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## Etwatwa and Daveyton boys and girls kidnapped for forced initiation in Dennilton

The Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), has rescued seven boys and three girls from an illegal initiation school in Dennilton Village. Kiba Kekana, Cogta Chief Director of Intergovernmental Relations, said the youth, between the ages of 13 and eighteen, were allegedly abducted with intentions for initiation purposes from their homes in Etwatwa and Daveyton areas, which is about 150 km away from Dennilton. Kiba said the group was rescued during a multidisciplinary operation conducted by the department together with local police. He said the department is currently investigating the incident and harsh actions will be taken against those who are involved in the kidnapping. Initiation monitoring leader in Gauteng COGTA, Lebo Bogopane, said they were following on the information of six of the children who were reported missing at Etwatwa and Daveyton. "However, when the team arrived at the initiation school in Dennilton, they discovered another four children from Etwatwa and Daveyton who alleged to be abducted and were also rescued," he said. Bogopane said the girls were found at the residence of the initiation school owners and the seven boys were

rescued from the mountains. "One of the boys is an asthmatic patient and he was in a very bad condition when the team arrived, as he was not in possession of his spray," he said. Bogopane said their main concern is that the owners of the initiation school knew nothing about recently imposed Initiation Customary Act and they did not demand consent forms from the initiates when coming to the school. "The legal status of the Dennilton initiation school is being investigated by the COGTA Department in Limpopo. The department is on a mission to close down any illegal initiation school," he said. Bogopane said eight other children were earlier rescued from the same initiation school. Furthermore, the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA) in Limpopo, has shut down a bogus initiation school in the Mopani District Municipality, following the death of a 6-year-old initiate.

...continue on page 2

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# Etwatwa and Daveyton boys and girls kidnapped for forced initiation in Dennilton

*continues from page 1...*

According to the department, the minor was admitted at the school with a consent of his parents, which is contradiction of the Section 12 (1) of the Limpopo Initiation School Act of 2016, which forbids children under the age of 12 to be admitted to initiation schools. Hitekani Magwedze, COGHSTA Spokesperson in Limpopo, said the boy's parents could be charged for contravening the province's initiation schools' laws. He said the exact cause of death has not yet established and still a subject of a police investigation.

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## Abducted Kgapamadi woman found dead

The body of a 31-year-old woman, Refiloe Malope, who was kidnapped at Kgapamadi Village in May, was retrieved from a mine shaft in Benoni on Monday 27 June. The victim was reportedly abducted by two suspects who were seen by the residents forcing her into the boot of a white sedan. Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, Brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo, said the victim's body was recovered following a police operation, comprising the Gauteng Search and Rescue Units of the South African Police Service from Benoni, Tshwane, Sedibeng, Westrand K9, Tshwane K9, Ekurhuleni and Tshwane Municipality Disaster Teams, the Limpopo Provincial Organized Crime Unit, Provincial Crime Scene Investigation and Hlogotlou Detectives. "The operation team resumed with the retrieval efforts from 09:00. After four hours, the body was brought to the ground and that's when it was positively identified as that of the missing Malope," he said. Mojapelo said another unidentified body was also retrieved from the same mine shaft and investigations are underway to determine the identity and the cause of death. Mojapelo added that two suspects, Sergeant Letudi Moses Mokoana (40), a police officer stationed at Benoni in Gauteng and his accomplice Modirelwa Maxwell Mkwana were arrested in connection with the incident. "Mokoana who is the police officer was arrested at his work in Benoni and his accomplice was arrested at his hideout in Apel outside Jane Furse," he said. He said they will appear before the Nebo Magistrate's Court soon charges of kidnapping, murder and defeating the ends of justice. Limpopo Provincial Police Commissioner, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, hailed the team of investigators for ultimately cracking the case and arresting the suspects. "I would to thank all the teams that were involved in this challenging task, especially the Gauteng Search and Rescue Units which were led and coordinated by the Provincial Head of Rapid Response Services, Brigadier Samuel Killian," said Hadebe.



**Top:** The victim, Refiloe Malope's remains were found in the depth of a mineshaft in Benoni.

**Left:** A team of the police search and rescue retrieving the remains of Refiloe Malope who was abducted at Kgapamadi Village in May.

## EMLM Mayor adopts Tafelkop destitute family

A family of ten mentally ill members in Tafelkop Village outside Groblersdal, will now wake up in a completed RDP house, thanks to the Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) Cllr David Tladi. For many years, the Mahlangu family was living in an incomplete RDP house without any doors and windows. On Sunday 26 June, Mayor Tladi, accompanied by ward councillors, Municipal Manager Meshack Kgwale, local business owners and community members, renovated the RDP house and had also donated blankets, groceries and ensured that the house is clean. The family, residing in the municipality's ward 28, was identified by the mayor during the Mayoral Outreach Roadshow that was held at Rankwe Sport Ground in April this year. "We must continue to work together as government, districts and local municipalities and all stakeholders involved in providing housing to the needy and do more for our destitute families in our communities," said Tladi. The Mayor urged businesses, churches

and NGOs to join hands with government and assist impoverished families in their localities. Highlighting the family's plight, a community member, Moseki Mokoena, said he started to notice the situation of the family while on his way to work when one of the children was crying uncontrollably. "I went inside the yard and knocked on the door for several minutes until a young lady came. As soon as she came out of the house, by the look of her state, I realized that the situation inside is worse. I then went straight to the mayor and asked for his intervention after I showed him some pictures of the destitute family," he said. Mokoena said he is happy with the mayor's immediate response for adopting the poor family and ensuring that the house is completed. The family head, Martha Mahlangu, said she is truly grateful for what the mayor and the community did to her family. "I am living with my daughter and her six children. We all rely on social grants and sometimes we run out of food before we can collect the grant money. We are urged to go to loan sharks to borrow money so that we can get food. Our ID documents together with SASSA cards are held by the loan sharks because we struggle to pay them back the full amount," she said. Tladi promised to get the family ID documents and SASSA cards from the loan sharks.

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# Minister unleashes massive Loskop Dam Water Project

Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senzo Mchunu, announced that his department has allocated R1.1 Billion for the implementation of the Loskop Dam Water Supply Project. The project is set to benefit villagers from Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality in Sekhukhune



**SDM Executive Mayor Cllr Julia Mathebe, Acting Premier of Limpopo Province Basikopo Makamu, DWS Minister Senzo Mchunu, Mpumalanga Premier Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane, Deputy Minister of DWS David Mahlobo and THLM Executive Mayor Cllr Lesetja Dikgale during their assessment at the Loskop Dam.**

and Thembisile Hani Local Municipality in the Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. Mchunu made the announcement during his visit at Philadelphia Sports Grounds in Dennilton, Moutse.

The minister was accompanied by his Deputy David Mahlobo, Mpumalanga Premier Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane, Mpumalanga MEC COGTA Mandla Ndlovu, Limpopo MEC CoGH-STA Basikopo Makamu, Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Julia Mathebe, Nkangala District Municipality Cllr Leah Khoza-Mabuza and Thembisile Hani Executive Mayor Cllr Lesetja Dikgale. The 40km pipeline will pass through Moutse East where a package plant and water reservoir will be constructed. Once completed, the 3 megalitre package plant will augment the provision of water in that area through the Moutse Water Scheme. This project will supply sustainable clean drinkable water to eight villages in the Moutse East area in Tambo Square, Malaeneng, Ntwane/Mametse, Marapong, Thabakhubedu, Phooko, Bloempoot/Uitspanning and Elandsdoorn Stop Light Tamong Section. The scope of work in the project includes abstraction works, water treatment works, pump stations

and storage reservoir, aiming at providing water to about 130 000 people in the two district municipalities. Mchunu said government aims to speed up the completion of the project to ensure that people have access to water, as they have been waiting for too long for this source of life. "This is the first time the ministry has presided over such a meeting which involves two provinces. What is bringing us here today is a project, which is centered around Loskop Dam. I was told that the dam was built in 1938. We are here today to make sure that the people residing close to the dam reap the benefits of what they always see. This is a historic meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to actually deliver water. When we leave here, we must be on one mind about the project," he said. Mchunu said the project is planned to be completed in a period of eighteen months, with the Nkangala District Municipality as the project's principal implementing agent. The Minister also called on the stakeholders to guard and monitor the project to ensure that it is not riddled with corruption. "Let me make it clear as I chair this meeting, corruption will never happen under my watch. This project will succeed. Let us move on with the project.

There is only one temptation that must prevail and that is providing people with water. I will ensure that the project is completed within the set time frame," he said. He indicated that to speed up the project, the work packages will be done in parallel, to ensure that the project is speedily completed to provide people with water. "We will have a political steering committee led by ministry and a technical steering committee led by the director-general," he said. The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune, Cllr Julia Mathebe, expressed her gratitude for this crucial intervention by the minister. "Minister, I am extremely excited and delighted that through your intervention the people of Moutse will finally drink water from the Loskop Dam," said Cllr Mathebe. Members of the community requested the Executive Mayor to be in the forefront of the project and make sure that the people of Moutse benefit economically from this project, especially young people, women, and people with disabilities.

As part of other inclusive engagements, the ministerial delegation, with the Mpumalanga and Limpopo entourage, have later met with community stakeholders in Verena in the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality.

## MWCA not pleased with the R1.1 Billion Loskop Dam Water Project

The Moutse Water Crisis Alliance (MWCA), says it is not convinced that the R1.1 Billion Loskop Water Project will be materialized, following the announcement of the project by Water and Sanitation Minister Senzo Mchunu in Moutse recently. The community movement has given Mchunu a benefit of a doubt, referring to similar announcement by his predecessor Lindiwe Sisulu, who in 2020, commissioned R143 Million towards the failed Moutse Draught Relief Projects. MWCA Spokesperson, Zachariah Dube, said Mchunu unleashed the project without making proper consultations with the community to single-out details on how the project would be implemented. Dube said they are worried that the project will cater only villages in Moutse East, whereas other communities in Moutse Central, Moutse West and Saaiplaas were excluded from the project. "We are concerned that the minister did not take a tour and walk-about in the community to see for himself all the needs of the residents before announcing the scope of work in the project," he said. Furthermore, Dube said the minister should have considered incorporating the multi-million rand abandoned water infrastructure which was left unused for many

years. "The infrastructure remains unused and going to waste. There is a whole water plant in Groblersdal, which is lying idle for many years. Would that infrastructure be incorporated into this new project by way of interfacing? We desperately hope that this would be the case," he said. Dube said the alliance will demand the minister to dismantle the corrupt Multi Stakeholders Steering Committee (MSSC), which previously proved that it was a party-political ploy and a smokescreen. "We demand the appointment of a new MSSC, whose members are broad and untainted, consisting of communities and opposition political parties, especially owing to the size of this project in money terms. Also demand that all of Moutse Villages, including Central and West, should be included in this project just as it was with the looted R143 Million in 2020," explained Dube. He said the movement has already briefly spoken to relevant Chapter 9 institutions regarding Moutse water crisis issues that include incomplete water projects. He said they will be forwarding a letter of their concerns to the office of the minister and will be expecting to hear from Mchunu either in writing or engagement in a meeting before 22 July 2022.

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# SADA wants MM suspended over R480 Million wasteful expenditure

The Socialist Agenda of Dispossessed Africans (SADA) in Sekhukhune District Municipality wants Municipal Manager (MM), Maureen Ntshudisane, to be suspended immediately after the district municipality incurred a staggering R480 Million in irregular and wasteful expenditure. The party says it has written a letter to Executive Mayor Cllr Julia Mathebe to demand her to suspend Ntshudisane following claims of fruitless and wasteful expenditure on litigation, water projects losses, rental and security services spending incurred in the municipality. SADA Councillor in the district municipality, Joseph Kgweedi, said they demand the accounting officer to be suspended and investigated as she failed to exercise her fiduciary responsibilities and general financial management functions as prescribed by Municipal Finance Management Act 56, 2003, (MFMA), that culminated in the municipality spending nearly R480 million for non-service delivery purposes. He said these shocking exposés were revealed in the Municipal Public Accounts Committee's (MPAC), Draft Oversight Report on the 2020/21 Draft Annual Report that was tabled in a council meeting held on the 29 June 2022. "Some of the main contributors towards this reckless financial mismanagement and abuse of authority includes the following several tenders, which were awarded to persons or relatives of persons employed by the state in contravention of section(s) 45 and 46 of the Municipal Supply Chain Management (SCM) Regulations," Kgweedi said. He said it was also revealed that contracts were awarded to bidders who were not adjudicated by the Bid Adjudication Committee, as required by section 29(1)(a)(b) of Municipal SCM Regulations. Kgweedi said deviations were approved by the accounting officer, even though it was not impractical to invite competitive bidding in contravention of section 36(1) of Municipal SCM Regulations. "Quotations were accepted from bidders whose tax matters had not been declared by the South African Revenue Services (SARS) as envisaged by section 43 of Municipal SCM Regulations. The municipality spent nearly R41 Million for security purposes that went into the pockets of individuals and did not improve the lives of ordinary workers," he said. According to Kgweedi, legal services were sourced to recover nearly R22 Million, which was paid to service providers who did not render any services to the municipality. "The municipality spent nearly R64 Million and R88 Million on rental services and water losses respectively, in the previous financial year even though communities at the ground do not have water," explained Kgweedi. He said SADA is more of concerned that no effective steps were taken by the accounting officer to probe these expenditures as required by Section 62 of the MFMA and in defiance of the recommendations of the Auditor General's audit action, which prescribes steps to be taken to prevent these expenditures and other losses that the municipality may incur and determine if any person is liable for the expenditure as required by Section 32 of the MFMA. "It is apparent that there is a need for effective consequence management in this municipality, in order to put an end to the mismanagement of the public purse, abuse of public authority, corruption, maladministration and tender irregularities," he said. Furthermore, Kgweedi said it is abundantly clear that municipality does not want to hold officials accountable but instead, allows these politically connected bureaucrats to turn the institution into a corruption hub. Communications Manager in Sekhukhune District Municipality, Khomotso Ndlovu, confirmed that the district municipality received a letter from SADA, demanding the suspension of the municipal manager. Ndlovu said the municipality is investigating the allegations and will officially respond to the paper in due course.



**SADA in Sekhukhune District Municipality demand the suspension of MM Maureen Ntshudisane for alleged R480 Million wasteful expenditure.**

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## First case of monkeypox identified in Limpopo

A first case of monkeypox has been confirmed in Limpopo on Sunday 10 July. According to the Limpopo Department of Health, the case was confirmed by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), with a 42-year-old male tourist from Switzerland who is holidaying in the province.



**First case of monkeypox has been identified in Limpopo Province, following a global outbreak of the virus.**

The department said the patient presented with signs and symptoms such as rash, lymphadenopathy, muscle ache and fatigue. Following the shocking announcement, Limpopo Health MEC, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, is calling for calm amidst the confirmation of the first case of monkeypox in Limpopo. MEC Ramathuba calls on community members not to panic saying: "We are calling for calm. We can confirm that the case is an outpatient, currently isolating and requires no admission. The MEC said the department has already sent officials to follow through the case. "Three contacts have already been identified and none of them have developed signs thus far," Ramathuba said. She said the department wishes to encourage all people who interact with a lot of people in their line of work to continue the wearing of masks even though the Covid-19 protocols have been relaxed.

"More information will be communicated once available," she said. According to the NICD, it is feared that the country could see more people being reported of positive for monkeypox in other parts of the

country. The institute said it will be monitoring the Covid-19 virus while government now focused more on the monkeypox virus. Monkeypox presents with an acute illness characterised by fever and general flu-like symptoms, followed by the eruption of a blister-like rash on the skin. The disease is rarely fatal and cases typically resolve within two to four weeks. Most cases do not require hospital treatment.

Prevention of infection hinges on the isolation of cases until fully recovered. The risk to the general population is considered low, given the low transmissibility of the virus.

Since May 2022, Monkeypox has been reported in more than 4000 individuals from Africa, several European Countries, USA, Canada, Australia and the United Arab Emirates.



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### GENERAL NOTICE

#### IN TERMS OF SECTION 94 OF THE EPHRAIM MOGALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY SPLUM BY-LAW, 2017

We, KMC Geomatics, the authorized agents of the registered owners of Erf 259 of the Marble Hall Extension 2 Township, hereby give notice that we have applied to the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality for a Rezoning in terms of Section 64 of the Ephraim Mogale SPLUM by-law, 2017. The above property is being rezoned from "Residential 1" to "Special" for the purpose of a "Women's Wellness Centre" (Amendment of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Land Use Management Scheme, 2019).

Particulars of the application will lie for inspection during normal office hours at the office of the Municipal Manager, Chief Municipal Officer, 13 Ficus Street Marble Hall 0450, P O Box 111. Marble Hall 0450, for a period of 28 working days from 15 July 2022.

Objections to or representations in respect of the application must be lodged with or made to the Municipal Manager, 13 Ficus Street Marble Hall 0450, PO Box 111. Marble Hall 0450 must be lodged or directed within a period of 28 working days from 15 July 2022.

Any person who is unable to read or write can consult with any staff member during office hours and assistance will be provided to write down the person's objections or comments.

Address of authorized agent: KMC Geomatics, PO Box 560, Groblersdal 0470, Tel No (013) 262 4136. Ref. No. Erf 259MH.

### ALGEMENE KENNISGEWING

#### INGEVOIGE ARTIKEL 94 VAN DIE EPHRAIM MOGALE PLAASLIKE MUNISIPALITEIT SPLUM BY-WET, 2017

Ons, KMC Geomatics, die gemagtigde agente van die geregistreerde eienaars van Erf 259 van Marble Hall Uitbreiding 3, gee hiermee kennis dat ons by die Ephraim Mogale Plaaslike Munisipaliteit aansoek gedoen het om te hersoneer in-gevolge Artikel 64 van die Ephraim Mogale SPLUM By-wet, 2017. Die bogenoemde eiendom word hersoneer vanaf "Residensieel 1" na "Spesiaal" vir die ontwikkeling van 'n "vroue se welstandsentrum" (Wysiging van Ephraim Mogale Plaaslike Munisipaliteit se bestuurskema vir grondgebruik, 2019).

Besonderhede van die aansoek lê ter insae gedurende gewone kantoorure by die kantoor van die Munisipale Bestuurder, Hoof Munisipale Beampte, Ficusstraat 13, Marble Hall 0450, Posbus 111. Marble Hall 0450, vir 'n tydperk van 28 werksdae vanaf 15 Julie 2022.

Besware teen of verhoë ten opsigte van die aansoek moet ingedien of gerig word aan die Munisipale Bestuurder, Ficusstraat 13 Marble Hall 0450, Posbus 111 Marble Hall 0450, binne 'n tydperk van 28 werksdae dae vanaf 15 Julie 2022 ingedien of gerig word.

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# Stokvel robber arrested, another stoned to death by angry community

The Limpopo Highway Patrol (LHP) in Sekhukhune together with the Jane Furse Police have on Friday 8 July, arrested one of ten suspects in connection with an armed robbery that has taken place at Madibong Village outside Jane Furse.

According to the police report, a suspect was arrested a few hours after a group of heavily armed men robbed a group of women of their stokvel money. "Members of the LHP in Sekhukhune were performing normal patrol duties when they received a call from the Jane Furse Police requesting back-up about an armed robbery in progress. The members immediately went to the scene and upon arrival, they established that about 10 suspects armed with pistols allegedly robbed a group of women who were having a stokvel amount of money estimated to be around fifty five thousand rand. One of the suspects was allegedly caught by members of the community and was stoned to death," said Brigadier Motlafela Mojapelo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. Mojapelo added that it was further revealed that the community members continued to chase another suspect, who then entered Jane Furse Hospital and hold security personnel hostage at gunpoint. "Members of Highway Patrol, together with Operational Respond Services (ORS), joined forces to rescue the security guard and a 26-year-old suspect was arrested on the spot,"

he said. Mojapelo indicates that other suspects fled the scene using a bakkie, which was later found abandoned at Mamone Village, hence the hunt for the remaining suspects continues. "Cases of murder, armed robbery and possession of illegal firearm and ammunition are investigated at the Jane Furse Police Station. The suspect is expected to appear in the Sekhukhune Magistrate's Court soon facing charges of armed robbery and possession of unlicensed firearm and ammunition," Mojapelo said. He said the police appeals to anyone with information that can lead to the arrest of the remaining suspects involved in both incidents, to contact Detective Warrant Officer Enoch Mashilo on 082 319 9526, the Crime Stop Number on 08600 10111 or the nearest police station. The Provincial Commissioner of Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has applauded the prompt reaction by police teams involved in the speedy arrest of one of the suspects responsible for the alleged robbery. "The speedy reaction by the members that led to the arrest of the suspect is highly commendable. The remaining suspects must be hunted down and be brought to book," said Hadebe. She, however, strongly warns community members to resist taking the law into their own hands, urging that they must instead, work with the police to fight crime.

## Filling station robbers getaway with undisclosed amount of money

The Dennilton Police have launched a massive search operation following an armed robbery incident occurred on Thursday 7 July at Energi Filling Station along the R25 Road in Dennilton.

Colonel Mamphaswa Seabi, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said according to the information at the police disposal, it is alleged that an on-duty staff member who was locked herself inside the premises for security reasons, heard one of the colleagues knocking at the door at around 00:45. "The colleague demanded the other employee who was inside the building to open the door and when she looked through the window, she noticed that he was held on gunpoint and was convinced to open the door," Seabi said. He added that after opening the door, a group of heavily armed men appeared and hold both workers hostage in the attendants room. "The duo was instructed to lay on the floor and a few moments later, a group of suspects proceeded to the cash room to bomb the safe before getting away with an undisclosed amount of money," he said. Seabi said the victims managed reported the robbery to the police after realizing that the criminals fled the scene. "A case of armed robbery was opened at the Dennilton Police Station and is under investigation. No arrests were made yet and the police appeal to anyone with information to come forward," he said. Seabi appeals to members of the public who may provide information that can lead to the arrest of the suspects to contact the Crime Stop Line on 08600 10111, the nearest police station or make use of the MYSAPSAPP.

**A number of heavily armed criminals robbed Energi Filling Station in Dennilton of an undisclosed amount of money.**



## Congratulations to Keothabetse



**Congratulations to Keothabetse (Puntsa) Hlabela who has been named the Limpopo u/16A hockey team's vice-captain. They played at the IPT (Inter-Provincial Tournament) during the holiday which took place in Stellenbosch. Keothabetse is Ben Viljoen High School u/16 team's vice-captain. We are very proud of you!**

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## EFF Sekhukhune embarks on pothole fixing drive

To ensure safety for motorists on Sekhukhune major roads, the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) in Sekhukhune Region, has kick-started a potholes fixing programme on the R37 Road. The initiative is leading by Mgcini Tshaku who is Member of Parliament (MP) and EFF national deployee in Sekhukhune Region. According to Tshaku, the programme was launched with an ultimate goal to eradicate potholes on major roads in entire Sekhukhune District Municipality. "The initiative is also offering training to EFF councillors and members, teaching them how to fix potholes properly using the material approved by the South African National Standards (SANS 3001). Tshaku said the volunteers are guided by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), pothole identification and fixing report. He said the initiative was inspired by the EFF third cardinal pillar to build a state and government capacity leading to abolishment of tenders. "The asphalt cost R100 to R150, but a tenderpreneur will ask R2000 to R3000 to fix one pothole. Instead a municipality can have a state owned road agency that will deal with in-house road construction and maintenance," said Tshaku. Tshaku said the party is set to embark on a massive pothole closures pothole drive on Sekhukhune's major roads. "Currently, we are busy identifying the badly damaged roads and buying asphalt from our own pockets. We are doing this because we care for our communities," Tshaku said. Sekhukhune is among areas in the province experiencing a huge backlog in roads maintenance, contributing in a number of fatal accidents affecting residents. However, Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL), says it is working tirelessly to deal with road maintenance backlog which they say is because of budgetary constraints. The agency is currently facing over R100 Million worth of damage claims with about R40 Million pending claims for damages caused by potholes.



**EFF Sekhukhune Region lead by regional convener Mgcini Tshaku, fixing potholes on the R37 Road in Jane Furse.**

## Help the police to find Manapyane missing man

The Police in Motetema are investigating a case of a missing person following the disappearance of a 33-year-old male victim, Mahlatse Mabona from Manapyane Village outside Marble Hall. According to the police report, the victim, who is an epileptic patient, was allegedly last seen on Thursday 30 June 2022, leaving his home and had never returned since.

"On the day of his disappearance, the victim didn't inform anyone where he was going. He was wearing a grey Nike jersey, a pair of blue Nike tracksuit trousers and brown half boots," said Sergeant Maphure Manamela, Limpopo Provincial Police spokesperson.

Manamela said a search operation was conducted by the family and the police at friends and relatives without a success. "Anyone with information that can shed light on his disappearance, or knows the anything about the victim's whereabouts, may please contact investigating officer Constable Maluleke on 076 057 3415/013 269 8025, Crime Stop Number 08600 10111, MySAPSApp or the nearest police station," Manamela said. She said police search operations to locate the whereabouts of the victim are ongoing.



**The Motetema Police appeal to the public to help to find the missing Mahlatse Mabona who disappeared at his home in Manapyane outside Marble Hall since Thursday 30 June 2022.**

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## EMLM appoints senior managers

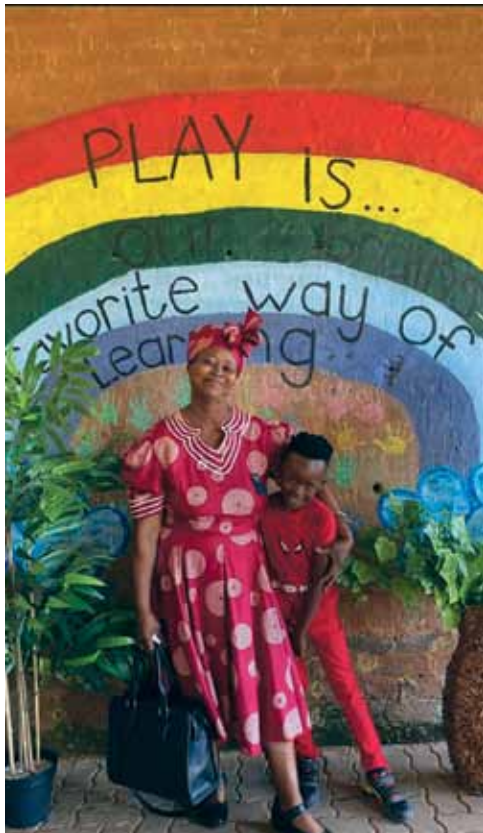
The Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EMLM), has in its ordinary council meeting, held last week Wednesday, filled the three crucial vacant positions of senior managers. The appointed personnel are Ms Mamphiri Rosina Rampedi who will be managing Corporate Services, Ms Yvonne Maphutha-Mashaba who will be responsible for Community Services and Ms Palesa Tjebane who is new manager for Planning and Economic Development. Percy Moagi, EMLM

Spokesperson, said the appointments were in line with the Municipal Systems 32 of 2000: Regulations on Appointment and conditions of employment of Senior Managers. "Both the senior managers for Corporate and Community Services, will commence with their duties from 1 July 2022 and Senior Manager for Planning and Economic Development will commence on the 1 August 2022 due to the fact that she will be serving a notice," he said. The Mayor of EMLM, Cllr Given Moimana, was happy about the appointments, saying they play a role in promoting gender equality within the institution. "We have employed educated women with lots of experience that will bring changes and make sure that we deliver sustainable services to the communities of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome, congratulate and wish them well in their new responsibilities," said Moimana.



**Former EMLM Mayor, Yvonne Maphutha-Mashaba, was appointed the municipality's Senior Manager for Community Services.**

## Grandparents Day at Little Warriors Centre



**Grandma Sarah Mokuwe and Kaonafatso Motshana**



**Phillip and Magdeline Magagane and Nyakallo Magagane.**

Little Warriors Centre held a Grandparents day on 3 June 2022. They were blessed to have 150 Grandparents visiting the Centre. Mynie Short shared a message to the Grandparents about The Lord that gives us strength, she also encouraged the Grandparents to keep being involved in the lives of their Children and Grandchildren. It was such a joy to hear how the sounds of singing filled the Centre when all the Grandparents started singing in one accord "He is Alfa and Omega". They were grateful to host this event for the Grandparents and they are looking forward to have them at the Centre again.

## Congratulations to Amo Motlatle

Congratulations to Amo Motlatle who was named the Limpopo U/14A hockey team's vice-captain. They played during the holidays in Benoni at the Winter Games. Amo is Ben Viljoen High School U/14 Limpopo winning team captain. We are very proud of you! "The quality of a leader is reflected in the standards they set for themselves."



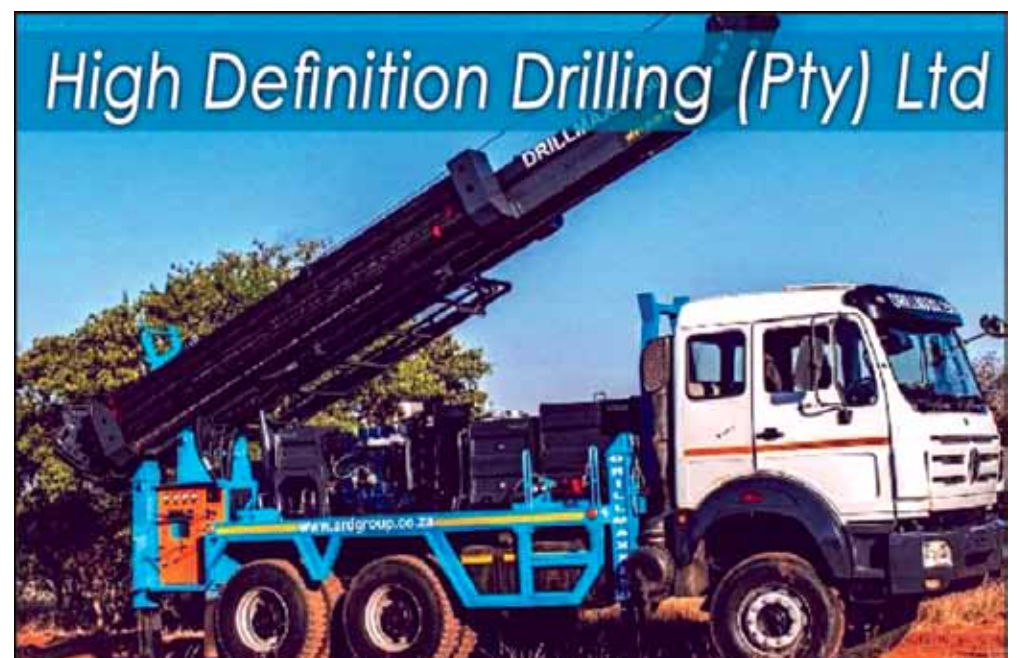
## Premier Mathabatha pleased with improved municipalities audit outcomes

Limpopo Premier, Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, says he is pleased with the positive outcome of the municipal audit released recently.

This is after the Auditor-General (AG), Ms Tsakani Maluleke, released the 2020/2021 financial year municipal audit outcomes in the middle of June 2022, wherein, Limpopo has shown significant improvement in its audit outcomes. Of the twenty-seven Limpopo municipalities, 16 achieved unqualified opinions, including Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality and Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality in Sekhukhune District. Waterberg District Municipality having received a clean audit without findings, nine municipalities received qualified audit findings with Mogalakwena improving from disclaimer while two municipalities, Bela-Bela and Mopani, received disclaimer audit opinion. Limpopo is among two of the provinces that have been singled out by the AG as having shown improvement in the 2020/21 audit.

During the release of the audit outcomes, Maluleke said during the term of the previous administration, they saw a notable improvement in audit outcomes, especially in the adverse and disclaimed opinions of municipalities such as Mogalakwena, Thabazimbi and Modimolle-Mookgophong. Premier Mathabatha said the outcome has shown that as the provincial government has capacity to better manage its affairs. "We have noted the major areas that the AG has raised, especially the matters of overreliance on usage of consultants and the increase in irregular expenditures that municipalities have incurred, including those that have not been followed up from prior years. We believe that we have capacity to assist municipalities by playing our oversight role to deal with this matter," he said. Making an undertaking to continue improving audit outcomes, Premier Mathabatha has tasked the Provincial Treasury and Department of Cooperative Governance Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA), to work together to improve financial outcome of the province, to improve its accountability and sound financial management. He said that outcome of the audits is to ensure that the people of the province receive quality services to improve their living conditions. Maluleke further said: "We are therefore encouraged by the Premier's commitment that the provincial treasury will help municipalities build capacity within their nance units, his instruction to municipalities to reduce their consultant spending by 60% and his call for municipalities to implement consequences for wrongdoing immediately." She said she also acknowledge the commitments made by the provincial legislature and provincial cooperative governance department to capacitate councillors through training programmes so that they can better understand their roles as an oversight body. "We call upon the provincial leadership to closely monitor the implementation of these commitments, to ensure a positive impact on both the state of local government and the lives of the people of Limpopo," she said.

According to the Premier's Office, Mathabatha's undertaking five years ago to improve audit outcomes is bearing fruits to ensure that local government is an accountable administration to the people it serves.



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# Sekhukhune United back in Limpopo

As from the upcoming Dstv 2022/2023 Premier Soccer League (PSL) season, Sekhukhune United FC will be playing their matches at the New Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane. The club has announced that the team will be relocating from the Emirates Airline Park Stadium, formerly known as Ellis Park in Johannesburg, to the New Peter Mokaba Stadium in Limpopo. Babina Noko said in a statement that they will play all their matches at the new facility and have extended their greatest gratitude for the opportunity offered by Polokwane Municipality, to play their home games at New Peter Mokaba Stadium. “We are excited at the prospect of playing our PSL matches at the New Peter Mokaba Stadium, displaying our skills before the multitude of our fans. We look forward to an exciting long journey and representing our province in distinction. The club’s long-term vision has always been to bring football in its origins,” said the club. Babina Noko is co-owned by the Malatji brothers who hail from Sekhukhune. However, the team could not play their games in the district due to lack of football facilities to can meet the PSL standard. In concerted efforts to improve the standard of football facilities in the district, last year, then Limpopo MEC for Sport, Arts & Culture Thandi Moraka, accompanied Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Keamotseng Stanley Ramaila, led a delegation to inspect and assess the Hlogotlou Stadium in Monsterlus and Tafelkop Stadium, as part of government’s efforts to assist Sekhukhune United FC to relocate and play its PSL home games in the district. A multi-sectoral task team of officials from the provincial government, local government, South African Football Association (SAFA) and Sekhukhune United FC has been put in place to work on this project. According to the district municipality, the task-team has been instructed to put together an assessment report within coming weeks, and a decision will be taken toward ensuring that one of the stadiums is given a facelift that will enable it comply with the PSL standards. The project is set to see Babina Noko relocating to Sekhukhune in the near future. Furthermore, to bolster their squad for the upcoming PSL season, the club has announced the latest additions to the team with seven new signings. The new players includes Katlego Mkhabela, Daniel Cardoso, Thamsanqa Masiya, Lesego Sebetlela, Trésor Tshibwabwa Yamba Yamba, Wonderboy Makhubu and Badra Ali Sangaré. Mkhabela (26) is a right-back from the Motsepe Foundation Championship side Free State Stars FC. He started his football career with SAB League outfit Arsenal FC before moving to Free State Stars in 2018. He achieved 25 appearances in the GladAfrica Championship League with Free State Stars. Cardoso (33), a centre-back, joins Babina Noko from Kaizer Chiefs. The experienced defender played 185 matches with Amakhosi and weighed in twelve goals. Born in Johannesburg, his professional career started with Free State Stars where he had an impressive stint which earned him a transfer to Kaizer Chiefs. Masiya was born in Mamelodi in Gauteng on the 17 September 1996. He started his football career in the development ranks of Mamelodi Sundowns before joining Mbombela United FC. He was one of the outstanding players for Baroka FC with 25 appearances last season and was also part of the South Africa National Under-17 team and Under-20 National Team (Amajita), respectively. Masiya was also part of the Amajita that made history in Russia in 2015 during the Commonwealth Cup triumphing Finland 2-1 in the finals of the competition. Twenty-three-year-old “Mish” Sebetlela, who plays centre back, was born in Dobsonville, Soweto. He joins the club from MM Platinum well known as La Masia who were promoted to the Motsepe Foundation Championship for the 2022/2023 season (Formerly GladAfrica Championship). He was crowned the player of the tournament during the ABC Motsepe League Play-offs that was recently played in Potchefstroom. Yamba Yamba (23), is a defender from the Democratic Republic of Congo. He was playing in Zambia’s topflight side Red Arrows.

## The Limpopo U18 Boys Met Clayton Saker



On the left is Clayton Saker with Golokile Tshigo and Lethabo Malebana

The Limpopo U18 Boys hockey team met National Player Clayton Saker at opening Ceremony of the IPT hockey Nationals in Stellenbosch. Both Golokile Tshigo & Lethabo Malebana from Ben Viljoen High School were included in the u/18A team.



On training: Sekhukhune United FC will be relocating from the Emirates Airline Park Stadium in Johannesburg to the New Peter Mokaba Stadium in Limpopo.



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