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IEC official and ANC implicated in voter registration fraud

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) in Limpopo has lodged a complaint with the Independent Electoral Directorate (IEC), following voter registration fraud at Mabule Primary School in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Ward 1. The party accuses IEC officials who were presiding voter registration at the ward for colluding with African National Congress (ANC) members to process registrations of about fifty residents who were absent during their registration. The registrations were set for the by-election at Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Ward 1 after the councillorship position became vacant following the passing of then Ward Councillor, Frans Mello, who died earlier last month. Tshilidzi Maraga, EFF Chairperson in Limpopo, said they needed IEC to take drastic actions against the involved officials and ensure that the upcoming bi-election, scheduled to take place in November 2023 runs smoothly. "We are appalled and shocked by voter registration fraud in Ephraim Mogale where IEC officials colluded with the ANC at the said station, got involved in unethical and illegal activities of fraudulently registering people in favour of the ANC especially heading towards the 2024 general elections," she said. Maraga said they were made aware that the IEC supervisor and staff members collected identity numbers from ANC members, verifying, registering and change addresses without the owners' of the identity documents present at the station. "Election fraud committed by officials has been normalized by the IEC including other conflicted members who are hired by IEC during elections to assist with registration process. The EFF is of the view that the majority of IEC officials are conflicted and therefore, not fit to play any administrative role in elections," explained Maraga. She added that they do, however, acknowledge that there are non-partisan officials in the IEC who are ethical in their conduct and committed to their work. "There are rogue and rotten potatoes that cannot separate work and politics. It is only through the intervention of the EFF that the implicated officials were dismissed. Our suspicion is that the tempering and manipulation of registration process could be widespread especially with educators unions involved," she said. Maraga vowed that the EFF will continue to expose shenanigans by the IEC officials and ANC wherever they raise their ugly head to ensure free and fair elections. Limpopo Provincial Electoral Officer, Nkaro Mateta, has confirmed that the official who was involved in the allegations were dismissed. "When we process such people, they should be there in person and present their IDs so that we process them accordingly standing in front of us," she said. Mateta said they have acted swiftly on the EFF complaint by calling all political parties involved after determining that the matter was quiet serious as it will compromise the integrity of the commission. "Normally when we train our officials, we train them on the values of integrity, honesty, treating all political parties with the same spirit that we treat other person. So this person has transgressed our values and compromised the electoral commission. The electoral commission arrived at a decision that these people should be relieved from their duties not only for this bi-election, even for the 2024 election," she said. At the time of going to print, Sam Uwane, ANC Spokesperson in Sekhukhune Region, told the publication that the ANC on provincial level was currently working on a response to the allegation.

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Illegal squatter camp mushrooming at Marble Hall CBD

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo said they have noted with grave concern the illegal occupation on the land belonging to the Public works, Roads and Infrastructure Department in Marble Hall Town, Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM). The party said it has written to MEC Nkakareng Rakgoale to

urgently address the matter as the mushrooming of shacks escalates in the area. Risham Maharaj, DA Spokesperson for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure in Limpopo, said the findings were made during the party's recent oversight inspection, which revealed that community members have started building shacks on the land that is in the CBD of Marble Hall leading to the area resembling a squatter camp. "The illegal occupants also have no access to basic services like water and

refuse collection and the area is quickly turning into a health hazard. Residents in the area are inconvenienced and there are also claims of an increase in crime in the area since the illegal occupation started," explained Maharaj. He said the DA had also recently raised concerns over the department's poor asset management and houses that are illegally occupied and poorly maintained in Ephraim Mogale. "The DA calls on Rakgoale to urgently address the concerns of the community and carry out all necessary legal processes to remove these illegal occupants, while also taking steps to provide a suitable serviced site for the community members that are illegally occupying the land. She must also confirm if the department has an accurate asset register of all their properties and how it intends to mitigate these illegal occupations," urges Maharaj. He said the party is committed to ensuring that public assets are properly managed and well maintained. "The illegal land occupation is unacceptable and the department must take responsibility and work towards a solution that benefits the community as a whole," concluded Maharaj.



The DA in Limpopo demand MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Nkakareng Rakgoale, to address the mushrooming of illegal squatter camp mushrooming at Marble Hall CBD.

Police High Density Operations recovers two stolen vehicles

The Limpopo Police High Density Operations yielded positive results as two stolen vehicles worth more than one million Rand were recovered in the Sekhukhune area. According to the police, the two Toyota Fortuners that were reportedly stolen in Gauteng Province, were recovered in Masemola Police Precinct outside Jane Furse on Saturday 16 September by various police components. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said during the operations, the police spotted two Toyota Fortuners that were travelling together and they started to follow them. "The drivers of the two motor vehicles noticed that the police were following them and attempted to speed off in order to evade arrest but were cornered, stopped and searched. The members of the Vehicle Identification and Safeguarding Unit (VIS), were summoned at the scene for further investigations about the motor vehicles. Subsequently, the police discovered that the two Toyota Fortuners were reportedly stolen this year in Gauteng Province, Roodepoort and Honeydew respectively," explained Ledwaba. He said the two male suspects believed to be a Zimbabwean and Malawian nationals, were immediately nabbed on the spot for being in possession of suspected stolen motor vehicles valued more than one million rands. "The suspects, aged 31 and 40, will appear before the Sekhukhune Magistrate court soon facing charges of possession of suspected motor vehicles. Police investigations are continuing," concluded Ledwaba. Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Limpopo Provincial Police Commissioner, hailed the commitment and dedication displayed by members of the police in ridding the province of criminal activities.



One of the two suspected stolen Toyota Fortuners that was recovered by the police at Masemola during the high density operations.

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Sekhukhune District Municipality's coffers continue to be plagued by leakages

By SABCNews

The Sekhukhune District Municipality's coffers continue to be plagued by leakages. Recently, R11,6 million was withdrawn from the municipality's bank account by Hexagon Technologies and Project Enterprises after it obtained a court order to attach the municipality's bank account. The company had been contracted by the municipality to provide pre-cast VIP toilets. According to documents presented before the

Sekhukhune District Municipality council in 2014, Hexagon Technologies initially asked the municipal authorities for the contract price to be adjusted by an additional R7 million, citing price escalation. Following the municipality's refusal to give the company more money, it approached the courts and obtained a court order that allowed it to withdraw R6 million from the municipality's bank account. The sheriff of the court then notified the municipality of the intention to withdraw money from its account, this was allegedly met with silence from the municipality's legal department. A second warrant of execution was issued against the municipality for an additional R6 million for interest accumulated since November 2015. By May of 2023, a whopping total of R11,6 million was withdrawn from the municipality's coffers without any action from the municipality. However, the municipality denies that nothing was done, and that it did nothing to defend the monies that left its bank accounts. While the municipality says it was surprised to receive a warranty of execution that allowed Hexagon Technologies to withdraw R11,6 million from its bank account, papers brought before the municipality's council show that an out of court settlement was reached with Hexagon technologies by its lawyers despite not having any authority to do so. The out of court settlement was presented to the council by the municipality's legal manager. However, opposition parties are convinced that it's all

a lie. Previously, the municipality was accused of spending over R20 million in legal fees to recoup R600 000 that was irregularly paid to individuals who did not render a service to the municipality.

Furthermore, the municipality also allegedly mistakenly paid about R10 million to a service provider without rendering any services. The municipality's legal manager is currently under suspension.



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Police Commissioner orders manhunt for Zaaiplaas and Ritavi murder suspects

The Provincial Commissioner of the South the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has instructed the police to track down suspects involved in the two murder incidents, in Sekhukhune and Mopani Districts to be traced and arrested. The incidents occurred at Ritavi Policing Precinct in Mopani and Zaaiplaas Policing Precincts in Sekhukhune District respectively. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the male victims in all the Incidents died in hospital separately, on Sunday, 24 September 2023. "According to the information, the police in Ritavi near Tzaneen were summoned to a local hospital, on Sunday 24 September at about 01:40. Upon arrival, they found an unknown man with serious injuries lying dead. It is not known who brought the victim into the hospital and the motive behind the incident is not yet determined," he said. Ledwaba added the police at Zaaiplaas outside Monsterlus have launched a manhunt for the suspect(s), who allegedly attacked a 40-year-old man at the New Stand Section on Sunday 24 September 2023 at 05:40 in the morning. "The police received an alert by the local hospital about an injured man who lost his life after admission in hospital. On arrival, they found a lifeless body of a man with visible serious injuries. He was identified as Moshe Abram Mathibe (40)," explained Ledwaba. He said preliminary police investigations revealed that he was assaulted by people known to him. Ledwaba said anyone with information that can lead to the arrest of the suspects, in Ritavi, should contact Detective Commander Captain Maswanganyi on 082 451 7156 and regarding the Zaaiplaas case, they should contact Colonel Mahlathini Ngele on 082 573 3645. "Alternatively, people should call the Crime Stop Number on 08600 10111, the nearest police station or make use of MySAPSApp. Police investigations are continuing on both cases," he said. Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, condemned the two incidents, pointing out that perpetrators of these violence that resulted in taking victims lives should be hunted down and face the full might of the law.



Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Limpopo Provincial Police Commissioner, has called for the police to track down and arrest suspects involved in the brutal murder of two victims at Zaaiplaas and Ritavi.

Police swift response foil business robbery in Groblersdal

A swift response by the Groblersdal Police has on Friday night, 15 September 2023, made a major breakthrough to foil a business armed robbery after the arrest of two male suspects, as well as the recovery of illegal firearms with ammunition.

Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the police received a complaint of a business robbery in progress at a supermarket and immediately responded to the crime scene. "The police tactically approached the scene while the suspects were still holding staff hostage at gun point. Subsequently, two male suspects, aged 44 and 45, were nabbed while in the commission of the crime. Two firearms with 45 live ammunitions were also confiscated. No injuries reported and nothing was stolen from the supermarket and the liquor store," said Ledwaba. He said cases of business robbery and unlawful possession of firearm with ammunition are being investigated at the Groblersdal Police Station. "The suspects are expected to appear before Groblersdal Magistrate's Court soon, police investigations are underway," he said. Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, praised the police members for their sterling efforts in bringing the suspects to book and also for removing illegal firearms from the wrong hands.



The firearm that was found in possession of the suspect when the police foil armed robbery at one of the supermarkets in Groblersdal Town.

Police Disruptive Operations nab illegal miners

Four suspects, aged between 22 and 44, were arrested at Diphale-Legabeng Village in connection with illegal mining and contravention of Immigration Act, the police said. According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the suspects were apprehended by the Limpopo Provincial Illegal Mining Task Team and Organised Crime Investigation Unit through a disruptive operation that have conducted on Tuesday 19 September at Diphale-Legabeng in Sekhukhune District. Ledwaba said it was reported that members of the Provincial Unit Illegal Mining Task Team together with the Organised Crime Investigation Unit followed the information received from the source about the illegal mining activities in progress at Diphale-Legabeng Village. "It was further reported that upon police arrival at the site, a large number of people reportedly ran away from the scene to different directions evading arrest," he said. Ledwaba said however, the police managed to arrest four male suspects and confiscated mining equipment that included 29 power generators, 17 jackhammers, five shovels, one spade, one water pump and 2 piks. "The total estimated value of the goods confiscated is at R261 000.00. The suspects are expected to appear before court soon facing charges of illegal mining and contravention of Immigration Act," he said. Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, welcomed the arrest and further applauded the police team for the fighting against illegal mining activities in the province.



Generators and jackhammers were confiscated by the police from illegal miners during disruptive operations conducted at Diphale-Legabeng Village.

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The Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM) has on Tuesday 26 September officially launched the Local AIDS Council (LAC) at the municipal chamber in Marble Hall. According to the local municipality, the council was launched in terms of Limpopo Provincial AIDS Council (LPAC) policy framework of 2023/2028, which is the structure comprises of members from business, civil society sectors and government departments that are involved in the fight against AIDS across the length and breadth of the EPMLM. The role of LAC is to advise the municipality on policy and programmed implementation on issues related to HIV, STIs and TB and make recommendations on overall policy and operational plan implementation. The EPMLM LAC structure will be chaired by the Mayor of EPMLM, Cllr Given Moimana who will be deputised by Pastor Matsekoleng, who represents the faith based organisations. The LAC Technical Committee will be chaired by the EPMLM Municipal Manager with representative from Department of Health as the deputy chair, sharing duties with Director of Community Service in the municipality and other representatives from the municipality and sector departments. Mayor Moimana formally appointed all members of LAC and encouraged them to work together to ensure that the structure is functional. "We should meet regularly and present reports to the upper structures in line with the LPAC policy framework terms of reference," said Moimana.

EPMLM launches Local AIDS Council



The EPMLM LAC will be working to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS and related diseases in the length and breadth of the local municipality.



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Limpopo police rid of illegal firearms while recover stolen vehicles

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, hailed the police for arresting seven suspects, aged between 13 and 46, for charges ranging from possession of unlicensed firearms and ammunition to possession of suspected stolen vehicle. The suspects were arrested on Wednesday 20 September at Sekhukhune and Capricorn Districts respectively, through police operations led by Crime Intelligence, Detectives, Vispol, K9, TRT Members, Private Securities, Farm Watch and other stakeholders. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said in the first incident occurred in Motetema Township where two suspects, aged 32 and 46, were arrested by members of Motetema Vispol, Detectives and Sekhukhune Crime Intelligence on Wednesday 20 September. "The teams were following leads when they apprehended the suspects. They were found in possession of 9mm Norinco pistol with one empty magazine and six live ammunition of a rifle," he said. Ledwaba said in another incident, that occurred at Matlerekeeng outside Marble Hall on 20 September 2023, one foreign national suspect was nabbed by Matlerekeeng Detectives and Dennilton K9, after being found with two unlicensed firearms. He added that on a separate incident in the same area, a 26-year-old was also found with an unlicensed firearm and illicit cigarettes. "Two more suspects, aged 38 and 42, were arrested at Ga-Ranoto in Seshego Policing area, for possession of suspected stolen vehicle, possession of unlicensed firearm and ammunition. They were arrested when members of Tactical Response Team (TRT) operating at Capricorn District, spotted a suspicious white Toyota Corolla and they immediately tried to stop the vehicle but the driver sped off. A car chase ensued and police cornered the suspects. Upon searching them, they were found in possession of one pistol with serial number filed-off, one live ammunition, one Norinco pistol, eight live ammunition, one magazine and white Toyota Corolla that was linked to Senwabarwana carjacking incident reported during June 2023," explained Ledwaba.

Furthermore, Ledwaba said the same police team arrested a 13-year-old boy for being in possession of unlicensed firearm with filled-off serial number. "He was then released under the supervision of his mother. The probation officer was engaged for assessment purposes. Some of the suspects have already started appearing before their respective Magistrate Courts. Police investigations are still continuing, more operations are expected across the five districts," he said. Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, has commended the police and other stakeholders including Private Securities and Farm Watch for playing such a significant role in protecting the lives of the citizens of the province by confiscating the firearms from the criminals.



Double murder suspect escapes from police custody

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has ordered for the activation of appropriate resources to hunt down a 35-year-old year old fugitive, Thabo Ali Molobela, who allegedly escaped from police custody on Wednesday 20 September 2023. The fugitive, who is a most wanted suspect, was apprehended at Santeng Village in Hoedspruit outside Ga-Sekororo after allegedly shooting six family members at Makgophong Village in Magatle outside Marble Hall on 19 August 2023. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the escape incident happened at Sekororo Hospital where, according to reports, the suspect allegedly shot himself while being arrested, more than a week ago. "Police officer however, managed to move swiftly to disarm him and quickly rushed him to hospital for medical treatment. He was under police guard when he escaped. The circumstances surrounding the escape are currently under investigation," he said. Ledwaba said anyone with information that can assist with the re-arrest of Molobela should urgently contact Warrant Officer Phaladi Makola on 082 749 2233, Crime Stop Number on 08600 10111, alternatively report to the nearest police station or make use of MysapsApp. He said police investigations are continuing. Meanwhile Lieutenant General Hadebe has cautioned anyone who can be found to be assisting a fugitive to note that the act is a criminal offence and will face the full might of the law.



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SDA Non-Executive Board permanently appointed

The Sekhukhune Development Agency (SDA), which is the Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) economic development entity, has for the first time since 2022, appointed permanent Non-Executive Board members.

The announcement was made during a special board meeting held at SDM offices in Groblersdal on Tuesday 19 September. Mr Tshabedi Serote was announced as Board Chairperson and will be executing his duties with Non-Executive Directors including Ms Akani Baloyi, Ms Mathabo Mosia, Mr Ditshego Tladi and Mr Kgopelo Phasha. Member of Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Planning and Economic Development, Baatseba Leshaba, together with Ms Katlego Shongwe, who is Director Planning and Economic Development, were also appointed in the board representing SDM as the 100% shareholder in the agency. Armed with financial academic background, Serote is all familiar with the agency, having sat in its interim non-executive board of directors in the same capacity. As a well-rounded finance, risk management and audit expert, Serote has been approved as the new chairperson of the non-executive board of (SDA). Baloyi and Mosia bring to SDA boardroom a reservoir of experience in town planning, which promise to put the agency in a better stead to comply with regulations, mitigate environmental impacts



New SDA Non-Executive Board (From left to right): Akani Baloyi, Tshabedi Serote, Baatseba Leshaba, Kgopelo Phasha, Mathabo Mosia and Ditshego Taladi shortly after they were officially appointed during the special board meeting at SDM offices in Groblersdal.

Mokgalaka gunning for AfroCharts 'Artist of The Year Award'

Lekoto Jameson Mamabolo, a local artist based at Moganyaka Ditshweneng Village outside Marble Hall, has been nominated in the AfroCharts Music Awards in the category of 'Artist of the Year Award'. AfroCharts is a company that promotes African artists and music on a global stage. Affectionately known as 'Mokgalaka', Mamabolo started his music journey in the 1980s at the age of 7 after he was introduced in the industry by two of his uncles who were well-known musicians in the area at the time. Since then, Mokgalaka never look back and develop more love to music where he started with live performance using self-made instruments such as empty tins to play his own beats. A few years later, Mokgalaka, together with his childhood friends, formed a musical band called 'Zulane Band', however, the group could not survive long as they were struggling to purchase their own instruments to compose music. Mokgalaka then continued with his solo musical journey until he met another passionate artist, Bornfire Dube and within two months, the duo managed to release their first single titled, 'I Believe in Mwari', which set them on fast lane success by introducing them to bigger music companies. Throughout his career, Mokgalaka, who is a publisher, composer, vocalist, lyricist, keyboard player and producer, released three albums and eleven singles under his belt, including the hit song, 'We Are One Family' that earned him international recognition. He is also the sole owner of Bakgalaka Music Productions, which allows him to compose, release, market and distribute his own music. Mokgalaka is pleading to the public to nominate him to win the Artist of the Year Award by following the link: vote.zikomoawards.com and fill up the required details. Nomination closes on 30 September 2023.

Mokgalaka Jameson Mamabolo (Left) with Bonfire Dube (Right) at the Mokgalaka Productions Studios in Moganyaka.



and infrastructure planning as they will be stimulating the entity to inspire aesthetically pleasing environment in its quest to transform the district into the first-world economy. The other two members, Phasha and Tladi, come from economic development and macro development financing background, respectively. While Phasha is familiar to the agency and the local government sphere, having served intermittently between SDM Office of the Executive Mayor, Acting CEO of SDA, and a short stint as Acting Municipal Manager of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM). Phasha is currently holding a position of Chief of Staff in the Ministry of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), a role that enables him a national sphere development perspective and strategic networks. Tladi gained international exposure in his career as a development finance academic, industry specialist and practitioner, having served as an executive at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA). His line of expertise includes dispensing proactive approaches that leverage public resources to solve the needs of business, industry, developers and investors. Leshaba, who was

representing the Executive Mayor of SDM Cllr Maleke Mokganyetji, said the announcement of the non-executive board follows a rigorous nomination, shortlisting and interview process which was devised to attract the best talent to move the district's economy through SDA as the driver. "I heartily congratulate the non-executive board members on their appointment, and we pledge our unfailing support in the quest of the core mandate of the agency for benefit of the people of our district," she said. In welcoming fellow non-executive board members, Chairperson Serote urged them to be agile as more is expected in unlocking challenges that impeded SDA from meeting the expectations and delivering on its mandate despite 13 years of existence.

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Babina Noko on the road to CAF group stages

Sekhukhune United FC have claimed their first victory in the CAF Confederations Cup second preliminary round first leg, played at the Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane on Saturday 16 September. Babina Noko defeated St Eloi Lupopo from Democratic Republic of Congo with a stunning 3-1 score having two goal advantage to boost them in the second leg of the competition. United qualified for the continental competition after finishing as runners-up in the Nedbank Cup Tournament last season when they were defeated by Orlando Pirates in the finals. During the match the host opened the scoring by Chibuike Ohizu who found the net just eleven minutes after the match started. Three minutes later, Mokonzi Katubwe, scored goal to level the scoring making it 1-1, however, in the 21st minute, Babina Noko Captain Sibusiso Vilakazi was tackled in a dangerous position, a few metres from outside the box. Ohizu had a chance to grab the lead after a good set piece taken by



Sekhukhune United FC emerged victorious in their debut CAF Confederations Cup preliminary round first leg. Babina Noko will be facing St Eloi Lupopo in Congo and have good chances to advance to the group stages of the tournament.

Jammie Webber but his goal was ruled off-side. Five minutes from the break the Limpopo based outfit won another free-kick which, Webber slotted home with ease to give United a 2-1 lead going into the break. Tresor Tshibwabwa extended United's lead to make it 3-1 with a stunning header after the ball was taken from the corner spot. Lupopo striker, Katubwe, had a chance to chase the host score-line in the 79th minute with a powerful shot but denied by United's goalkeeper Renaldo Leaner who made a good save. Babina Noko was victorious after the match ended 3-1 and the two teams will be battling in the second leg of the preliminary round at Lubumbashi in the Democratic Republic of Congo on Sunday 1 October. Winners of the preliminary round will

qualify for the competition's group stages and later for the knockout rounds of the tournament. Sekhukhune United Head Coach, Brando Truter and striker Sibusiso 'Vila' Vilakazi were happy that everything went according to plan. Meanwhile United has recently announced that they have acquired the signature of Former Kaizer Chiefs forward Keletso Sifama, who has signed for Babina Noko after parting ways with Amakhosi. The 20-year-old made his first team debut for Chiefs as a teenager in August 2020, however, he did not quite establish himself before loan stints at Maritzburg United, Pretoria Callies and Casric Stars. Upon the expiry of his contract at Chiefs, Sefama decided to join United in the 2023/2024 season.

Bengwenyana community showcase creative arts and crafts on Leolo Mountains

The Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, Cllr Minah Bahula, has committed her support to SMMEs through the local municipality's Economic Development and Planning Department.

The Bengwenyama community, under the tutelage of Kgoši Nkosi of the Bengwenyama ya Maswazi Tradition Authority in Dlamini, have showcased their arts and crafts on Leolo Mountains outside Jane Furse on Friday 15 September. The community say the arts, culture and creative attraction display creates a livelihood to support their families and promote the sector.

The Bengwenyama embodies arts and culture projects, by producing calabashes, wooden materials and thatched brooms and other creative materials for a living. The Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Municipality (MLM), Cllr Minah Bahula, who was in attendance, embraced the initiative. Bahula was accompanied by Executive Committee Member, Cllr Matjomane Namudi, the Speaker Judy Mphelane Nkgadima and several other councillors. The MLM entourage assured continuous support to the communities involved in the sector of the Small and Medium Enterprise (SMME), which is provided through the Economic Development and Planning division of the local municipality. Mayor Bahula committed a further support in the form of strategic marketing, transportation of goods to the market and also calls on the relevant provincial departments to also extend a helping hand. As a form of humble gesture appreciation and respect, the mayor presented a donation of 150 chairs, 200 quality blankets to the traditional office council, as well as sanitary towels to the nearby learners of Landzandvo Secondary School. Bahula also encouraged other communities to support one another right from the production line, up to the selling point in the market, saying "this not only promotes creativity in tourism but also makes an immense and valuable contribution in the life-line economy of the municipality". The mayor went on to encourage other communities in Sekhukhune and in the province to support these beautiful attractions domiciled in the mountainous area of Leolo.



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