

Over 900 people nabbed during police operations

The well coordinated SAPS Tactical Intelligence driven joint operations, conducted across the Limpopo Province in April 2021, yield positive results as 944 people were arrested on various crimes. The operations consisted of members derived from various police units in partnership with various stakeholders. Colonel Moatshe Ngoepe, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the arrested suspects, aged between 21 and 58, have started appearing before different magistrate courts across the province, for offences ranging from illegal firearms and possession of suspected stolen property that was found in their possession. "In one of the operations, conducted at Ga-Masemola policing precinct outside Jane Furse in the Sekhukhune District, a 21-year-old suspect was arrested after he was positively linked to business robbery and carjacking that occurred earlier this month at Apel Cross. The operation comprised of the Masemola Detectives, Crime Intelligence Unit and the K9 Unit," he said. Ngoepe added that the suspect is one of three wanted criminals who allegedly hijacked a VW Polo, forced the driver into the car boot and drove to a nearby tavern where they robbed the owner of a cash amount of money on gunpoint. "The victim alerted members of the community and the suspects fled the scene on foot, abandoning the vehicle. The hijacked victim was then rescued and police were notified. The suspect was arrested at his house in Mapoteng section and a 9mm firearm and one magazine were recovered. A police manhunt for the remaining suspects is still underway," explained Ngoepe. He said 192 suspects were also arrested for the Contravention of the Disaster Management Act. "The other suspects are facing charges such as stock theft, possession of unlicensed firearms and ammunition, pos-

session of suspected stolen properties, perjury, murder, attempted murder, dealing in illicit cigarettes and drugs, burglaries, robberies, illegal mining, sexual offences, assault and contravention of the illegal Immigration Act and Road Traffic Act," he said. Ngoepe said in another incident, that occurred in the Driekop policing area of the Sekhukhune District, a 31-year-old man was arrested by members of the LHP, after the truck he was travelling in was pulled off along the R71 road. "The trailer was found loaded with unprocessed chrome valued at over R100 000. The suspect was also charged with contravention of the illegal Immigration Act," he said. Ngoepe said during the operations, as part of enforcing compliance with the Liquor Act, 94 fines were issued for liquor related offences and 26 shebeens were also closed. "The conducted operations also led to the confiscation of 5 stolen/robbed motor vehicles, 13 knives, 26 dangerous weapons,

797 942ml liquor, 9773 sticks of illicit cigarettes, 241grams of nyaope drugs, 3372 grams of dagga, 05 dagga plants, 934 fines relating to the Road Traffic Act, were issued," he said. The Provincial Commissioner of the police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Nneke Ledwaba, has welcomed the arrests and urged the police to keep fighting criminality in the province by working closely with communities including private sectors to create a safer environment.



Nyaope drugs that were seized by the police during the provincial operations.

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SDM senior official implicated for GBV acts



Clips from the video of the assault that has gone viral. In the video Mpho Maepa can clearly be seen pointing fingers and slapping the female victim.

Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) has condemned acts of violence implicating one of their senior officials, following altercation and assault acts committed by one of their senior officials against a female victim in Groblersdal. The assault was captured in a video that has since gone viral on social media. The official was identified as Mpho Maepa. "The Sekhukhune District Municipality has learned with disgust about a video on social media, in which a female is being harassed, insulted and seemingly assaulted, by a male employee of the municipality," said SDM Spokesperson, Moloko Moloto. Moloto indicated that, even though, the incident happened outside the workplace, and that the victim is not a municipal employee, the district municipality still, does not take kindly to it. "First, we confirm that the male who is captured in the video is indeed a senior official who recently acted as chief financial officer of the district municipality. Secondly, the district municipality is disgusted and disappointed that one of its officials perpetuates gender based violence, a social ill that has become an intolerably painful affliction in our country. Moloto informed that the district municipality has held campaigns against gender based violence, and the Executive Mayor Cllr Keamotseng Stanley Ramaila has repeatedly encouraged victims of GBV to speak out." Therefore, the municipality applauds the victim for speaking out. While the victim indicates on social media that she has lodged a formal complaint with the South African Police Services, a decision the municipality applauds, the municipality will, as the employer, get to the bottom of this matter, with a view of taking appropriate action," explained Moloto. He pleaded that the complainant is urged to get in touch with the municipality to assist with the internal investigation. "Last year, President Cyril Ramaphosa declared the scourge of gender based violence a second pandemic which all South Africans must fight against," he said. Moloto stressed that SDM will not tolerate any conduct that seeks to undermine efforts to rid our society of gender based violence. Economic Freedom fighters (EFF) Councillor in SDM, said the opposition condemn the official's GBV acts with strongest possible terms. "The official should be suspended immediately. We can't stand for immoral acts against women perpetrated by a public figure," he said. Maloba said the party will support the victim and make sure that the implicated official is held accountable and face the full might of the law.

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Makhuduthamaga attains unqualified audit outcome

Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality has yet another unqualified audit opinion from the Auditor General of South Africa (AGSA), two years in succession. AGSA revealed the news, following an audit report of the local municipality's previous financial year. Lemson Moropjane, Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Spokesperson, said the municipality saw an improvement in handling its finances in the two previous financial years. "The 2019/2020 financial year audit outcome is with less matters of emphasis from the auditor general as compared to the previous financial year of 2018/2019," he said. Moropjane said the municipality council has congratulated the Municipality Manager Mmadire Rampedi

and her collective team for the sterling work in the previous two financial years. Speaking of behalf of the council, Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Minah Bahula, attributed the success to the team work spirit as presented by the administrative and political interface. "We have now requested the administration to swiftly develop an action plan which will address the root cause of issues raised by the auditor general," she said. Bahula added that they will ensure that remedial actions, as indicated, is implemented during the current financial year to improve their financial controls. "This should also translate into acceleration of meaningful and sustained services to our people. We are marching on towards the total realization of a clean audit, which is indeed possible," Bahula said. She indicated that despite the pressing challenges, which includes the novel coronavirus pandemic that engulf the country and subsequent lockdown announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa earlier last year, the municipality was able to defeat all odds and ensured that its finances are fairly and appropriately presented to the auditor general. "The municipality is also delighted that this was an improved audit outcome compared to the previous ones," she said. Bahula thanked the municipality team for their commitment towards a clean governance in the municipality.



Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality, Cllr Minah Bahula



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Relocation of Sekhukhune District offices well underway

The Limpopo MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Namane Dickson Masemola, continues engagements with the Mamone traditional leaders in earnest to see the long awaited relocation of Sekhukhune District to become a reality. The district offices, including that of health and transport, are still located at Lebowakgomo in the Capricorn Municipality, about 50km away from Sekhukhune. The Acting Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District, Cllr Ali Matlala and the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Cllr MinahBahula were part of the engagements. "The MEC is pulling together all key stakeholders to ensure that this project becomes a success, and the value and socio-economic growth it will bring to the entire District sees the light of day," said Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Spokesperson Joel Seabi. Seabi said the department is waiting for KgoshiMalekutuMampuru IV to release the land for the offices, which is a project that will be implemented soon around Jane Furse area. The Acting Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District, Cllr Ali Matlala and the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Cllr MinahBahula were part of the engagements. "KgoshiMalekutuMampuru IV accepted the proposal by the department to release earmarked land of about 50 hectares that would enable about 10 district departments, and other key national departments including Sekhukhune District Municipality offices, to be housed into a government office complex at Jane Furse under Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality," he said. Seabi said MEC Masemola agreed with the traditional authority that more land will be requested in the near future to work on a complete Jane Furse Township development project. During the engagements, Masemola said the relocation project will create about 3000 jobs to locals.



MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Namane Dickson Masemola, says processes to relocate Sekhukhune District offices from Lebowakgomo to Jane Furse are in the advanced stage.

Moutse residents march for better services

On Thursday 22 April, dozens of residents from various villages of Moutse, marched to Philadelphia Hospital in Dennilton to hand-over their memorandum of demands for better services. The group of disillusioned residents, handed-over the memorandum to representatives from office of the Presidency earlier that day. Among their concerns, the community complain about poor services in the hospital, the incorporation of Moutse back to Mpumalanga Province and other poor service concerns, lack of water in main. Community leader, FanaMasinga, informed the Dispatch that poor service delivery in Moutse dates back to 2006 after the area was incorporated from Mpumalanga to Limpopo. "We march to demand better services in the hospital and other basic services in our communities. We want new management for the hospital," he said. Masinga added that they are worried about the deteriorating operations at Philadelphia Hospital, ranging from shortage of medication, shortage of staff members, unhygienic conditions, shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and shortage of ambulances. "We demand Health Department MEC Dr Phophi Ramathuba to recall the hospital CEO, risk manager and clinical manager with immediate effect," he said. Masinga said residents are also frustrated by shortage of recreational centres, which could have played a part in taking young people from the streets. "We demand the renovation of OR Tambo stadium, a information centre, a public library and a community hall that will help shape the future of our younger generation," he said. Masinga indicated that among their grievances, is their long overdue plea to be returned to Mpumalanga Province. "No proper consultations were done when the move was materialized. We are concerned because of poor services in the Limpopo administration. We are tired and need immediate actions from the authorities," he said. The office of the president was given fourteen working days to respond to the challenges raised by residents. "Failure to do so, we will be forced to go to the streets," said Masinga.

House breakings on the rise in Elandsdoorn

The community of Elandsdoorn in Moutse is concerned about the spike of house breaking incidents that seems to be on the rise in the area. According to residents, a number of houses have been broken into recently where the criminals stole electrical appliances. Community leader, Ali Maloba, said they are worried about safety of residents as the criminals who commit these crimes are still on the loose. "The crimes are taking place in Elandsdoorn and surrounding villages. We plead with residents in the area to be on high alert of these criminals. The number of these incidents is alarming and increasing," he said. Maloba said some of these incidents take place during broad daylight, between 8am and 10am and also in the afternoons between 1pm and 3pm. "The targeted Victims are the elderly residents, specifically pensioners and vulnerable young adults," he said. Maloba said plans to establish street committees that will help to get rid of the crimes are in the pipeline. "We will also involve the police community services. We want every relevant stakeholder to be a part of these committees," he said. Maloba said community engagements will also be held to make people alert of the crimes and involve them in the formation of street committees.



Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ADOPTION OF DRAFT IDP/ BUDGET 2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

Notice is hereby given, in terms of Section 21A. Sub-section 1(a) (b), and(c) of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, (32 of 2000) that Ephraim Mogale Local Municipal council has on the 30th of March 2021 adopted its Draft IDP and BUDGET for 2021/2022 financial year.

The copies of the Draft IDP and BUDGET for 2021/2022 documents are available at the Municipal Office in Marble Hall, Municipal Satellite Offices (Zamenkomst, Elandskraal and Leeuwfontein), Offices of Traditional Authorities within the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, Marble Hall Library, Matlelerekeng Thusong Service Centre and the Municipal Website.

Communities and other stakeholders are invited to submit inputs before the final adoption of 2021/2022 IDP/Budget.

Inputs and comments can be directed to your Ward Councilor, Manager IDP or Manager, Budget. SMS/WhatsApp providing a name, address and ward number, no later than 07 May 2021. 16:15.

For more information you can contact The Municipal Manager, Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, and P.O. Box 111 Marble Hall 0450, 013 261 8400 or visit Office NO 1 (13 Fikus Street). **Website:** www.ephraimmogalelm.gov.za

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Dash Hesh takes music industry by storm

Dennilton born musician, Samuel Mofokeng, is taking the entertainment industry by storm. Affectionately known by his stage name, Dash Hesh, Mofokeng is a rapper, songwriter who composes Hip-Hop infused with Kwaito elements and he sometimes follows his heart, embarking on other genres. Born on 28 December 1994, Dash Hesh had a deep love and passion for music at an early age.

He started his primary schooling at Ekucathuleni then went to Tou-Kwena Senior Phase and finished his Matric at Kgothala Secondary School. According to the musician, when growing up, he was heavily inspired by Hip-Hop and Kwaito music. He says his uncle used to have so many cassettes of a lot of artists such as Trompies, MduMasilela, Spokes H, Mandoza and others. Dash Hesh would sneak in to his uncle's room when he is not around to listen to the cassettes, on a small cassette radio player where he will spend nights going through the music. One day Dash Hesh saw a song on TV, by Lupe Fiasco called superstar and his life was never the same when he comes with an idea of starting his singing career. From then, he transitioned from a fanatic listener to an artist in early 2012 and has blazed a trail for his music career ever since. He released so many songs and projects along the years, also



Dennilton born Hip-Hop artist Samuel Mofokeng, is taking the music industry by storm since starting his career in 2012.

entered competitions and won awards. In 2017 he won his first ever award, at the Dennilton Hip-Hop Awards, under the "Dennilton's Most Valuable Rapper" category. In 2018 he won "Best Male Rapper" and "Verse of The Year" at the same Dennilton Hip-Hop Awards. Back in 2017, Dash Hesh entered a Demo competition that took place at Johannesburg called Moshito Music Conference and Exhibition and made it to the top 3. Again in 2018, the

musician went back and entered the competition but still there was no luck on his side in the competition but he never gave up. A few months later, RapLyf Records and Umshubhelo dropped a competition for emerging artists in 2019, Dash Hesh entered and made it to Top 5, granting him an opportunity to perform on big stage at the Umshubhelo Music Festival, which took place at Kettlebong Hustersfield Stadium. Dash Hesh dropped his first EP in the year 2017 called "True Hero Under God" and in 2018, he released his first ever Mixtape titled, "Isabelo Sabafana". In 2019, the artist dropped another EP titled, "Double Mabhengwan", featuring an artist called TLT, from RapLyf Records. Dash Hesh has hosted his own shows at his hometown of Dennilton over the years and has sold 300 copies of his previous Mixtape, Isabelo Sabafana. He been dropping singles since the previous year, with a number of hits such as AboNomalizo, FedeDintshang, UbabaAkekho and Isinkwa. He is also shooting music videos of the songs and they all uploaded in his YouTube Channel. His songs received airplay in the Channel O playlist. Dash Hesh says it wasn't an easy journey at all as he has endured so much, but he knew it was never going to be easy coming from a poor background and b a shining star one day. His vision is to see his hometown developing and also striving to inspire youth of South Africa to always pursue their dreams and bring good change in their hometowns. For Bookings contact: 0722929519/0736113157, Email: mofokeng3011@gmail.com, Twitter: @yase_vrandini, Instagram: @dash_hesh, Facebook: Dash Hesh.

Elderly man goes missing

The Police in Dennilton are investigating a case of a missing person following the disappearance of an elderly man, Maile Stephen Leone aged 67, from Matlala-Lehwelere.

According to the police report, the missing old man allegedly left home on 11 April 2021 without telling anyone about his destination and since then, he never returned home. "He is limping with his right leg. The clothes he was wearing during his disappearance are not known," explained Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, Warrant Officer Marobo Seabela. Seabela said attempts to search for the missing Maile from friends and relatives bore no fruits and we now appeal to the public to come forward with information. "Anyone with information that can assist the police to locate this missing person should contact Sergeant Nomsa Mahlangu on 082 303 9907 or 013 983 0161 or the crime stop number 0860010111. They can also contact the nearest police station or make use of MySAPSApp," Seabela said.

Passionate appeal to find missing man

The Police of Hlogotlou are investigating a case of a missing person, following the disappearance of a 23-year-old man, Innocent Tshukudu Rakgalakane, of Matsitsi Village in Monsterlus.

According to Constable Maphure Manamela, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the victim reportedly left home early in the morning on 04 April 2021, without telling his family about his destination, hence he had since disappeared. "The type of clothes he was wearing at the time of his disappearance are unknown. The Police conducted search operations at relatives and friends but he couldn't be located," Manamela said. She said anyone with information about his whereabouts is requested to contact Detective Commander Captain Mokgwatsane on 082 414 3244 or the crime stop number 0860010111. Manamela said the public can also contact the nearest police station or make use of MySAPSApp. "The police search operations and investigations are still underway," she said.

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TTM advance to Nedbank Cup final

Sekhukhune based PSL outfit, TshakhumaTshaMadzivhandila (TTM), knocked the Dstv Premiership heavy weights, Mamelodi Sundowns, out of the Nedbank Cup challenge. TTM eliminated the star-studded reigning PSL Champions 6-5, on penalty shootouts on Sunday 18 April at Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria.

The sides played a goalless draw in 90 minutes and also failed to score goals in the extra time, sending them straight to penalties where TTM emerged as winners of the semi-finals. TTM advanced to the Nedbank Cup final and will be battling with Chippa United for the first prize of the competition. TTM relocated to Sekhukhune earlier this year after businessman, Ditonkana Abram Sello bought it from previous owners in Venda. During a post-match interview, Sello said he nearly fainted and could not bear to watch his team defeat Mamelodi Sundowns in the semi-finals. "I was shaking, panicking and my heart was beating fast during the penalty shootout. I nearly fainted and could not bear to watch the drama. I looked away when we scored the winning penalty as it was too much

to take in. But I was relieved when we made it against the best team in the country," Sello said. Sello gave the players bonuses for their fairytale run in the cup competition and he said that there is more from where that came from. "The players, technical team and management did 80% of what I told them to do. Credit should go to them, but at this stage, I do not want them to worry too much about money. I am monitoring the club as I am trying out my administration skills. I gave them a monetary reward for beating Sundowns," explained Sello. "I will pay everyone starting with the cleaners, security guards, and tea makers. I have dangled a big carrot, but do not want to mention the figure, but it is big money," He said.



TTM eliminated PSL heavy weights Mamelodi Sundowns to advance the Nedbank Cup final.

Notorious criminals arrested

The police in Jane Furse made a major breakthrough, arresting two members of a gang of most wanted suspects who committed various crimes around Sekhukhune. According to the police, the arrested suspects, Service Mashilo (34) and Ben Thobejane (41), were linked with ten serious and violent cases ranging from murder, ATM bombings, safe blasting and business robberies. "These suspects, who are believed to be part of a gang of criminals that has been terrorising members of the community, especially the business sector in and around the Sekhukhune District, were apprehended at their homes 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," said Colonel MoatsheNgoepe, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson. Ngoepe said the other three suspects, who were earlier arrested along with the duo, were released as they could not be linked to the cases. "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," Ngoepe said. He indicated that preliminary police investigations further indicated that one of the suspects, Mashilo, was 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. Ngoepe said Mashilo appeared before the Sekhukhune Magistrate's Court on Friday 23 April and will appear again soon together with Thobejane for formal bail application. "Manhunt for the remaining suspects is still underway. Anyone with information that can lead to their arrest, may



contact Detective Sergeant PhaladiMakola on 082 749 2233 or Lieutenant Colonel Richard Boshomane on 079 894 5501 or the Crime stop number 0860010111 or the nearest Police station or MySAPSApp," concluded Ngoepe.

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