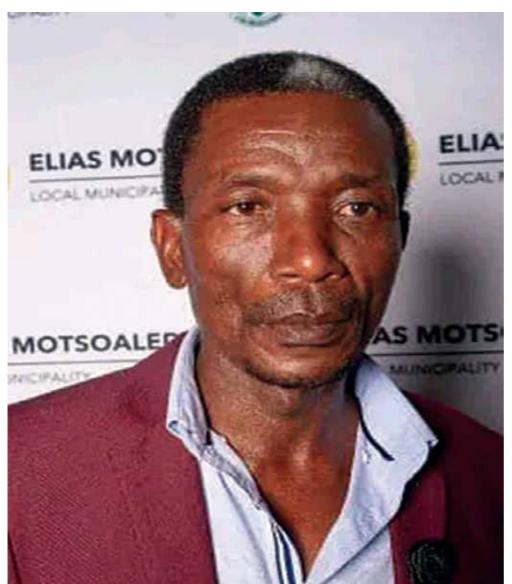




## Elias Motsoaledi Ward Councillor survives assassination attempts



Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) Ward 4 Councillor, Mahwetse Phillip Msiza and his sister-in-law were shot and injured by unknown assailants at Waalkraal Village on Wednesday 3 July. Both survived the attack, with Cllr Msiza being shot in the right thigh and his sister-in-law who is a house occupant being shot in the right pelvis. They were both rushed to a local hospital for immediate medical treatment. Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said the police in Dennilton have launched a massive manhunt of two unknown male suspects following the shooting incident which occurred at about 19:09. "It is alleged that the victim was driving a white Ford Ranger Club Cab bakkie along Kgaphamadi Village with his friend when he passed a grey sedan motor vehicle that was parked in the middle of the road about two hundred meters away from his residential premises. The victim apparently parked his motor vehicle, went inside the house, took cash from the house and proceeded to a nearby shop to purchase cigarettes and retreated to his residence," explained Ledwaba. He added that upon arrival, the victim found the occupants in the house with two male strangers inside the kitchen, armed with firearms. "The victim allegedly managed to grab one of the suspects and used him as a shield to avoid being shot by the second suspect. The scuffle continued and the victim managed to run out of the house while the suspects were firing shots in his direction. Afterward, the duo vacated the house and fled the scene and the victim discovered that he was shot on the right thigh while another occupant in the house was shot on the right pelvis," Ledwaba said. He said both victims were transported to a local hospital to receive medical treatment and a manhunt for the two unknown male suspects is currently underway. "Anyone with information that can assist with their apprehension should urgently contact the Investigating Officer, Sergeant Benjamin Ntuli on 082 303 9907, the Crime Stop Number on 08600 10111, the nearest police station or make use of MySAPSApp. Police investigations are continuing," concluded Ledwaba. Meanwhile the Mayor of EMLM, Cllr David Tladi has on behalf of the municipality expressed deep concern over the safety of councillors following a distressing incident. "The perpetrators of this serious crime must face the full force of the law. We will support all efforts to ensure they are brought to justice," said Tladi. The mayor said the municipality strongly condemns this act and wishes both victims a swift recovery. Tladi also urged anyone with information that could assist the police in arresting and investigating those responsible to come forward.

EMLM Ward 4 Councillor, Mahwetse Phillip Msiza, survived an attempt assassination after he was attacked by unknown assailants at his home in Waalkraal.

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#### Executive Mayor Bahula engages Rakgoadi community over water issues

The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), Cllr Minah Bahula, has on Wednesday 3 July continued her efforts to address the ongoing water crisis by meeting with the communities of Rakgoadi, led by Kgoshi Rakgoadi Matlala in the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM). According to the district municipality, the engagement was aimed to directly address the pressing water challenges faced by residents of the district. During the meeting, the executive mayor noted the concerns of the community and discussed various strategies to alleviate the water scarcity. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, Bahula announced several interim measures that will be implemented to provide relief to the affected communities. "We are committed to ensuring that all residents have access to clean and reliable water. The challenges faced by the Rakgoadi community are a priority, and we are working tirelessly to find sustainable solutions," said the executive mayor. Bahula said the



interim measures include the provision of repair and maintenance of existing water infrastructure, the establishment and drilling of new boreholes. The executive mayor emphasized the need to protect the water resources. The meeting ended on a positive note, with community leaders expressing their gratitude for the executive mayor's proactive approach and commitment to resolving the water issues. Executive Mayor Bahula committed that she soon establish the Sekhukhune Water Intervention Team and convene the District Water Summit, where residents and stakeholders will interface with the relevant minister dealing with their water issues. Bahula also called for cooperation between communities and local councillors to address the water issues effectively.

#### **Moratiwa Crossing Shopping** Centre re-launched

The Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), Cllr. Merah Masekwele Mahlase, has on Thursday 27 June, joined the founders of Moratiwa Crossing Shopping Centre to celebrate the re-launch of the shopping centre in Monsterlus outside Groblersdal. The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality, Her Worship, Cllr Minah Bahula, also joined other dignitaries in celebration of this monumental occasion. The re-launch ceremony was celebrated under the themed: "Celebration of Growth" and marked the completion of the expansion project, from 15 000 to 26 000 square metres which included the third phase of the shopping infrastructure redevelopment. The Moratiwa Crossing Shopping Centre redevelopment project was officiated by its founders and seasoned local business family, Tseke Jafta Masemola and Elsie Maphokoane Masemola, alongside Mayor Mahlase. The event also marked the grand opening of several shops and well-known brands, including Sekhukhune Community Radio Satellite Studio. The occasion attracted over 3000 people from nearby villages in Makhuduthamaga and Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipalities (EMLM). Other dignitaries who attended the re-launch included South African actor and singer, Rami Chuene, MLM's Head of Economic Development and Planning, Cllr Sam Malaka, MLM Head of Corporate Services, Cllr Namudi Matjomane and representatives from local traditional councils. Mayor Mahlase hailed the Masemola family and all their business partners for their consistent participation in the local economic development and for creating employment opportunities for the local communities.



Moratiwa Shopping Centre founder, Tseke Jafta Masemola (Left) and his wife Elsie Maphokoane Masemola (Centre), with MLM Mayor, Cllr Merah Mahlase (Right), after cutting the ribbon to officially unveiled the newly expanded shopping complex.

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#### SDM Executive Mayor tables SODA address in Ga-Masemola

The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), Cllr Minah Bahula, said the district municipality is currently dealing with all identified problems in the water schemes which are mainly capacity related. Bahula said when presenting her State of the District Address (SODA) held on Tuesday 9 July 2024 at Masemola Stadium outside Jane Furse. Many villagers in Sekhukhune still lack access to clean drinkable water with the majority turning to nearest streams and rivers to obtain water for drinking and household purposes. Bhula informed that the Groblersdal to Luckau Bulk Water Pipeline is currently being upgraded, including the capacity of the water treatment plant. However, she said the Moutse West and East Bulk Water Supply Scheme was delayed by the continuous legal disputes regarding the professional fees between the municipality and the consulting engineers. "The dispute has since been amicably resolved and the Department of Water Services (DWS) will continue with the construction project. Lebalelo Bulk Water Supply Scheme depends on Mooihoek Water Treatment Works as the water source at current capacity of 12 Megalitres per day and planned to be upgraded to 24 Megalitres," explained Bahula. She indicated that the Flag Boshielo Bulk Water Supply Scheme in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality has been upgraded from 8 Megalitres per day to 16 Megalitres. "The Nebo Plateau Bulk Water Supply Scheme, Malekana to Jane Furse Bulk Water Supply is currently under commissioning to perform conditional assessment for the pipelines that were constructed in 2011," Bahula said. The executive mayor outlined that the municipality has noted that most of its schemes have got problems that needs long term solutions, and it has resorted to the drilling of boreholes as a mid-term solution and the provision of water through water tinkering system as a short-term solution. "The municipality has recently drilled and equipped 44 boreholes for the whole Sekhukhune District. As the municipality, we are not only providing employment but also takes skills development very much seriously," Bahula said. The executive mayor informed that the municipality has recently handed over seven completed boreholes water projects at Ga-Ratau Village in Collaboration with Nkwe Platinum Mine, Ramaphosa in Moteti, Phucukani in Dennilton and Dipakapakeng in Tafelkop. "The municipality has completed additional boreholes that are fully operational but have not been formally handed over at Mabose, Malaeneng, Talane, Mathulastands, Nkosini, Dindela, Monsterlus B, Kgapamadi, Makaepea, Mgababa and others," she said. Furthermore, Bahula said the municipality has awarded bursaries to 31 employees to lift the skills based and improve human resource capacity in the institution. Bahula announced that the district municipality has implemented the arena of skills revolution, the Chinese Culture and International Education Exchange Centre (CCIEEC) in partnership with Local Government Sector. "Education and Training Authority (LGSETA) has identified Sekhukhune District Municipality for the implementation of the International Support Programme, to address key service delivery improvements through skills development. This initiative will benefit at least ten unemployed youth in the district, 10 SMMEs and ten officials of the district municipality," stated Bahula. She highlighted that district municipality is going to host its First Annual Tourism Indaba to expose the district diversified culture and heritage to national and international market. Bahula shared information on how the municipality made budget adjustment to support refined cotton farmers through local cotton spinner project to Farmers Support Project. "This was refined to accommodate a request by Thakadu Tsa Naga Farmers Association. Thakadu Tsa Naga Farmers Association has been engaging the municipality for several years requesting support to its members. The association is one of the farmers associations in the district representing more than 500 farmers," she said. She furthered said SDM has reviewed its Local Economic Development Strategy (LED) in 2019, Agricultural development and Agro-processing became one of their strategic interventions. "The objective of this strategic intervention is to add value to agricultural activities through establishing Agri-Park linkages, local manufacturing and processing plants which utilize local raw materials and resources as primary inputs," added Bahula. To move towards im-



The Executive Mayor of SDM, Cllr Minah Bahula, addressing the residents during her SODA event held at Ga-Masemola Stadium outside Jane Furse.

plementation of the strategic intervention, Bahula said the district, together with its social partners such as the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, support primary production to enhance capacity for secondary agriculture. 'It is against this background that the municipality is currently fencing the vegetable fields of Thakadu Tsa Naga Farmers Association to secure them from encroachment by goats and other animals. Reduction or mitigation of a risk of their produce been eaten by animals will enhance their productivity. This will go a long way in making the farmers sustainable and increase the probability of job creation and sustenance," she said.

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# Over 400 suspects nabbed during Weekly High Density Operations

In a concerted effort to combat crime and ensure the safety of residents across Limpopo Province, the police have apprehended 498 suspects during the latest iteration of Weekly High Density Operation, conducted between 01 July and 07 July 2024. Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, said a total of 498 suspects were arrested during the police operations that saw intensified efforts across all five districts in the province. "Among the 498 suspects apprehended, the police opened charges ranging from serious offenses such as attempted murder and assault to various property crimes and violations of immigration laws," he said. Ledwaba said significant seizures of drugs, illegal ammunition, stolen property, illegal explosives and cash were also made, contributing to the overall success of the operation. He said the arrested suspects have started appearing before various magistrate's courts across the province. The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has expressed pride in the dedication and professionalism demonstrated by the police members involved in these Weekly High Density Operation.



The police made the arrests of over 400 suspects during Weekly High Density Operation conducted across Limpopo Province.















































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#### Joint provincial operations uncovers illegal firearms and drugs in **Dennilton**

The collaborative efforts between law enforcement agencies from Limpopo and Mpumalanga, have resulted in a significant breakthrough after a 37-year-old male suspect, July Govern Mahlangu, was nabbed in possession of unlicensed firearm, ammunition and drugs in Dennilton on Thursday 28 June 2024. According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the recovery was made in the early hours when a joint operation by the police from the two provinces was conducted, which led to the arrest at his residence at Malaeneng Village in Dennilton. "During the operation, the law enforcement officers discovered and confiscated one firearm, 17 live ammunition and 98 sachets of nyaope drugs," Ledwaba said. He added that the suspect was apprehended on the scene and is currently in custody pending further investigation. "It is believed that the suspect might be part of a gang of criminals involved in ATM blasts across Limpopo and Mpumalanga Provinces. The suspect will appear before Moutse Magistrate's Court soon to face charges of possession of unlicensed firearm and ammunition and dealing in drugs. Police investigation are still continuing," said Ledwaba. The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has hailed the meticulous investigation and collaborative efforts. "This successful operation underscores the effectiveness of interagency cooperation in combating crime across regions," said Lieutenant General Hadebe.

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#### Man appears in court after stolen firearm recovered in his possession

Mlungisi Ashley Masango (34), has on Monday 10 July 2024, briefly appeared before the Mbibane Magistrate's Court in Vaalbank outside Siyabuswa in connection with possession of unlicensed firearm charges. This comes after a firearm that was reported stolen in Kwa-Mhlanga during October 2021 was recovered on Saturday 6 July 2024 in Vaalbank. Police Spokesperson, Captain Magonseni Nkosi, said according to information, the police received a complaint where the suspect allegedly discharged a firearm in a street at Troya Village outside Siyabuswa. "The police rushed to the scene where the suspect fitting the description was spotted. The suspect was searched and the firearm was found in his possession. The suspect failed to produce a firearm licence or permit. Preliminary investigation revealed that the firearm was reported stolen in Kwa-Mhlanga back in October 2021,"

explained Nkosi. He added that the 34-year-old suspect was arrested for possession of unlicensed firearm and is and has appeared before Mbibane Magistrate's Court Monday 8 July 2024. Nkosi said the suspect has been remanded in custody and is expected to appear again on Monday 15 July 2024. "The firearm will undergo ballistic testing to ascertain if it was not previously used in committing other crimes. The police cannot rule out possibilities of adding other charges to the suspect pending further investigation," Nkosi said. Acting Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Mpumalanga, Major General Zeph Mkhwanazi, has commended police in the province for their undying efforts to remove unlawful firearms from the wrong hands. Mkhwanazi commended the whistle blowers for reporting the unlawful behavior and applauded members for their speedy response. "When the community and police work as a team, criminals' space of operation will definitely be squeezed to zero," said Mkhwanazi.



Mlungisi Ashley Masango has appeared before the Mbibana Magistrate's Court.

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#### **Executive Mayor Bahula kick**starts Mandela Month with traditional leaders

To kick-start a series of Mandela month interactions, the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), Cllr Minah Bahula, has met with traditional leaders from across the district municipality in a significant engagement, aimed at understanding and enhancing their roles in community development. The event was held at Mogorwane on Tuesday 2 July 2024. During the engagement, the executive mayor and her collective sought to gain first-hand insights into the vital contributions of traditional leadership in their communities. Recognizing the importance of traditional leadership structures, the mayor emphasized the supportive role played by Dikgośigadi in fostering community development and cohesion. The meet-andgreet session provided an invaluable platform for open dialogue, where they shared their experiences, concerns, and suggestions for improvement. "During this Mandela Month of July, the district government would also like to thank you for your role in leading communities for having actively participated in the 2024 National and Provincial Elections. Your leadership was instrumental in encouraging community members to cast their votes and engage in the democratic process," said Bahula. She also emphasized the need to empower Dikgošigadi and ensure they have equal access to resources and opportunities. "This empowerment is crucial for enhancing your effectiveness in driving community development and addressing local issues. We will therefore in future, extend an invitation to the newly elected provincial government, led by Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba, to collaborate closely with traditional leadership," informed Bahula. The mayor also expressed gratitude to the President Cyril Ramaphosa for appointing and announcing cabinet ministers, particularly those from Limpopo and Sekhukhune. Gratitude was extended in particular to Dr Namane Masemola who has been appointed as



the Deputy Minister for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta), as well as former Premier Stan Mathabatha who has been appointed Deputy Minister Rural Development and Land Reform. Bahula stated that their representation in the national government is seen as a significant step towards addressing the unique needs and aspirations of the district. Meanwhile, the chairperson of the local House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoši 'Ngwato 'a Molo, Maila, praised the executive mayor for her generosity and forwardthinking leadership.



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Thembelani Voko	060 222 9169	thembelani@theroserv.com	86 17th Avenue Edenvale Johannesburg, 1609 Fax: +27 (0) 86 435 2165

#### **Yellow Arum Lily celebrations boosts** local tourism economy

Each year, the economically depressed town of Roossenekal comes alive as it plays host to the annual Yellow Arum Lily Festival, a vibrant celebration of the unique flower that blooms exclusively in the region. The festival is organized in collaboration with Sekhukhune Community Television Initiative (SKTV), Limpopo Tourism Agency (LTA), and Sekhukhune Development Agency (SDA) and draws stakeholders from various sectors, including government agencies, municipalities and tourism associations. The edition of the Yellow Arum Lily Festival, also known as 'Bapedi Ancestral Flower', is usually graced by the presence of esteemed guests such as the MEC of LEDET and LTA dignitaries among others. With a focus on promoting and celebrating the endangered Yellow Arum Lily, the festival highlighted the rich biodiversity of the Leolo Mountain ranges and the rocky areas of Roossenekal. Throughout the festival, attendees are treated to a diverse array of activities, including traditional dances, guided tours and a lively music concert featuring acclaimed artists like Pleasure Tša Manyalo and local talent Chris Venter. However, one of the standout attractions becomes the open marketplace where PESP3 entrepreneurs seized the opportunity to showcase and sell their crafts to a captive audience of approximately 2000 people. The products include intricately woven textiles to exquisitely crafted pottery, which are on display representing the ingenuity and skill of the local artists. PESP3 participants make the most of this platform to engage with potential customers, share their stories and generate sales, contributing to the economic growth of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality and notably, Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM). Reflecting on the success of the festival, LTA CEO, Moses Ngobeni, expressed optimism about its future potential. "Our wish is to see the festival grow even bigger to benefit the adjacent communities and boost the economy of the district," he remarked. "With continued collaboration with key stakeholders in Sekhukhune, we are confident that the Yellow Arum Lily Festival will become a flagship event on the provincial calendar, drawing

visitors from far and wide," he said. Ngobeni indicated that festivals like the Yellow Arum Lily event serve as vibrant showcases of the region's cultural heritage and natural beauty. "For PESP3 entrepreneurs, it is a golden opportunity to shine and make their mark on the marketplace, leaving a lasting impression on all who are willing to attend," he said.

The Yellow Arum Lily Festival standout as an attraction that has become the open marketplace for local entrepreneurs.





#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL **RO** AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE LESEDING SUBSTATION BY ESKOM SOC LTD

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (hereafter referred to as Eskom) is proposing to expand the existing Leseding Substation by increasing the current capacity of the substation by 70 MW. The proposed expansion will also require the physical expansion of the current development footprint by approximately ±4 hectares.

Eskom SOC Ltd is required to apply for environmental authorisation to expand the Leseding Substation from the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE). In accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 59 of 2008) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, the following Listed Activities

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended
27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous.
47	The expansion of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where the expanded capacity will exceed 275 kilovolts and the development footprint will increase.
51	The expansion and related operation of facilities for the storage, or storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where the capacity of such storage facility will be expanded by more than 80 cubic metres.

	more than 80 cubic metres.
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended
12	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.  e.Limpopo i. Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004; ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans; or iii. On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning.
15	The transformation of land bigger than 1000 square metres in size, to residential, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional use, where, such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning, on or after 02 August 2010.  e. Limpopo i. Outside urban areas: (dd) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in Chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority; ((ff) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;

Competent Authority Name of Proponent Property Location

- The National Department of Forestry, Fisheries & Environment
- Eskom SOC Ltd

Leseding Substation, Fetakgomo-Greater Tubatse Local Municipality in the Sekhukhune District Municipality in Limpopo Province Property

24o 26' 18" S

(GPS Coordinates) - 30o 01' 55" E

The above-mentioned application process requires that public participation is conducted as part of the Basic Assessment process to obtain environmental authorisation. Thero Services is the appointed independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner. A background information document is available on request. You are invited to participate in these processes by registering as an Interested & Affected Party and submitting any preliminary comments you may have at any time while the Environmental Impact Assessment process is active. You are urged to register as an I&AP as soon as possible.

Representations with respect to this application may be made in writing via email or telephonically to the following contact details:

Consultant	Cell	Email	Postal Address
Thembelani Voko	060 222 9169	thembelani@theroserv.com	86 17th Avenue
			Edenvale
			Johannesburg, 1609
			Fax: +27 (0) 86 435 2165
Hector Dombo	082 717 3734	hector.dombo@gmail.com	

### Sekhukhune United appoints new Head Coach

Sekhukhune United FC has announced the appointment of Peter Hyballa as the team's Head Coach ahead of the commencing of the 2024/2025 Dstv Premiership, which will resume in the first week of August 2024. Hyballa, the former Borrusia Dortmund Youth Coach and Bayern Leverkusen Assistant Coach will be joining Babina Noko on a three-year-contract deal. He said he was excited about joining Sekhukhune United and he is well aware of the task ahead, given the club's recent rise in fortune given the log standings over the past three seasons. "I am happy to be here, I feel welcomed by everyone and hope to positively contribute to the club's fortunes as long as I am here. I will not be making any predictions except to our supporters to expect the team that they will be proud of," he said. In welcoming the new head coach, Sekhukhune United's Chairman, Simon Malatji expressed his appreciation after the Hyballa joined the team. "I would like to welcome the coach to the Babina Noko family. I am grateful that you have accepted our request for you to join the team and steadily improve the club and make it better. Ours is to support you in your endeavors to make Babina Noko a force to be reckon with," he said. The new coach will be assisted by MacDonald Makhubedu and Paulus Masehe, together with Nascent Nkhwashu as a goalkeeper coach. Meanwhile Sekhukhune United FC have informed that the club has released 13 players ahead of the new football season. The club has announced the departure of Ntokozo Mtshweni, Siphosakhe Ntiya-Ntiya, Lebogang Mabotja, Tshepo Rikhotso, Kamohelo Mokotjo, Edwin Gyimah, Collins Makgaka, Sibusiso Vilakazi, Michael Sarpong, Tashreeq Morris, Thamsanqa Masiya, Rally Bwalya and Moloisane Mokhele. The team has in a statement conveyed well wishes to all the released players. Furthermore, to bolster their squad in the upcoming football season, the team has announced the signing of middle fielders, Keletso Makgalwa, Relebogile Mokhuoane, Thabang Monare together with a defender, Njabulo Nqobo, a winger, Joseph Mphaga, a left back Luvuyo Letlapa and a goalkeeper, Loydt Kazapua.

Sekhukhune United FC new Head Coach, Peter Hyballa, is expected to lead the team in the upcoming 2024/2025 Dstv Premiership campaign after signing a three-year-deal with Babina Noko.

## Monthly Marketing packages,

### Small - R2240

2 Platforms - Facebook and Instagram 3 Posts per week per platform Photo session of 30min Facebook advert credit of R100-00 Advert in The Sekhukhune Dispatch worth R1200

#### <u> Medium - R4480</u>

3 Platforms - Facebook, Instagram & Google 4 Posts per week per platform Photo session of 45min Facebook advert credit of R300-00 Advert in The Sekhukhune Dispatch worth R2400

#### Large - R7500

4 Platforms - Facebook, Instagram, Google & LinkedIn 6 Posts per week per platform Photo session of 1hr15min Facebook advert credit of R600-00 Advert in The Sekhukhune Dispatch worth R4250

#### Exclusive - R13 000

5 Platforms Facebook, Instagram, Google, LinkedIn & Twitter
7 Posts per week per platform
Photo session of 2hrs
Facebook advert credit of R1000-00
Advert in The Sekhukhune Dispatch worth R7000

CB Media Group - Printed and Social Media Cornel Botha: 083 679 3632 Cornel@sekdispatch.co.za



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# White man among Moteti initiation school graduates



As the initiation school period coming to an end on 13 July 2024 in Limpopo, some of the schools have already started with the graduations of initiates from Saturday 6 July. Among the returnees was a 41-year-old white man who graduated at an initiation school in Moteti Village on Saturday 6 July. The white man explained that he had joined the initiation school after he discovered that he has a spiritual calling that requires him to complete the passage to manhood this year. Furthermore, waves of initiation ceremonies took a grip of many communities of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) as the echoes of ancient traditions reverberated through the valleys and hills, weaving a tapestry of cultural significance and communal cohesion. Among these time-honoured customs, none hold as much importance as the initiation rites, a sacred journey marking the transition from adolescence to adulthood within the Bapedi tribe. At the forefront of this cultural phenomenon stands Lethabo Sekonya, a PESP3 Participant from the quaint village of Mooiluk. With unwavering dedication, she has committed herself to preserving and perpetuating the essence of Bapedi initiation ceremonies, breathing life into age-old rituals that serve as pillars of identity and belonging for her community. Sekonya's My Heritage Experience Essay breathes life into age-old rituals, weaving them into the very fabric of community identity and belonging. She said she is motivated by Ndlovukati Dlamini, a revered figure and a guardian of tradition, and also the traditional leader of Phalane Dlhamini Traditional Authority in Mooiluk, with a deep-seated dedication to preserving the essence of Bapedi initiation ceremonies and the eMaswati influence of the royal house. Against the backdrop of a world grappling with the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, the initiation ceremonies held a significance that transcended the ordinary. Prior the pandemic, more than 450 male initiates and 600 female initiates embarked on a journey of self-discovery and communal bonding under the auspices of the Dhlamini Royal House, a beacon of tradition and heritage in the region. Located in the picturesque Mbhandzeni Cultural Village, nestled within the Kingdom of Dhlamini, the initiation ceremonies unfolded with a sense of reverence and solemnity. Leading by Senior Prince Mbhandezeni, who returned from his studies in The United States of America to partake in the rites of passage to manhood, the ceremonies paid homage to both Bapedi and eSwatini traditions, bridging the gap between cultures and honoring the lineage of both tribes.