by criminals who attacked the police.



ANCYL commits to uplift Sekhukhune youth



The ANCYL in Sekhukhune Region has during its first meeting committed to fight unemployment among young people.

The ANC Youth League in Sekhukhune District is committed to end the high unemployment rate among young people in the mineral rich region, challenging largely unskilled youth population. The structure made the commitment during its first Regional Executive Committee (REC), convened at Elias Phakane Moretsele House in Jane Furse. ANCYL Regional Spokesperson, Bongani Nkonyana, said the youth structure affirms the clarion call of the ANCYL and National Youth Task Team (NYTT), that all work must be centered on the 5Rs which is Rebuilding, Reviving, Renewing, Repositioning and Re-imagining of the ANCYL. "We shall ensure through deliberate intentions that young people occupy the space on the mainstream economy on economic sectors such as mining, agriculture and tourism," Nkonyana said. He said the ANCYL REC took stock on the sterling work done by Regional Congress Preparatory Committee (RCPC), which was collectively led by Kabelo Moganedi who is the structure's chairperson and it's Secretary Tshepo Matimela. "The duo have successfully delivered on their mandate as set out by the ANCYL NYTT terms of reference and congress guidelines," he said. Nkonyana said The ANCYL has noted that the processes of Branch General Meetings (BGMS), for the ANC provincial conference are unfolding and at an advanced stage. "We reiterate and support the call made by ANC Sekhukhune Regional General Council that Premier Stanley Mathabatha must retain as the Chairperson of the ANC in the province," he said. The ANCYL REC further mandated its Kabelo Moganedi and Lesedi Maphakane to continue lobbying the ANC, through BGMS and engagements on generational mix for current and graduates of Youth League, to find expression and be represented as part of upcoming Provincial Executive Committee (PEC). The ANCYL REC has during the meeting elected a Regional Working Committee (RWC) and Sub-Committee members to steer the affairs of the organization in the region.

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Sekhukhune Regional Football League season heading to an end

The race for soccer teams competing in the SAFA Sekhukhune Regional SAB Football League is heading towards the finishing line, with all the matches scheduled to be completed at the end of April for the 2021/2022 season. League Coordinator, Frank Maredi, said three of the eight streams have completed playing their matches and they are now waiting for five streams to finish playing their matches before April month end.

“Streams B1, D1 and D2 have finished playing their matches because they have least number of teams compared to the other streams. Hopefully, the other five streams will be completed their matches in time. However, we will have to extend until the beginning of May if the remaining streams could not complete their remaining matches in time,” he said. Maredi added that two teams will be relegated per stream and will be replaced by promoted teams that will be promoted in the Local Football Association (LFA). “The promotions will only



Dennilton United FC have completed their matches and are the winners of the SAFA Sekhukhune Regional SAB Football League D1 Stream.

come to effect after the teams competing in the SAB League participate in the regional playoffs to be organized soon, to crown the winning team that will be representing Sekhukhune in the provincial level,” he said.

Maredi said the league management is concerned about teams that fail to attend their



Milan Ladies from Glen Cowie Village will be among women football teams to participate in the SAFA Sekhukhune Womens Football League to commence on 24 April.

matches, resulting in their opponents gaining victory through walk-overs, as prescribed by the SAFA rules. “However, we understand that some of these teams have a serious problem of lack of sponsorships which resulting them unable to attend their matches,” he said. Maredi indicated that the other contributing factor is

that some of the teams have signed registered scholars who also attend extra classes on Saturdays. “All our matches are played on Saturdays and affect some of the teams that have many players who are scholars and urged to be at the school on the match day. These are among other things hindering teams to attend their matches and get unnecessary walk-overs against them,” he said.

According to Maredi, even when the matches could be rescheduled to take place after school hours, the challenge is that rural pitches lack floodlights to can host the matches when is dark. Furthermore, Maredi said the region is currently preparing for the start of the SAFA Sekhukhune Womens Football League to commence on 24 April. “Eight teams from all the four local municipalities in Sekhukhune Region will be taking part in the exciting womens league,” he said.

Maredi said the womens league is expected to be completed in October this year.

Elias Motsoaledi Sports Confederation established

The Sekhukhune Sports Confederation has on Wednesday 6 April successfully established the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality Sports Confederation, to oversee various sporting codes in the local municipality. The local municipality’s confederation was established at Elias Motsoaledi Satellite Office in Motetema, where the attendees elected the confederation’s local structure, formed by individuals from various villages. During the meeting, Joe Mahlanya was elected coordinator of Long Tennis while Nanana Pako was elected coordinator of Table Tennis. Anthony Mampuru was elected to take charge of Soccer sporting code, Venice Ditshego will coordinating Tennis and Long Tennis, Kholofelo Mohlamonyane will take charge of Netball and Nicholas Talane was elected coordinator for Basketball. Sekhukhune Sports Confederation President, Puleng Mmotla, said the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality Confederation will prioritize ‘women in sport’ and ‘schools sport’ participation. “This will be done under the slogan of Sekhukhune Sports Confederation which is, ‘The Sekhukhune we want in Sports, excelling creating the excellence we want,’ he said. Mmotla said the newly established confederation with assistance of Sekhukhune Sports Confederation, will strive for affiliations and registrations of members that need to be done and the submission of calendars of activities of each confederation. “Each confederation will have meetings of strategic planning, outreach programs to market what we do and be well capacitated to have a non-profit organization and register it,” he said. In the upcoming sporting activities, the Sekhukhune Sports Confederation will be having Special Olympic Games at Groblersdal Rugby Stadium on Friday 22 April. The confederation will also participate in the Volleyball Tournament at Polokwane on Saturday 23 April. Another Special Olympic Games are scheduled to take place on Wednesday 4 May and the venue is yet to be announced. In another biggest sporting event, the Sekhukhune District Confederation will host a Tennis tournament with Capricorn District, to take place at Glen Cowie Tennis Court on Saturday 7 May at 9:00.



The newly elected Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality Sports Confederation promises to take sports to the new heights in the local municipality villages.

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