

# Man stoned to death after body of teenager found in his house

The Provincial Commissioner of Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has ordered an immediate manhunt for the unknown suspects, following the discovery of decomposed body of a 13-year-old girl and the stoning of a local man at Motlolo Village outside Jane Furse. According to the police report, the teenager, Kabelo Malatji, allegedly left home on Friday 24 March 2023, intending to attend extra classes at a nearby school but never returned home. Brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said Malatji was reported missing at Driekop Police Station and an immediate search for her was conducted at relatives and surrounding villages without success. "The decomposed body of the victim was recovered on Monday 27 March inside the house of the 39-year-old male identified as Calbin Mohlala, after an unpleasant odour was apparently detected by neighbours who immediately informed the police. Upon arrival, the police forced entry and found a lifeless body of the teenager in a decomposed state and a murder case was opened at Driekop Police Station," explained Mojapelo. He said in the evening of Tuesday 28 March, members of the community mobilized to locate the man, Calbin Mohlala, in whose house the body was found and he was subsequently found while hiding in the same village and stoned to death. "The police were called and on arrival at the scene, they found the victim with severe wounds. He was later declared dead by the members of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS)," said Mojapelo. He said a manhunt of the unknown suspects involved on both incidents have since been launched and anyone with information that can assist the police with their apprehension, is requested to contact the Investigating Officer, Warrant Officer Daniel Mohlala on 079 875 7771, Crime Stop Number on 08600 10111, the nearest police or MySAPSApp.



**Calbin Mohlala was stoned to death after the decomposed body of the missing Kabelo Malatji was found at his house in Motlolo Village.**



**The decomposed body of Kabelo Malatji was recovered at a resident's house after she went missing while going to attend extra classes.**

## SDM set to return R73 Million of unspent MIG funds to Treasury

Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) is set to return to the Treasury Department the amount of R73 Million of the unspent Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), allocated to the district municipality for water and sanitation infrastructure in the 2022/2023 financial year. This is despite the fact that thousands of households are still struggling with the provision of drinkable water affecting the district municipality's villages for decades. Residents claim the struggle of water has hit hard in recent present with some survived by opting to buy water from those who own boreholes, resorting to turn to the nearest rivers and wells to fetch drinking water. They claim the river water is causing them unhealthy stomachs that has becoming a daily occurrence, which causes a serious health hazards. In the 2021/2022 financial year, SDM returned R4,5 Million of unspent MIG funds to the Department of Treasury. Bolsheviks of South Africa (BPSA) Leader, Seun Mogotji, said he is disappointed that millions rands are returned to the Treasury Department while people are in dire need of municipality services. "How can the municipality fail to spend when people are in dire need of services? What is the real reason behind this failure to spend?" asked Mogotji. According to Mogotji, the municipality's total unspent budget for the 2022/2023 financial year that was supposed to return to the Treasury escalated to R120 Million, however, only R73 Million will be returned following a persuasion by the district municipality. "The real reason behind failure to spend is that those at the helm are clueless comrades who are sitting in air conditioned offices refusing to appoint term contractors.

Services in Sekhukhune will remain a pipeline dream unless the municipality is put under

administration because clearly they are failing the people of the district," he said.

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## Slain Moganyaka teenager remembered during memorial service

**Scores of women acting in solidarity to condemn GBV acts during memorial service of the slain Dineo Phokgole held at Moganyaka Mandela Park.**

More than hundred community members from Moganyaka Village outside Marble Hall and surrounding villages, flocked at Mandela Park Section in the village on Thursday 30 March to remember slain 17-year-old Dineo Phokgole who was allegedly raped and murdered by unknown people. The teenager left home on Thursday 23 March promising to be back shortly and she never returned. Her lifeless body was discovered by community members in the river the following day. The memorial service of Phokgole, who was a Grade 10 learner at Ngwana Kwenza Secondary School, was also attended by fellow pupils, teachers, representatives from Department of Social Development and Child Line South Africa. During the proceedings, the victim was described as a humble person who was taking her studies seriously. The speakers, who were given the platform condemned acts of Gender Based Violence (GBV), saying they are prevalent in the area recently. Community member, Lidia Mashilo, described Dineo Phokgole as a well-mannered girl, adding that they were shattered by her death. "We are living in fear because the people who murdered Dineo are still roaming the streets. We are calling for the police to act swiftly and arrest the perpetrators," she said. Another community member, Sylvia Mohlala, said: "We are worried because it is now becoming a norm that women are being victimized in this area lately where some of these perpetrators are even family members or people close to the victims. Our main concern is that the police are not acting enough to make sure that those who perform these evil acts are arrested and prosecuted," she said. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said an inquest docket was opened at Motetema Police Station and is under investigation. "The police opened a case following the discovery of the body of a 17-year-old girl, of Moganyaka Village who was found dead in a well at the village. It is alleged that the victim left home promising that she will back soon but she never returned," he said. Ledwaba said the deceased had no visible injuries and her cause of death has not yet established. "A post-mortem is still to be conducted to determine the cause of death. Police investigations are continuing," he said.



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## SDM set to return R73 Million of unspent MIG funds to Treasury

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Mogotji slammed political heads in the district municipality, saying they prefer to serve their interests and considering spending public funds with family members and fellow comrades instead of serving people who elected them into power. When reached for a comment on Tuesday 11 April 2023, SDM Spokesperson, Kgetjpe Maredi, was not available to respond as his phone was on voicemail and he could also not respond to the publication's WhatsApp messages.



**Residents of Sekhukhune Villages continue to drink dirty water while the district municipality returns millions of rands of unspent funds back to the Treasury Department.**



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## Mayoral Easter Food Drive gives smile to over 100 families

Over hundred needy families residing within Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), have on Thursday 6 April benefited from the MLM Mayoral Easter Food Drive. The initiative was started by MLM Mayor Cllr Minah Bahula, with an objective to donate to underprivileged households in the villages.

The food drive programme, which the mayor leads with the assistance of the good hearts of local businesses, also intends to provide little relief to the vulnerable households in the local municipality.

During the food donation hand-over, held at Kgaola Mafiri Municipal Building in Jane Furse, Bahula said she fully understands the economic challenges and inequalities confronting the benefiting families, as she was brought up in similar situation herself. "I know poverty, I have lived and been subjected to this pain almost all my life. Poverty affects the mind and erodes your dignity. Hence as leaders, we should always be on the side of the poor, especially child-headed households and the

vulnerable women in our society," she said. Makhuduthamaga area is a deep rural municipality where extreme poverty levels exists in almost every household, in which, the mayor strongly believes that poverty interventions programmes such as her initiative will go a long way. "We are a government, our job together with good Samaritans from the business community and whom we appreciate so much, is to pull every lever and deliver our needy communities out of these harsh conditions with impactful initiatives such as these," said Bahula.

The programme embraced by the attendance of Mohlala family, a benefiting household residing in the local municipality's Ward 3 in Phokwane Village, who couldn't hold back their tears when thanking the mayor and her collective for their good hearts and generosity as they will have something to eat during Easter Holidays. Other sentiments were also echoed by the Matjomane Family from Dichoueng Village who also received their food hamper and displayed appreciation.

"Indeed, it is going to be a feel Good Friday and beyond for us as a family. Makhuduthamaga we appreciate," said one of the Matjomane family members.



Cllr Minah Bahula, Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (Front left), handing-over a cake flour to one of the beneficiaries.

## Limpopo Provincial Departments present 2023/2024 Budget Votes

Four Limpopo Provincial Departments have on Tuesday 4 April 2023, presented their budget votes for the 2023/2024 financial year at the Limpopo Legislature in Lebowakgomo. The departments included Office of the Premier, Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs. During the presentation, each department highlighted what they aim to achieve with their budgets to meet the targets set in the Limpopo Development Plan. Limpopo Premier, Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, commended the Office of the Premier for their continuous improvement in financial management and their success in meeting equity targets for various programmes. Mathabatha further commended his team for ensuring that his office attains Clean Audit Opinion from the Auditor General of South Africa. "I am incredibly pleased to announce today that the office of the premier has once again, received a clean audit opinion. This is a great achievement for us, and I would like to thank the Director General and top management, as well as everyone else who contributed to this success," he said. It was announced during the Budget Vote that the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture has a budget allocation of R621,8 Million, which is an increase of 16.6% from the previous financial year. The allocation comprises 64% from equitable share and 36% from conditional grant. The department's focus is on administration, cultural affairs, library archive services and sport and recreation. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development was allocated a total budget of over R1,7 Billion, with R30 Million set aside towards the revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-processing Action Plan. The aim of the R30 Million is to expand agricultural production across the value chain and ultimately enhance the sector's inclusive growth, job creation and food security. The department has successfully defeated the Foot and Mouth Disease and aims to increase the production of red meat. The Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs received a total budget of R2.6 Billion for the 2023/2024 financial year. The departmental budget allocation comprises administration, human settlements, cooperative governance, and traditional affairs. The department has exceeded its annual planned housing target and plans to procure 100 vehicles for senior traditional leaders in the province. MEC Nakedi Kekana who handles the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, MEC Thabo Mokone of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and MEC for Department of Cooperative Governance, Basikopo Makamu, delivered their respective budget votes. The premier and the MECs said committed to fully utilise their budgets to achieve their targets and contribute to the growth and development of the province.



Limpopo Premier, Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, praised his management for ensuring that his office attaining Clean Audit Opinion.

## Mayor Bahula visits family of slain Ga-Phaahla woman

The Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, Cllr Minah Bahula, has strongly condemned acts of Gender based violence (GBV), that are now prevalent to villages in the local municipality. Bahula made the remarks when recently paying homage to the Matsageng family at Ga-Phaahla Village, following a gruesome GBV incident that led to the murder of a 37-year-old Kagiso Ngwanangwato Mokiri, who was sister to the former Ward Councillor Betty Matsageng at the municipality's ward 24. The Mayor was accompanied by Deputy Head of Infrastructure, Cllr Merah Mahlase and Ward 21 Cllr Moroamakoti. The victim is alleged to have been terrorized and raped before being killed. Her lifeless body was discovered nearby internal street by community members. This comes at the time when the country is struggling with scourges of gender based violence (GBV), which remains rampant in societies and forced President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa to declare it as a pandemic confronting women and children. Ramaphosa said despite efforts to stop violence against women and children in the country, the numbers are increasing unabated, with spate of abuse and killing of women and the victimizing of children across the country. Mayor Bahula discouraged this barbaric and inhuman behaviour, saying it brings fear and darkness in the community. "The police should help bring justice to the family by tracking down these criminals and bring them to book. Women and innocent children can't leave in fear of terror because of the rapists and murderers camouflaged as community members," she said. The victim leaves behind two children and her sister. The police said a murder case was opened and is under investigation. No one was arrested at the stage.

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## Tubatse and Groblersdal Fire Stations in despair

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), said it will write to MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Basikopo Makamu, seeking his intervention to investigate the dysfunctional state of fire stations in the district municipality. The party said during recent oversights conducted in fire stations in the district, concerning details of the lack of preparedness and sheer negligence emerged. "The fire station in Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM) operates without a station manager. The station is managed by an official from Groblersdal, about 150 kilometres away," said Isaac Makofane, DA Councillor in SDM. Makofane added that the party also discovered that no fire fighters were on duty at the time of their visit and the network booster was burnt to ashes without any attempt to salvage it. "We were reliably informed that the firefight-

ers rarely report for duty as most are either employed on the EPWP programme or have been volunteering for more than 5 years. 70% of the station's employees are on EPWP contracts for years now. Both fire engines were dysfunctional, one broken and the other one's wheels were stolen during the past 6 months," he said. He said the party discovered that there are no functional fire engines at the A.B Sikhosana Fire Station in Groblersdal. According to Makofane, the station was recently provided with two Jaws of Life after failing to save lives in the horrific accident between Motetema and Groblersdal, on 3 March 2023 where 16 people lost their lives. "The challenges faced by these stations are not isolated and it is clear there are no urgency or compulsion by the Sekhukhune District Municipality officials to remedy their failures. Efficient firefighting services are the difference between life and death for many, especially those living in informal settlements or deep rural areas," explained Makofane. He said the party will demand Makamu to provide tangible remedial action with timelines. SDM was not available for a comment at the time of going to print.



One of the fire engines being stripped off its wheels at AB Sikhosana Fire Station in Groblersdal.

## MEC Ramathuba hands-over much needed ambulances at Philadelphia Hospital

Health MEC in Limpopo Province, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, has handed-over 12 ambulances to Philadelphia Hospital Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Dennilton.

Ramathuba conducted the official hand-over of the brand new ambulances to the hospital on Thursday 6 April during her state of readiness assessment for Easter weekend in different health facilities across the Sekhukhune District Municipality. During the handover and exhibition of the new ambulances at Philadelphia Hospital EMS station, MEC Ramathuba was accompanied by Kgoshi Dr MM Mathebe of the Bantwane Royal Authority, Sekhukhune District Executive Mayor Cllr Maleke Mokganetji and Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality Mayor Cllr David Tladi. The hospital's EMS station was previously operating with only two ambulances. "Easter holiday is traditionally a period when traffic flow is expected to be higher than usual in most of our major national and provincial roads due to people going to different churches and family gatherings. The Emergency Medical Services will be on standby to provide services in all our roads," said Ramathuba. She added that the ambulances will assist the department to be able to improve the ability to come to the aid of people in emergency situations within the golden hour, including in far-flung areas where the terrain is tough. "Philadelphia hospital station is one of those stations that has been struggling with EMS vehicles and in the past we use to allocate them one or two ambulances and unfortunately, the impact was not felt due to frequent break downs. We have made a decision to improve our EMS services by increasing the number of fleets, starting with those areas facing serious challenges. Our commitment to the people of Limpopo is that by the end of this year, all our stations will be fully equipped and each crew having their own ambulance," she said. Ramathuba pleaded with the community to safeguard the ambulances as they will be playing an important role in saving lives of those who are in need of medical attention. "Today we are handing over 12 brand new ambulances to people of Moutse. We plead with everyone to take care of these ambulances. No matter how angry you can be as community members about other issues like lack of water shortages, please don't destroy these ambulances. We still have many other parts of this province to serve," she said.



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## Father and son among four suspects arrested for robbery of cattle herder

Four suspects, including father and son, were arrested after robbing a cattle herder at his home on the evening of Friday 7 April 2023. According to the police report, the 48-year-old man, his 21-year-old son, together with two other suspects, aged 31 and 38, were apprehended for house robbery and defeating the ends of justice cases committed at the cattle herder's home in Ga-Marishane, Plaseng Village outside Jane Furse. "Police investigations revealed that two suspects allegedly robbed a cattle herder of an amount of R12 000-00 at gunpoint, while at his residence and later fled the scene driving a Toyota Avanza motor vehicle," said Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. He said the victim reported the matter to the police who immediately commenced with the investigation and tracing of the two suspects who were subsequently arrested at Jane Furse and Ga-Marishane Moshate on Saturday 8 April 2023. "The suspects were arrested during a tactical intelligence driven operation conducted by the Nebo Detectives and Rural Safety under the stewardship of the station commander," he said. Ledwaba said preliminary investigations indicated that the victim is a cattle herder hired by the 48-year-old male suspect, who had masterminded the incident by conspiring with his son and they allegedly instructed the two suspects to rob the victim as he was reluctant

to deposit the money in the bank. "Apparently the four suspects shared the money amongst themselves after the robbery incident. During the arrest, the police recovered twelve thousand four hundred and eighty rand in cash, one firearm with ammunition and a clothing brand of Fabiani cap, a pair of jeans and a T-shirt valued at R4 400-00, as well as Carvella brand shoes. The police also confiscated the Toyota Avanza motor vehicle believed to have been utilized in the commission of the crime," explained Ledwaba.

He said further police investigations will be conducted to determine if the suspects were not involved in other cases of robberies that were committed in the policing precinct. "The four suspects are expected to appear before Nebo Magistrate's Court soon for house robbery and defeating the ends of justice. Police investigations are continuing," Ledwaba said.

**The cash amount and branded clothes that were recovered by the police during the arrest of the four suspects who allegedly robbed a cattle herder in Ga-Marishane Moshate.**



## Limpopo records high number of pedestrian fatalities during Easter weekend

The Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety said the high number of pedestrians who were killed on the provincial roads during Easter weekend is of a serious concern. The department said out of all fatalities that have been recorded between Friday 7 April and Monday 10 April, majority are pedestrians who have been hit by vehicles while crossing busy roads in the province. According to the department, during the Easter holidays heavy traffic was experienced on the provincial roads including the N1, R101, R71, R81, the R579 from Lebogakomo to Apel Cross and D4100 Road from Apel Cross to Groblersdal and Marble Hall. Other areas within the province were reporting low to moderate traffic flow while all busy roads were being monitored by traffic officers on visible patrol. Gates at the Nyl and Kranskop Toll Plaza have opened several times to clear southbound congestion on the N1. MEC for Roads and Community Safety in the province, Florence Radzilani, has raised a concern on the number of "hit and runs" that has been recorded in most of the pedestrian fatalities. "We have noted with a great sense of worry, numerous incidents where motorists tend to drive away after being involved in fatalities that include pedestrians. This criminal act defeats the ends of justice and makes it difficult for the families of the victims to find closure," said Radzilani. The MEC has also called upon motorists to exercise caution on the roads as some will be returning back to their various destinations, with traffic volumes expected to reach their peaks. "Drivers traveling back out of the province are advised to leave their departure points early, preferably during the daytime and not drive at night, as the majority of the crashes occur at night when visibility is impaired. Impatient drivers are warned against driving on the yellow lane or facing oncoming traffic, especially at tollgates as this might cause accidents that will congest traffic further," she said. Radzilani advised motorists to drive with caution, avoid the use of a cell phone whilst driving, maintain a safe following distance, to take regular breaks and look out for pedestrians at all times. "The department will ensure a heightened traffic police visibility by dispatching a high contingent of officials on all the busy roads throughout the province," she said.

**MEC for Transport and Community Safety in Limpopo, Florence Radzilani, says she is concerned about the increased number of pedestrians who died on the provincial roads during Easter weekend.**



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# Kgaphamadi shoddily constructed road project questioned

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) has lodged a complaint with the Public Protector (PP) of South Africa over a shoddy workmanship at the Kgaphamadi Bus Route Project in the local municipality's ward 21.

According to the party, the project is shoddily done with other parts left unfinished, subjecting motorists and pedestrians at risk. The DA said the project, which was set to upgrade the main road, additionally with a construction of a bridge and proper storm water control system, started in 2014 and was never completed. The project was meant to benefit residents from various villages such as Sephaku, Kgaphamadi, Jerusalem, Hlalanikahle, Motse-Phiri, Monsterlus and Mmotwaneng.

The bridge is already in use by motorists despite concerns around the conditions of the incomplete road, bridge and storm water control infrastructure. Sipho Mmaboko, DA Councillor in EMLM, said he tried to convene a meeting with the mayor to raise a concern about the shoddy workmanship and overdue completion of the project without any success. However, in June 2022, Mmaboko had a meeting with EMLM Municipal Manager, Meshack Kgwale, who promised to compile a report detailing the cause of the delay and the actual cost of the project.

Mmaboko said Kgwale promised to hand him the report in two weeks which was never delivered to him until to date. Mmaboko said he is more concerned because the bridge is badly

contracted with cracks all over the surface and the storm water controls are unable to accommodate the high volumes of water, causing erosion on the edges of the road resulting in huge holes. "The road is now being damaged due to poor storm water controls and posing a risk to motorists. Some of the storm water control system diverts water to community members' yards," he said.

Mmaboko indicated that the contractor on site stated that there is unavoidable additional work that is added to his original scope of work and he will likely increase the cost of the project. He said during a council sitting in January 2023, the Municipality Public Account Committee revealed that an additional R12 Million is needed to complete the whole

project. "It is very concerning that there seems to be no records of the budget of this project since it was started and now we are told about the additional of R12 Million to complete the project. This is a clear indication of corruption, fruitless and wasteful expenditure," he said. Mmaboko said the party will ensure that the PP investigate irregularities in the project and hold those who are involved accountable. "The DA is committed to ensure that residents receive value for money from projects meant to benefit them. We will continue to oppose possible corruption and wasteful expenditure in the municipality," he said. At the time of going to print, EMLM Spokesperson, Simon Makua, was unable to comment to requests sent by the publication.

## RAL provincial multi-million rands projects commenced in Elias Motsoaledi

Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) said they have started with the establishment of roads rehabilitation sites in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality. Elias Motsoaledi is one of the ten identified local municipalities set to receive road maintenance assistance from the agency in the province, a commitment activated during a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) signed as part of the District Development Model (DDM).

Other municipalities earmarked to benefit from the upcoming construction work include Collins Chabane, Fetakgomo-Tubatse, Bela-Bela, Polokwane, Musina, Ba-Phalaborwa, Mookgophong, Ephraim Mogale and Makhado Local Municipalities. Limpopo Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure (LDPWRI) and the Department of Cooperative Government and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA), are also part of the programme to assist the ten municipalities in addressing road maintenance issues where they lack capacity. Twenty-one contractors were appointed as part of the rehabilitation programme to do routine road maintenance and re-gravelling across the province in the affected municipalities. RAL Spokesperson, Luyanda Sithole, said the agency is targeting to patch about 160 000 square metres of potholes and to re-gravel roads at an estimated budget of R260 million. "The RAL-Municipality initiative comes at a point where the recent rains have left roads in various municipality jurisdictions in a dire state. The partnership will help these municipalities to address the damage caused and will thus enable mobility of residents," she said. Commenting on the initiative, MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Nkakareng Rakgoale, said the initiative will bring relief to road users, as these contractors will extend their pothole patching execution to city centres, townships of local municipalities and identified gravel roads leading to villages to enable smooth access for traffic and pedestrians. Martin Ramaboea, RAL General Manager for Operations, indicated that the communities are in need of improved roads for ease of mobility and access, "hence they need this programme to be fast-tracked". "Project managers, contractors and municipal officials will jointly identify areas of priority that will benefit from this intervention. RAL will be strict and will not allow poor workmanship to spoil the potential benefits of the initiative," he said. Ramaboea said as part of enforcing compliance, contractors will be given a one-year defects liability period where a portion of their money will be retained, in case of any defects. Sithole further said that the agency has completed the rehabilitation of Road P51/3 that links Groblersdal Town and Stoffberg. The completion of the project comes as a relief to thousands of motorists as the road was in a dire state with defects that included amongst others, potholes, edge breaks, seal cracks, base failures, erosion, vegetation growth on the shoulders and loose stones, which had rendered the road unsafe and uneconomical to use. Some of the benefits in the project is that members of the community realised as a result of the rehabilitation of the road they will be having shortened travel time. According to Sithole, the project is one of the 18 completed roads in the province and has also created employment opportunities and improved access to government amenities. "The road construction project also empowered local SMMEs through sub-contracting opportunities and business skills development. The SMME target was set to be 10% of the overall contract amount," said Sithole.

She went on to say the agency has also successfully completed D4166 Road at Ga-Riba Village outside Burgersfort. The road project, which has brought about developmental benefits to the affected 20 villages under the Ga-Riba Traditional Council, entailed the rehabilitation of a 1km

stretch of the road and upgrading of 10.7km of the D4166 Road from Riba Cross Village via Ga-Riba. Commenced in 2016, the road project is one of the recently successfully completed road projects which was complex because it traverses several mountains and required the involvement of an experienced project management team to ensure its successful completion. The upgrades has come as a relief to the community as the road is the only link to economic centres such as nearby mines, Burgersfort Town and Polokwane City, where most community members work and do their shopping. "With D4166 Road at Ga-Riba Village being the only route that connects the community to other areas, the successful completion of upgrading the road from gravel to tar has been welcomed by several residents as a huge boost to their daily travelling," she said. Sithole indicated that the poor state of the road contributed to the villagers living in abject poverty, due to a lack of investment from business people in the agricultural sector. "Other franchises were doubtful about whether they could put their money in an area they could not easily access," she said. RAL Project Manager, Brutus Matsha, said overseeing the project was both exciting and had its pressures. "The mountainous nature of the slope in the area posed many challenges, which the project team managed to collectively plan around and overcome. Steep slopes require a competent team that is equal to the task. In the case of Ga-Riba, the steep slope was met with a competent team which possessed the right commitment level to build an access road for the community," he said.

### LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNTS IN DECEASED ESTATE LYING FOR INSPECTION

In terms of Section 35(5) of the administration Of estates act 66 Of 1965, notice is hereby given that copies of the liquidation and distribution accounts (first and final, unless otherwise stated) in the state specified below will be open for the inspection of all persons with an interest therein for the period of 21 days (or shorter or longer if specially stated) from the date specified or from the date of publication hereof, whichever may be the later, and at the office of the High Court and Magistrates as stated. should no objection thereto be lodged with the Masters concerned during the specific period, the executor will proceed to make payments in accordance with the accounts.

Estate number..... 4866/2022  
Surname..... MOKGANYETJIE  
First names..... SEKHWELE JACK  
Date of Birth..... 1951/06/30  
ID Number..... 5106305492084  
Last address..... 21B-136 BAPEDING TAFELKOP BOLEU, 0474  
Masters office..... POLOKWANE MASTERS OFFICE

Name and address of agent: Ndlovu F attorneys  
51 Landross Mare street, 3rd floor, Office no. 309 to 310  
Tel: 015 880 1690, Email: info@ndlovulaw.co.z

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2 x Simba 120g **R38-90**

Lunch Bar 48g **R12-50**

Ice 2 Kg **R12-00**

Braai Wood **R15-00**

2L Coke **R21-90**

**SPECIALS VALID FROM 14 - 21 APRIL 2023**



# Detained Marumo Gallants officials back in South Africa

Two Marumo Gallants FC senior officials who were detained in Libya for about three weeks following a financial dispute have finally arrived in the country on Monday 10 April. The duo, Rufus Matsena who is the club's Media Liaison Officer and the team's Physiotherapist Tebogo Amos Dhlomo, were held captive in Libya after Gallants failed to pay R37 000 to Libyan businessman, Dr Ali Elzargha, who helped them with flight tickets and other logistics including a hotel stay. Gallants travelled to Libya to play their CAF Confederation Cup against Al Akhdar FC on Sunday 19 March 2023. The financial dispute was resolved during the a virtual meeting held on Thursday 6 April 2023 under the mediation of the South African Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), which was convened in an attempt to urgently resolve the matter. Parties in attendance of the meeting included the executive management of Marumo Gallants, the South African Football Association (SAFA), the Libyan Embassy in South Africa, South Africa's Ambassador in Tunisia and other relevant officials. The Libyan hotel owner, Dr Ali Elzargha, as well as the two officials who were detained in the foreign country, Matsena and Dhlomo were also in attendance of the virtual meeting. During the meeting, Marumo Gallants Chairman, Abram Sello, pleaded with the parties involved to allow the two staff members to return home while the issue is being finalized. "My people belong home here in South Africa with their families, especially over the Easter period. Both men are extremely emotional and exhausted and need to return to their homes and loved ones," he said. Sello further said he was trying by all means to return the officials back to South African soil, however, the case was still active and a sensitive one. "My priority was to get my employees back safely, we were not ignoring the media, we had to take into account the various factors that influenced the matter and act accordingly," he said. Sello said he was immensely relieved that the officials were finally returned safely in South Africa after the involvement of relevant bodies from the two countries. "We would like to thank all parties that assisted us getting to this point. We have arranged counselling for the two officials," he said. When arriving at the OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, Matsena and Dhlomo said they were delighted to be back home, following a three-week ordeal they suffered while kept captive in Libya.



**Marumo Gallants officials, Rufus Matsena and Tebogo Amos Dhlomo have finally arrived in South Africa after being detained in Libya following a financial dispute.**

## Over 1800 suspects apprehended during police "Operation Paseka"

According to the police in Limpopo, over 1800 suspects were arrested in the province under "Operation Paseka", conducted in all district municipalities in the province during the Easter weekend period. The joint operations started from Friday 7 April until Monday 10 April 2023 where 1087 suspects, aged between 20 and 48, were apprehended for different offences. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the joint operations were formed by the Provincial Tracking Team, Crime intelligence Unit, Flying Squad Unit, Tactical Response Team, K9 Unit, Detectives, Airwing, Organized Crime Unit, Public Order Policing Unit, Vehicle Crime Investigating Unit, Stock Theft Unit, Narcotics Unit and Traffic Officers. "During these arrests, the police confiscated items including firearms with ammunition, vehicles, knives and drugs," said Ledwaba. He said the arrested suspects will face charges ranging from murder, attempted murder, robberies, rape, sexual assault, assault GBH, burglaries, malicious damage to property, theft, drug related crimes, driving under the influence of alcohol, Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, illegal immigration, public drinking, contravention of liquor act, contravention of protection order and contravention road traffic act. "The suspects have started appearing before various magistrate courts across the province," he said. Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, has welcomed the results achieved during the operations and applauded the police teams involved in providing a safe and secure environment to the citizens of the province.

**Police members searching one of the vehicles during "Operation Paseka" that was conducted on Limpopo roads during Easter weekend.**



**Despite their financial challenges, Marumo Gallants FC have qualified to quarter-final of the CAF Confederation Cup and will be taking on Pyramids FC from Egypt in the first leg of the continental tournament to be played on 23 April 2023.**

# LOSKOP VALLEI

## SATURDAYS 7-9AM

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Previously known as Saturday

#loveparkrun

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#loveparkrun

**Free** ✓  
**Weekly** ✓  
**Timed** ✓  
**5km** ✓

**Hoërskool Ben Viljoen Gym voortrekker street no 1**

# GG GRANITE & TOMBSTONES

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Jane Furse - 072 751 0423 / 078 053 2607

Bopedi/Apel - 076 373 3828

Moutse - 076 645 3331

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