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As taxi drivers strike over traffic fines, congested routes
Engage in running battles with police
MEC Mashinini pledges to probe challenges

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By: Neo Ntsele

Statement on Wednesday
Taxi drivers under the banner of the Greater Bloemfontein Taxi Association (GFTA) embarked on an impromptu industrial action on Monday until Wednesday, leaving thousands of commuters stranded without means of transport after knock-off time.

Many had to walk home or make alternative arrangements to be picked up as the drivers vowed to continue with their picketing. Students were also affected.

Police were forced to intervene after the striking drivers prevented Interstate buses from ferrying passengers to their various destinations. Groups of police officers deployed to monitor the situation around the city later engaged in long-running skirmishes with the drivers.

A video circulating on social media shows unidentified people throwing stones at moving Interstate buses in a bid to prevent them from operating, with police vehicles in hot pursuit.

Several police stations can also be heard during the melee in the central business district.

By Ramosidi Matekane

Increase fares on 1 July, said Mophethe.

She noted there are usually different factors that necessitate fare increases, adding it is government’s primary objective to cushion commuters against unbearable transport cost increments.

“Government regulates public transport fares," said Mophethe. "This is not sufficient to fully compensate for extra expenses to be incurred by both passengers and operators." A video circulating on social media shows unidentified people throwing stones at moving Interstate buses in a bid to prevent them from operating, with police vehicles in hot pursuit.

Several police stations can also be heard during the melee in the central business district.

Another commuter, Rethabile Nkoai, said she arrived late for work on Wednesday due to the crippling strike.

She added government’s bus subsidy to provinces only increased by five percent for 2019/2020.

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“Government regulates public transport fares," said Mophethe. "This is not sufficient to fully compensate for extra expenses to be incurred by both passengers and operators. The inadequate bus subsidy is a supplementary grant to provinces - this articulates into an annual shortfall and the Free State Province do not provide for this in their budget,” the spokesperson explained.

Mophethe however said taxis have no obligation to increase their fares annually, but every two years on average.
Cogra seeks solutions for MAP

By: Thapelo Molebatsi

Cogra MEC Thembekile Ntangeni yesterday met with Cogta and Multi-Acting (MAP) Municipal officials in an effort to find a lasting solution to the electricity crisis that is crippling the municipality.

Cogra spokesperson Zolele Lobo told The Weekly in an interview the meeting was a step in the right direction and expected to go a long way in bridging the gap between the two parties. Lobo noted MAP had been experiencing serious electricity supply challenges for several years, much to the chagrin of local residents. The situation has also consistently riled government.

Lobo said he and other officials from the municipality had decided to visit Cogta offices to discuss and plot the downfall of Msholozi, as MAP. "We should not believe that there is a real danger of it becoming protracted. The electricity woes are well known to most party leaders," he added.

The ANC Youth League (ANCYL) in the Free State is up in arms against senior party member Derek Hanekom, who has been accused of plotting a coup with the help of the opposition to unseat former president Jacob Zuma.

The ANCYL in the Free State province is not surprised by the claims and subsequent confirmation regarding the counter revolutionary actions of Derek Hanekom, which are reminiscent of the Askaries tendencies of those planted in our movement," charged Pietersen.

Stakeholders within the agricultural sector are encouraged to register for a 4km walk and various exhibitions. Free admission is provided to farmers, farm workers and all interested in the field and were only encouraged to be labourers. The centre offers a formal training of students. The centre offers a formal training of students. The centre offers a formal training of students.

The college, whose first 21 students were mostly, coming from the First World War, now boats an enrolment of 180 students studying towards a Diploma in Agriculture.

About 11 students are enrolled for a bridging course, Diploma extended programme. To take the Diploma in Agriculturists to the institution, prospective students must have completed Matric and in Agriculture and other related science subjects.

The institution is subdivided into two main units, namely, The Horticultural (HET) and the Further Education and Training (FET) divisions.

Higher Education and Training involves the formal training of students. The centre offers a three-year agriculture diploma qualification for students who are full-time students through further education and non-accredited agricultural training, including a hands-on approach under the supervision of a Trained Agricultural Learner. Learnership from NQF Level 1 to farms, find farmers, work in all other farming activities, modern farming, for the future.

The curriculum of the higher education qualifications are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be productive in the agricultural sector.

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"I had coffee with Godrich Gardee (EFF’s national president)," said Zuma, "He is a very able politician and we are working with him on a range of issues." Zuma added that he was not surprised by Hanekom’s actions, and claimed he had been antagonistic towards ‘any progressive programme’ meant to do away with white privilege and tilt the economic ownership patterns in this country.

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Bulwane wants more practicals for agriculture students

Agro-ecological and rural development MEC William Bulwane says studying agriculture must spend more time on practicals so they are able to work on the land on their own, he said in an interview with The Weekly yesterday’s meeting.

"On its own, the municipality previously requested intervention from Cenflec for assistance. "As it is an entity established by the Mangaung Metro, has the capacity to provide electricity to other municipalities in the province. The power utility has already established working relations with Kepongso, Moholohlo, and Maseru local municipalities. "As a result of the above mentioned, amongst others, the municipality experienced challenges in the operations of their electricity division," noted Lobo.

"This (Hanekom) political hyena in a skin—shop has consistently demonstrated total disdain towards organisational discipline and unity," he noted.

"They shouldn't all rush to look for work. Our study for a Diploma in Agriculture at the University of Fort Hare," he added.

"I think we need to focus more on practicals rather than theory because when the students graduate, they are ready to work the land on their own," he said in an interview with The Weekly.

"The agricultural MEC said this on the eve of centenary celebrations for Glen Agricultural College which opened its doors to its first 21 students in 1919. The college has lined up a host of events to celebrate its 100 years of existence today which include a 4km walk and various exhibitions. Free admission is provided to farmers, farm workers and all interested in the field. The centre offers a formal training of students.

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Seleti the land . . . MEC William Bulwane

By: Makoni

Author and prominent agriculture expert Dr. William Bulwane says students studying agriculture must spend more time on practicals so that they are able to work on the land on their own. The Weekly is published by Lethlabide Media

By: Ramosodi Matekane

ANCYL FS chasitshe Hanekom

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CUT launches whistle-blower hotline

Africans legendary DJ and Godfathers of house

TRT Carwash has emerged as one of the top

News

6 - 12 October 2017 The Weekly - Free State Province

Stars eye Feathers Awards

The Department of

Award winning Deborah Cox to headline Macufe

By: Thapelo Molokate

Celebrated Hip-Hop artist Sjava says he is ready to wow patrons at the seventh annual Women of Note Celebration taking place on August 10.

On Monday, Sjava took to various social media platforms to announce he is one of the headline artists for this year’s show set to take place at Voortrekker Sports Campus. Sjava is one of the four males to perform at the women-centered show, along with two female artists.

Sjava’s individualised promotional poster has an animated profile image of the artist dressed in a female attire, comprising a head and chest piece.

The poster reveals the identities of other acts who will share the stage with him on the night. These include veteran kwaito group, TKZee, Minnie The Vocalist, Vuyo Nantwa, and female vocalists Shukuthi and Nomakosi.

The contest was in 2012.

Adding a bit of a twist, organisers are adding a new face. However, they appear to be playing hide and seek, probing fans to guess who the possible artist to be added is.

The organisers posted on their social media platforms an empty image with a question mark, sparking debate as to who the artist might be.

"Akuoe le rile e mo tsisitse, Re ready ma?" the administrator posted.

The only person to make the right guess was local socialite Leungo Caloba, who said Casper Nyovest.

While the administrator has commented on other names suggested by the patrons, nothing was said on this one, with only Stone Card Brown giving a shout out for guessing correctly.

Festival director, Lorato Gomolomelo refused to be drawn into confirming saying “The announcement would be made at the right time.”

Birthday celebration to promote local artists

MJMG is in Ficksburg will in September be the place to be as it once again hosts one of the biggest music festivals in the area.

This follows a public announcement by

the project manager of the Michael Mokshini birthday celebrations, Thobobo Matjara, who conceded that deciding the venue and time was not easy.

Matjara said proper planning was needed in deciding the venue and the appropriate date that accommodates not only locals but also patrons coming from outside the area.

"Part of the reason why we put up memorable shows year in and out is to take a lot of elements into account. We take into cognisance the pressure from patrons for dates and venues; it’s really beneficial. But to ensure that we give patrons their money’s worth, we also have to be afforded the time to make proper logistical arrangements to meet their needs and this what we pride ourselves with,” said Matjara when queried about the delay.

This year, the festival will take place on September 28 in Ficksburg. Previously it has also been held in Closcoed.

Now in its 5th year, the event has come to cement its spot on the entertainment calendar, with patrons coming from Bloemfontein, Ladybrand, Thaba Nchu and neighboring Lesotho.

Asked about the date, Matjara said a lot of consideration went into reaching that final conclusion.

“We didn’t rack it from our thumbs. We had earlier dates which were up for grabs and most convenient for us but we had to agree on an inclusive one and I can safely say I am more than comfortable with this one,” he noted.

While fans are excited over the release of the official date for Mokshini’s birthday bash, questions around this line-up have emerged as photographers have organised to keep mum about it all.

"Our was to deal with issues of the date which patrons have been pestering us about. We’ve addressed the issue now. Next on the card will be line-up which is up for discussion in our next planning session," explained Matjara. He however, noted that local artists will be given first preference this year.

All system go … Sadibule Michael Mokshini gears up for annual birthday bash

news

3 - 9 November 2017 The Weekly - Free State Province

The family of popular Durban DJ Neville Pillay are not ready to say goodbye to the entertainment icon, who is in the final stages of kidney failure and in need of an urgent organ transplant.

Artists, counselors and close friends have banded together to throw a fundraising event for the 45-year-old.

“We are not going to lose him. I am sure we will get assistance and get him the help he needs," said ex-wife Carol Pillay, who left her job to take care of him.

She was well known as a presenter on Lotus FM, where he hosted the breakfast show.

According to Carol, diabetic Pillay suffered a heart attack in October last year and really needs an urgent organ transplant.

"Neville is not doing well. After dialysis he struggles to speak. The doctors have been very difficult for us for our family," she said.

Pillay and Carol have two daughters, aged 8 and 7.

Jordan, 17, wrote a long heartfelt message on Facebook about her dad’s condition and the pain of seeing him fade away.

Jordan said Pillay needs about R20000 a month to afford dialysis and appeals for help.

She noted, “This has led us to
KZN man accused of raping daughter yet to be arrested

KwaZulu-Natal Social Development MEC Noluxolo Gqiba on Monday urged residents to report a man who, for several months, allegedly raped and molested his 13-year-old daughter. The man was said to have lived in Mabhida in Mtubatuba.

Ms Gqiba, who expressed shock and disdain after hearing the news that the father allegedly murdered his daughter, said: “We are shocked to hear that a 13-year-old girl was repeatedly raped by her father. It is a matter of deep concern for all of us, this is a heinous crime. What makes this case even worse is that the father and the mother must be criminally charged for his actions,” she said.

The MEC for Social Development said no police report had been received since last Thursday, when she requested residents to report the matter to the police with certificates of non-impregnation.

In a statement released by the provincial government, the MEC said she was concerned about the delayed response from the police.

The MEC said she had not been informed about the investigations taking place. She also said she was not aware that the man had been arrested for allegedly raping his daughter.

“Criminal investigation is still ongoing, but we have not been informed about the action that was taken. We have had no communication at all,” said Ms Gqiba.

Free State police step up vehicle monitoring on Lesotho border

By: Martin Makhezi

Free State police have stepped up vehicle monitoring on the Lesotho border.

The Provincial Commissioner, Lieut. Gen Moeketsi Sempe said the province would be monitoring the movement of vehicles across the Lesotho border with close monitoring to ensure criminals don’t escape to the mountain kingdom.

Lieut. Gen Sempe said rural policing is set to be intensified and the 48 vehicles given to rural safety coordinators is expected to improve safety coordinators should be strictly used for routine crime prevention duties.

“Criminals to come and operate in the Free State. We must be used for rural patrol to secure jobs for them. They must be used for rural patrol to ensure safety for rural communities particularly in areas along the Lesotho border,” he added.

Police are appealing for anyone with further information to come forward.

Police monitoring on Lesotho border

Just arrived at their home from visiting relatives of murder and attempted murder following an arrest being made. He said they had been investigated, but cannot be confirmed until he appears in court.

Police investigating single woman's murder

Officers investigating the murder of a single woman who was killed in her home with her cellphone, were taken in for questioning.

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“Beaufort West police opened a murder investigation into the death of a 30-year-old Anthea Thopps. The woman was found dead with stab wounds at her residence.”

“Police are appealing for anyone with further information to come forward.”

A 31-year-old woman who allegedly beat her 8-year-old daughter to death in a dispute over money was sentenced to life on Wednesday by the Namakgale Magistrate’s court outside Phalaborwa in Limpopo.

Masemola Hungu, whose maiden name was Mabhuda, was arrested after community members laid an assault complaint in Ga-Makhanga village on the outskirts of Namakgale township.

“It is alleged that the police received a report that there was a child who was assaulted by her mother and had died, at Mabhuda section of this village,” said police spokesman Const Mphahlele Mmanane.

“The police and medical emergency services rushed to the scene and on arrival found a 13-year-old child dead with stab wounds,” said the police statement.

“The police also visited another residence in the area to establish with the mother of the deceased how she stood relationship with her child. They found her lying dead with multiple injuries throughout,” said the statement.

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"Correction" rapist’s appeal fails

A man who believed in "corrective rape" for lesbians has failed in an appeal against two life sentences.

Zubabani Jonas, from Petriville in the Northern Cape, was sentenced to two life sentences for raping a 16-year-old girl in her home before attempting to kill her.

"It was very concerning that not even one single person in the family noticed the child was being abused," said Mekana.

"That the child was fortunate that her police was able to intervene and the father must be criminally charged for his actions," she said.

In the case, the high court judge, Neels Mekana, sitting in the Bloemfontein High Court, said the Appeal Court had failed to mention that the victim was under 16 years old, as required by the law.

The victim, a 16-year-old girl, was raped and attempted to be killed by the defendant, a 29-year-old man, on October 2, 2015.

The Appeal Court had previously convicted the defendant of two counts of murder and sentenced him to two life sentences.

Mekana’ssic decision has now been reversed by the Appeal Court.
Drought predicting App essential to farmers

By: Martin Makoni

The drought predicting Weather App developed by Professor Muthoni Masinde from the Central University of Technology (CUT) about five years ago could soon be distributed across the African continent to enable farmers to plan their work on time.

Masinde, who believes the tool bridges the gap between indigenous knowledge and scientific knowledge, says her experiences growing up in rural Kenya inspired her to develop the drought predicting tool.

"Drought remains the number one disaster in Africa, and of all the people affected by all types of disasters, drought is responsible for over 88 percent of them," said Masinde in a statement released by the university.

The drought predicting tool for Africa’s small-scale farmers and flagship project is called the Information Technology and Indigenous Knowledge with Intelligence (ITIKI).

Masinde is an Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Information Technology at the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology.

She said as a threatening natural hazard, drought may cause tremendous loss to agriculture, ecosystems, and other sectors.

According to Masinde, in ancient times, small scale farmers used to rely highly on indigenous knowledge to predict the occurrence of rainfall and critical cropping decisions, but this knowledge seems to be disappearing due to climate change.

"The drought early warning system forecasting tool integrates indigenous and scientific drought forecasting and uses a mobile application, a web portal, and SMS service to pull weather information through a network of sensors that monitor weather conditions for farmers. The system is anchored on the novel integration framework called ITIKI and forecasts are available via the ITIKI Smartphone App and USSD service," she explains in the statement.

Masinde said that the tool is a unique innovation that will help farmers deal and adapt to changing climate.

"The weather and planting information is distributed to the farmers through text messages in their home languages and can be received on simple and low-cost mobile phones. We have achieved significant progress thus far, and we want to do what we can to support Africa and overcome our challenges. The tool has effectively been implemented in Mozambique, Kenya and South Africa, and we are looking to expand into other African countries," she explained.

Masinde noted indigenous knowledge ensures that the system is relevant, acceptable and resilient. ITIKI further employs three Information and Communications Technology (ICT) tools like mobile phones, wireless sensor networks, and artificial intelligence to enhance the system’s effectiveness, affordability, sustainability, and intelligence.

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Ensuring healthy life vital . . . Dr Paulo de Valdoleiros

Most disease that people struggle with could be avoided if they live healthy lifestyles and seek treatment on time when they fall ill, a Bloemfontein physician has said.

Private practitioner, Dr Paulo de Valdoleiros, who has made headlines in recent weeks over his practice where he allows patients to decide how much they want to pay for his services, says many people are overweight today because they don’t want what they eat and that leads to a host of health complications.

De Valdoleiros said The Weekly in an interview that maintaining a balanced diet and exercising regularly were important in ensuring a healthy life. Quite often people choose to do what they think is easy, yet it compromises their health.

“A balanced diet is the utmost thing. Diet is essential,” said De Valdoleiros.

“It should be a balanced diet which contains fresh whole foods, not processed or heavily fried foods. There are lots of these fast foods out there, they are not healthy. The amount you eat is also essential. About 99 percent of people are overweight because they overeat, full-stop. There is no other issue there. Stop filling the tank and you won’t get diabetes, for example,” he added.

The doctor said lifestyle plays a major in people’s lives, particularly the environment they live in. Things that we choose to do and the other habits that don’t help should be avoided to ensure better health.

“Conditions like Diabetes Type 2 are entirely lifestyle-related. It’s about having a clean life, basically. Diet is crucial, exercise is crucial, emotional health is very, very important. By emotional health, I mean stability is very, very important. The avoidance of conflict is very important. That doesn’t mean you don’t deal with conflict. It just means you have got to live at peace,” noted De Valdoleiros.

He said simple things like holding grudges and not allowing yourself to move forward after some experience with someone could add a toll to one’s health which might lead to complications if one doesn’t get help early and it was therefore important not to hold on to any hard feelings.

“Jesus’ instruction is very simple: ‘Love your brother as you love yourself.’ Each one of us knows that individually, we are not the best persons on the planet. We have all done terrible things at some point. If we can forgive ourselves about it, why can’t we forgive the next person when they do a something similar?” he pointed out.

De Valdoleiros said it’s also important to have a good support structure, particularly for those people taking medications prescribed by a medical practitioner because their prescriptions are based on the diagnosis done on them.

He pointed out sharing medication could also be dangerous to the other person as they may take drugs which they could react badly to.

“Drug sharing damages medications with other people. You know, at times people just share tablets like Smarties. At times people just get tablets from their neighbors without knowing their uses. At times just come to me and say, you know my neighbour gave me a small green tablet and I felt much better. Sharing medication can be very dangerous,” warned the doctor.

He said one important thing about lifestyle is knowledge, because one needs to know and understand who they are. According to De Valdoleiros, this helps one understand how to look after yourself and what to avoid in order to lead a healthy life.

“Lifestyle requires discipline. You are a human being, you are responsible for yourself,” he said emphatically.

Bad lifestyles major cause of diseases

By: Martin Makoni

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News

PUBLIC NOTICE CALLING FOR INSPECTION OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY VALUATIONS AND LODGING OF OBJECTIONS

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 49(1)(a) of the Local Government Property Rates Act 2004 (Act no 8 of 2004) hereinafter referred to as the “Act” that the supplementary valuations, are open for public inspection at LADYBRAND, MANTSIPEGI, HOBBUSH, TWEESPUNT, THABA PATCHOA AND EXCELSIOR MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

A full list of valuations is hereby published in the Mohokare Local Municipality, Zastron Offices and a notice of availability of the valuations was published in the Mohokare Local Municipality, Zastron Offices on 16 August 2019.

The supplementary valuations are open for public inspection at LADYBRAND, MANTSIPEGI, HOBBUSH, TWEESPUNT, THABA PATCHOA AND EXCELSIOR MUNICIPAL OFFICES from Tuesday, 20 August 2019 until Thursday, 22 August 2019 inclusive.

For enquiries please contact Mrs. E Wilken on 051 924 0654/081 037 8439 during office hours and emailaddress on www.mohokare.gov.za.

MUNICIPAL MANAGER

P.O. Box 20, Zastron, 9930
Tel. (058) 813-9713
Fax: (058) 813 1390
E-mail: info@mafube.gov.za

www.mohokare.gov.za

All bids should be submitted in the tender box at the Mohokare Local Offices, Hoofd Street, Zastron by not later than 14:00 of the closing date stated above. The envelope must be clearly marked on the outside to indicate the Bid No, Project and Tender Number.

Notification of Award: Notice of Award is to be published in the Newspaper of general circulation, This tender is subject to the terms and conditions laid down in the tender document and the Municipal Act, No 56 of 2000.

MRS. E WILKEN
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

TENDER INVITATION TO BID

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The tender is open to individuals in the community for the construction of the electrification of four hundred and sixty-six (466) stands in Namahadi Ext 8 (Phase 5) with a value not exceeding ZAR 14,000,000,000.

2. BID DOCUMENTS:

All Bid Documents to be collected and submitted at MOHOKARE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, ZASTRON OFFICES.
Social Relief of Distress (SRD) is an immediate response to a crisis situation in respect of an individual, a family or a community. The primary purpose of SRD is to ensure that the applicant meets with the necessary documentation (forms) to receive SRD. The applicant must visit their nearest SASSA office to complete the necessary documentation (forms).

1. Application forms and relevant information regarding the farms/properties can be obtained at the Department of Trade and Industry’s (the dti) policy and legislation education awareness campaign, saying it will empower residents of the municipality.

2. The closing date is 14 AUGUST 2019 at 11:00.

3. When one applies for SRD, the grant can receive SRD is paid out to the following:

- South African Citizens;
- permanent residents of South Africa; and
- Breadwinner
- of spousal relationship/marital status (where applicable).

- The application must not exceed 5000 Rands.
- Preference will be given to individuals (PDI), specifically Youth in Agriculture.

- South African Citizens;
- Permanent residents of South Africa;
- Groups of social assistance and may be issued in the following forms e.g.

- Monthly;
- Weekly;
- Breadwinner;
- Disability;
- Temporary;
- Ration;
- Other;

The Farm, Waalkraal No. 534, measuring 642.5946 ha., situated within the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.

Target group: Preference will be given to Previously Disadvantaged Individuals (PDI), specifically Youth in Agriculture.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The farm, Waalkraal No. 534, measuring 642.5946 ha., situated within the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.

**TARGET GROUP:** Preference will be given to Previously Disadvantaged Individuals (PDI), specifically Youth in Agriculture.

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO LEASE STATE LAND**

In line with the State Land Lease and Disposal Policy, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform is inviting potential lessees to apply to lease the following farms for a period of 30 years:

**FARM 1**

**DESCRIPTION:** The Remaining Extent of the farm, The Meadows No. 482 measuring 942.2608 ha., situated within the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.

**TARGET GROUP:** Preference will be given to Previously Disadvantaged Individuals (PDI), specifically Youth in Agriculture.

**FARM 2**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The farm, Waalkraal No. 534, measuring 642.5946 ha., situated within the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.

**TARGET GROUP:** Preference will be given to Previously Disadvantaged Individuals (PDI), specifically Youth in Agriculture.

**FARM 3**

**DESCRIPTION:** The remaining extent of the farm that was hosted by the dti in the Eastern Free State town of Ficksburg as part of the three-day campaign targeting the municipalities of Seletse, Mdlalose and Mangaung.

**TARGET GROUP:** Preference will be given to previously disadvantaged community members who were faced with the need of social assistance and may be issued in a form of:

- Monthly;
- Weekly;
- Breadwinner;
- Disability;
- Temporary;
- Ration;
- Other;

The weekly - Free State Province 26 July - 1 August 2019

**Application Forms and Closing Date:**

1. Application forms and relevant information regarding the farms/properties can be obtained and submitted at: THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND REFORM, 135 SA EAGLE BUILDING, 6TH FLOOR, CHARLOTTE MAKEKE STREET, BLOEMFONTEIN, 9300.

2. The closing date is 14 AUGUST 2019 at 11:00. No applications received after the closing date will be considered.

**In honor of Madiba ... Roselle residents partnered with Shoprite to host a community dosage as part of the municipality’s Mandela Day events on July 18.**

**Shoprite Group honours Mandela**

The Shoprite Group is honouring Nelson Mandela’s legacy throughout the month of June, with its 147 000-strong staff giving their time to initiatives supported by the business or initiating their own activities in line with the retailer’s objective to be a force for change. The Group’s employees are assisting at food gardens, serving with its fleet of 19 Mobile Soup Kitchens and finding practical ways of strengthening relations with organisations that benefit from its surplus food donations. Stores are also organizing community cleanups in conjunction with recycling partners.

“Beyond promoting volunteerism within our ranks, we are keen to launch a movement of active citizens. We are therefore encouraging our customers to join us in doing good by signing up to any of the initiatives listed on www.actforchange.africa,” said Langa Scholz, GM spokesperson for the Shoprite Group.

“Free, every day is Mandela Day as we remain thankful for the commitment to fights hunger, support early childhood development and act for change in our communities,” noted Scholz.

**Pastor tortures storm with gay remarks**

Counselling has been offered to pupils after a pastor invited to speak at a high school in Cape Town allegedly preached at the school’s Christian student body that there was “no place in heaven” for gay people, and that youngsters who had sex before marriage were prostitutes.

Details about what was allegedly relayed by the pastor were revealed in an email read out on Cape Talk radio on Tuesday. He also allegedly accused pupils of describing same-sex relationships as "devils and witches.”

Western Cape education department director of communication Brogan Hammond said the pastor’s comments about the LGBTI community and sex had been reported “to the principal as well as our district office.”

“We have offered support and counselling for three learners,” she said, adding that the department was not aware of a second visit by the pastor during which he allegedly described same-sexers as witches.

“There is a lot of hurt and anxiety around this but we hope that the school uses this as an opportunity to just showcase what intolerance can do, and what hatred can come out of intolerance and fear of the unknown.”

Explaining the department’s policy on religion in schools, she said people were allowed to have freedom of expression, but at the same time principals were warned to be cautious when dealing with controversial topics that could hurt people’s feelings.

Pupils had the right not to partake in religious activities, should they not wish to. - TimesLive
Ace blasts Hanekom over EFF meetings

The ANC on Wednesday night broke its silence over former minister Derek Hanekom’s confession that he had held secret meetings with opposition party leaders to topple former president Jacob Zuma.

EFF deputy Julius Malema blew the lid on Hanekom and SAP’s former leader Solly Mapala, holding secret meetings with the red berets when he spoke outside the North Gauteng High Court on Tuesday.

Malema had taken unbridgeable to both leaders calling his party a fascist organisation. Their stance has also whittled down to the matter of the Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane, with the SAPC vehemently claiming for Malema to go, while the EFF has been seen as her chief defender.

The ANC, through secretary-general Ace Magashule, called for a national leadership council meeting of the party to discuss the matter.

The ANC has pleaded with Western Cape premier Alan Winde not to waste his energy on fighting for control of the police and railways. 

The EFF leader on Tuesday to Winde’s state of the province address, local ANC leader Cameron Dugmore said the two provinces have a “non-start” and a “sideboard”.

The ACC has called for a provincial police force “will simply delay and distract us from the real task of working together”, said Dugmore.

“Every time it comes to public transport, we need to work together as all spheres of government to fix it. A party-political posture for a provincial rail service is not a solution.

Dugmore held out an olive branch to Winde, saying the ANC was keen to work with him in the province.

He said, “There are many international examples of how nations, in order to resolve fundamental challenges facing them in a war or post-war situation or to overcome natural disasters, have formed united fronts to confront a common enemy.”

“So you have said, we should never reject ideas because they come from those we regard as the enemy or the opposition. Given the scale of challenges we face, we in fact do not have a choice. We have to work together.”

“We know that local elections are looming. We know that there is a real temptation to conduct ourselves in a way which always plays party interests first. The time has arrived for a new approach in the Western Cape.”

According to EFF national spokesperson Mbuyiseni Ndlozi, the text message contains a video of SARS auditor Masuku who says “white monopoly capital is too comfortable with the President and he should be worried that the likes of Gordhan wants that order suspended until his appeal is finalised.

The Public Protector has argued that because the High Court’s order suspends his appointment, it is null and void. Masuku has told the court in Pretoria that his client has absolute regard for the dignity of the person.

Masuku has told the High Court in Pretoria that his client has absolute regard for the dignity of the person then, of course, we thought it was wrong. But if the court delivers its judgment, we will continue to appeal it.

Masuku told the High Court she would not have opposed Gordhan’s application if she did not think it was wrong. 

Masuku said Gordhan had been compelled to oppose Gordhan’s application. “She’s been forced to oppose. Under normal circumstances, that enforcement of the remedial action would have a right to review and if she thinks an interdict is wrong, she can’t,” he contended.

Masuku said they take serious exception to the language used by Gordhan and the allegations made in his affidavits.

“We are asking that they strike every reference that has been relied on by the applicant as being scandalous and irrelevant to the complaint and the matters that he has said,” she added.

Masuku said that Gordhan must always be regarded as related to national security and intelligence.

“We get bogged down in trying to find something wrong with the Public Protector’s findings that there was an intelligence unit made sure that performed illegal activities. That’s a finding that stands until the review is done” she added.

The most astonishing action of the remedial action is to take in remand of the remedial action until the court delivers its judgment.

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The most astonishing action of the remedial action is to take in remand of the remedial action until the court delivers its judgment.
Coping with the unseen: Homeless to hope for a new lease on life

Nasema Jacobs was homeless for five years. She had never imagined herself sleeping under plants.

"I came from a decent background," she says. But drugs and drugs led her life on the streets of Cape Town. Eventually, with the help of her cousin, she started volunteering at Streetscapes, an initiative that creates work for people living on the streets.

Streetscapes sees itself as a way to reintegrate homeless people into society with new opportunities. Since 2011, it has employed more than 50 people, most of whom are homeless. It offers an array of work, including gardening and cleaning services.

 Jacobs started working in the urban gardening project three years ago in Vredehoek. When she started she "knew nothing," she says. "All she did was clean the garden and water the plants. But now she is an all-rounder with the constitution and the National Strategic Intelligence Act, and told National Prosecuting Authority head Shamila Batohi to finalise the court case against former Sars officials. Advocate Thabani Masuku, for the public protector, told the court that his client was opposing the interdict sought by Gordhan because he had insulted her in his testimony to the court.

The court reserved judgment on the case and the court case against former Sars officials.

GroundUp

Late last year, Gordhan had to interdict the remedial action pending an application to have the court case against former Sars officials.

Gordhan's application was supported by the EFF opposition. Gordhan said he had been defrocked forgregation to the court that his client was opposing the interdict sought by Gordhan because he had insulted her in his testimony to the court.

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The Weekly - Free State Province 26 July - 1 August 2019

WOMEN SEEK SHELTER FROM GBV STORM

Calling for more funding . . . Activists gather outside parliament to protest against gender-based violence and demand more funding for women’s shelters

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TV PERSONALITY ZULU OPENS UP ON GRIEF

PAGE 12

SA proves mettle on UN Security Council

PAGE 16

ONE ON ONE WITH WILLIAM BULWANE

PAGE 12

CONVERSATIONS

‘YY’ NOT FAZED BY LONG-DISTANCE MARRIAGE

PAGE 12

M out of the women we help, they don’t even have a proper place to sleep. So this is nothing for us in government to worry about, it’s something that they go through,” said Rose Bailey, an activist for women’s shelters. Bailey, who works for the shelter that gives them a place to sleep, said that women who are in abusive relationships need someone to trust.

The protest, organized by the WCWSM (Western Cape Women’s Shelter Movement) together with the NSM (National Shelter Movement of South Africa), called on government to release the funding needed to support survivors of gender-based violence who seek sanctuary from shelters is difficult because of lack of funding. Sarah Lekale, a shelter worker with the WCWSM told Daily Maverick that the memorandum handed over to Minister Lindiwe Zulu, WCWSM and NSM claim that subsidies provided by the Department of Development did not only benefit provinces, but also within provinces. Under a group of umbrella with the words #EndAbuse and #EnoughEnough, Zulu addressed the group, saying: “At the end of the day nobody wants to be hurts, everybody wants to be able to do something for themselves. So let’s try really to see how we do that together towards empowering our people.” But many of the activists and social workers present told Daily Maverick that empowering survivors of gender-based violence who seek sanctuary from shelters is difficult because of lack of funding.

Nozuko Conyesa, a social work supervisor for a shelter in Khayelitsha said that some shelters do not meet the admission criteria set out in the Commission for Gender Equality’s Investigative Report on the State of Shelters in South Africa.

The report found that funding to shelters that support survivors of gender-based violence and abuse is highly variable. In the memorandum handed over to Minster Lindiwe Zulu, WCWSM and NSM claim that subsidies provided by the Department of Social Development did not only benefit provinces, but also within provinces.

Two situations highlight this. In April during the debate centered on Germany on sexual violence in conflict, South Africa joined Belgium, France and the USA in opposing US requests to exclude language in the draft resolution on sexual and reproductive health.

South Africa issued a strongly worded statement showing its commitment to human rights. “The council is therefore telling survivors of sexual violence in conflict [by deploying sexual assault services when they need them] the same that consumers is more important than their needs,” this was directly opposed to the position taken by Russia and China.

The situation in Sudan in June provided perhaps the strongest example of how South Africa can take an independent stance against other council members, especially permanent members. South Africa pushed back against pressure from Germany and the UK and prevented the UNSC from issuing a public statement between the African Union Peace and Security Council (PSC) and the UN.

Compassion among the three African members (the A3) has historically been weak and difficult to achieve. But South Africa brought the A3 (which includes Côte d’Ivoire and Equatorial Guinea) together in a strong, unified position on Sudan. Together the three states advocated that the UNSC follow the PSC’s decisions on Sudan.

When the PSC suspended Sudan on 14 June for not taking “all feasible measures” to prevent women in South Africa from bringing the A3 together and reunit Russia and China’s opposing position on the removal of the UN’s peacekeeping mission in Darfur. One source told the ISS that the A3 are “concerned that Russia and China are still opposition to the peacekeeping mission in Darfur. One source told the ISS that the A3 are “concerned that Russia and China are still opposition to the peacekeeping mission in Darfur.”

The A3 are in agreement that the issue of sexual violence in conflict is a crucial issue that needs to be addressed. They have committed to supporting the efforts of the OPCW to bring accountability for the use of chemical weapons in Syria.

South Africa’s Department of Foreign Affairs said that the A3 remain committed to the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

South Africa has six months into its third term on a highly-visited United Nations Security Council. What has it done so far, and where can improvements be made?

Consulting with President Cyril Ramaphosa’s election in May, and the appointment of new foreign minister Naledi Pandor, expectations around South Africa’s role are high. A more assertive and principled foreign policy stance is hoped for but whether this is possible in the politically charged halls of a council where pragmatism and consensus are needed, remains to be seen.

South Africa has certainly played a visible role, taking some risks, blocking some actions and intervening in key discussions. In one instance, during the START debate on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) earlier this year, South Africa blocked the council from releasing a statement that it deemed premature.

New York-based think tanks told the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) that early impressions were that South Africa was leaning toward the P3 nor the P2. United States (US) (the P3), South Africa has developed close relationships with Russia and China and is expected to discuss an independent draft statement on the protection of civilians in armed conflict – the first such statement from the A3 in a long time.

Later this month South Africa’s Department of International Relations and Cooperation will review its role on the UNSC and identify opportunities for the remaining 18 months. The country assumes the rotating chair of the council in October – a crucial chance to set the agenda and shape South Africa’s foreign policy priorities.

It’s not unusual for states to use their presidency month on the council to increase visibility rather than pursue more strategic aims. South Africa should take a different approach. Its presidency month should not be an isolation from the rest of its term on the council.

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Later this month South Africa’s Department of International Relations and Cooperation will review its role on the UNSC and identify opportunities for the remaining 18 months. The country assumes the rotating chair of the council in October – a crucial chance to set the agenda and shape South Africa’s foreign policy priorities.

It’s not unusual for states to use their presidency month on the council to increase visibility rather than pursue more strategic aims. South Africa should take a different approach. Its presidency month should not be an isolation from the rest of its term on the council.

South Africa is six months into its third term on a highly-visited United Nations Security Council. What has it done so far, and where can improvements be made?

Consulting with President Cyril Ramaphosa’s election in May, and the appointment of new foreign minister Naledi Pandor, expectations around South Africa’s role are high. A more assertive and principled foreign policy stance is hoped for but whether this is possible in the politically charged halls of a council where pragmatism and consensus are needed, remains to be seen.

South Africa has certainly played a visible role, taking some risks, blocking some actions and intervening in key discussions. In one instance, during the START debate on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) earlier this year, South Africa blocked the council from releasing a statement that it deemed premature.

New York-based think tanks told the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) that early impressions were that South Africa was leaning toward the P3 nor the P2. United States (US) (the P3), South Africa has developed close relationships with Russia and China and is expected to discuss an independent draft statement on the protection of civilians in armed conflict – the first such statement from the A3 in a long time.
10 habits of long-lasting couples

We've all swooned at the adorable stories of couples who spend their whole lives together, and are just as much in love with each other in old age as they were right at beginning. But what is their secret? How do they manage to maintain, and strengthen, their love through the years? Read on to discover his tips for lasting relationships.

1. Go to bed together. This doesn't mean you have sex every single night, but rather go to bed at the same time. Happy couples use this as an opportunity to talk, or just sit quietly together. It's a great way to buy some patience and tolerance as each partner sets out each day to battle traffic jams, long lines, and other annoyances.

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3. Work out your common interests. It's fine if he loves rugby while you're into painting, and you shouldn't ever worry if the thing you find most boring is what really gets him going. Initial passion won't last forever, so you need to make sure there's some substance behind your relationship.

4. Keep cultivating your interests. If both of you are interested in something, you can do something together, or even do something different to keep the spark alive.

5. Focus on what they do right, not what they do wrong. Positive reinforcement is an age-old concept used with children and even the training of animals. But it's still important for fully grown adults too. So compliment your partner when they deserve it and try not to look for things they do wrong. You can always find something.

6. Don't forget to hug. Hug your partner every single day (if circumstance allows). Our skin has a memory of 'good touch' (loved), 'bad touch' (abused), and 'no touch' (neglected).

7. Be forgiving. If you look for what he or she does right, you can always find something to forgive. It all depends on what you decide you want to look for. Happy couples accentuate the positive.

8. Always trust and try to forgive. Obviously this depends on the severity of your partner's transgression, but as a general rule it's key to make trusting and forgiving a part of your relationship. It says that what you and your partner have is bigger than any separate incident.

9. Check in with them throughout the day. Calling your partner to see how their day is going is a great way to adjust expectations so that you're more in sync when you connect after work. So if your other half had a hard time at work today, that's something you need to be aware of, and talk about.

10. Be proud to be seen together. A display of tenderness in public is important. It's not showing off, but rather just saying that you belong with each other. And that's quite nice.

Sexual harassment claims false

Dr Mbonengi Ngesa has refuted allegations of sexual harassment and intimidation andsquashed claims of his removal as co-director of his own production Sarafina! The Broadway hit is based on the same character assassination by the media.

The production, which premiered last Friday, depicts protests by the 1976 students against the apartheid government imposing Afrikaans as the official language of instruction.

Ngesa said the allegations by a cast member were "false, hurtful and deliberately malicious" adding that he was still part of the productions in the official capacity of co-director.

Speaking to Azania on 702, Letshego opened up about what grief taught her and what she is grateful for life.

"I'm very comfortable... "Actress Kgomo Kgomo

"You're not fazed by long-distance marriage," the actress recounted. "I'm not fazed by distance, because I've been inseparable from my husband for years. We've been inseparable since the day she died, and he is her greatest supporter."

"If my load rules we had to go for pole-dancing lessons and the person who helped me rehearse was my husband," the actress recounted. She's not fazed by her long-distance marriage, the Thembisa-born actress says. "We travel a lot. He's in the States and she's in Asia. This is kind of relationship I wanted to have - you're always in the world with my family."

Kgomo's children are currently learning Arabic in Dubai and she admits it does bother her that the kids can't speak any northern South African language "but I'm working on it." She's proud her children are also interested in the arts, especially Loxo, who plays the piano encourage that as well. If music is her thing, that's fabulous. I support her wholeheartedly.

"As long as we can have a conversation, as the children and their dad support their award-winning mom and wife.

Campbell to perform in Pretoria

Platinum-selling singer-songwriter Trevor Campbell will be performing in Pretoria for the first time at the Sun Arena on August 2.

The show, like his SA concerts in 2013 and 2014, is expected to sell out quickly for Campbell fans in this part of the country.

Campbell is the first of two international artists performing at the Sun Arena in August. The singer Husky Loops is set to perform on August 3.

Campbell can expect to hear many of his popular hits, as well as new material.

During his career, Campbell has been backed by Playing for Keeps, with the group winning a Grammy award.

He has worked with some of the industry's top producers and writers, including Babyface, Al B Sure, Narada Michael Walden, Wyclef Jean and Sean "Diddy" Combs.

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A ‘CHILLING HOT’ WEEKEND AT DESTINATE

Sisterhood... Nothing is more beautiful than two troublesome fun-loving sisters and that’s exactly what Tshepiso and Dineo Nkopane are. Apart from taking over the dance floor, the duo was right in the mix of things, regardless of the chilly weather. Goodness, how we wish we had their energy.

Soul Provider... Whenever he’s behind the deck, the Soul Provider never disappoints and again, with the gentle help of T-mani, expensive Afro-Pop and Hip-hop was dished out, much to the satisfaction of many.

Gentle Giant... Andile’s spirit and attitude cannot be ignored. Abuti is forever minding his business if he’s not serving his patrons. What a gentle giant he is!

Hot-Pair... Twins may have been considered a curse in ancient tradition by some people who believe in stereotypes, but to us, they are definitely a blessing, especially if they have the ability to make us dance. It was nice bumping into the Maliehe brothers over the weekend.

Get Down... Sis Pat got down and dirty, shaking what her Mama gave her. One wonders what got her all so excited. Anyway, there was fun all around on the night.

Letting Loose... Refilwe Shuping had a blast during the chilly weather over the weekend and rightfully so since it was her birthday. The girl rocked the dance the floor HARD!
"I condemn all forms of violence that are affecting our commuters. We need to work on unifying laws and ensure that the law is not subject to manipulation. We apologize to the residents of Mampumulo for inconveniences caused by the strike."

"Our graduates should not be working for curry and beef when they have skills. We want them to do more precepts so that they develop a keen interest in farming while at college to enable them to do more in agriculture."

"We call on the National Executive Committee of the ANC to suspend this political jigsaw (senior ANC member Derek Hanekom) and restore the discipline and decorum of our movement."

Mandela Day: kindness must be every day phenomenon

Generous deeds of humanity which are meant to warm the hearts of the poor do not have to be attached to Mandela Day and 67 minutes.

That is if we are truly determined as a nation to make a meaningful dent in reversing the raging effects of high levels of want and having less negatively impacting on the lives majority of our fellow countrymen without abeyance.

It is by no means an exaggeration that most of them have to face up with challenges of bread and butter each and every day of their lives.

While the adage "Each man for himself and God for all" could be easily used by those wishing not to be hordes with pitiful stories of poverty by the downtrodden, the Nelson Mandela that dwells on us and us on the same dinner table as we believed the opposite.

We are talking here of an educated man that gave up the comforts of life as a legal practitioner, as well as the privileges of being born out of a royal family to defend the dignity of his fellow countrymen's social status without flinching.

Hence we argue here that the caliber of standard Mandela cannot be the only time when those who have the financial means to do so are not so in the line of the impoverished and not fortunate lend a helping hand.

This also applies to those who carry out good deeds for public-relations exercises, demanding to pose for rolling cameras while the fortunate lend a helping hand.

It cannot be correct, that with the beginning of each month of August each year, the poorest of the poor start to get forgotten with the speed of light, and disappear from memories in a flush, and are left counting months and days wishing for the next Mandela birthday communications.

Under such circumstances challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality that renders the country the laughing stock among nations that see us as a country with bountiful bread, hoping against hope for a meaningful touch from a hand that cares and uplifts.

Having said this, the dire living conditions which the poor are being subjected to are different from previous disparities with no glimmer of hope of a better future, need to be a motivating factor for a Nelson Mandela decade of action, or century if one would like.

Each day, years are going to be a Mandela, 67th, and it has to be that until the very last man still trapped in the vicious circle of poverty has been saved through empowerment.

It seems that President Cyril Ramaphosa's repeated calls for unity in the ANC are falling on deaf ears. The clout around former president Jacob Zuma is immense and not afraid of supporting him publicly.

The question arises: what real power does this group exercise within the ANC and the state broadly? This issue becomes increasingly important since critical decisions are going to have to be taken as diregent pressures build up.

To answer this question, we have to go back to the original source of power within the ANC and government. The constitution of the ANC gives local branches the basic power, which is then conveyed upwards through elected delegates. The larger the branch, the more delegates. These delegates are then mandated for national conference. The branches will also make nominations for Parliament and the provincial legislatures in what is called the "list process".

Taking national conference first, it elects the top six officials and the national executive (which will subsequently elect the smaller national working committee).

The Top Six meet weekly and see the engine room of everything. At present the Top Six are Cyril Ramaphosa, president; David Mabuza, deputy president; Ace Magashule, secretary-general; Jessie Duarte, deputy secretary-general; Gwede Mantashe, ANC chairman; and Paul Mashatile, treasurer. Ramaphosa can rely on support from Mabuza and Mashabane with Mabuza wawering.

Ramaphosa has enormous power as president of the ANC. But he has a great deal of power as de facto head of Luthuli House, ANC headquarters. We shall see how it turns out.

As president, Ramaphosa appoints his cabinet and through his ministers is in control of the public service, army and police. He appoints the premiers of the provinces and through his ministers, he controls the state-owned enterprises.

As secretary-general, Magashule sits on behalf of the Top Six, but with considerable personal discretion, he oversees the provinces, the ANC in Parliament, and all ANC branches. He is in charge of all police arrangements for national conference and for national policy conference in between the national conferences.

He is in charge of the list process for Parliament and the provincial legislatures, acting with a list committee appointed by himself.

He also works in tandem with the deputy president, who is the head of the deployment committee which places selected individuals in key positions throughout the state system. This includes heads of state-owned enterprises, the chief whip of Parliament as well as chairmen and subcommittees. This gives the ANC enormous power, especially over Parliament since the chief whip operates regularly to him. It also sets the scene for potential conflict between a Zuma-aligned chair of a committee and the relevant minister appointed by Ramaphosa.

Reference must be made to caucuses which consist of all MPs in the National Assembly and National Council of Provinces. Caucus meets every Thursday morning in the Old Assembly. It is chaired by a member appointed by the chief whip and is administered from the latter's office. Caucus is normally headed by ministers on forthcoming legislation, which is open for discussion. It is also addressed periodically by the ANC and the president, who use the occasion to align MPs with the thinking in the national executive and Luthuli House.

Generally, members are free to give their views, but inevitably there is a strong sense of not stepping out of line.

One committee is important but you are not being discussed, and this is the Political Committee headed by the deputy president and consisting of several ministers, the chief whip and a few selected MPs. This committee meets informally, has no secretary, and no minutes, and is only convened when there is a serious political issue in Parliament. Its function is to give political guidance but also to assert leadership where needed. It obviously should be held back by the requirement of unity.

As it happens, there are conflicting views and loyalties, as we see playing out in the reports of the Public Protector for instance. Parliament is meant to rule on her conduct, so what mandate will come from Luthuli House? Then there is the evidence at the Zondo Commission and the possibility of adverse findings against Zuma. This will also ultimately find its way to Parliament.

Clearly, Ramaphosa will have to stay within the rubrics of the Constitution to sort out our state system, but this means he cannot be held back by the requirement of unity.

It is often argued that MPs secure allegiance to the Constitution and should therefore at all times define the rights of ordinary citizens. But MPs also secure allegiance to party constituencies and there may well be a shift to be made. The ANC structure we set out above shows clearly that MPs and leaders are in disagreement and may well override other considerations. This becomes even more sensitive when the person leading the state is in disagreement with the person running the governing party, as the current situation appears to be.

Mandela was也是 a profound leader, but also the people of South Africa are going to have to choose between them.

"Bon Turok is the director of the Institute for African Alternatives (IFA) and a former ANC MP."

The news cycle has been spinning so fast recently that even the most news-conscious of people can be forgotten for feeling like they’re a hamster in a wheel, running furiously but going nowhere.

It has become so furious that one can be forgotten for temporarily losing sight of what is wrong and right.

At first glance, all this might appear to happen naturally, as things do in the course of politics, but a closer inspection reveals that none of what is happening is new and important of the other things.

Former President Jacob Zuma appearing in the way that he did at the state capture inquiry, running former comrades as spies, and Blaasie Stilhoven’s sustained aggressiveness towards the president and those around him form part of one big whole.

The biggest mistake that President Cyril Ramaphosa’s faction made on winning the ANC’s presidential campaign in December 2017 was to underestimate the size of the job.

The battle for the soul of SA

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The biggest mistake that President Cyril Ramaphosa’s faction made on winning the ANC’s presidential campaign in December 2017 was to underestimate the size of the job.
Dear Minister Motshokgwa,

If you want to decolonize education, start by supporting local publishers.

Textbooks are a vital part of the education system. They are often the single most important source of information, teaching a variety of subjects, from reading and writing to science and history. Over the years, South African publishers have produced a range of textbooks that have helped to shape the country’s education system. However, in recent years, there has been a shift away from local publishing, with international companies dominating the market.

The Department of Education recently released a report on the importance of textbooks and the role they play in ensuring the delivery of quality education. The report stated that textbooks are a vital part of the education system and that the importance of textbooks cannot be overstated. They are an essential tool for learners, providing them with the information they need to understand and engage with the curriculum. The report also highlighted the importance of supporting local publishers, as they are the ones who are most familiar with the local context and can produce textbooks that are relevant to the lives of learners.

To understand the impact of local publishing, it is important to look at the history of textbook publishing in South Africa. In the past, local companies were able to compete with international publishers, but this changed when the government introduced a policy that favored international publishers. This policy, known as the FAX policy, allowed international publishers to publish textbooks in South Africa, limiting the market for local companies.

As a result, many local companies were forced to close, and the ones that remained faced significant challenges. They were unable to compete with the large international publishers, who could offer lower prices and attract more customers. This led to a decrease in the quality of local textbooks, as publishers were forced to cut corners to stay competitive.

However, recent developments show that there is a growing interest in supporting local publishing. The government has announced plans to increase the number of local textbooks in the classroom, and there are efforts underway to support local publishers. These initiatives are important, as they can help to ensure that learners have access to high-quality educational materials.

In conclusion, decolonizing education starts by supporting local publishers. It is important to recognize the value of local publishing and to support companies that are committed to producing textbooks that are relevant to the lives of learners. By doing so, we can help to ensure that all learners have access to high-quality educational materials, and that South African publishers can continue to play a vital role in shaping our educational system.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
The Free State province wants to use the agricultural sector as one of the key drivers for its economic turnaround plan in order to tackle the country’s triple challenges of inequality, poverty and unemployment, which currently stands at 27.6 percent for the country officially and 34.9 percent for the province. The Weekly’s Martin Makonza asked Agriculture and Rural Development MEC William Bulwane, who recently outlined his plans for the province when he presented his Budget Vote Speech for the 2019/20 financial year, about his key priorities and how he plans to implement them. Makonza also asked Bulwane how the proposed land expropriation without compensation plan was likely to affect production and if people should be concerned about losing their land. Excerpts:

No glass ceiling for construction trailblazer

Mphakazi sports a family that has always been in business. This has taught her a big attribute to succeed in the business – the ability to allow different influences to shape her through listening. “In primary school I sold ice and in high school I sold sweets. Later on I had a successful business that failed due to a lack of funds. Though, I must say my passion has always been project management and infrastructure development.”

Mphakazi says her business is another way to achieve the betterment of humankind.

She adds it’s important to have the right people and therefore it should be conducted to improve the quality of life for communities in which they live.

“Growing up saw you know the importance of what a good home brings in society, the dignity that one gets by just having a good house and that, for me, has always been my driving force and passion, to bring dignity to our people and moreover to be able to give kids a good life.”

She is not drifting. She has a vision. “I did a vision board in 2014, I cut it out, I put it on the wall of my house, I just look at it,” she explains.

She started her company, which has worked with Aveng Graftner and DTI and has won numerous awards. She is a member of South African Women in Construction, a section 21 company founded in 1993 to empower women to gain access to business opportunities, training, finance and networks in the construction industry.

Mphakazi sees herself as a success in an industry that is currently facing a skills gap with 100,000 jobs already lost, though government has recently announced a R10 billion infrastructure fund which will likely benefit women.

She is also a consulting business coach.

In this line of work, in collaboration with the University of Johannesburg, she helps women establish their business strategies, business development principles and how to achieve their goals.

An occasional public speaker, Mphakazi says her mother used to incentivise them to do better by promising to buy her and her twin sister a ball.

“This made me realise that in life if you want great things, you have to work hard because someone else is not going to just give them to you.”

“I have the most supportive family structure even though my parents got divorced, I have the love and have learnt from them the power of a woman.”

A devout Christian, Mphakazi reveals she reads different kinds of self-help books and biographies to learn from others.

She says her next big target is to grow IGBE which is an international construction grant.

“I have two cousins I have always wanted to visit - China and Germany,” she explains.

“She’s got a great knowledge to be learnt from these countries’ culture, technology, design and engineering.”

We should also look at how we can support farmers, the farmer support mandate. Our job as government is to support farmers irrespective of whether one is in the white or black community. We should not discriminate. We have to support everybody… because of the challenges faced by all farmers due to climate change. I also want to look at how we can develop these emerging farmers into large scale commercial farmers. It’s important to know the support they would need to grow. We must give them skills to make sure that they actively participate in the sector. I would also want to see the large scale commercial farmers assisting the emerging farmers with their own resources so that they can lift them to become big players in the industry.

Farmers under the communal system have been struggling for resources, particularly land. How do you plan to assist them?

Our aim is to make sure that those who are in the communal areas are also developed so that they are also able to produce. Those that are emerging, we also want them to be helped so that they become large scale farmers too. If you go to the communal areas, you will find that cows, sheep, pigs and goats are all in one place. But these animals are affected by different diseases… you have anthrax in cattle and other animals, you have some diseases in pigs, but they are all kept together because there is no vision as a result of lack of resources. We want those areas to be developed because we believe that’s where our farmers can be developed from. We want them to own livestock at a commercial level and contribute to the local economy. We are looking into all those things. But corruption remains a problem when we carry out these programmes that is what is the greatest enemy of development. If we don’t stand up and fight it, we will not get anywhere. That’s why we are so hard on corruption. We want to promote good governance because we are using the resources of government, and that is taxpayers’ money. And also, as a way of fighting hunger and poverty, I would like to encourage people to start small farms in those areas who own land and have their own vegetables and not always spend money buying such basics.

The proposed land expropriation without compensation is quite an emotive issue, those with land are not prepared to let go, those without, want it urgently. How careful is the government in addressing the issue so that production is not disturbed when the programme is implemented?

I think we need to first understand how the agricultural sector works in order to have that balance where we say, land must be shared amongst those who work it, irrespective of whether they are white or black. The sharing of the land is different from land grabbing. You can grab land, you will destabilise agriculture but through sharing, the land can still produce what it is used to produce. The only difference is that there will be more people working the land.

We want production to continue, that’s why when we start implementing the programme, we will trade carefully. There is a process leading to the actual implementation so that it’s not damaged haphazardly.

The Free State is certainly not doing too well in terms of value adding because just because we have large scale commercial produce from the province is processed before it’s sold on the market, how can that be improved?

There have been numerous reports of farm worker abuse as well as illegal evictions from the farms, how do you hope to address that?

Land redistribution aims at addressing such issues. We need to get into that space and have a clearer understanding of the situation on the ground. We need to understand the imbalances of the past. There is a lot of disrespect of human dignity among the people who are working on the land. Some of those who have been custodians of the land over the years don’t treat their workers too well. But I believe it’s very important for us to respect each other. We need to have an understanding that we need one another. A farm owner needs a farm labourer to be able to produce, and a farm labour needs the farmer for his or her survival. We live in a world of needs, hence we need one another. And if we can have dignity and respect towards one another, we can avoid a lot. We should also remove the politics from the farming environment. We are not politicising everything.

What would you say are the key priority areas which you would like to focus on in the coming year as you implement the Provincial Agricultural Master Plan?

I think what is key is to implement Vision 2030 in order to transform the agricultural sector or this agricultural economy as part of the mainstream contributors to economic growth. I also think what is key is the issue of land. How do you make sure that those who don’t have access to land in the past have it now? Here, I am talking of the expropriation of land without compensation. I think those are the issues you have to look at if you want to transform the agricultural sector. We should also look at how we can support farmers, the farmer support mandate. Our job as government is to support farmers irrespective of whether one is in the white or black community. We should not discriminate. We should also look at how we can support farmers, the farmer support mandate. Our job as government is to support farmers irrespective of whether one is in the white or black community. We should not discriminate.
How Cape Town survived the drought

At the height of summer in 2018, Cape Town was heading into an environmental and ethical crisis, which even seasoned climatologists hadn’t seen coming. Breakdowns were breaking back the city’s water systems, rights and resources. And it was looking like a drought that would stretch on into the future. Yet relief arrived in the form of a groundbreaking drought treaty in 2019, which saw 80% of the city’s water use drop.

**Zero Days**: Cape Town’s City Council and its Water and Sanitation Department (WSD) announced that the city had reached the ‘Day Zero’, when water supplies were expected to be critically low. The city was on a path to becoming a ‘Day Zero’ city, with a population of more than 4 million people. The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Water Conservation**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Environmental Impact**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Warming**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

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**Eco-Friendly Living**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Climate Action Plan**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Local Government**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Community Engagement**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Community**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Public Awareness**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Future of Cape Town**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**African Solutions**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Collaboration**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Environmental Conservation**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Climate Change Solutions**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Efforts**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Goals**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**International Cooperation**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Challenges**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Climate Justice**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Action**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

**Global Community Effort**: The WSU (Western Cape University) and the University of Cape Town calculated that human activity caused global warming.

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**Opening economy key to growth**

The shutdown of monopolies in the South African economy has been to break the competitive market, President Cyril Ramaphosa said on Monday.

He said the dominance of the “Big Four” commercial banks did not help the economy, instead more banks were needed to create competition, which would have a positive impact on economic growth.

The country had also lost its competitive advantage because of the cost of electricity from Eskom, but other ways to regain the advantage must be found, he noted.

Ramaphosa was speaking at a roundtable discussion at the University of Johannesburg (UJ).

The President referred to an International Monetary Fund (IMF) report that said the problem of this country’s economy was dominated by monopolies which prevented new players coming in.

“There are monopolies that continue to roll growth,” he said, alluding to the big four banks. Although he did not name them, these are Standard Bank, First National Bank, Nedbank and Absa.

“Although there were new and smaller players in the sector, the new comer to dominate the country’s banking landscape. We need to open the economy so more players come in,” he said.

Ramaphosa added: “We need to structure our economy by bringing in more investors. We want to stimulate our economy.”

The economic stimulus package announced was based on representation, including putting more capital into agriculture and reviving township economies and local economic zones that would help people become economically active.

Responding to a concern raised by Mills Foko, professor of international business and strategy at UJ, Ramaphosa said land expropriation must happen and it should be without compensation.

He told the local government that the land that had already been redistributed was lying fallow because often beneficiaries had not got support. His government had crafted a programme to support them with the necessary funding and skills development.

Land would be redistributed via various forms including expropriation, and there would be land shared between emerging and commercial farmers.

Transnet secures partner for natural gas infrastructure

Transnet on Tuesday entered into a cost-sharing agreement with International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Sungsan Natural Gas Network (NGN) to secure the development of South Africa’s natural gas infrastructure.

This initiative is intended to unlock a backbone of the country’s natural gas infrastructure network to service existing and growing gas markets, consisting largely of industrial and commercial oil and gas retailers.

The SABC, which is the main source of news in the African economy, including through loss of jobs.

Transnet said the IFC has committed US$25 million as part of the cost-sharing agreement. This will help Transnet conclude the feasibility study, which will be aimed to secure the necessary approvals from government.

The competitive process for partner selection will be advertised in the public sector and process to select the prime investor.

The cost-sharing agreement allows the parties to leverage on Transnet’s existing infrastructure and IFC’s track record of providing innovative advisory for infrastructure projects that improve access to energy.

The IFC has financed eight LNG terminals globally and brings unmatched expertise in this sector.

**Financial support for SOEs conditional, says Mboweni**

Financial support for struggling state-owned entities (SOEs) such as the SABC, Denel and SAA will be released in chunks as certain milestones are met, Finance Minister Tito Mboweni said on the National Assembly on Tuesday.

There had to be progress in these organisations before the government would consider releasing additional support.

Chief restructuring officers would be appointed instead of the current chief restructuring officers who would work with the management of these companies to get them back on track.

Summing up the debate on the Department of Public Enterprise minister Pravin Gordhan’s annual report, Mboweni said the allocations would be made from the contingency reserve, which was increased by R6bn to R18bn in the February budget so government could respond to requests for fiscal support from SOEs.

Mboweni said the Treasury would only be able to support SOEs if the Appropriations Bill had been adopted by parliament.

Additional funds would be raised by selling non-core assets.

The SABC, which is the main source of news and commentary for most South Africans, is on the verge of collapse and has raised concern.

The IMF has financial support for SOEs conditional, says Mboweni

Financial support for struggling state-owned entities (SOEs) such as the SABC, Denel and SAA will be released in chunks as certain milestones are met, Finance Minister Tito Mboweni said on the National Assembly on Tuesday.

“Under the contingency fund, there are some SOEs in distress,” Mboweni said.

Transnet has received one billion rand while the SABC has secured 1.1 billion rand.

In contrast, growth in sub-Saharan Africa will far outstrip that of SA, with the IMF predicting growth of 3.2% in 2020, down from 4.6% in 2019.

The IMF also cut its GDP growth forecasts for the global economy to 3.9% for 2019 and 3.6% in 2020.

The fund cut its GDP growth forecasts to 0.7% for 2018 from 1.7% previously and 1.1% for 2019 from 2.5%. This followed significant revisions in April brought about by policy and political uncertainty ahead of the elections.

The economy has not grown by more than 2.0% a year since 2013 and the unemployment rate has gained momentum, despite political changes and President Cyril Ramaphosa efforts to implement policy reforms to boost growth and increase investment into the country.

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The Free State Cheetahs, meanwhile, laid a solid foundation in the first half against the Blue Bulls in Pretoria after a bye in the opening week. The winger was named in the Varsity Cup Dream Team in 2017 and 2018. He has played in the Varsity Cup, his first coming against the UFS Shimlas in Stellenbosch. The winger was named in the Varsity Cup Dream Team in 2017 and 2018. He has played in the Varsity Cup, his first coming against the UFS Shimlas in Stellenbosch.

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CELtic Unveil New Kit, Players

In addition to unveiling their new kit to celebrate the team’s 50th anniversary, Siwelele also announced their new crop of players ahead of new season.

Documentation of Bloem Celtic History Hailed

The occasion was attended by Victor Matshibana, who co-founded Bloemfontein Celtic together with the late Norman Motshabi, in 1969.

Proteas Shine Bright at Netball World Cup

Pretorius returns to Australia on Monday to re-join The Sunshine Coast Lightning team for the remainder of the Super Netball League there.

Sparks to Fly at Boxing Tourney in Honour of Mandela

Tshabalala and Matshidiso “Scorpion Queen” Mokebisi.

Without a doubt, this will be one of the most interesting fights, thanks to the unpredictable John “Section 29” Bopape who went on to become a “no hopper” only to go on and pull what many termed the biggest win of his career beating Ricky “Suga” Tshabalala in two rounds at John Barrable Hall in Benoni early this month.

Ramabula is no walkover and will most likely put up a good fight as a favourite going into the match.

Not wanting to sound cocky, Ramabula said, “The fight is won inside the ring; that is exactly what am going to do as I’ve done before, test him inside like other boxers.”

Free State MEC for DSACR Limakatso Ramabolu is no walkover and will most likely put up a good fight as a favourite going into the match.

The tournament will take place at Thabo Vuyo Secondary School, Rolokakanyanya (Roseneil) from 15:00 to 18:00.

Entrance is Free.

The other main bout on the night is between Free State’s France Ramabola and John Bopape from Gauteng Province.

By: Thapelo Moletsatsi

Bloomfontein Celtic yesterday unveiled 10 new players ahead of the 2019/20 Absa Premiership season, as well as the fresh jerseys that they will don in the upcoming campaign.

Celtic are in the process of finalising their squad ahead of their opening game against Orlando Pirates next weekend, and have had to bring in a number of new faces — including a former Buccaneer — after losing several players over the last couple of months.

The club unveiled Sphakile Luthuli, Sello Matsha, Tumiso Mbekwa, Modhang Seru, Tumelo Nyiti, Mthuli Mpho, Andile Fikizolo, Jackson Mohalegane, Jerome Nyamade, and Harru Thimbomoh, for the new season.

Along with their new signings, Celtic also revealed their new home and away shirts for 2019/20, as well as two goalkeeper strips that their shot-stoppers will be wearing over the next 10 months.

A special badge has been included on the shirts to celebrate 50 years of Siwelele’s existence. Reflecting on the new crop of players, head coach Lehlohonolo Seema expressed satisfaction, saying: “We are indeed on the right track. This is what we wanted as a team and we are happy that we were able to draw the necessary quality ahead of what promises to be a tough season.”

Assistant coach John Maduka, dispelled the notion of the Celtic building from ground-up, saying: “It’s incorrect to view things in that way because when you look at it, we still have 90% of the team from the previous season. Therefore any suggestions that we are building from the ground is incorrect. What you see before you is the result of the work and determination continue to be the order of the day for us as a team,” he cited.

Managing Director Rali Ramabodu expressed delight with the new players and new reinforcement and am happy that we were able to draw the necessary quality ahead of what promises to be a tough season.”

Reflecting on the previous season, Celtic head coach Lehlohonolo Seema noted the decision to have the three players leading was a collective decision reached directly or indirectly. “The time was long over due to give the sport the recognition it deserves, saying such boxers played an important role in the revival of the sport.

By: Thapelo Moletsatsi

New signings … New recruits at ‘Phunya Sele Sele’ ready to do battle

By: Thapelo Moletsatsi

Let’s do it … NEC Limakatso Mahusa, centre, poses for a photograph with Kaboile Tshabalala and Matshidiso “Scorpion Queen” Mokebisi. The two boxers are to trade leather with for the vacant SA Junior Lightweight Title today.

Letlabika and Lucky Balse. Reflecting on the unfathomable decision, Seema said, “All these have the capacity to lead and have all done so, either directly or indirectly.”

Seema noted the decision to have the three players leading was a collective decision reached by himself, Hlabasane national John Maduka and goalkeeper coach Siromo Gopane. 

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