



CONTINUES ON P3

Deputy president Paul Mashatile and premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba arriving at the event.

SEKHUKHUNE
 Deputy President Paul Mashatile, as chairperson of the South African National Aids Council, led the official commemoration of World Aids Day on December 1 at Masemola Stadium in Ga-Masemola, Sekhukhune District. The theme for 2025 was "Renewed efforts and sustainable commitments to end Aids". This

theme encouraged the revitalisation of strategies aimed at closing gaps in prevention and treatment, and emphasised the importance of making long-term investments, especially in light of funding cuts and changing global priorities that impact HIV investment. Mashatile said the introduction of lenacapavir, a long-acting preventative treatment, is set to change the landscape of HIV prevention in South Africa.



Deputy president Paul Mashatile.

Police intensify the hunt for house robberies' suspects in Dennilton



Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has instructed the police in Dennilton to intensify the hunt on suspects involved in the string of house robberies in the area.

DENNILTON - The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, has directed the police in Dennilton to track down suspects involved in a spate of house robberies that occurred in the early morning hours of Wednesday 26 November 2025. According to the police, this is after three separate incidents occurred at Vezinyawo and Mpheleng, Ntswelemotse Villages, where suspects armed with firearms targeted homes, stealing cellphones, cash, and vehicles.

Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, said in the first incident, a 33-year-old male victim was asleep when three unknown male suspects forced their way into his house, ransacking the premises and stealing three cellphones.

"Allegedly the victim heard a knock at the window with a person claiming to be his brother asking him to open quickly. When he opened the door his brother was not there. Suddenly,

three unknown male suspects armed with firearms emerged and created an impression that they were looking for the victim's brother. The trio, allegedly forced the victim back into the house where they found the sister of the victim and ransacked the house and took three cellphones. The three male suspects who were apparently speaking Sepedi language, fled the scene on foot," explained Ledwaba.

He added that in another incident, three male suspects, armed with firearms, forced entry into a house of a 38-year-old male victim who was asleep at Mpheleng Village at about 02:44.

"The suspects took a Samsung cellphone and forcefully transferred an undisclosed amount of cash. They also took undisclosed amount of cash in the house before taking, keys of a Toyota GD6 bakkie and Toyota Corolla and immediately fled the scene on foot," Ledwaba informed.

Ledwaba further said in the third house robbery incident occurred at about 02:45 at Mpheleng Village, a 47-year-old female victim

was allegedly preparing herself to go to work when she went outside to fetch water.

"The victim was apparently surprised by individuals at the gate and quickly rushed back into the house and locked the door. The suspects allegedly kicked the door open. Two armed male suspects suddenly forced entry. The victim was subsequently robbed of three cellphones and the suspects fired shots outside the house before fleeing the scene on foot," said Ledwaba. He said a massive manhunt is underway, and anyone with information is requested to contact the Investigating Officer, Constable Simon Mahlangu, on 076 588 6388, Crime Stop Number on 08600 10111, the nearest police station or make use of MYSAPSApp.

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Nkgetheng Maabane

Re-Kaofela Consortium



This isn't a story, it's a journey.

My name is Nkgetheng Maabane, representing Re-Kaofela Consortium established in Limpopo in 2018. We are a leading service provider in installing underground secondary support in Steelpoort.

Born from ambition and united by a shared vision, my team is made up of individuals from diverse backgrounds, driven by a common goal: to carve our path in the mining industry together.

We were met with many challenges along the way, but we persevered, and that resilience led us to Glencore. We applied to Glencore's GIBS programme and ring-fencing initiatives, where we acquired skills and knowledge to transform our business and strengthen our services.

Thanks to the support we've received, our business has flourished, enabling us to provide essential underground secondary support services at Magareng Mine, where we've mastered roof bolts, cable anchors, and many other disciplines.

Today, Re-Kaofela Consortium stands tall, empowered to gaze toward the future with confidence and optimism.

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GLENCORE

TRAINING & INCUBATION OPPORTUNITY: CODED WELDING & STEEL FABRICATION

Mpumalanga Stainless Initiative (MSI) in partnership with Nkangala TVET College and the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDT) invites eligible youth to apply for a fully funded technical training and business incubation programme.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

This 12-month programme combines technical coded welding and steel fabrication training with business incubation support. Participants will gain accredited skills, receive stipends during training, and benefit from business development and compliance support to help them start or grow their own enterprises in the steel sector.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Grade 9 with Mathematics and Science
- Age: 15 – 35 years
- South African citizens only residing in Mpumalanga Province
- Must be willing to commit to the full duration of the training programme

ADDED ADVANTAGE

- N2 Certificate with Plater / Structural Steel Drawing (PSSD) minimum OR
- NCV Level 3 with 7 subjects passed OR
- Technical Matric with Mathematics and Science

WHAT THE PROGRAMME OFFERS

- Accredited Coded Welding & Steel Fabrication Training (6 months)
- Business skills incubation & mentorship post-training
- Company registration & compliance support (CIPC, SARS, COIDA, CSD)
- Access to shared industrial facilities and enterprise development support
- Limited to 25 spaces. Preference will be given to youth, women, and township-based entrepreneurs

HOW TO APPLY

Submit the following documents:

- CV
- Certified copy of ID
- Certified copies of qualifications
- Email applications to: hr@mpstainless.co.za

Please note that correspondence will only be conducted with shortlisted candidates. Should you not receive feedback within 14 days after the closing date, kindly consider your application unsuccessful.

Closing Date

**12 December 2025
14h00**

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“

Let me be clear: we cannot repeat the mistakes of the early ARV era, where life-saving tools reached our shores too slowly. This time, we move with urgency, with foresight and with unity

”



National Health Minister Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, Paul Mashatile and Dr Phophi Ramathuba and SDM's mayor Minah Bahula.

This is after government recently announced the groundbreaking development that promises to transform how individuals safeguard themselves against the virus.

It is a revolutionary long-acting injectable drug that offers six months of protection and requires only two injections per year. In October this year, the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority achieved regulatory readiness, making it the first in Africa and the third globally to register the drug. “Lenacapavir offers hope for young women who cannot negotiate condom use. It empowers adolescent girls navigating relationships marked by power imbalances. It protects key populations who face stigma and discrimination. This medication speaks to the reality of our people’s lives, that prevention must be practical, dignified, discreet and compatible with the pressures of daily survival.”

Acknowledging the urgency of ensuring rapid access, Mashatile said: “Let me be clear: we cannot repeat the mistakes of the early ARV era, where life-saving tools reached our shores too slowly. This time, we move with urgency, with foresight and with unity,” he stated. Mashatile said lenacapavir as more than just a drug; it is a symbol of what becomes possible when science, political will and community demand meet at the same table.

Limpopo premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba emphasised that the fight against HIV, TB and STIs requires a unified effort from government, business, traditional leadership, labour, civil society and communities.

She highlighted the province’s efforts, including multi-sectoral activities that reached over 25 000 people, but acknowledged the significant gap in reaching 96 000 people living with HIV who are not yet in care. She emphasised that ending Aids by 2030 is possible if done together.

World Aids Day is commemorated annually across the globe in solidarity with the millions of people living with HIV and to raise awareness about the status of the epidemic, with a view to encouraging HIV prevention, treatment and care. Some of the several key figures, that attended the event included, minister of health Dr Aaron Motsoaledi and representatives of development partners such as United Nations agencies, research organisations, civil society movements, and the local community of Sekhukhune District and its surrounding areas.

IN THE REGIONAL COURT FOR THE REGIONAL DIVISION OF GAUTENG HELD AT
EKANGALA

CASE NO: GP/EKA/RC-23/2024

In the matter between:

MERCY NKONI MODISHE

IDENTITY NUMBER: 930617 0390 084

AND

VICTOR MACHAI

IDENTITY NUMBER: 890925 5575 08 0

PLAINTIFF

DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS

In execution of a judgment of the EKANGALA REGIONAL COURT in the abovementioned suit, inform: **VICTOR MACHAI** a major male with whose further particulars are the Plaintiff unknown (hereinafter referred to as the Defendant) THAT: **MERCY NKONI MODISHE** a major self-employed female with identity number 930617 0390 08 4 who is currently residing at **STAND 5013, SECTION B, EKANGALA** (hereinafter referred to as the Plaintiff). **HEREBY** institutes action against him/her in which action the Plaintiff claims the following relief:

1. A Decree of Divorce;

2. Division of the joint estate;

3. An Order that the Plaintiff keeps the motor vehicle namely a Mazda 3, 2018 with registration number: HJ 34 PR GP as her sole and exclusive property;

4. An Order that each party keeps the moveable property currently in his/her possession as his/her sole and exclusive property;

5. An Order that the Defendant be entitled to 50% of the Plaintiff's pension interest in the Government Employees Pension Fund with its principal place of operation at Private Bag X63, Pretoria Gauteng, 34 Hamilton Street, Pretoria, Gauteng.

6. An Order that an endorsement be made in the records of the Government Employees Pension Fund that 50% of the Plaintiff's pension interest as determined at the date of the divorce, be paid to the Defendant within 60 days of the Decree of Divorce being granted.

7. The Plaintiff's Persal Number is 83683194 and her Pension Number is 99484915.

8. An Order that the Plaintiff be entitled to 50% of the Defendants pension interest in the Government Employees Pension Fund with its principal place of operation at Private Bag X63, Pretoria Gauteng, 34 Hamilton Street, Pretoria, Gauteng.

9. An Order that an endorsement be made in the records of the Government Employees Pension Fund that 50% of the Defendants pension interest as determined at the date of the divorce, be paid to the Plaintiff within 60 days of the Decree of Divorce being granted.

10. The Defendants Persal Number and Pension numbers are unknown.

11. Cost of suit only in the event of action being defended;

12. Further and/or alternative relief.

INFORM the defendant further that if defendant disputes the claim and wishes to defend the action he/she shall within **20 (twenty)** days of the service upon him or her of this summons file with the registrar of this court at **STAND 4478, SECTION B, EKANGALA, GAUTENG** notice of his/her intention to defend and serve a copy thereof on the plaintiff or plaintiffs' attorney, which notice shall give an address referred to in rule 13(3) for the service upon the defendant of all notices and documents in the action:

JOHANN SCHEEPERS ATTORNEYS
44 CORNELIS STREET
BRONKHORSTSPRUIT, 1020
TEL: 013 932 3145
EMAIL: bonita@cjsprok.co.za
REF: BH/LW1702

Limpopo women and children remain at risk of GBV, says DA



DA Limpopo Provincial Spokesperson for Transport and Community Safety, Marie Helm, says the party demands tangible results on efforts made to eradicate GBV in the province.

LIMPOPO - The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo has expressed concern over the rising cases of gender-based violence (GBV) in the province, with reported sexual offences increasing by 11% and 5.4% in the first and second quarters of 2025/2026, respectively.

The DA's concerns come as the province observes the 16 Days of Activism campaign, which the party described as “bureaucratically rolled out annually” without tangible results.

According to DA Limpopo Provincial Spokesperson for Transport and Community Safety, Marie Helm, the party is concerned that the province recorded 916 reported cases of sexual offences in the first quarter and 957 in the 2nd quarter, totalling 1,873 cases in just six months.

“The rise in sexual offences is a stark reminder of the persistent misguided efforts to instil a lack of zero tolerance for gender-based violence and femicide (GBV+F) in our society. This is made worse by a lack of resources and experienced investigating officers,” Helm said.

She highlighted that residences of perpetrators, victims and public places are the most common locations for reported rape cases in Limpopo, with the Thohoyandou policing area remaining a longstanding rape hotspot.

“During the same period, 3691 incidents of domestic violence were reported, 39 of which were murder cases. The latest StatsSA report on child victims of crime based on SAPS crime statistics indicate that of all crimes committed in Limpopo against children, 54.3% were for rape, the highest percentage nationally. The percentage of sexual assault against children in Limpopo also increased steadily from around four percent in 2010/2011 to around six percent in 2022/23,” informed Helm.

She said the DA believes that GBV can only be effectively eradicated with sensitised police services, funded shelters, trained doctors, nurses, and social workers, and DNA labs that are adequately resourced.

“We call on the MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Violet Mathye, to utilise the Court Watch programme specifically to track GBV cases and measure the effectiveness of SAPS, the National Prosecuting Authority, and the courts in supporting victims,” Helm said.

Helm emphasized that violence against women and children erodes the moral fibre of society, and the DA is committed to holding the provincial government and SAPS accountable in addressing the current unacceptable culture of rape and domestic violence-related crimes in the province.

Violet storms ravage Dennilton and Diphale Villages, leaving families homeless



The recent violent storms wreaked havoc in Dennilton and Diphale leaving multiple families homeless.

DENNILTON/DIPHALE - A powerful violet storm accompanied by heavy rain and strong winds ravaged Ntwane Village in Dennilton, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) on Sunday 30 November 2025, leaving a trail of destruction and residents without homes.

The heavy storm, accompanied by heavy rain, blew away roofs and uprooted trees, leaving some families without shelter. No casualties have been reported so far.

"It was like a nightmare. I was sleeping when I heard a loud noise, and then I saw my roof flying away. I don't know what to do. I have nowhere to go with my children. We are homeless because of this storm," said one of the affected residents.

Another resident, expressed his frustration and desperation. "We have been asking the government to help us with proper housing, but nothing happens. Now, our houses are destroyed, and we are left with nothing. It is not fair," he said.

The storm uprooted several trees, blocking some of the village roads and disrupting access to essential services. The Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality has yet to release an official statement on the extent of the damage and the response efforts.

The people of Ntwane Village are calling on the government and humanitarian organizations to provide them with immediate assistance and support to rebuild their homes and lives.

"I just want a safe place to stay with my family. We can't stay in a tent forever. We need help, and we need it now," said a resident.

Similar storms have been reported in other parts of Limpopo, with over 50 families left without proper shelters in Diphale, outside Burgersfort, and 20 houses damaged in villages in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Municipality (FTLM).

The storm, which occurred on Saturday 29 November 2025, caused significant damage to houses, with roofs blown off and some completely destroyed.

Following the incident, the Limpopo Provincial Disaster Management team rushed to the ground, providing blankets, tents, and food parcels to the displaced families.

The Limpopo Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA) has also assisted in relocating the affected families to the local community hall.

According to reports, the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) is ready to provide additional food parcels upon verification of numbers. Eskom is also working to restore electricity in the affected areas, with the assistance of the South African Police Services (SAPS).

The two incidents are part of a larger pattern of severe weather events affecting Limpopo, with Sekhukhune being the hardest

hit, accounting for 170 families affected.

The FTLM office has experienced similar storms, including one that damaged municipal infrastructure in Burgersfort on 20 November 2025.

The Limpopo Provincial Government has urged residents to be vigilant and take extra caution, especially during peak travel periods.

Recently, the South African Weather Service (SAWS) had issued a yellow level 2 warning for severe thunderstorms across several provinces, including Limpopo, warning of potential flooding and strong winds.

Affected residents are advised to contact the Limpopo Provincial Disaster Management Centre toll-free number on 0800 222 111, for reporting emergencies.



The recent violent storms wreaked havoc in Dennilton and Diphale leaving multiple families homeless.

Acid attack victim gets justice, attacker found guilty



Mmapetu Hlanga's face was completely burned by the convicted suspect, Yvonne Maja, during a love triangle incident.

ZEBEDIELA - A shocking case of attempted murder, which occurred more than a year ago, has concluded in the Mokopane Regional Court on Monday 1 December 2025, with the accused, Yvonne Maja (25), found guilty of dousing her rival, Mmapetu Hlanga, with acid over a love triangle incident. Maja accused Hlanga of being romantically involved with her boyfriend.

The incident, which occurred on 13 October 2024, at Mogoto Village in Zebediela, left Hlanga, 27, with severe injuries to her face and body.

The court proceedings revealed a disturbing sequence of events, with video footage showing Maja's extreme anger and refusal to accept the termination of her relationship.

Despite being asked to leave, Maja persisted, threatening to publish intimate images of Hlanga and boasting about causing her to lose her job. She then poured acid from a Tupperware water bottle onto Hlanga, causing severe burns.

The court defence argued that the act was unintentional, but the video evidence clearly indicated premeditation and intent to harm. The magistrate found Maja guilty of attempted murder, determining her actions were premeditated and deliberate.

Maja remains out on R3,

000 bail, with sentencing scheduled for 9 February 2026. The attack received widespread condemnations across the country and following the incident, Hlanga has received support from various organizations, with over R120, 000 donated towards her medical expenses.

The Limpopo MEC for Department of Health (LDoH), Dieketseng Mashego, expressed concerns and furthered arranged for the victim to undergo multiple surgical procedures during her five-month stay at Mankweng Hospital, including debridement of the scalp, skin grafts, and ectroplan release.

She was officially discharged on 18 April 2025, after months of intensive care, physical recovery, and emotional resilience.

However, Hlanga was later referred back to Mankweng Hospital for further evaluation and treatment at the Eye Ward.

Hlanga's road to recovery has been long and arduous, with multiple surgeries and ongoing treatment.

She has received assessment and care for pressure garments, vital for burn recovery and scar management.

Her clinical team continues to monitor her progress closely, and additional procedures will be considered once she has sufficiently recovered.



The victim, Mmapetu Hlanga, before she was doused with acid substance.

Maraneng Village set to transform with R30.9 million road upgrade



The long-awaited Maraneng Road Project in EMLM Ward 15, which is set to improve mobility in the area, is expected to be completed soon.

MARANENG - The long-awaited transformation of Maraneng Village in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) Ward 15, is nearing completion, with the R30.9 million road and storm-water upgrade project reaching 99% completion.

The project, which includes upgrading 3.4 kilometres of internal roads, installing a modern storm-water management system, and constructing a new intersection at the R579, is set to bring improved infrastructure,

safer mobility, and long-term benefits to the community.

For years, residents of Maraneng have endured dusty gravel roads, hazardous conditions during the rainy season, and flooding that affected homes, businesses, and access to essential services.

The new upgrade is not just an infrastructure development, but an investment in people, safety, economic growth, and the future of the community.

The upgraded roads is set to enhance road safety, reduce flood risks, and improve access to schools, clinics, public transport, and business opportunities.

The project is also expected to stimulate local economic activity by facilitating the transport of goods and expanding opportunities for small businesses.

In line with the municipality's commitment to local economic empowerment, 29 temporary jobs have been created during the project, benefiting nine adults, 19 young people, and one person with a disability.

Additionally, nine local Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) have been engaged as subcontractors, helping to build skills, generate income, and strengthen long-term economic sustainability.

EMLM Ward 15 Councillor, Sbongile Nkosi, expressed relief and delight with the progress made.

"The community frequently raised concerns about the condition of this road, especially during the rainy season. I am now relieved and delighted with road conditions, and this development brings real change to our people," she said.

The Mayor of EMLM Cllr David Tladi, will officially open the upgraded road once the project reaches full completion, formally handing over this transformative infrastructure to the community.

#PillarNumber5
#BuildingABetterThlmForAll
#Planning&EconomicDevelopment

The Thembisile Hani Local Municipality (THLM) is currently dealing with the concerning increase in unauthorised land occupation; this includes the invasion of state land (land managed by a national or provincial government or municipality) and privately owned land.

The THLM bylaw regarding land invasion characterises invasion as the unauthorised occupation of land, with the intention of establishing dwellings and/ or a settlement upon it.

The current administration of the municipality signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the traditional leadership within the jurisdiction of THLM. The MOU states that both parties agree that no allocation of land and/ or sale of stands for new developments within the municipality for the next 36 months (starting from June 2023) will take place, as the municipality is utilising this period to address potential service delivery challenges such as bulk water shortages.

It is crucial that the occupation of land be done as prescribed by the Spatial Planning Land Use Management Act, 2013, read together with the municipal Spatial Planning and Land Use Management By-Law and the municipal Land Use Management Scheme to ensure the safe and sustainable allocation of land for the communities.

No To Land Invasions!

www.thembisilehanilm.gov.za
013 986 9100

Man swept away by floods at Atok



The vehicle used by the missing man

ATOK

The Apel SAPS have launched an intensive search operation following a drowning incident in which a 31-year-old male driver was swept away by a flooded river at Atok on Monday night, December 1, at around 21:30.

According to reports, a vehicle attempting to cross the river was swept away by strong currents. A male passenger managed to rescue himself and was taken to a local clinic where he received medical treatment and was later discharged.

"A search operation was immediately activated involving Apel SAPS, SAPS Search and Rescue Unit, local security services, and mine personnel, including drown pilots, as well as EMS personnel. During the operation, the missing vehicle was located; however, due to dangerous weather conditions and rising water levels, rescuers

were unable to reach it. The search was suspended for safety reasons and resumed the following morning. The vehicle was successfully retrieved, but the 31-year-old driver remained missing," said Limpopo SAPS spokesperson Colonel Malesela Ledwaba.

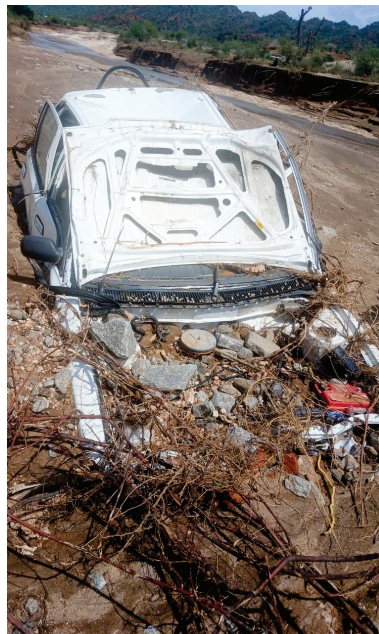
He said the SAPS Search and Rescue Unit and other supporting teams kept continuing with the search to locate the missing man. Efforts remain ongoing.

The Provincial Commissioner of Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe, expressed her appreciation to all role-players for their commitment and teamwork under challenging conditions.

"We extend our gratitude to every stakeholder who has been working tirelessly since this tragic incident. We urge community members to exercise extreme caution when approaching

or attempting to cross rivers, particularly during heavy rainfall and flooding," said Lieutenant General Hadebe.

Police investigations are continuing.



The vehicle was swept away by the floods

Bogus prophet gets three life terms for murder, rape and robbery



Mothupi Tjale Tau from Brooklyn Village outside Jane Furse was sentenced to three life terms and additional 37 years for multiple serious offences including murder and rape.

BROOKLYN - The Limpopo Division of the High Court, sitting at Polokwane, has on Monday 1 December 2025, convicted and sentenced a bogus prophet, Mothupi Tjale Tau (36), from Brooklyn Village outside Jane Furse to three life imprisonment and additional 37 years imprisonment for multiple offences including two counts of murder, two counts of kidnapping, rape, robbery with aggravating circumstances and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

The court found Tau guilty of the heinous crimes committed against Hellen Teiwa Malepe (38), and her 18-year-old daughter Kgaogelo Michelle Malepe, committed between 29 and 30 December 2023 at Oaks Village.

At the time, Tau had presented himself as a prophet, offering spiritual guidance to the family, but instead, he brutally attacked and killed them.

Mashudu Malabi, Regional Spokesperson for the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) in Limpopo, said the evidence presented in court revealed that Tau demanded money from Hellen Malepe, stabbed her multiple times, and left her for dead.

"The accused came to the victim's house demanding money. He forcefully dragged the deceased from her house to the nearby bushes where he stabbed her multiple times leaving her for dead. He further robbed her of her cellphone and went back to the house where he found the victim's 18-year-old daughter, strangled her until she was unconscious. He thereafter raped her and also inflicted grievous bodily injuries on the second victim. She later succumbed to injuries and was certified dead at the scene," she said.

Malabi added that after the ordeal, Tau stuffed the victim's 5-year-old son with a jersey in his mouth, tied him with a masking tape around his mouth and tied his hands behind his back and locked him inside the house, leaving him in full exposure of her deceased sister's lifeless body.

"After thorough investigation by the police, the accused was arrested and kept in custody until his trial. He pleaded not guilty however, he was ultimately found guilty of the charges after he claimed that he was not responsible for these vile acts," she said.

During the trial, Senior State Advocate, Lerato Mohlaka, argued that the accused's actions were premeditated and that he had shown no remorse for his crimes. She emphasized that the case was a classic example of gender-based violence, which has been declared a national disaster in South Africa.

"The state further submitted that the court should take note that Gender-Based Violence was declared a national disaster by the President of the Republic of South Africa. Not only is it prevalent and very serious within the jurisdiction of this court, however, the facts of this particular case have sent shock waves to the community of the Oaks Village and the country," Mohlaka said.

Director of Public Prosecutions, Advocate Ivy Thenga, praised the sterling work of Advocate Mohlaka and Investigating Officer, Sergeant Shawn Mbhalati, for securing the conviction.

The court also ordered that Tau's name be registered in the National Register of Sexual Offenders and declared him unfit to possess a firearm and work with children.



RISK

RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF LAND

- Health and Safety Hazards:** Unregulated settlements often lack basic services such as adequately developed roads, sanitation and waste disposal, leading to an increased risk of diseases.
- Vulnerability to Disasters:** Illegal and unsafe connections to the electricity grid pose a high risk of electrical fires. Settlements in unsuitable areas like wetlands or flood plains are vulnerable to environmental disasters such as floods.
- Lack of Security of Tenure:** Occupiers have no legal claim to the land and are vulnerable to eviction at any time through legal court processes.
- Exploitation:** Desperate citizens are often victims of "shack syndicates" or individuals who illegally sell parcels of land they do not own, leading to financial loss and potential eviction.
- Future Development:** Unauthorised occupation of land deprives communities' facilities like schools, medical centres, shops and other socio-economic facilities that can benefit communities.

THLM calls upon all community members to act responsibly as we combat the illegal land invasion pandemic. Land Invasion can be reported to the municipality using the following number: **013 986 9100**, community members may also report cases to their respective ward councillors.

EMLM boosts youth entrepreneurship

GROBLERSDAL - The Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) has taken a significant step towards empowering young entrepreneurs, with the launch of a Youth Business Training and Funding Workshop, held on Wednesday 26 November 2025 at Elias Motsoaledi Municipal Chamber in Groblersdal.

According to the municipality, the workshop aimed to equip young business owners with essential skills in business compliance and funding, providing practical guidance on obtaining a Certificate of Acceptability (COA) for Food Handling, securing Waste Management Transportation Permits, and completing online funding applications.

Additionally, participants received valuable information on available spaza shop funding opportunities designed to support township-based enterprises.

This initiative forms part of the municipality's ongoing commitment to promoting youth economic development, strengthening entrepreneurial capacity, and creating sustainable business opportunities within the community.

"We are committed to supporting our young entrepreneurs and ensuring they have the skills, knowledge, and access to funding necessary to grow their businesses," said Labius Nkadimeng, Manager in the Office of the Mayor.

"Workshops like this one are



Young people from the different parts of EMLM came in numbers to attend the Youth Business Training and Funding Workshop.

vital in unlocking opportunities and empowering the youth to actively participate in the local economy," he added.

Nkadimeng indicated that the workshop marked another important step in empowering young people to build sustainable businesses and actively participate in the local economy.

He stated that the

municipality will continue to champion youth-driven entrepreneurship and invest in initiatives that open real opportunities for growth.

The initiative is expected to have a positive impact on the local economy, with young entrepreneurs now better equipped to navigate the challenges of starting and growing a business.



Labius Nkadimeng, Manager in the Office of the Mayor in EMLM, addressing the Youth Business Training and Funding Workshop launch at EMLM offices in Groblersdal.

Gordons wins FTLM Ward 16 league



Gordons won the FTLM Ward 16 league

GA MOKGOTHO

Gordons FC, a team from Ga-Motshana were once again crowned the champions of the Fetakgomo Tubatse Ward 16 League on November 29 at Ga Mokgotso Village's Junior sportsgrounds. Gordons won the same crown in 2024.

Heading into the final games of the league on Saturday, the defending champions needed a win against table toppers Junior Brazil to win the league. Coached by master tactician, MW "Bald" Tjatji, Gordons produced one of their top performances this season beating Brazil 1-0 and leapfrogging them to the number one spot.

Gordons won 29 matches from their 34 matches in the league, accumulating a total of 89 points. They drew twice and lost thrice. By winning the tournament, Gordons took home R50 000 prize money, a trophy and gold medals. The runners-up, Brazil took home R25 000. Danger Killers are third place with 71 points, they received R12 000. Fourth placed Moraba United received R6 000. The other 14 teams in the league did not go home empty handed, they all received R2 000. Additional funds went to the individual awards for best player of the tournament, top scorer, as well as the best goalie.

According to the organisers, the total prize-money and costs for running the league was R226 000 for the year 2025.



Winger Selby Komane showing off their trophy.

Sports

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INSIDE

**Gordons wins FTLM
Ward 16 league**

MLM observe International Men's Day through sports and wellness



MLM employee football team was crowned champions of the International Men's Day Wellness Football Tournament, triumphing over Jane Furse Hospital 5-4 on penalty shootouts.

JANE FURSE - The Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM), in collaboration with various stakeholders, observed International Men's Day at the Jane Furse Artificial Pitch, focusing on promoting men's health and wellness activities, encouraging positive behaviour, and supporting the fight against Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

The event, held on Wednesday 26 November 2025, was part of the Employee Wellness Programme and featured presentations by St. Ritas Hospital representatives on men's physical and mental health, as well as a financial wellness session by Old Mutual addressing long-

term planning and financial stability.

The event aimed to highlight that GBV affects women, men, and children, and requires collective responsibility and awareness from all sectors of society. Participants were actively involved, and the programme helped open conversations around wellness, respectful relationships, and the reality that GBV affects all genders.

The day also included a football tournament, and during the matches, MLM victorious defeating Jane Furse Hospital 5-4 on penalties in the final after the match ended 0-0.

In the semi-finals, Social Development

fell 0-2 to Jane Furse Hospital, while MLM thumped Public Works 5-0.

Earlier, in the group matches, Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) suffered a 0-3 loss to Social Development, while MLM and St Ritas played out a 0-0 draw, with Makhuduthamaga winning 5-4 on penalties to be crowned champions.

Public Works lost 1-3 to Jane Furse Hospital, and SASSA was beaten 2-3 by Sekhukhune District Health Department.

The tournament saw exciting matches and nail-biting moments, with the host, MLM ultimately claiming the top spot.

Other recreational activities, such as

pool, tug of war, morabaraba, music, and competitions, created an enjoyable and socially engaging environment.

Thomas Mashabela, MLM Spokesperson, stated that the event was impactful, well-attended, and successful in combining men's health education with GBV awareness.

"The municipality and its partners delivered a meaningful Men's Day celebration aligned with GBV prevention, promoting community wellness and encouraging men to take an active role in ending GBV," he said.



Cllr Kang Joseph Mogashoa from MLM, with other municipality's employees celebrating with the trophy after they were crowned International Men's Day Wellness Football Tournament champions.

