

### Ramaphosa hands land deeds to Tafelkop farmers

President Cyril Ramaphosa said they are forging ahead with the process of amending Section 25 of the Constitution to enable land expropriation without compensation, all the while ensuring that they improve agricultural output and expand the property rights of all South Africans. The president on Saturday 22 May, facilitated the hand-over of 30 title deeds to Tafelkop Farmers Association (TFA) at Groblersdal, in the culmination of a land reform process ceremony. The farmers have been successfully farming various agricultural produce for 25 years on this land and the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure has transferred the land on a gratis basis for land redistribution purposes. In 2000, the then National Department of Agriculture entered into lease agreements with the Tafelkop Farmers Association in terms of the Land Redistribution through Agricultural Development (LRAD) program. In 2009, the former Limpopo Department of Agriculture (LDA) recommended to the Department of Public Works, as the custodian of the land, that the land be transferred to the farmers who had been in occupation since 1996. The deeds were registered earlier in 2021 in the names of the farmers who emerged as beneficiaries at the ceremony. These farmers supply local food stores, school feeding schemes as well the Pretoria and Johannesburg fresh produce markets. The extent of the land now officially registered in the names of the farmers measures 189 hectares and is valued at more than R25.5million.Accompanied by Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Patricia de Lille, Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Ms Thoko Didiza, Justice and Correctional Services Minister Ronald Lamola, Minister of Home Affairs Aaron Motsoaledi and Acting Minister in the Presidency Khumbudzo Nthavheni, Ramaphosa said the hand-over is a vision that the community has spent the past 25

by mobilising state resources to increase the efficiency and sustainability of land redistribution and restitution," the president said. Ramaphosa emphasized that the farmers will now be able to use the deeds as security to secure loans to expand, to secure long-term supply contracts and to form partnerships with bigger commercial

farmers. "Through the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan, we are developing the agricultural sector, and making it more inclusive so that it can play an even greater role in driving inclusive growth. Here in Ga-Sekhukhune, agricultural development forms part of the District Rural Development Plan," Ramaphosa pointed out. The president said over the next financial year, they will establish a land and agrarian reform agency to fast-track land reform. "We are looking at how effective our past policies have been and are going to address this issue of land reform urgently. We have to urgently address the significant service delivery challenges in this community and in communities around the country," he said. Ramaphosa said government will prioritize dealing with water supply problems, which have endured in various parts of Sekhukhune, affecting not only health and livelihoods, but also farming. Ramaphosa added that the distribution of land is an important step towards bolstering food security and key to growing the agricultural sector in Sekhukhune."This intervention is about providing a better future for the people of this area and of our country. We will devise



Sophie Buta (Centre) and Michael Mokone (Right) receive title deeds from President Cyril Ramaphosa (Left) at the hand-over ceremony held in Groblersdal.

was happy to see history of returning them to their land being materialized. "For the past 25 years we have been struggling to get our land back and we are happy that dawn has finally arrived today. Now we are proud to say that this is our land," he said. Sefoloshe highlighted their struggle to get potable water and pleaded to Ramaphosa to urge Sekhukhune District Municipality to fast track the supply of water to farmers.













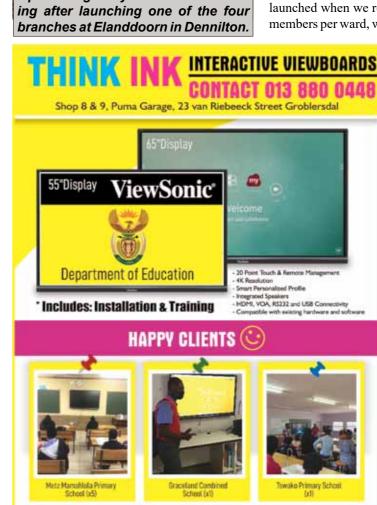
### **Revived Mpumalanga Party launches** branches



Mpumalang Party members celebrating after launching one of the four

The Mpumalanga Party (MP) political organization, has launched four branches (Ward 6, 7, 9 and 1) in Moutse. The party, which is an alliance of Moutse Demarcation Forum (MDF),a structure that seeks to return Moutse back to Mpumalanga Province. MP Spokesperson, James Fana Masinga, said: "The branches were launched when we reached a minimum of 50 members per ward, which is a number we suc-

> cessfully achieved in many villages, proving that the party is now more progressive and more representative after its revival two years back." We feel confident about our support, people are tired of empty promises," he said. He said they will be visiting the villages to share the party's vision with community members with an idea of returning Moutse back to Mpumalanga. "It is difficult to influence the decisions because if don't get one person elected in the municipality it is very hard to sustain interests. We hope to get more representatives in the council to challenge the constituency and return back to Mpumalanga," he said.



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### **Health MEC launches Covid-19 Phase 2 Vaccination**

In concerted efforts to curb the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, Limpopo MEC for Health Department Dr Phophi Ramathuba, launched the Phase 2 Vaccination programme at St Rita's Hospital in Glen Cowie outside Jane Furse on Monday 24 May. The hospital is among the added sites to roll-out the launching of Phase 2 Vaccination, which is focusing on the senior citizens, above 60 years of age through a programme which was launched from 24 May 2021.

The programme will introduce 15 more vaccination sites in addition to the initial 6 sites within the public sector across the five districts, in a bid to fast track the Phase 2 Covid-19 vaccination process under Pfizer BioNTech vaccines. According to the department, the added vaccination sites are all been prepared and ready to commence with vaccination. With meandering queues of elderly people waiting to be vaccinated visible on site, Home Affairs Minister Dr Aron Motsoaledi, together with the Queen Mother and also the Acting Kgoshi of Bapedi Nation Her Majesty ManyakuThulare, were among the elderly who were vaccinated during the programme. The department indicated that it must be noted that Pfizer BioNTech vaccine requires two doses at least 21 days apart. The Health Department stated that even though Pfizer vaccine is effective to reduce hospitalization and death in vulnerable group as well as having acceptable safety profile, people must always follow Covid-19 protocols even after being vaccinated to avoid being infected by the virus. Ramathuba, who was monitoring and supporting the vaccination outreach teams to different old age and retirement villagers, said she was happy that the elderly

attended in numbers to take their doses at the hospital. "We are encouraged at the same time humbled by the turnout and support from different stakeholders, traditional leaders, traditional health professionals and religious leaders during this Phase 2 Covid-19 vaccination rollout," she said. The MEC said they will continue to encourage senior citizens, aged 60 and above to enrol for vaccines using the Electronic Vaccination Delivery System, whatsapp or SMS so that they can be vaccinated. "Young people with access to networks and internet can play a part in assisting our senior citizens to register. If we all work together we can defeat this pandemic," she said.

Queen Mother and also the Acting Kgoshi of Bapedi Nation Hlapogadi a Phaahle, getting her vaccination jab at St Rita's Hospital in Jane Furse.



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# collecting

To raise initiative in waste management in order to take good care of the environment, a group waste pickers from Groblersdal established Elias Motsoaledi Recycling Forum, to provide insight and help in the recycling sector while on the other side providing for their families. The waste collecting forum was recently launched at the Sekhukhune District Municipality offices in Groblersdal. The executive committee was elected during the day. Forum Coordinator, Simon Mpherefere Matjia, said the initiative was in line with the National Waste Management Strategy's (NWMS) legislative requirement of the national environmental management Act,2008(Act no.59 of 2008). Its goal is to promote waste minimization, re-use, reduce, recover and recycling of materials."One of the solutions to waste management challenges is to have forums with objectives: sharing ideas, best practices and solutions. The forum will also be committed to minimizing society impact on the environment by reducing waste through

### TUT to open Sekhukhune campus

The Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) and Bapedi Royal Kingdom have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) towards the opening of the new campus in Sekhukhune land. The historic MoU was signed at Tjate III Palace in Mohlaletsi on Thursday 20 May by Her Majesty the Acting Queen of Bapedi Nation, Queen Mother Manyaku Thulare and TUT Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Murembiwa Stanley Mukhola. The plan has already been approved by the Department of Higher Education and Training. This initiative seeks to bring access to education closer to the people of Sekhukhune in particular academic courses that are aligned to the economy of the district such as mining, agriculture and tourism, which bringing the reality of the resolution of Sekhukhune 2019 economic Summit. The old Sekhukhune College of Teaching was identified as a site where the new TUT campus will be built in Sekhukhune. According to Bapedi Royal Kingdom, the development was a vision the late Kgoshi Victor Thulare had before his passing early this year. Speaking after signing the MoU, Deputy Vice Chancellor in Teaching, Learning and Technology in TUT, Professor Stanley Mukhola, said the campus will be focusing on the mining and agricultural fields. Mukhola said the infrastructure, where the old Sekhukhune College of Teaching is based, will be suitable to be used as the new campus of the university. Mukhola indicated that they are currently conducting a feasibility study that will be completed around the next eighteen months. He said the date of the opening will be announced once the feasibility study is completed.



Her Majesty the Acting Queen of Bapedi Nation, Queen Mother ManyakuThulare signing a MoU at Tjate III Palace in Mohlaletsi.

recycling and recovery of materials," he said. He said they were encouraged to form the forum by the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET). "We find the idea meaningful and adopted it as waste pickers in Elias Motsoaledi Municipality. Hopefully, working with government will benefit us a lot by introducing our business to markets and buyers of our materials," he said. Matjia said they opted to be waste pickers as a result of high unemployment rate in the country. "I started the waste management company because there are no jobs these days and I could not afford to live with a situation whereby my children were starving and go to bed on empty stomach. I had to do something about it," he said.



The executive members of the Elias Motsoaledi Recycling Forum from left to right, Thabo Rantho Deputy Secretary, Tebogo Francinah Sekasine Deputy Chairperson, Simon Mpherefere Matjia Coordinator, Christiana Mohlahlo Secretary, Gloria Rebecca Makuwa Chairperson and Limma Mathebe Treasurer, during the forum launch at Sekhukhune District Municipality offices in Groblersdal.



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### Help to locate Tselani Mabel Pali

The police in Magatle outside Marble Hall appeal to the public to assist in locating the missing Tselani Mabel Pali (46) from Gedroogte Village.

According to the police report, the victim was last seen on Wednesday 5 May 2021 when leaving home and she never returned. "The victim allegedly went to Moletlane Plaza to receive her social grant money and never returned home. Attempts to contact her bore no fruits as his cellphone was on voicemail," said Sergeant Monatse Mamabolo, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. Mamabolo said the victim's daughter does not know the type of clothes her mother was wearing during her disappearance. "Police search operation was conducted at friends and relatives with no success," Mamabolo said. He appeals to anyone with information that can assist to find the missing woman to contact the investigation officer, Constable Mamogobo on 082 565 8517, Crime stop



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# Murder and robbery gang remains in custody

Two suspects, Service Mashilo(34) and Ben Thobejane(41), arrested in connection with tenserious and violent cases ranging from murder, ATM bombings, safe blasting and business robberies allegedly committed in the Sekhukhune District for several months, have appeared before the Sekhukhune Magistrate's Court on Wednesday 12 May 2021.

These suspects, who are believed to be part of a criminal syndicate, that has been terrorising members of the community were apprehended at their homes. This happened during the Tactical Intelligence driven joint operation conducted by the Saps Limpopo Provincial Tracking Team, Provincial Investigations Unit, the Saps Limpopo Highway Patrol Team and members of the Jane Furse police station."Several items such as Plasma TVs, clothing, cellphones and fridges that were reportedly stolen from various retail stores and residences were recovered during the arrest," said Colonel Mamphaswa Seabe, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson.

Seabe said preliminary police investigations further indicated that one of the suspects was



Some of the cellphone that were recovered by the police when arresting the suspects who were terrorizing the community in Sekhukhune.

out on bail for an ATM bombing case, which took place at Mahlakung plaza, in the Sekororo area under Maake Policing Precinct outside Tzaneen in the Mopani District, during October 2020."Their cases were postponed to 8 July 2021 for formal bail application and for further police investigations," he said.





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continuing," he said.

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### Learner admission gets underway

The Limpopo Department of Education has opened registration for learner in public schools for 2022 academic year. Department Spokesperson, Tidimalo Chuene, said walk-in registration at schools has opened from 17 May to 30 July 2021, for children who will be going to school for the first time or moving to a new school next year. "Children can also be registered online at selected schools participating in the online learner admission pilot project from 03 June to 06 August 2021. The list of participating schools is available on the departmental website: www. edu.limpopo.gov.za." she said. Chuene added that forms for walk-in registration are collected and submitted back to schools and therefore, parents and legal guardians of qualifying learners are encouraged to immediately collect the forms from the school nearest to their homes, where other siblings are attending or within a feeder zone. "Completed forms must be returned as soon as possible as admissions will be processed on a first come first served basis, assuming that all other criteria in the admissions guidelines are met," she said. Chuene indicated that school management teams have been directed to ensure that the process of collection and return of forms is managed in line with the Department of Education's standard operating procedures for the management of COVID-19 in schools. Chuene stresses applying parents and guardian to have in their possession proof of residence, birth certificate or acceptable proof of birth date, immunization card, transfer card, and/or last report card. "If one is not a South African citizen, the department will require study/work permit, temporary or permanent residence permit from the South African Department of Home Affairs and/or evidence to show that there is application for permission to stay in South Africa," detailed Chuene. She said any formal complaint from parents whose children have not been admitted can be lodged through the nearest circuit offices. "The department will monitor the learner admissions process very closely to ensure that the rights of learners are always protected," concluded Chuene.

# All systems in place for 2021 mid-year matric exam

The Limpopo Department of Education has all systems in place to administer the May/June National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Amended Senior Certificate (ASC) examinations, which have started on 26 May and continue till 7 July 2021. According to the department, a total of 37 376 candidates from various categories will be sitting for the examinations. This includes 17 398 full time candidates who are currently writing their NSC, 13 287 NSC candidates and 6 691 part time NSC candidates. Tidimalo Chuene, Limpopo Department of Education Spokesperson said admission letters have been sent to education district offices for distribution to candidates who will be writing. "All candidates were reminded to collect examination admission letters (time-tables) at examination centres, schools or circuit offices where registered, from 24 to 25 May 2021."





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### Regional League falling behind

Following SAFA Limpopo Provincial directive to conduct play-offs commodate regions that have fallen behind in on 19 and 20 June, the SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League is urged to accelerate their matches to gain access in the provincial competition. The league management has announced that the matches will now be played on Saturdays and Sundays.

League Coordinator, Frank Maredi, said they are halfway in their matches and are urged to accelerate in order to complete their matches in the set period to be able to participate in the provincial play-offs. "Our streams have just started with their second round and probably left with about twelve matches before the end of the league. This could be difficult because they have to play under pressure they've never experienced before," he said. The coordinator added that they have also considered to request an extension for provincial play-offs to ac-

their schedules. Maredi said the only stream that will complete the league in the stipulated time is Stream D in Elias Motsoaledi, which has only 12 teams. "We have about 20 teams registered in other streams and I don't see them completing their leagues in the set time frame." he said. However, Maredi indicated that despite the play-offs challenges, the league is running smooth in all their four streams in Sekhukhune. "Everything is going as planned and hopefully we will be sending a good team to represent us well in the province," he said.



Ngwaabe City Motors is among teams eager to represent Sekhukhune in the provincial play-offs.





